



S.F.D.R.C.I.S.D.

# HIGHLIGHTS

*Our District, Our Students, Our Pride*

Winter

Volume 6

2014-2015



## ***Rams In Toyland!***

Garfield Elementary was awarded the 1st place trophy in Division 1- Elementary and Private Schools for their homecoming float – RAMS IN TOYLAND! Their float consisted of Toy soldiers, Andy's room, the TOY BOX and the Misfit toys! Student council members, volunteers and staff members all participated in the building of the float and by walking or riding on the float in the parade. We are proud of the student council's team work and dedication in showing support for the DRHS Ram Football team.



**SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS AT SAN FELIPE MEMORIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL**

These students have qualified for the Regional Science Fair to be held in San Antonio. Pictured back row, L-R: Annaliza Ortiz, Carolina Sanchez, Clarissa Rodriguez, Ellyana Raney, Hannah De La Mota, Aria Duenez, Maria Hudgins, Alyssa Torres, and Emily Oyama. Front row, L-R: Aaron Peters, Aidan Cannon, Robert Moore, Ian Pardee, Evan Peters, and Mason Dewitt.



**SFMMS COMPETES IN ANNUAL ELEMENTARY CROSS COUNTRY MEET**

The students of SFMMS competed in the Annual Elementary Cross Country Meet on November 20. 6th graders run on teams organized according to who their PE coach is. In the Boys Division, Team Suarez placed first, Team Gomez second, and Team Soto third. In the Girls Division, Team Gomez placed first, Team Durham second, and Team Soto third. In the Highest Participation competition, Coach Suarez won with 34% of his students participating, followed closely by Coach Soto with 32%.



**DEL RIO FRESHMAN SCHOOL SAPPHIRES**

The Del Rio Freshman School Sapphires represent the campus throughout the year at various football and basketball games, parades and city events. The Sapphires and their instructors practice five days a week in order to prepare exciting dance routines to energize the crowd and cheer for their classmates. Up next for the Sapphires is competition in San Antonio. Sponsors are Mrs. Brittany Brandenburger and Mrs. Dolimer Sanchez.



### R.C.E. IS BULLY FREE

Ruben Chavira Elementary School strives to be bully free every day. As part of an ongoing program to increase awareness of the importance of being kind and including everyone, R.C.E. participated in Bully Free Week. In conjunction with the Bully Free Week activities, students created a Bully Box and a suggestion box. Hannah Martinez, a 5th grade Youth Power member and STUCO president, for example, thought the Bully Box would be a non-threatening way to encourage students to report bullying. The school counselor, Miss Annette Giridy, reads the Bully Box reports and conferences with concerned students on positive ways to solve potential problems. The Cougar Paw suggestion box was Katelyn Konicki's idea, also a 5th grade student that encourages students to express their wonderful ideas.



### HOORAY FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE!

As a way to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, Laughlin Air Force Base held a city wide writing contest for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade Del Rio students. All Del Rio elementary campuses submitted essays honoring important Hispanic heroes and detailing their cultural contributions. Ruben Chavira Elementary School's fifth grader Karime Ramirez earned 3rd place and fifth grader Hannah Martinez earned 1st place overall. RCE is proud of these writers and their insightful essays. These students reflect the proud Hispanic heritage that exists in Del Rio and exemplify the remarkable students that exist at R.C.E.



### 'TIS THE SEASON!

R.C.E. is starting the holiday season with a warm spirit. Ruben Chavira Elementary School's principal, Mr. Jose Perez, has implemented "Breakfast with the Principal" for R.C.E. students as a way to nurture a close-knit family feeling for all students. Each month, a different group of students is invited to enjoy breakfast in the counselor's conference room and discuss important issues around the campus. Students share exciting news in their lives and get to know the campus administration. This tradition fosters a feeling of belonging and shows the students that the adults at school are personally vested in them.



### R.C.E. ROCKS ROBOTICS

Ruben Chavira Elementary School's Robotics team earned the Gracious Professionalism Award at the E-Cadet Round-Up Championship held at Del Rio High School in November. This honor was bestowed upon the team for displaying kindness toward each other and exhibiting outstanding teamwork during the competition. Cindy Chavira-Martinez sponsors this robotics team and is extremely proud of the students and the award they earned. The robotics team includes Jesse Dovalina, Charlie Ayala, Kenneth Alexander, Cecilia Martinez, and Sebastian De la Rosa.



