



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

# HIGHLIGHTS

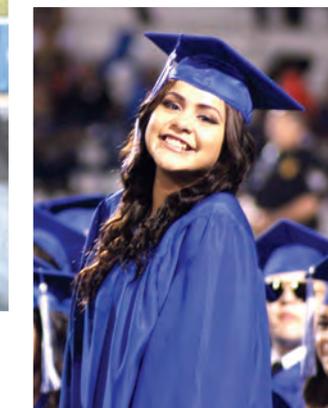
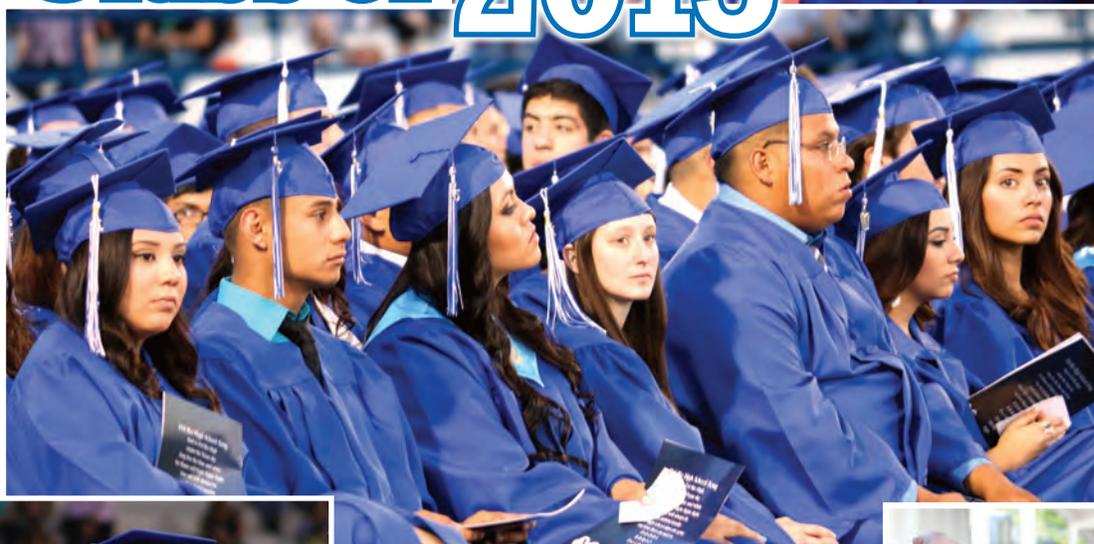
*Our District, Our Students, Our Pride*

Summer

Volume 8

2014-2015

## Del Rio High School Class of 2015





### CHAMPIONS!

North Heights Elementary students along with the parents rush to the finish line during the Special Track & Field meet. Featured in this shot are Abel Villegas and his mom, Carlos Velasquez-Martinez and mom, and James and Jesse Trujillo and mother, with an assist from a sibling. (Thanks Paola!)



### ADVENTURES IN LIFE SKILLS!

Mrs. Trisler's Life Skills class at North Heights studied directions such as left, right, near, far, here, there, up and down. Students studied the map to see where it would lead.



### SCIENCE IN THE CLASSROOM

During the fifth six weeks, our life skills students learned about how plants "drink" water through their stems. We placed white carnations in differently colored water. After 1 day, the evidence of water delivered to the flower was quite evident. Pictured with some of our results are (from left to right) Miguel Aguero, James and Jesse Trujillo.



### NHE JUNIOR RANGERS!

North Heights Elementary 5th grade students traveled to Lake Amistad National Park for Junior Ranger Day. Participants earned an official seal and badge after taking part in a series of activities that included a guided nature hike, binocular exercise and houseboat tour.



## CAREER DAY

More than forty-five community organizations from L.A.F.B. and the surrounding area, participated and supported the Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary Annual Career Day on Friday, May 15, 2015. Students enjoyed talking to various representatives and visiting their career booths. At the finale of the event, students participated in a "Dress For Success" costume contest. All students did a great job! The winners of the contest were: Bernardo Rodriguez, Briana Castro, Jasmin Hernandez, Alexia Gomez, Elian Rivas, and Alan Dobbins.



