

SAN FELIPE DEL RIO CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# HIGHLIGHTS

OUR DISTRICT OUR STUDENTS OUR PRIDE



Winter

Volume 26

2020



New Segment  
Coming Soon!

## Good Eating with Chef Gonzalez

Join us for the next LIVE demo on  
**01/29/20 3:30 PM**  
at Dr. Fermin Calderon Elem. Cafeteria



[www.sfdr-cisd.org](http://www.sfdr-cisd.org)



Spectrum Channel 1301

### CARDWELL HEAD START & PRE-K



**Books on the Move.** Cardwell staff participated in this year's H.E.B. Feast of Sharing by distributing books and friendship bracelets to families and children. Over one thousand books were distributed to encourage reading at home.

### MATH AND LITERACY FALL FESTIVAL AT CARDWELL



Cardwell's annual Fall Festival consisted of fun math and literacy booths. Children and their parents enjoyed participating in activities to help children succeed in school.



### CARDWELL THANKS VETERANS



Cardwell welcomed veterans and active military to a school lunch in commemoration of Veterans Day. Children learned a valuable lesson about patriotism and respect.

### CARDWELL SCIENCE FAIR



Cardwell students patiently wait their turn to explain their project to the science fair judges. With over three hundred science projects completed, this year's science fair has been a tremendous success in promoting school readiness among Cardwell students.

### CAREER DAY AT CARDWELL



Community members from numerous agencies visited Cardwell to teach children about their profession. Thank you, Del Rio, for making this possible.

### LIGHTING OF THE TREE CEREMONY AT CARDWELL



Cardwell kicked off the Christmas season with the Lighting of the Tree Ceremony. Children enjoyed singing Christmas carols and listening to 'Twas the Night Before Christmas read by Lanzven Matugas, a student in Mrs. Lupita Ortiz's class. A visit from Santa Claus was, of course, was one of the highlights of this event.

## DEL RIO MIDDLE SCHOOL MARIACHI BAND



On October 16th, the school district celebrated Boss's Day. Our amazing mariachi band performed an amazing show for our 8th grade administration. Above is a group picture of our outstanding mariachi band.

## GEOFORCE INSPIRES GEOSCIENTISTS



On November 5th a parental meeting was held for a new program called GeoForce. Guest speaker Mr. Casas, goes over his experience with GeoForce. Our science teachers went over on how to apply and all the benefits that came with joining GeoForce. The purpose of GeoForce Texas is to inspire the next generation of geoscientists and foster increased diversity in the U.S. workforce.

## NATIVE AMERICAN TEACH CULTURE AND CUSTOMS



On December 9th and 10th Native Americans volunteers taught culture and customs of the Apache Tribe to our 8th grade social study classes. Students experienced ceremonial dancing, were shown how to hunt and learned some of the native language. Students tried traditional foods, viewed traditional clothing and heard stories of their ancestors.

### GARFIELD HOLDS DISTRICT CHOIR CONCERT



The Elementary Choirs had their District Choir Concert on Thursday, December 5th. All the students sounded wonderful and the concert was a complete success.

### GARFIELD ROBOTICS



The Garfield Robotics team gathered around their pit for a picture.

### GARFIELD CROSS COUNTRY MEET



Garfield 5th grade Mustangs with Coach Correa snap a picture before getting ready to participate in the districts Cross Country meet.

### GARFIELD KINDER CHRISTMAS SPIRIT



Students in Mrs. Diaz' kinder class show-off their Christmas spirit by wearing Christmas t-shirts.

### GARFIELD UIL READY WRITING TEAM



Garfield Elementary Mustangs UIL Ready Writing team is pictured. Students represent 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade. Way to Go, Garfield, we're very proud of you!

### GARFIELD 5TH GRADERS STUDY CULTURE



Garfield Elementary 5th graders have been studying culture and what it means. To culminate the unit, students collaborated to create a project demonstrating their understanding of culture and how it applies to them. Pictured are students in Mrs. Hill's and Ms. Barrera's ELA classes with information on China, Costa Rica and Mexico.