### LAMAR ELEMENTARY ROBOTICS

The Lamar Robotics team was very successful during their 2014-2015 season. Students worked hard in assembling and programming their robots in order to compete among more than 35 teams at the district Robotics meet held, Saturday, November 15, 2014. After a full day of competition, the Geekbots, made up of Robert Garcia and Luke Herrera, placed 2nd overall missing a tie for 1st place by one point. In addition to placing 2nd place, the Geekbots were also awarded the Engineering Award for excellent strategy planning in competition. The boys were awarded this for developing creative strategy against their opponents and keeping the opposing team to a minimum score through their play. Mrs. Osen De Leon, the Robotics team sponsor, expressed her joy after the very impressive performance of the team. "Our students worked very hard at this and they deserved to win. I am very proud of their efforts and the dedication they put into their robots and team. It was an outstanding season." Lamar is very proud of our Robotics Team. Way to represent Team Lamar!



### LAMAR'S 1ST ANNUAL PUMPKIN EXTRAVAGANZA TO PROMOTE LITERACY

In the month of October, Lamar Elementary hosted a "Pumpkin Extravaganza" where students were encouraged to decorate a pumpkin as their favorite book character hence promoting Reading Literacy. Students worked with their families at home to participate in this activity which turned out to be a huge success. We had over 40 pumpkins on display in the library for staff and students to see. We appreciate all the students and their families for helping Lamar make this first pumpkin extravaganza a huge success.



### GARFIELD ELEMENTARY UIL TEAM

Garfield Elementary UIL team. Students have been preparing to compete in the elementary UIL meet which was held on December 13, 2014. Students competed in the areas of oral reading, music memory, dictionary skills, ready writing, spelling and number sense. The theme for the meet was super heroes and at Garfield Elementary we believe our team consists of our super heroes. Congratulations to all students for their hard work and commitment. We are proud of all of you.



### ACCELERATED READER – GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND!

Manuel Rodriguez, 5th Grade Student at Lamar Elementary, reached 176 AR (Accelerated Reading) points by the end of the 2nd Six Weeks. He earned a medal at 75 points and an AR Rock Star T-shirt at 100 points. Manuel's achievement is phenomenal! Great job!



**CARDWELL HEAD START/PK PROGRAM CELEBRATES RED RIBBON WEEK**

It is never too early to teach children about staying healthy and drug-free. During Red Ribbon Week Cardwell students participated in various activities including wearing red and wearing a graduation cap or a hat of their future career. Pictured are the students from the class of Mrs. Vanessa Salinas and Mrs. Angelica Buffone.



**OPENING THE WORLD OF SCIENCE AT CARDWELL HEAD START/PK PROGRAM**

The Science Fair at Cardwell marks the beginning of many science experiments SFDRCID students will conduct in the years to come. In preparation for the annual science fair, the Cardwell Science Committee, conducts a series of parent trainings to empower parents with the necessary skills to support children at home.



**TODAY'S READERS...TOMORROW'S LEADERS**

Mrs. Sandborg, Mrs. Sandoval, Mrs. Nieto, and Miss Romo's class have reached the goal of reading 500 books. Hip, Hip, Hooray!



**H-E-B'S READ 3 FAMILY LITERACY WORKSHOP AT DR. FERMIN CALDERON**

H-E-B's Read 3 Family Literacy workshop began at Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary in October 2014. Several families are participating with their young children. Read 3 Family Literacy Workshop, sponsored by H-E-B, receives free books, healthy recipes that kids love, and help our students prepare for pre-K or kindergarten. Students from Southwest Texas Junior College prepare and present lessons to parents and students using popular books. The families will complete the six week program and receive books for their home libraries. SWTJC students are mentored and guided by Dr. Fermin Calderon's very own, 2nd grade teacher, Melissa Bean. Shout out to Mrs. Bean, Dr. Fermin Calderon students and parents, H-E-B and SWTJ College students for their commitment to our students.



**DR. FERMIN CALDERON ELEMENTARY HONORS VETERANS**

Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary had a wonderful celebration and honored several Veterans this past November, including several staff members. Our fabulous fifth graders lead the entire campus and honored guests with the Pledge of Allegiance. Students honored their guests by flying the American flag and listening attentively to the special presentation.