## CHOIR

Pictured are the students in Calderon Elementary's All District Choir. Students in this choir were featured on Orff instruments to the song entitled "You Can't Stop the Beat". This was part of the All District Choir performance where all of the elementary schools in the district come to perform for a spring concert. This year's theme was Broadway musicals. Pictured Left to Right: Front Row: Daliah Bocanegra, Jackie Fuentes, Kenna Rodriguez, Mia Ibarra, Marina Gutierrez. 2nd Row: Ivan Rodriguez, Jimena Valadez, Francisco Torres, Alondra Richarte, Savanna Nanez. 3rd Row: Ismael Araujo, Gabriel Araujo



## DINO DAYS

Kindergarten students from Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary enjoyed their visit by Dinosaur George on May 15, 2015. During his visit, he presented several dinosaur artifacts and shared his extensive knowledge of dinosaurs. The students also enjoyed a dinosaur puppet show and visited several stations where Whitehead Museum staff and National Park Service employees exhibited dinosaur replicas for students to explore. Pictured with some of our results are (from left to right) Miguel Aguero, James and Jesse Trujillo.



### DR. LONNIE GREEN 5TH GRADE FIELD TRIP

On May 16, 2015, 5th grade students from Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary were able to attend their end of the year school field trip to Sea World in San Antonio, Texas. This amazing educational experience was made possible by the students' hard work, grades and overall achievements. The students were able to enjoy a day full of learning enrichment activities as well as thrilling rides. At The Institute of Texan Cultures, students learned of the rich cultural tapestry that makes this state what it is today. Students were able to see the long-term and rotating exhibits that present stories of Texans past and present, with an emphasis on the heritage of the many different peoples who chose to make Texas their home. Artifacts, both on exhibit and those in the collection, provided students with tangible links to these stories.



### HONOR ROLL POOL PARTY

On May 19th, 2015, Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary students were invited to the end of the year Honor Roll Pool Party at the Moore Park Pool. Students in the "A" and "A/B" Honor Roll, were invited to this event as a recognition of their academic achievements for the entire school year. Congratulations to Trent Caudle 72.3/Kinder, Elise Vandermierden 215.1/1st, Addie Weston 353.4/2nd, Lucy Reese 367.1/3rd, Paige Gill 454.6/4th, Yousuf Shafiu 567.8/5th, who shattered the reading record in 2014-2015 with an incredible amount of total A.R. points.



### ELEMENTARY TRACK MEET

On May 14, 2015, Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary had the pleasure of participating in the San Felipe Del Rio CISD Elementary Track Meet. Dr. Lonnie Green Elementary placed 1st overall for Big School Participation. A special thanks to: Coach Elizondo, Coach Padilla, and Coach Carvajal for promoting the importance of physical education in our students lives. Special thanks to Ms. Reyna/Gifted and Talented teacher for leading this wonderful team!



### SAN FELIPE MEMORIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL PERFORMS AT LAMAR ELEMENTARY

Students at Lamar Elementary were treated to a great performance by the San Felipe Memorial Orchestra. Members of the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Noe Cepeda, played a variation of songs for students as they introduced the different instrument groups that make-up the orchestra. Mr. Cepeda then lead the orchestra to play "Rude" by Magic, a popular song on the radio, for our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students. The orchestra did fantastic job and students really appreciated their performance and hard work.



### LAMAR ELEMENTARY STRINGS CONCERTS

Parents and students alike were treated to a concert by our 4th and 5th grade students. Under the direction of Ms. Selina Gonzalez, students performed several songs for their parents and peers on Wednesday, April 29th. Students were able to demonstrate their skills that some have been learning over the past two years. In addition, students also performed for all 3rd grade classes to remind students they will have an opportunity to join Strings classes at the 4th grade level. We thank Ms. Selina Gonzalez for all her hard work and dedication with students at Lamar. Great job! At The Institute of Texan Cultures, students learned of the rich cultural tapestry that makes this state what it is today. Students were able to see the long-term and rotating exhibits that present stories of Texans past and present, with an emphasis on the heritage of the many different peoples who chose to make Texas their home. Artifacts, both on exhibit and those in the collection, provided students with tangible links to these stories.



