

MEXICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY IN CORPUS CHRISTI, TX,  
AND SURROUNDING AREA

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DATE	EVENT
1519	On the Roman Catholic Feast Day of Corpus Christi, Spanish explorer <b>Alonso Alvarez de Pineda</b> discovered a lush semi-tropical bay. The bay took the name of the feast day celebrating the "Body of Christ." <a href="http://www.cctexas.com/?fuseaction=main.view&amp;page=109">http://www.cctexas.com/?fuseaction=main.view&amp;page=109</a>
1528	<b>Álvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca</b> , a Spanish conquistador, became a medicine man to the Avavare Indians in South Texas. He also chronicled the lives of the Coahuilticans, Karankawas, Tonkawas, and other tribes. <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/bma56">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/bma56</a>
1766	<b>Blas Maria De La Garza Falcón</b> established a ranching outpost named Santa Petronila, five leagues from the Nueces River in what is now Nueces County, Texas. <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fga66">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fga66</a>
1804	<b>Padre José Nicolás Ballí</b> founded a settlement named Rancho Santa Cruz and a Mission to Christianize the Karankawa Indians about twenty-six miles north of the island's southmost tip. The Padre claimed the island but was not given an official title to it until 1829. <a href="http://www.balli.org/psnb.htm">http://www.balli.org/psnb.htm</a>
1825	<b>PETRA VELA DE VIDAL KENEDY</b> (1825–1885), rancher and philanthropist, was one of the few Mexican-origin upper-class women in 19 <sup>th</sup> century Texas. Her first husband, Luis Vidal, died, leaving her with 6 children. Already a wealthy woman, she married her second husband, Mifflin Kenedy. They established the Laureles Ranch in Nueces County in 1869. In 1882 they sold the ranch and settled in Corpus Christi. There she helped the Catholic church and the poor. <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/ferl">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/ferl</a>
1836 and before	<b>Nueces River</b> was known as the border between Mexico and Texas; after the Texas Revolution the Rio Grande became known as the border; later this dispute resulted in the Mexican-American War (from 1846 to 1848) which ended with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nueces_River">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nueces_River</a>
1875	The Nuecestown raid of 1875, also known as the <b>Corpus Christi raid</b> , can best be explained as part of a cycle of violence between Mexican citizens, Hispanic Texans, and Anglo Texans. By 1875 raids and murder were common on the part of both ethnic groups. Raiders from Mexico were particularly active from 1871 to 1875, when the raiding of South Texas ranches reached a climax. <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/jcnnt">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/jcnnt</a>
1896	<b>Rafael Galvan</b> came to Corpus Christi. He worked as a fisherman and then became Corpus Christi's first Mexican- American police officer. He also established the Galvan Ballroom and was a founding member of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC). He purchased a house in 1942 that had belonged to A.M. French, and it remained in his family until 1982. Now known as the Galvan House, it is one of the historical houses at Heritage Park. <a href="http://www.cctexas.com/files/g25/Heritage%20Park%20History.pdf">http://www.cctexas.com/files/g25/Heritage%20Park%20History.pdf</a>
1904	<b>Gregorio Cortez</b> faced a second trial in Corpus Christi, TX. Cortez was accused of murdering Sheriff Morris and evading capture from law enforcement including the Texas Rangers. In the second trial, he was found not guilty of the murder of Morris. The jury agreed that he had shot Morris in self-defense and in his brother's defense because Morris had attempted an unauthorized arrest. This verdict proved to be a victory not only for Gregorio Cortez, but for all of the Mexicans in Texas. Unfortunately, Cortez was found guilty for the murder of Sheriff Robert M. Glover of Gonzalez County, and he was sentenced to life in prison. However, he remains such folk hero that ballads, poems, stories, and even a movie have been made about him. <a href="http://www.laits.utexas.edu/jaime/jnicolopulos/cwp3/icg/cortez/index.html">http://www.laits.utexas.edu/jaime/jnicolopulos/cwp3/icg/cortez/index.html</a>

1925	<b>Eulalio Marin</b> (1879–1951), journalist and labor organizer, founded <i>El Paladín</i> , a weekly independent Spanish newspaper, in Corpus Christi. In 1928 <i>El Paladín</i> released an "initiative" that called for a stop to infighting among Mexican-American activists; the initiative led to the eventual founding of the League of United Latin American Citizens. On November 9, 1930, the newspaper became the official organ of the league, preceding the <i>LULAC News</i> . <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fmade">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fmade</a>