**STUDENT COUNCIL SUPPORTS COLLECTS FOOD FOR FAMILIES IN NEED**

Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary Student Council supported their community by collecting food for families in need. They collected for two weeks under the direction of their sponsors, Coach Yvette Cortinas and Coach Claudia Juarez-Dobbins, and prepared beautiful boxes filled with food to be given away just in time for Thanksgiving. Each student has exhibited leadership skills and compassion for others.



**NORTH HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY DEL RIO RAMS HOMECOMING PARADE**

North Heights Elementary had a mad, mad tea-party of a time during the Del Rio Rams Homecoming Parade. From Tweedle Dum to the Queen of Hearts, from Alice to the Mad Hatter, all of the staff and students at NHE sent wishes of "Happy Homecoming...to YOU!" NHE received 2nd place for their Homecoming float.



### **NORTH HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY 2ND ANNUAL 5K FUN RUN**

North Heights Elementary staff, students, and parents showed up on an extremely cold morning to run the 2nd Annual 5K Fun Run on Saturday, Nov. 15th. Not only did several people get medals for their categories, NHE won the trophy for the most participation. Way to stay healthy NHE!



### **TIGGER AND WINNIE THE POOH**

Mrs. Lupita Ortiz and Miss Jessica Solis, NHE 4th grade teachers, dressed up as "Tigger and Winnie the Pooh" in support of DRHS Homecoming week. The teachers participated in, "Dress as Your Favorite Character Day" showing their support for our DRHS Ram's football team. Alicia Flores, a fourth grader at North Heights Elementary and granddaughter to Mrs. Ortiz was wanting to get in on the fun!



### **GARFIELD STUDENTS WEAR JACKETS DONATED BY THE CITY OF DEL RIO POLICE DEPT**

Students from Garfield Elementary proudly wear their donated jackets from the City of Del Rio Police Department. The jacket donation is an annual event. The students happily accepted the donation prior to the school's Thanksgiving break.



### **GARFIELD ELEMENTARY STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN THE ANNUAL ELEMENTARY TRACK MEET**

Garfield elementary students participated in the annual elementary track meet. Several students won medals and we had a number of students that were in the top twenty and even came in 1st for their division. Congratulations to all students.



**DR. LONNIE GREEN ELEMENTARY HONOR STUDENT COUNCIL DONATES CEREAL BOXES**

The Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary Honor Student Council continues to give to the community. Members of the school's student council donated cereal boxes to two local food banks. This was only one of several projects the school's student council is heading this school year. In the month of November, the cereal drive was the project of focus at the school. The members and the sponsors collected 122 cereal boxes that were donated to the St. Vincent de Paul food bank and the Loaves and Fishes food pantry. Pictured is Mrs. D. Ponce's second grade class. The students won the Biggest Heart award for coming in 1st place with 100% participation.



**DR. LONNIE GREEN ELEMENTARY PARTICIPATES IN A CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING CONTEST**

Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary school was invited by the Whitehead Memorial Museum to participate in a Christmas Tree Decorating contest. Pictured are some members of the Honor Student Council at the decorating event held on Tuesday, December 9, 2014. The trees will help decorate the museum's community event titled Christmas Under the Stars to be held Friday, December 12, 2014 in support of their annual toy/food drive. Along with this event, the student council has a drive running at Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary for the month of December to benefit local nursing homes. The Honor Student Council plans to sing Christmas carols to the nursing home residents when the donations are delivered.



**BUENA VISTA ELEMENTARY STRINGS CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE**

Buena Vista Strings (Buena Vista's Christmas Performance) The Buena Vista Strings is made up 5th grade students who make a commitment to make good grades, be excellent citizens, and attend rehearsals after school. They outdid themselves in their Christmas performance at Buena Vista on December 9, 2014. Parents were delighted to listen proudly to their children play. Parent attendance was at an all-time high. Selena Gonzalez is the elementary Orchestra director.



**KEEP RUNNING BUENA VISTA ELEMENTARY**

Buena Vista students were running for success at the 13th Annual Elementary Cross Country Race held in November. Buena Vista had approximately 280 students participate in the races, winning the trophy for "Most Participation." The Third Grade Girls and Boys won the 1st place Champs, Fourth Grade Girls and Boys won 2nd place, and Fifth Grade Girls and Boys won the 1st place Champs. Keep running BV!!