## LAMAR ARCHEOLOGY FAIR



Lamar 4th grade students from Ms. Jimenez's homeroom attended the Archeology Fair at the Whitehead Museum in early November. Students interacted in hands on activities that included using a washboard, basket weaving, and learning to how to use an old fashioned washboard. Above, students are watching a blacksmith's presentation as he crafts handmade nails.

## LAMAR UIL READY WRITING TEAM



Lamar UIL Ready Writing team returned from successfully competing at their District UIL Competition.

## LAMAR ROBOT CHALLENGE



Khloe Maldonado won second place in the Robot Challenge on November 7th.

## EGGS TO CHICK AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCE 4-H



Lamar 1st grade teachers (Mrs. K.Mejia, Miss J. Magaña, Mrs. R. Pena, Mrs. F. Escobedo & Mrs. N. Menchaca) participated in the Eggs to Chick Agriculture & Natural Resource 4-H initiative activity. Big thanks to Emily Grant whom presented this great opportunity to our students. The students absolutely LOVED the experience watching how eggs hatch into chicks!!

## LAMAR STEAM TEAM

STEAM Team meets every Thursday after school. Sponsors: A. Vasquez, R. Yanez, N. Martinez and N. Munoz. Students often work in pairs or small groups. A problem or scenario is presented to the team at the start of the meeting and students work to find a solution.



Students created a maze and had to maneuver a marble around the maze without using their hands.



Students worked in teams to create a filter to help clean polluted water. The team also discussed the importance of recycling.



Students worked on a project about weight distribution.



Students made a filter using rocks, pebbles and some household items.



Students worked on a mini chemistry experiment.

### LONNIE GREEN SUNDAE PARTY



Sundae Party – Students in Mrs. Dominguez's second grade class celebrated Perfect Attendance for the entire 2nd Six Weeks with a Build Your Own Sundae Party. As you can see students enjoyed piling on the toppings.

### LONNIE GREEN ELEMENTARY ROBOTICS MEET



Finals Alliance – On Saturday, December 7th one of the Lonnie Green Elementary Robotics Teams joined an alliance with Calderon Elementary in Finals. Both teams worked together to take 1st and 2nd place in the Elementary Robotics Meet.



Huddle – Nothing says teamwork and cooperation like a pre-match huddle. Calderon and Lonnie Green students huddled up to discuss strategy for the final match.

### LONNIE GREEN READY WRITERS



UIL is in full swing at Lonnie Green Elementary. The Ready Writers competed on Wednesday, December 4th. After the event students and coaches were treated to a pizza lunch at Mr. Gattis. Winners will be announced at the Elementary UIL Meet on Saturday, December 14th.

### LONNIE GREEN SPIRIT SHIRTS



All of our students received their Lonnie Green Student Spirit Shirts. Students wear their Panther Pride every Friday.

## NORTH HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY COMPETE IN DEL RIO 18TH ANNUAL ELEMENTARY CROSS COUNTRY MEET



Students from North Heights Elementary competed in the Del Rio 18th Annual Elementary Cross Country Meet on Tuesday, November 21st. The students raced 800 meters at Ram Stadium against students from other elementary schools in the district.

## NORTH HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY MUD KITCHEN



The Mud Kitchen is officially open! Mrs. Patino's students are reaping the benefits of the Educational Grant. They are learning and exploring by creating mud pies in their kitchen.

## NORTH HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY CHOIR



NHE choir students performed at several Christmas Concerts around our community.

## NORTH HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY ROBOTICS



North Heights Elementary Robotics Team earned the Best Engineering Design Award at this year's E-Cadet Tournament hosted by FRC team 4063. Team Members: Elyan Varela, Daniel Cortez, Paige Guerrero, Raiden Sanchez, Diego Almaraz, Miquel Ker, Ethan Jurado, Javier Gomez, David Flores, Daniel Hernandez, Joaquin Cardenas, Adalberto Mendoza, Gabriel Perez, Araceli Ortiz, Bruno Reyes. Coaches Carol Sunderland and Jesse Hernandez-Principal Ms. Soliz and Asst. Principal Mrs. Hudgins.

### RBB ELEMENTARY CHOIR STUDENTS



Roberto "Bobby" Barrera Elementary Choir Students posed for a group picture after the Elementary Choir Concert, Thursday, December 5th.