### DISCOVERING SCIENCE BEYOND THE CLASSROOM AT LAMAR ELEMENTARY

Fifth grade students were given the opportunity to explore the San Felipe Creek with the help and guidance of the Texas Game Wardens. Students were given lessons in fishing and boat safety. Mr. Isaac Ruiz and Mr. Andrew Banda organized the event in coordination with 5th grade teachers to give students insight into the ecosystems and habitats of the nearby natural resource. Students also got to meet Turbo, the K-9 assigned to Mr. Ruiz.



### LAMAR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS SHINE AT DISTRICT CHOIR CONCERT

On Wednesday, May 6, 2015, members of Lamar Elementary choir participated in the district choir concert. Students sang songs that highlighted the musicality of New York City's Broadway. Lamar students sang in addition to playing instruments. Lead by Mrs. Kelly Jones, students did a wonderful job of displaying their talent before a packed house at the Paul Poag Theatre.

# GARFIELD ELEMENTARY

## GARFIELD ELEMENTARY

Garfield Elementary Student council for two consecutive years has received the TEPSA National Student Council Excellence Award. They have participated in a number of leadership activities in our school and throughout our community. On May 2, 2015, they had the opportunity to travel to San Angelo to visit and tour Angelo State University. Our student council students are college bound leaders and we are very proud of them. Congratulations on a great 2014-2015 school year.

# 2014-2015

### SPECIAL TRACK & FIELD

Garfield students in the Life Skills classroom had a very successful day at the Special Education Track and Field event. Congratulation to all our students, teachers and assistance for doing such a great job.



### GARFIELD CHOIR FIELD TRIP

Garfield Elementary choir and recorder club students enjoyed a trip to The Magic Theatre in San Antonio, TX on May 16, 2015. Students studied about the different aspects of theatre during their club meetings. Through fundraising, students had the opportunity to watch the play, Magic treehouse: a night in old New Orleans.

### ELEMENTARY TRACK & FIELD

Congratulations to all the Garfield student runners for their participation in the Elementary district track meet. Several students placed and everyone enjoyed participating in the track meet.





### DEL RIO FRESHMAN TENNIS CHAMPION

Del Rio Freshman School student, Angela Vargas, is the District 29-6A Girls Singles Tennis Champion. Angela's hard work and determination aided her in defeating the three-time defending district champion from Laredo Alexander in two straight sets (6-0, 6-4). Girls' tennis coach is Lilia Castellano.



### SAPPHIRES COMPETE AT INTERNATIONAL DANCE COMPETITION

The Del Rio Freshman School Sapphires competed at the Showtime International Dance Competition in San Antonio, Tx on April 18th and brought home an array of trophies. The team received the Sweepstakes Award, 1st division rating in all routines, Best in Category for Officer Jazz, Best in Category and Judges Award for Team Jazz, Best in Category for Team Kick and Runner-up in Team Pom. Sapphires' sponsor is Brittany Brandenberger.



## DRHS CHORALIERS

The Del Rio HS Varsity Mixed Choir also known as the Choraliars, under the direction of Josue Gonzalez has made history this year for achieving a Division I in Concert at the 2015 UIL Concert and Sight Reading Competition at Brennan High in San Antonio this past April. This is the first of its kind for this group. The last time this group received a UIL award was in 1985-1986 for Sight Reading. We would like to congratulate these students for their hard work and dedication knowing that those are key factors to success.



## NHS INDUCTION CEREMONY

Every year over 100 students apply to become a part of Del Rio High School's prestigious National Honor Society, but only the best of the best are selected. This year we had an amazing 89 students inducted into the National Honor Society. The ceremony was held in the Carl P. Guys Gymnasium on April 30th. We were fortunate enough to have Dr. Carlos Rios as the guest speaker for the ceremony, giving the students words of encouragement and motivation for them to carry throughout the coming years. Nadia Ford, NHS Vice-President. The National Honor Society Adviser is Janice Hardin. The officers for the 2014-2015 school year are: President: Marco Fuentes. Vice-President: Nadia Ford. Secretary: Julissa Sosa. Treasurer: Marisa Cortinas. Historian: Ashley Arreola. Parliamentarian: Cassandra Flores. Project Coordinator: Ricardo Rueda