### BUENA VISTA ELEMENTARY WELCOMING CHRISTMAS WITH MUSIC CHEER

The music program at Buena Vista Elementary is thriving with its talented student body! The Buena Vista Choir is made up of 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students. On December 9th, they celebrated the holiday season with a Christmas Extravaganza which featured not only the Choir, but included the 5th grade strings program, and the 4th grade students. Song selections included Holiday Season, O Come Little Children, Jingle Jive, The First Noel, Jingle Bells, Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree, Jingle Bell Rock, and Feliz Navidad. Choir students are under the direction of Angela Leonor and Aura Trevino. Selena Gonzalez is the elementary Orchestra director. The 4th grade all-star cluster includes: Teresa Gregg, Laura Limon, Olga Calderon, Cecilia Gonzalez, Michelle Klay, Kerri Barrera, and Sandra Venegas. Thank you to all parents, staff, and students for making the Christmas Extravaganza Program a huge success!



### DRMS PLACES 1ST AND 2ND WITH THEIR HOMECOMING PARADE FLOATS

DRMS proudly announces the cheer and dance team won 1st place for their Mickey and Minnie float and 2nd place for the DRMS student council float. The students worked hard on their floats along with their sponsors Kayla Lopez (cheer & dance) and Michelle Yvonne Gomez is the sponsor for student council. Their efforts, creativity and initiative were rewarded at the DRHS homecoming pep-rally. We proudly say, "go Rams go! & go Queens go"! Great job everyone.





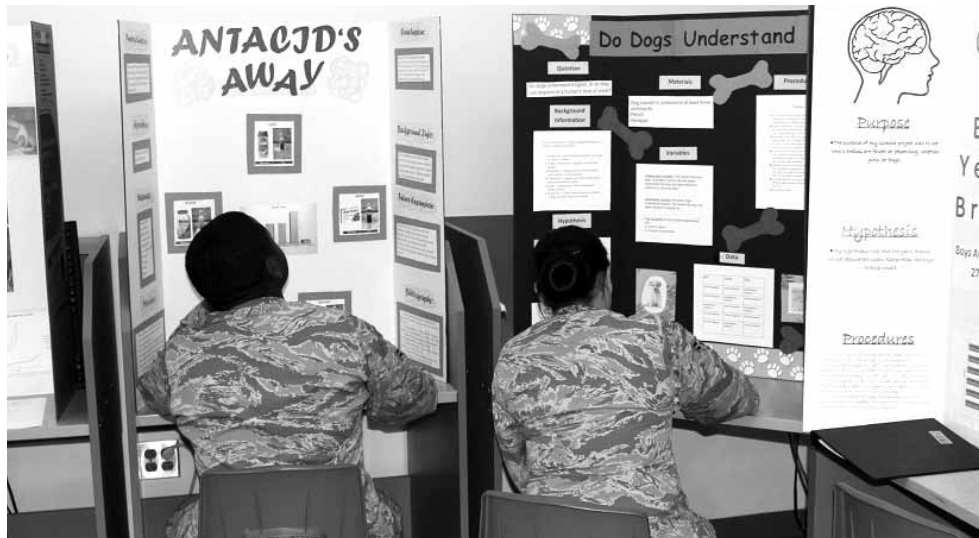
### MACY'S PARADE-NEW YORK, NEW YORK! WELCOME HOME

The DRMS dance team headed to New York to perform at the Macy's parade on Thanksgiving Day. The dance team along with their sponsor Kayla Lopez headed to New York for a fun filled but busy week in New York. The DRMS dance team with the spirit of America productions worked diligently on their dance routine to perform live in the Macy's parade. The team practiced endless hours and sponsored various fundraisers to finance their trip and stay in New York. What a wonderful experience and these girls worked hard for. Thank you for representing DRMS with pride and modesty. Welcome back to Del Rio, Texas. The community is proud of you.



### COMMUNITY READERS EVENT

North Heights Elementary Community Readers Event was held the week of December 8-12, 2014. People from the community visited NHE Library to talk to students about the importance of reading and how reading impacts their professional and daily lives. Celebrity readers such as Guy Aguirre then read a book to a group of students. NHE staff would like to thank all Celebrity Readers who volunteered their time out of their busy schedules to come and visit with our students.