1929 May 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>League of Latin American Citizens</b> (LULAC) held its first convention in Corpus Christi, TX, and named Bernardo “Ben” F. Garza as the first President General of the organization. <a href="http://lulac.org/about/history/">http://lulac.org/about/history/</a>
1935	<b>DEL MAR COLLEGE</b> , originally named Corpus Christi Junior College, was established under control of the board of trustees of the Corpus Christi Independent School District, although the junior college district and the CCISD taxes were collected separately. Del Mar (“of the sea” in Spanish) was intended to provide an opportunity for students affected by the Great Depression to begin their college careers inexpensively. After WWII the mission was broadened to provide vocational and technical training. DMC was the birthplace of the Texas Jazz Festival, the Corpus Christi Symphony, and the Corpus Christi Chorale. <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/kcd02">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/kcd02</a>
1939	<b>Edmundo Eduardo Mireles</b> moved to Corpus Christi, where he taught fifth grade at Southgate School. He was recruited by <i>El Progreso</i> publisher <b>Rodolfo Mirabal</b> and others. From 1940 to 1965 Mireles coordinated and supervised instruction for the Corpus Christi Spanish Program for the third through ninth grades. He served as editor of the <i>LULAC News</i> from 1944 through January 1945. As president of LULAC in 1945, he supported an antidiscrimination bill introduced by state legislator J. Franklin Spears. From 1943 to 1946 he was also active with the Pan American Council, a group composed of Anglos and Latinos that sponsored Columbus Day and Pan-American activities, and for which he served as president in 1944. He also ran unsuccessfully for state representative. In 2001 an elementary school was named in his and his wife’s (Jovita González de Mireles) honor. <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fmi90">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fmi90</a>
1939	<b>Jovita González de Mireles</b> , folklorist, historian, writer, and teacher, taught for 21 years at W. B. Ray High and Miller High in Corpus Christi. In 1941 she coauthored <i>Mi Libro Español, Libro Uno</i> with her husband, E. E. Mireles, and superintendent R. B. Fisher. Her early published works include "Folklore of the Texas-Mexican Vaquero" (1927), "America Invades the Border Towns" (1930), "Among My People" (1932), and "With the Coming of the Barbed Wire Came Hunger," as well as several pieces in <i>Puro Mexicano</i> , edited by J. Frank Dobie. In 1937 she wrote "Latin Americans" for <i>Our Racial and National Minorities: Their History, Contributions, and Present Problems</i> , probably one of the first treatments of the topic by a person of Mexican descent. In 1997 <b>Dr. José Límon</b> (a graduate of Roy Miller High School) edited and published two novels from her archives. <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fmi90">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fmi90</a>
1940	<b>José Antonio García</b> M.D. was the first Mexican American elected to the board of trustees of the Corpus Christi Independent School District, a post he held until 1951. From 1936 until his death in 1971, García practiced general medicine in Corpus Christi. During his career there, he was elected treasurer of the Gulf Coast chapter of the Texas Academy of General Practice. He was also a member of the Nueces County Medical Society, the Texas Medical Association, and the American Academy of General Practice. García, who became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 1937, was also a leader in Mexican-American political affairs in South Texas. <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fga89">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fga89</a>
1948 March 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Dr. Hector Perez Garcia</b> , a decorated WWII Army veteran medical doctor, founded The American GI Forum (AGIF) in Corpus Christi, TX. A champion of Mexican-American civil rights, Dr. Garcia was appointed a United Nation's alternate ambassador by President Lyndon Johnson in 1967. President Johnson appointed Garcia to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights a year later. President Ronald Reagan awarded Dr. Garcia the Presidential

	<p>Medal of Freedom in 1984, the first Mexican-American to receive this honor. <a href="http://www.agifusa.org/history">http://www.agifusa.org/history</a>; <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fga52">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fga52</a> Justice for My People: The Dr. Hector P. Garcia Story. 2002, Produced by KEDT, South Texas Public Broadcasting <a href="http://www.kedt.org/">http://www.kedt.org/</a></p>