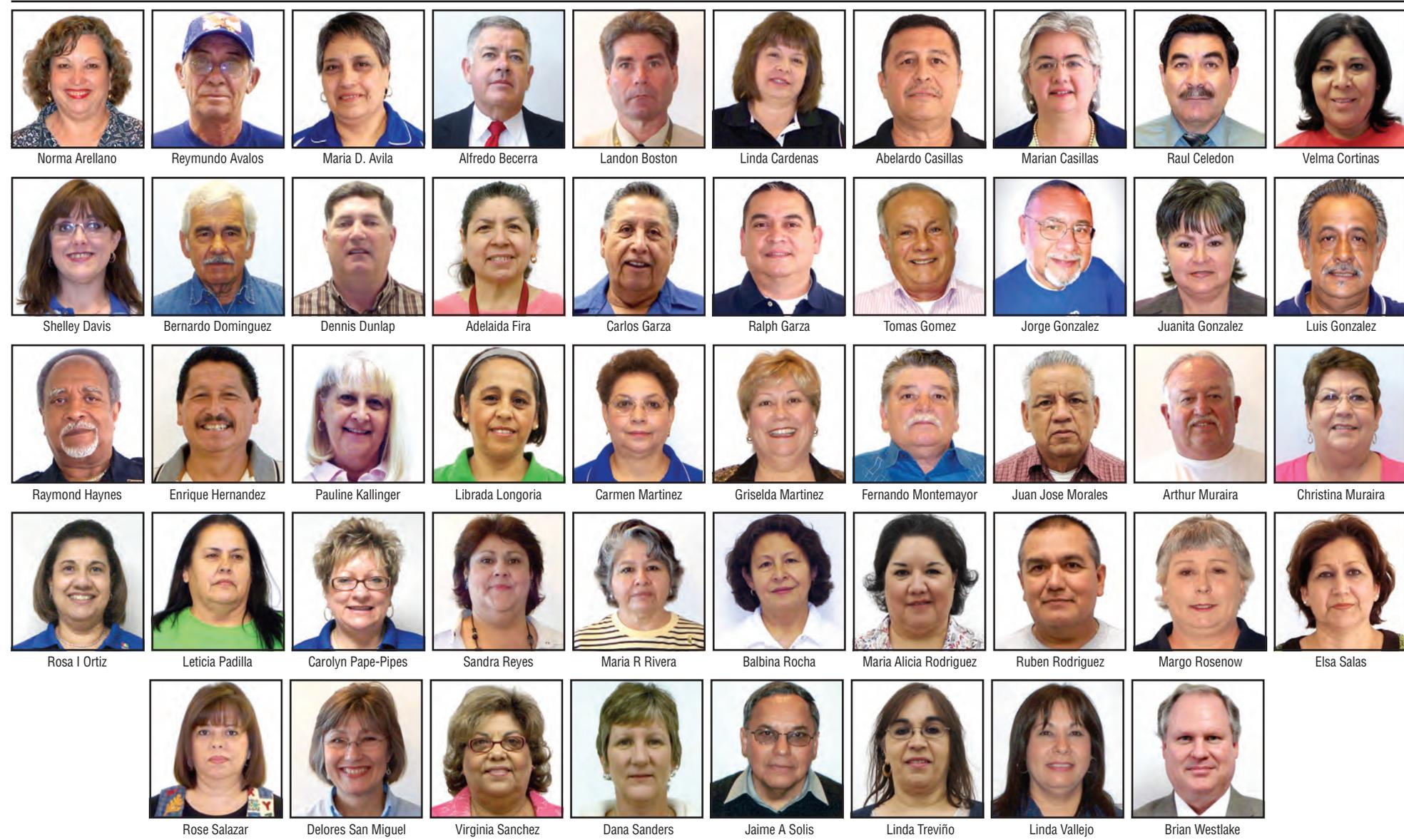
## DRHS DANCE COMPANY

The Del Rio High School Dance Company is under the direction of Mrs. Diana L. Rodriguez for the past 14 years. This year the Dance Company competed with Showtime International Dance Competition in San Antonio on April 18 at Judson High School. The Dance Company received many awards including Sweepstakes for scoring Division 1 in all 4 team routines which included; Jazz to Sweet Dreams, Lyrical to Wide Awake, Modern to Opheliac and Hip Hop to Game Face. They also received Best in Class for all dances receiving the highest scores in each category as well as a Judges award. The Dance Company also performed 3 ensemble routines which included: Short Skirt-Long Jacket, I Am a Good Girl and Great DJ where they received a 1st and 2nd place award. Senior member, Byanka Almaraz, competed in the solo category, receiving 2nd place out of 10 senior soloist.



