



Office of Chicago City Clerk



R2011-351

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City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	3/9/2011
Sponsor(s):	Pope, John (10)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Tribute to Late Melesia Negrete
Committee(s) Assignment:	Agreed Calendar

SALUTE TO MELESIA NEGRETE

WHEREAS, Almighty God in His Infinite Wisdom has granted Melesia Negrete birth into eternity on September 4, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Melesia Negrete was born in Mexico during the Mexican Revolution and later lived through the bloodshed of the 1920s. As a young woman, she left her hometown to find work as a servant in the city of San Luis Potosi where she also found her future husband and they wed in 1945. Together, the couple witnessed the Cristero Rebellion, the violent uprising of peasants and religious groups against the government for Catholic persecution; and

WHEREAS, In 1949, Melesia Negrete along with her husband and young children, crossed the Rio Grande into Texas to work as migrant farm workers. For six years, they labored in the fields, migrating with the seasons from South Texas to Minnesota and back again. In 1955, Mrs. Negrete and her family moved to the South Chicago community where her husband found work at Republic Steel Corporadon until 1979; and

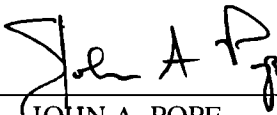
WHEREAS, Melesia Negrete raised five children and tended to the house while her husband worked. Her four youngest children became performers in music and theatre. When her children became older she held several jobs as a cook, worker in a pickle factory and an onion packaging plant; and

WHEREAS, Melesia Negrete and her husband were legal residents for 47 years after getting the citizenship in 1996 at Navy Pier. They were the oldest among hundreds of new U.S. citizens. This was the most memorable and emotional event that took place during her life. But two weeks after obtaining her citizenship, her husband died of lung cancer. Mrs. Negrete enjoyed her rights as a citizen and voted for the first time in the 2008 presidential election; and

WHEREAS, Melesia Negrete was known for her quiet strength, love of gardening and cooking delicious Mexican mole. She is survived by her two daughters, Juanita Negrete Phillips and Santa Perez and six grandchildren; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED That we, the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago City Council, assembled on this 9th Day of March AD, do hereby express our sincere sorrow for the passing of Melesia Negrete and extend our deepest condolences to her family and all those whose lives she touched.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to the family of Melesia Negrete.



JOHN A. POPE
Alderman- 10th Ward