1949	<p>The widow of <b>U.S. Army Private Felix Z. Longoria</b>, a soldier who died in action in the Philippines in 1945, was denied the use of the only funeral home in Three Rivers, Texas, for a wake for her husband. The funeral home owner assumed – and repeated this assumption a number of times – that local whites would oppose the use of the funeral home for a ceremony for a Mexican American. Anglo residents of Three Rivers later objected to this characterization of their community. In the midst of the debate, Dr. Hector P. Garcia, leader of the recently created American G.I. Forum, brought the matter to the attention of Congressman Lyndon Johnson, who arranged for the burial of Longoria’s remains at Arlington National Cemetery. Scholars view the Longoria incident as one of the important events that made public the long-standing problems of prejudice and discrimination against Mexican Americans in the Southwest and also that contributed to the rapidly spreading civil rights movement in the United States. Justice for My People: The Dr. Hector P. Garcia Story. 2002, Produced by KEDT, South Texas Public Broadcasting&lt;<a href="http://www.kedt.org/">http://www.kedt.org/</a>&gt;; Patrick Carroll, Felix Longoria's Wake: Bereavement, Racism, and the Rise of Mexican American Activism. 2003, University of Texas Press, Austin, TX.;<a href="http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/longoria.htm">http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/longoria.htm</a>; <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/vef01">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/vef01</a>. (Contributing Author of entry: Brian Hart, Professor of History, Del Mar College.)</p>
1955	<p>In November, <b>James DeAnda</b> filed suit in the Corpus Christi division of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas. The lawsuit, <i>Hernandez v. Driscoll CISD</i>, was the first post-<i>Brown vs. Board of Education</i> school desegregation case to be brought on behalf of Mexican Americans. DeAnda sought to enjoin the Driscoll school board from continuing the segregation that he contended was maintained on ethnic rather than linguistic criteria. In his complaint, he claimed that Driscoll CISD officials had acted "under color of custom, common design, usage or practice" to deprive children of Mexican descent of privileges and immunities guaranteed under the Fourteenth Amendment. DeAnda argued that Mexican American students were deprived of the "educational, health, psychological and recreational benefits provided . . . for other school children." Driscoll CISD's attorneys denied that the school district discriminated on the basis of ancestry and argued instead that separation of children who could not speak English had long been accepted as necessary. On January 11, 1957, U.S. District Judge James V. Allred's memorandum opinion condemned Driscoll CISD's practices. <a href="http://www.historycooperative.org/journals/lhr/21.1/forum_wilson.html">http://www.historycooperative.org/journals/lhr/21.1/forum_wilson.html</a></p>
1959	<p>Joe Gallardo and Skip Veters, both members of the Jazz Club at Del Mar College, called Joe’s uncle, Al “Beto” Garcia with the request that he bring his jazz group to the college’s Student Union Building to give Jazz Club members a demonstration of the fine art of jazz. In response, Beto, Joe, Sal Pedraza, Raul Cuesta, and Eddie Olivares played a jazz concert. Later, Red Camp, local pianist, joined in. Expecting an audience of thirty, some 150 people showed up. Thus, the seed for the <b>Texas Jazz Festival</b> was planted. <a href="http://www.texasjazz-fest.org/TEXAS_JAZZ_FESTIVAL/HISTORY.html">http://www.texasjazz-fest.org/TEXAS_JAZZ_FESTIVAL/HISTORY.html</a></p>
1959	<p>The son of a pioneer merchant, <b>Gabe Lozano</b>, was first elected to the Corpus Christi City Council and served seven terms. He was the first Mexican American Mayor of Corpus Christi, appointed first to Mayor Pro-Tem, then Mayor, when the previous two mayors resigned to run for District Judge and Congress, respectively. Following in his father's footsteps as a civic leader, Lozano was president of LULAC, Parks Commissioner, and a member of the Human Relations Committee. He was also a member of numerous</p>

	community organizations and served as Director on the American Red Cross disaster committee and the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce. <a href="http://cctimeline.com/1959_Gabe_Lozano.html">http://cctimeline.com/1959_Gabe_Lozano.html</a>