## CTE WELDING TECHNOLOGY GRADUATES

Career and Technical Education (CTE) would like to recognize Del Rio High School Welding students who recently completed the Southwest Texas Junior College Welding Technology Program and graduated with a Welding Technology Certificate. These DRHS seniors were the only high school students who were honored by SWTJC at the graduation ceremonies held on May 16, 2015, at the Honey Bowl in Uvalde, Texas. These students were enrolled in the Principles of Manufacturing class at DRHS during their sophomore year, then completed the following 27 dual credit hours for certification Honored graduates include: Marco A. Hernandez, Raul Guerrero, Luis A. Saucedo, Reymundo L. Reyes, Eliseo Perez, and Josue M. Longoria. DRHS Welding instructor is Tod Townsend. CTE Director is Roger González and DRHS Principal is Dr. Sally Zuniga-Barrera.



On behalf of the San Felipe Del Rio CISD, and in recognition for your years of service, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a huge THANK YOU for your hard work and commitment to a career that requires endless amounts of dedication. May the blessings and joy you have brought so many, along with the satisfaction of a job well done, fill your new journey with happiness. You have made a lasting impact by inspiring with passion and guiding through example. Your professional expertise and friendship will be greatly missed.

Wishing you success and happiness in all that you do!  
It is well deserved!



**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
**ENJOY YOUR RETIREMENT!!**  
*Carlos H. Rios, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools*  
*San Felipe Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District*

**IN MEMORIAM**



Elsa Salas February 08, 1954 ~ March 18, 2015  
 Reymundo P. Avalos Jr. February 02, 1952 ~ March 06, 2015  
 Jorge Gonzalez February 24, 1953 ~ February 07, 2015  
 Raymond Griffin Haynes December 13, 1945 ~ January 13, 2015  
 Enrique Hernandez October 31, 1950 ~ October 20, 2014



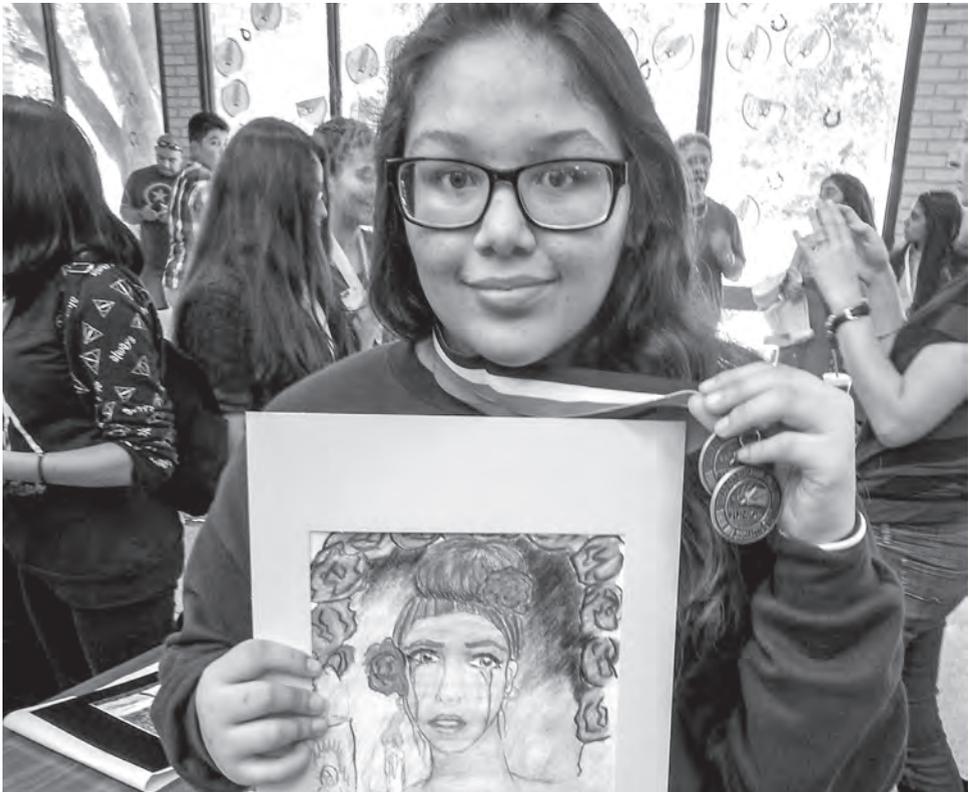
### HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ART CONTEST WINNERS

