

NWS Brownsville/Rio Grande Valley In Your Neighborhood!

December 2013 - January 2014



Senior Forecaster Mike Castillo Helps Los Fresnos ISD Students Choose a Career in Meteorology, January 29 2014

December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: WCM *Barry Goldsmith* participated and contributed valuable suggestions for updates to conditions across the Rio Grande Valley in the weekly **Texas Drought Monitor Telcon**.

December 3 – 5: Forecaster *Justin Gibbs* and WCM *Barry Goldsmith* participated in the **NOAA Virtual Hurricane Conference**.

December 6: MIC *Steve Drillette* and Electronic Technician *Cesar Ochoa* attended the **Kaplan College Advisory Board meeting and luncheon**. They learned all about Kaplan College and specifically about their Computer Support Technology program. Cesar will be a permanent member of the CST program Advisory Board for Kaplan College.

December 10: WCM *Barry Goldsmith* gave a 20 minute talk for the monthly **Agricultural/Farm Insurance meeting**. The topic was focused on the 2014 growing

season outlook for the Rio Grande Valley, and was attended by 25 farmers and related staff.

December 11: WCM *Barry Goldsmith* hosted **the Leadership Laguna Madre (based in Port Isabel)**, including an overview of the NWS followed by a full tour of the office. Ten people attended.

-Forecaster *Maria M. Torres* participated in the **monthly interview with Radio Esperanza in Edinburg**. The hour long interview was focused on the NWS mission and preparedness during winter weather. Questions were fielded from listeners during the final 20 minutes of the show.

December 12: **Leadership Brownsville visited the NWS office**. MIC *Steve Drillette*, WCM *Barry Goldsmith* and ESA *Paul Schaafsma* participated on this tour.

December 14: Forecaster *Maria Torres* attended **Radio Esperanza Health Fair in Edinburg Municipal Park**. Approximately 600 people visited the booth.

December 18: WCM *Barry Goldsmith* staffed a booth at the **La Joya ISD Middle and High School Career Fair**. Approximately 700 students visited the booth.

December 27th - 30th : MIC *Steve Drillette* taught **the Boy Scout merit badge weather to in Camp Perry 130 near Rio Hondo**. The class was one and a half hour long for 4 days. 19 Scouts attended and received the weather badge.

January 2014

January 6, 13, 20 and 27: WCM *Barry Goldsmith* participated and contributed valuable information to the weekly **Texas Drought Monitor Telcon**.

January 9th: WCM *Barry Goldsmith* attended the **LRGVDC HSAC at Knapp Medical Center in Weslaco**.

January 21-22: ET *Cesar Ochoa* and WCM *Barry Goldsmith* staffed a booth at the **21st Annual RGV Winter Texan Expo in McAllen Convection Center**. Attendance was estimated at around 5,000 people and up to 1,500 visited the booth and came to get a "poker card" sticker. On the 22nd, estimated crowd of 4,000 people and 1,000 visited the booth. More details for this event can be found at:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/images/bro/outreach/2014/pdf/WinterTexanExpo21.pdf>

January 22: *Sam Martinez* staffed a booth at the **Cromack Elementary Career Day in Brownsville**.

January 24: MIC *Steve Drillette* gave a 45 minute presentation on RGV Climatology to 14 people at the **World of Wildlife Expo at the South Padre Island Convection Center (WOWE)**.

January 27: WCM *Barry Goldsmith* was interviewed at 5:10 AM and 6:10AM in **KGBT Harlingen with Victoria Marshall** (morning meteorologist and program director) on Skywarn® storm spotter training season. Barry created advertisement graphics that were used to promote WFO Brownsville classes and the online class offered by MetEd.

January 29: SOO *Doug Butts* and *Mike Castillo* attended **Los Fresnos College, Career and Electives Fair in Los Fresnos High School**. Around 900 middle school students attended the event.

-Forecaster *Maria M. Torres* did **an interview with Televisa** on the freezing rain/sleet winter event in the valley and Matamoros area.

January 31: WCM *Barry Goldsmith* staffed a booth for the 6th to 8th graders **Career Fair at Trevino Middle School in Mission**. Several hundred students attended; at least 200 students stopped by the booth. More than 200 brochures, Skywatcher charts, etc. were handed out, and dozens of questions answered ranging from careers to how tornadoes and hurricanes form.

--*Sam Martinez* attended the **RL Martin Elementary Career Day in Brownsville**.