1959	<b>Beatriz Tagle Pérez</b> (1923-1991) began her work with the American G.I.Forum where she served as its local head for thirty years. She contributed to the organization's efforts against the segregation of Mexican-American public-school students. In 1976 she became state treasurer for AGIF. Pérez was also a member of Volunteers in Service to America and a volunteer registrar for the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project. In addition, she served on her local United States Selective Service Board. In 1986 she was elected to one term as vice chair of the Mexican American Democrats. <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fpegu">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fpegu</a>
1964	<b>Domingo Peña</b> began a talk and variety program on KIII-TV. This program was a highly-rated Sunday-morning show for more than 16 years, during which Peña's name was a household word. The program featured musical artists and performers plus a full range of guests. His television show served to spotlight the activities of LULAC, the American G.I. Forum, and many other civic and charitable organizations as well as business and political leaders. He promoted weekly dances. In 1968 he led a 12-person troupe of entertainers on a 17-day tour of Vietnam which was especially appealing to Mexican-Americans stationed there. He retired from his television show in 1981 and died in 1983. Posthumously, Peña was inducted into the Tejano R.O.O.T.S. Hall of Fame and the Texas Conjunto Music Hall of Fame. <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fpebc">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fpebc</a>
1968	<b>José Cisneros</b> and twenty-five other Mexican-American parents filed suit against the Corpus Christi Independent School District, charging operation of a dual school system at all levels on a <i>de facto</i> basis. Represented by attorney James de Anda, the <i>Cisneros</i> case produced a new school system for Mexican-American and black children in Corpus Christi in 1975. <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/jrc02">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/jrc02</a>
1969	<b>Carlos Flores Truan</b> (1935-2012). At a time when teachers could be prosecuted for speaking or teaching a language other than English on a school campus, he won passage of the Texas Bilingual Education Act of 1969. Truan also passed the Texas Adult Education Act of 1973, establishing the GED program. Recalling his own childhood needs, he passed legislation establishing a school lunch program in Texas to help children from low-income families receive a nutritious meal at school. Truan, a lifelong champion of education and the environment, represented the people of South Texas for 26 years in the Texas Senate and 8 years in the Texas House of Representatives. In 1995, he became the first Hispanic to serve as Dean of the Texas Senate. <a href="http://www.cemetery.state.tx.us/pub/user_form.asp?pers_id=7137">http://www.cemetery.state.tx.us/pub/user_form.asp?pers_id=7137</a>
1969	<b>Freddy Fender</b> (born Baldemar Huerta) worked as a full time mechanic, was enrolled at Del Mar College, and played music only on weekends even though nine years prior his song "Wasted Days and Wasted Nights" had been a national hit. By 1975 he reached Number One on Billboard's pop and country charts with "Before the Next Teardrop Falls". Billboard named him Best Male Artist of 1975. He performed in various television and cinematic projects such as Robert Redford's 1987 <i>Milagro Beanfield War</i> . He continued his entertainment career until his death in 2006 at the age of 69 of lung cancer at his home in Corpus Christi, Texas, with his family at his bedside. He was buried in his hometown of San Benito. <a href="http://www.freddyfender.com/bio.html">http://www.freddyfender.com/bio.html</a>
1970	<b>Pepe Serna</b> , a native of Corpus Christi, began his acting career. Since 1970 he has appeared in over 100 films and 300 television shows. The most notable film he appeared in is <i>Scarface</i> with Al Pacino. He is also an artist and master teacher who has displayed his paintings at Del Mar College and galleries around the country. <a href="http://pepeserna.com/bio.html">http://pepeserna.com/bio.html</a>
1972	<b>Ramiro "Ramsey" Muñiz</b> , born and reared in Corpus Christi, ran for Governor of Texas under the Raza Unida Party. The local lawyer ran again in 1974, but was defeated both times. In 1976 he was charged with drug conspiracy charges, and he is currently serving a

	life sentence without parole. <a href="http://www.freeramsey.com/historyof.html">http://www.freeramsey.com/historyof.html</a>
1974	<b>The Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Education--Del Mar College Chapter (TACHE)</b> was formed originally, but had few members. It was not until 1994 that the chapter experienced a resurgence of activity. Since then, the chapter has encouraged access and success for students in higher education, provided local forums for the discussion and solutions of issues related to Chicanos/Latinos/ Hispanics in higher education, and promoted awareness and appreciation of Chicanos/Latinos/Hispanic culture. <a href="http://dmc122011.delmar.edu/tache/">http://dmc122011.delmar.edu/tache/</a>