The Del Rio Sector of the Border Patrol hosted an art contest for area middle school students as part of their Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony. Over 150 students at Del Rio Middle School submitted projects. Eleven students were selected as the top entries from Del Rio Middle School. Special recognition was awarded to Isamar Rodriguez, Dulcinea Flores and Manuel Barron, as winners of the art contest.



### MARIACHI FESTIVAL WINNERS

The Del Rio Middle School Mariachi groups participated in the Culturas Unidas Mariachi Festival in Laredo, Texas on May 2nd. The two teams, Mariachi De La Juventud and Mariachi Nueva Juventud, competed against middle schools and high schools from throughout Central and South Texas. Each group earned a 2nd place trophy in their respective category. The DRMS Mariachi are under the direction of Mr. Brijalba and Mr. Cisneros.



### DRMS STUDENTS EXCEL AT V.A.S.E.

The Texas Art Education Association (TAEA) sponsored the Junior Visual Art Scholastic Event for Region 15 on May 16th in Sonora, Texas. Junior VASE is the only art event of its kind in the nation where students are provided the opportunity to bring artworks created in their art classes to be judged in a regional event. Del Rio Middle School submitted 18 pieces of student artwork to be judged. Out of these entries, 16 pieces won bronze medals and two were chosen as best of the best and received the highest possible recognition. DRMS art students are under the direction of Mrs. Clarke.



### SFMMS TRACK & FIELD

Coach Marisa Soto's students from SFMMS won the Participation Trophy at the Elementary Track Meet.



### ELEMENTARY TRACK MEET

SFMMS student Tamika Gonzales races to first place in the 6th grade girls 200 m dash at the Elementary Track Meet.



### LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

SFMMS students look for rocks and minerals along San Felipe Creek that they can classify and identify. Science classes at SFMMS used San Felipe Creek as a laboratory for learning about ecosystems.



### NUMBER NINJAS

These SFMMS students participated in the after school program Number Ninjas. They used online games and tests to practice their multiplication facts, increasing their speed and memory. Pictured are (back row) Litzy Pantoja, Alejandra Sanchez, Adriana Hernandez, Cindy Olmedo, and Larissa Navarro; (front row) Meleanie Galindo, Alyssa Vargas, and Ariana Zambrano.



Matthew Garcia, Marco Trujillo, and Josue Ruiz placed 1-2-3 in the 100 m dash for 6th grade boys at the Elementary Track Meet.



### CARDWELL FAMILIES IN ACTION

In an effort to promote the gross motor development of students, families were invited to participate in a school-wide event in which parents modeled an assisted their children through various activities. Gross motor development is assessed three times a year using the Learning Acquisition Profile, LAP-3.