### "SCIENTIST OF TOMORROW"

DRMS held their district science fair on November 18th & 19th for 7th and 8th grade students. DRMS had over 20 L.A.F.B. volunteers judge the science fair projects. We thank them for their service and volunteerism. The top thirty 7th & 8th grade students were selected as the science fair winners from hundreds of participants. The 30 students were interviewed by the judges on their winning science fair project. Of the 30 students, 15 were selected to advance to the Alamo Region Science Fair in San Antonio, Texas. The following students will represent the city of Del Rio and DRMS at the regional science fair competition: Mia Rodriguez, Alyssa Gonzales, Alexandra Clay, Chloe McWilliams, Jacob De La Mota, Ceana Palacio, Andrea Zamarripa, Laitza Castillo, Erich Von Aspe, Sherrilynne Moore, Aaron Cash, Austin Mercier, Samantha Garcia, Lilian Perez, and Krystal Salinas. Roger Soto, 8th grade science teacher, organized the science fair. Congratulations and good luck to each of you.



### DEL RIO HIGH SCHOOL UIL ACADEMICS

The DRHS UIL Academics started their season this year on October 25 traveling to O'Connor High School followed up by a meet to Madison High School. We have already qualified several students to the TMSCA State meet in March. We are quite excited to be District host for all academic meets this year. We will be hosting the Pre-District meet on January 9-10, 2015 and CX Debate-District February 13-14, 2015 and the District 29-6A UIL Academics championship meet on April 10-11, 2015.



### DEL RIO HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

One can say that singing isn't for everyone or that perhaps some are born with the gift and some are not. Singing is a personal art creates musicianship, passion and determination. Making it competitive just raises the bar of expectation to an ultimate level. This level is at where Miranda Martinez is sure to be. Being only a sophomore, Miranda, is currently one competition away from becoming a Texas All-State Choir member, a privilege only the top 5% of high school singers in Texas get. Through hard work and determination Miranda, the daughter of Katherine and Adrian Martinez Sr., has eliminated juniors and seniors in her category and has been able to balance out Academics as well as a lead role in this fall's production and The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. Always humble and eager to learn, Miranda is the kind of student any music and theatre director dreams to work with. Her ability of always being prepared, taking direction and focus has made her a star pupil in our musical productions as well as learning the works of J.S. Bach. We will all be wishing her luck and crossing our fingers when Miranda competes January 10th 2014 at Reagan HS in San Antonio Texas.

# THE SPIRIT OF DEL RIO

## 2014-2015

### Varsity Cheerleaders



#### DEL RIO HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY CHEERLEADERS 2014-2015

Del Rio High School Varsity Cheerleaders have had a non-stop, continuous busy 2014-2015 school year. The Team's two main goals are to increase school spirit and show support to every organization at Del Rio High School. Pep rallies were creatively revamped where our Co-Head Cheerleaders hosted pep rallies and Cheerleaders had an active role in coming up with games involving all classes: 9th-12th grade and teachers.

This led to the First Ever Black Light Pep Rally. Home Depot supported this special event. Students and staff dressed in as much white as possible, wore glow necklaces, and had glow sticks as lights were turned off. Cheerleaders played music and school spirit was at an all-time high as our Mighty Ram Football Team went into the second round of Play-Offs. DRHS Varsity Cheerleaders led an astounding performance that included tumbling and stunts as they glowed in the dark. Queen City Belles and Del Rio Dance Company were also featured in this high energy dance performance that had all on their feet!

Varsity Cheerleaders are not done with their school year. The Team supports all organizations and athletic teams by making posters, goodie bags, and of course showing up to as many athletic games as possible. A positive attitude in all they do and a love for cheer is what drives this talented Team. This is a year for positive change and it will only get better as The Team is beginning to train and fundraise for their competition season. If you see a Varsity Cheerleader please give them a smile and your support, it will be reciprocated and appreciated as they represent Del Rio proudly.

The Del Rio Varsity Cheerleaders include Jaclyn Adams, Alexia Aguirre, Denise Barron, Bianca Calderon, Valeria Chairez, Olivia Flores, Karina Galindo, Karla Guerra, Yessica Lopez, Jessica Martinez, Briana Pulido, Natalia Rocha, Genella Rubio, Michaela Sanchez, Andres Vazquez, Cristina Ziegler, Co- Head Cheerleaders Briana Morales and Alexis Logwood, Cheer managers Monica Salazar and Odyssey Molano. Head Sponsor is Beatrice "Beazy" De Leon Co-Sponsors are Janice Hardin and Lisa Johansson.