1976	<b>Irma Lerma Rangel</b> ran successfully for a seat in the Texas House of Representatives and became the first Mexican American woman elected to the Legislature. In 1969 she graduated from St. Mary's University School of Law in San Antonio and went on to become one of the first Hispanic female law clerks for a federal district judge. After her clerkship with Judge Adrian Spears, she became one of the first Hispanic female assistant district attorneys in Texas while working in the Corpus Christi office. Rangel quickly earned a reputation as a proponent of higher education and equal rights for minorities and the poor. The Irma Rangel College of Pharmacy opened its doors at Texas A&M University-Kingsville on August 10, 2006. She lost her battle with cancer in 2003. <a href="http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fra85">http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fra85</a>
1980	<b>Lou Diamond Phillips</b> was graduated from Flour Bluff High School. After earning his BFA in drama from the University of Texas at Arlington, he began his acting career appearing in many films, such as <i>La Bamba</i> and <i>Stand and Deliver</i> , and winning several notable acting awards. <a href="http://movies.msn.com/celebrities/celebrity-biography/lou-diamond-phillips/">http://movies.msn.com/celebrities/celebrity-biography/lou-diamond-phillips/</a>
1984	<b>Dr. Clotilde Garcia</b> was inducted into the Texas Woman's University's Hall of Fame. Dr. Garcia of Corpus Christi is one of the first Mexican-American women in Texas to enter the medical profession. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Texas at Austin and her doctorate of medicine from the University of Texas School of Medicine in Galveston. She served as regent of Del Mar College (1960-1982) and on the Executive Committee of Nueces County Antipoverty Program (1970-1973). Since 1960 Dr. Garcia worked with 29 civic and charitable organizations involved in education, historic preservation and emergency food, health and jobs programs. She received the Community Leader of America Award in 1969 and the Outstanding Citizen's Award given by the American G.I. Forum of Texas in 1972. In 1987, Dr. Cleo, with the assistance of her sister Dr. Dalia P. Garcia, Herbert G. Canales, Elvira Garcia, Minerva Overstreet, and Mira Smithwick, founded the Spanish American Genealogical Association (SAGA). SAGA's mission was to promote the research, collection, and development of genealogical data on Spanish/Mexican settlers of South Texas. She wrote and published five books on Hispanic history. A building on the East Campus of Del Mar College is named in her honor. The Corpus Christi City Council officially approved a resolution to name the Dr. Clotilde P. Garcia Public Library on April 22, 2008. <a href="http://www.agif.org/cleo.pdf">http://www.agif.org/cleo.pdf</a> <a href="https://www.twu.edu/twhf/tw-cgarcia.asp">https://www.twu.edu/twhf/tw-cgarcia.asp</a>
1985	<b>Hilda Gloria Tagle</b> became the first Hispanic female judge in Nueces County, the first Hispanic female county court at law judge in Texas, and only the second Hispanic woman judge of a court of record in Texas. A native of Robstown, Tagle obtained an associate's degree from Del Mar College. She continued her studies at East Texas State University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in library science. She went on to obtain her master's degree in library science from North Texas State University in 1971 and worked as a librarian at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston for four years. In 1975, Judge Tagle entered the University of Texas School of Law in 1975, and graduated in August, 1977. Judge Tagle returned to South Texas where she worked as an assistant city attorney for the City of Corpus Christi for a year. She was then recruited as a Nueces County assistant county attorney where she was one of very few women trying criminal jury cases. In 1980, she was recruited by the Nueces County District Attorney to prosecute

	<p>felonies. After leaving the DA's office, Judge Tagle practiced law and taught at Del Mar College for four years. When Hilda G. Tagle was confirmed as a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, Brownsville Division, she became the first Hispanic woman in Texas to hold the position of federal district judge.</p> <p><a href="http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/twu/00011/twu-00011.html">http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/twu/00011/twu-00011.html</a></p>
1988	<p><b>Hispanic Women's Network of Texas (HWNT)</b> formed the Corpus Christi chapter one year after the state organization for chartered. Since its inception, HWNT members have come together to sponsor programs designed to cultivate the social, cultural, legal, and educational interests of Hispanic women. <a href="http://www.hwnt.org">http://www.hwnt.org</a></p>