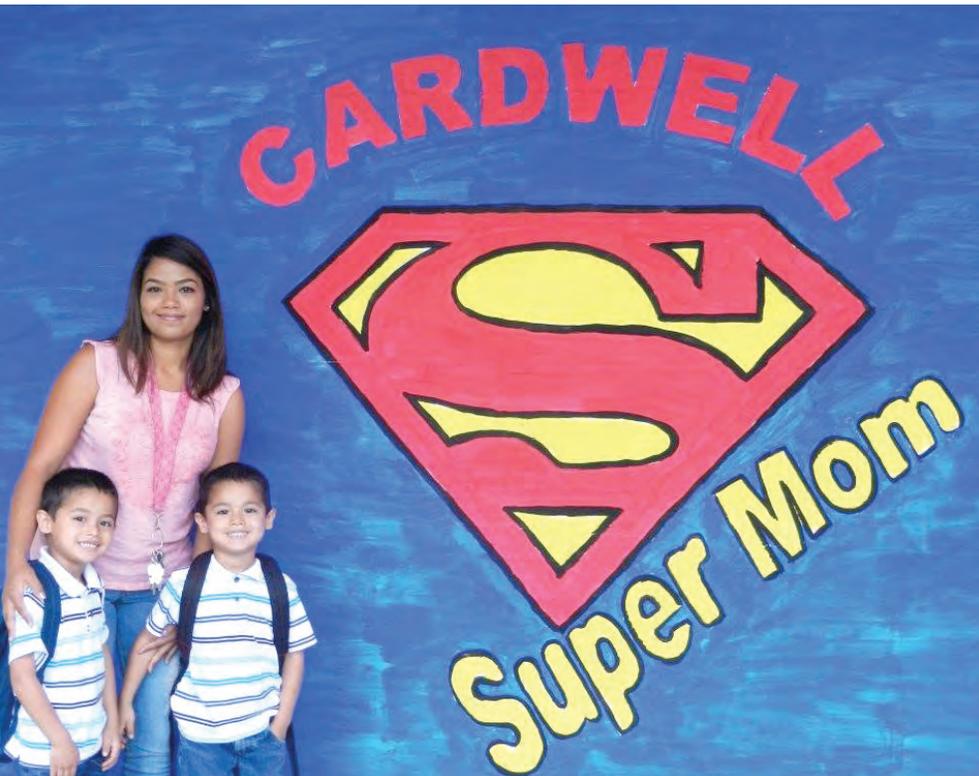
### CARDWELL FAMILY ART NIGHT

Cardwell hosted a family art night to help parents assist their children in the development of individuality, creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking.



### CLIFFORD THE BIG RED DOG VISITS LAMAR ELEMENTARY

Students at Lamar Elementary welcomed a special visitor on Wednesday, May 20th. Clifford the Big Red Dog took time to visit students in classrooms and remind students to attend Lamar's Literacy Night as part of the ongoing Book Fair taking place this week.



### CARDWELL SUPER MOMS

Cardwell shows appreciation to all mothers and encourages them to become advocates in their children's education.



### EARTH DAY AT CARDWELL

Cardwell students celebrated Earth Day by releasing butterflies which were a result of a schoolwide science experiment.



### R.C.E. COLOR GUARD

Ruben Chavira Elementary School's Color Guard is an honor bestowed on a select group of 5th grade students. These students are responsible for raising the flag each day before school. Students were taught proper flag etiquette from DRHS ROTC, which includes how to fold and raise the flag properly. To become a part of this elite group, students were asked to compose a persuasive essay depicting their good citizenship, respect for others, and personal accountability. From the numerous applications, nine of Chavira's finest students were selected. Special thanks to Ms. Reyna/Gifted and Talented teacher for leading this wonderful team!



### COUGARS LEAD THE WAY!

Ruben Chavira Elementary School Cougars earned first place in the SFDRCIDSD Elementary Track and Field Event at Rams Stadium. Way to lead the way, Cougars!



### RUBEN CHAVIRA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S INSPIRATION

It has been said, "The mediocre teacher tells, the good teacher explains, the superior teacher demonstrates, and the great teacher inspires." It is clear that Ruben Chavira Elementary School is in the presence of greatness. Mrs. Rachel Cardenas was selected by her colleagues as the school's "Teacher of The Year". Mrs. Cardenas was overwhelmingly flattered with the nomination as this means that her fellow teachers believe she inspires students to become leaders and encourages those around her to do their best on a daily basis. But the flattery does not end there. After the school level, teachers compete for the title of "Elementary Teacher of The Year" as the teacher to represent the entire school district for the regional title. At the annual Teacher Appreciation Banquet at the Civic Center, Rachel was presented with the SFDRCIDSD Elementary Teacher of The Year award. Mrs. Cardenas was honored to receive the title. Ruben Chavira Elementary is honored to call her part of their family.



### FOR THE LOVE OF READING!

Cougar Reading Buddies is a literacy program implemented this school year at Ruben Chavira Elementary School to help nurture a love of reading and promote effective reading strategies. Fifth grade students paired up with a first or second grade student and met with them on a consistent basis to share books. The goal of the program was to increase fluency and comprehension skills while fostering a love of reading. The fifth graders thought that they were there simply to help the younger students. What they did not realize was how much they would gain from the experience. An added bonus was that both students involved discovered a sense of accomplishment and pride. While they enjoyed reading together, they also developed a long lasting friendship.