1995	<p><b>Selena Quintanilla</b> Perez was the No. 1 female Latino star in the United States and Mexico before her untimely death on March 31, 1995, in Corpus Christi, Texas. By April 1995, Selena became the first recording artist to place five Spanish-language albums simultaneously on the Billboard 200. Her Grammy-nominated 1994 release AMOR PROHIBIDO went platinum, as did her 1993 Grammy Award winning album SELENA LIVE! and her 1992 album ENTRE A MI MUNDO.</p> <p><a href="http://www.q-productions.com/selena.html">http://www.q-productions.com/selena.html</a></p>
1995	<p><b>Pedro (Pete) Alvarez</b> became the first Hispanic Police Chief in Corpus Christi after working up the ranks. He began his employment with the Corpus Christi Police Department in 1966, while attending Del Mar College to earn his Associate's degree. He later pursued a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Corpus Christi State University. He died in 2008.</p>
1996	<p><b>Dr. Gloria Ann Lopez</b> became the first Mexican-American female dean at Del Mar College. She had been a founding member of the Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Education in the 1970s. As dean of DMC's Arts and Sciences Division, Dr. Lopez retired in August 2008.</p>
1998	<p><b>Eva Longoria</b> was named Miss Corpus Christi USA. She has appeared in various television series, most notably <i>Desperate Housewives</i>. She has been named one of the 50 most beautiful people by <i>People en Español</i> magazine and is under contract with L'Oreal.</p> <p><a href="http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0519456/bio">http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0519456/bio</a></p>
2003	<p><b>Betty Jean Longoria</b> became the first Hispanic woman to serve on the Nueces County Commissioners Court.</p> <p><a href="http://capitolwords.org/date/2010/09/28/E1751-4_honoring-latina-leader-award-recipient-betty-jean-/">http://capitolwords.org/date/2010/09/28/E1751-4_honoring-latina-leader-award-recipient-betty-jean-/</a></p>
2004	<p><b>Del Mar College</b> received federal designation as a <b>Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI)</b>. According to <i>DMC's Statistical Profile for 2003/04</i> Vol. 18, the Hispanic population at DMC stood at 57.4% in fall 2003.</p> <p><a href="http://www.corpuschristidaily.com/article_detail_new.cfm?id=3057">http://www.corpuschristidaily.com/article_detail_new.cfm?id=3057</a></p>
2004	<p>Senate Bill 286 of the 78th Texas Legislature directed the governing boards of public community colleges, with the approval of the Coordinating Board, to determine the demand for and feasibility of establishing a <b>Mexican-American studies</b> program or other course work. At its October 2004 meeting, the Board proposed the field of study curriculum FOSC in Mexican-American studies, which included 18 semester credit hours (SCH) of lower-division work that would transfer and apply to baccalaureate Mexican-American studies programs at public universities in Texas.</p> <p><a href="http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/GeneralPubs/Agenda/Ag2005_01/VM/VMSR.pdf">http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/GeneralPubs/Agenda/Ag2005_01/VM/VMSR.pdf</a></p>
2007-2010	<p>Del Mar College expands the college course offerings to included three Mexican-American Studies courses. The College reinstates <b>Mexican-American Literature</b>. The course was listed in the mid-1970s as Latin American Literature and had remained in the course catalogue, but it had not been made available to students until the spring 2008 when it was renamed and revamped. Mexican-American Politics and Mexican-American Fine Arts Appreciation are approved by the DMC Curriculum Committee. All three courses are added to the College's list of core curriculum</p>

	courses.
2011 Fall	Del Mar College offers <b>Associate in Arts: Mexican-American Studies degree</b> . <a href="http://www.caller.com/news/2011/sep/15/del-mar-college-adds-mexican-american-studies-as/">http://www.caller.com/news/2011/sep/15/del-mar-college-adds-mexican-american-studies-as/</a>
2011 July 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Mary Helen Berlanga</b> , local attorney and member of the Texas State Board of Education for the last 28 years, was recognized by the Royal Consul of Spain with the Royal Order of Isabel la Católica for her efforts to ensure textbooks included the contributions of blacks, Hispanics, and the contributions of Spanish explorers. An elementary school was named in her honor in 2010. In October 2011 she announced her retirement from the board at the Annual TACHE—Del Mar Membership Appreciation Dinner. <a href="http://www.caller.com/news/2011/jul/29/consul-of-spain-honors-state-board-of-education/">http://www.caller.com/news/2011/jul/29/consul-of-spain-honors-state-board-of-education/</a>