**BUENA VISTA'S 5TH GRADE GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS VISIT TO MO RANCH!**

Buena Vista's 5th grade Gifted and Talented students traveled to MO Ranch outside of Hunt, Texas to participate in their Environmental Leadership Program. Students had the opportunity to engage in a variety of studies and activities. Students participated in several courses such as an Owl Study, Water Ecology, Team Building Challenges, a Reptile Study, and a High Elements Rope Course! Special thanks to Ms. Reyna/Gifted and Talented teacher for leading this wonderful team!



**NHE JUNIOR RANGERS!**

The Buena Vista Elementary Student Council traveled to San Antonio, TX on Friday, May 15th 2015. The students were amazed to visit The Tower of the Americas, The Institute of Texan Cultures, Ripley's Believe It or Not Oddities Museum, and the Ripley's Wax Museum. It was a wonderful learning experience for BV students. At The Institute of Texan Cultures, students learned of the rich cultural tapestry that makes this state what it is today. Students were able to see the long-term and rotating exhibits that present stories of Texans past and present, with an emphasis on the heritage of the many different peoples who chose to make Texas their home. Artifacts, both on exhibit and those in the collection, provided students with tangible links to these stories.



**BV TALENT SHOW**

Buena Vista Elementary School students performed many of their talents in front of their parents, classmates, and school audience at the close of the 2014-2015 school year. There was

nothing more fun or memorable than to see their friends celebrated front and center! Participating in the talent show gave all students recognition for non-academic talents. It also provided character-building lessons during try-outs practice and performance. It was a wonderful teambuilding experience for all ages. The top three acts were awarded gift certificates from Wal-Mart. 1st place went to a drama skit performed by Itzel Yanez and Emma Rios, 2nd Place went to Lucy Reese who wowed the crowd with magic tricks, and 3rd place went to Juliana Roque who sang to "Stay with me". Special thanks to Music teacher Mrs. Leonor! She did an excellent job of putting this together! Many thanks to all parents for encouraging their children to participate. Our amazing guest judges included: Lupita De La Paz, Tom Faison, Leno Hernandez, and Kaylee Aertzog. Pictured with some of our results are (from left to right) Miguel Aguero, James and Jesse Trujillo.



**BUENA VISTA TOP AR STUDENTS PER CLUSTER**

The following students have earned Accelerated Reader points by reading books, then taking and passing tests on the computer. As a reference, Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney is worth 3 A.R. points, while Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix is worth 44 A.R. points. Congratulations to Trent Caudle 72.3/Kinder, Elise Vandermierden 215.1/1st, Addie Weston 353.4/2nd, Lucy Reese 367.1/3rd, Paige Gill 454.6/4th, Yousuf Shafiu 567.8/5th, who shattered the reading record in 2014-2015 with an incredible amount of total A.R. points.



## 1ST WEIGHT LOSS CHALLENGE WINNERS

Congratulations to all who competed in the 1st SFDR Weight Loss Challenge. The team lost a total of 112 lbs.! The top three winners were: 1st Place Sonia Peña (lost 30.2 lbs.) - Lamar Elementary, 2nd Place Annette Arreola (lost 21.4 lbs.) - Administration Building, 3rd Place Laura Rivera (lost 17.6 lbs.) - Buena Vista Elementary. We will start the 2nd Weight Loss Challenge on Wednesday, May 27th for those who want to join the "healthy wagon" during the summer. We will meet every Wednesday at 4:00 pm in the Administration Board Room. The challenge will run through August 5th.





# SFDRCSID EDUCATION FOUNDATION

our children | our community | our future



The SFDRCSID Foundation was created with a vision and a specific purpose by our School Board. It was founded on the basic principles that, with the help of our community, we can have a significant impact on the education in the community that we live in and work. This includes both teachers and students. The purpose of the foundation is twofold:

1. To provide scholarships to the students in our community that exhibit leadership, drive, and the true desire to be successful as they continue their education. And,
2. To provide access to grants for the teachers in our district that want to expand their scope of instruction in and out of the classroom, as well as "think outside the box" in their methods of teaching.



The SFDRCSID Foundation wants to encourage initiative and creative thinking, as well as reward those who have the work ethic and determination that we strive to instill in all of our students and staff.