### RBB ELEMENTARY ROBOTICS TEAM



Roberto "Bobby" Barrera Elementary Robotics team prepared for tournament and cheered on their teammates during competition.

### SFMS PARENT MAKE AND TAKE



Parents at San Felipe Memorial Middle School participated in a make-and-take activity. Parents created their own Christmas wreaths.

### SFMS PARENT VOLUNTEERS GOING ABOVE & BEYOND



Parent volunteers at San Felipe Memorial Middle School treated all teachers and staff to lunch on Monday, December 2nd. SFMMS would like to extend a huge thank you to our parent volunteers for the kind gesture of treating the entire staff to lunch.

### SFMS SCIENCE FAIR



San Felipe Memorial Middle School held its annual Science Fair on Thursday, December 5th. The top winners in our science fair included Haley Haralson in 1st place, Isabel Alvarez in 2nd place and Joshua De La Mota in 3rd place. Congratulations to all students who earned ribbons and recognitions.

### SFMS STEM ACTIVITY



Students in Mrs. Trisler's science classes had the opportunity to participate in a STEM activity recently. Her classes explored potential and kinetic energy by participating in a pendulum lab activity.



## FEAST OF SHARING 2019: SEVENTH GRADE STUDENT COUNCIL



November 16, 2019, Feast of Sharing 2019: Seventh Grade Student Council Members; From left to right are Megan McGillicuddy, Alina Sanchez, Yoselin Rodriguez, Raegan O'Rourke, Miranda Rivera, Giselle Zulayka, Michelle Garcia, Jose Medrano, Pete Guerrero, Esteban Martinez, Abram Ortiz, Sophia Mireles, Miranda Zapata, Sydnee Sanchez and Alexander Salazar. Student Council Sponsors are Tiffany Guerrero and Lorinda Solis.

## EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL



The University of the Incarnate Word held an "On The Spot" Admission Decision session on Friday, November 22, 2019, at Early College High School. A total of 68 Early College High School seniors have been admitted to UIW and offered a total of \$2,744,000 in academic scholarships.

## SERVICE IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS-BASAA

### TIS THE SEASON TO BE IN THE 80S!



Blended Academy students participated in the Retro 80's City Christmas Parade on Friday, December 6, 2019. Parents and students created many of the props. The rubrik's cube spun on a tree stand, while the retro boombox showcased an "I Love 80's" light sign.



Blended Academy Student Advocate Association students took the time to volunteer at the Feast of Sharing at the Del Rio Civic Center on November 16, 2019.

## AND THE TRADITION CONTINUES...



Bingo buddies! BASAA continues to bring smiles to Roswell residents. Students host monthly bingos with the residents.

## THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON



Student Jagger Portillo enjoys lunch with his mom during the Thanksgiving Luncheon.

## SALUTING OUR SOLDIERS



Blended Academy honors our military veterans and the fallen with a parade float. Students expressed that it is always rewarding to see veterans clapping and cheering when they see the float.

## DELIVERY TIME!



BASAA assisted The San Felipe Lions with the delivery of Thanksgiving baskets during the break on November 26, 2019. They also arranged sponsors for families.

## DEL RIO FRESHMAN SCHOOL STUDENT



Del Rio Freshman School Principles of Education students held the inaugural Homecoming Celebration for students from the Life Skills unit. Guests were greeted by cheerleaders, football players, and band members before enjoying dancing, food, and fun! This celebration served as an opportunity for education students to interact with our special needs community.



Del Rio Freshman School student, Jacob Wojnowski, has surpassed all previous reading records held by any freshman student. Jacob has read 61 novels since September for a total of 6,136,437 words! Congratulations to Jacob Wojnowski and his ELA teacher, Mrs. Osen De Leon.

## DR. FERMIN CALDERON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL CANNED FOOD DRIVE/BIGGEST HEART AWARD



The Dr. Fermin Calderon Honor Student Council held a canned food drive to help families in need for the Thanksgiving holiday. With the amount of donated food items and turkeys, the Student Council was able to gift 22 food baskets to DFC families just in time for the Thanksgiving holiday. The remainder of the food items were donated to our very own school food pantry, Brianna's Blessings. Congratulations goes out to our biggest heart winners: Kinder: Mrs. B. Rodriguez, 1st: Mrs. D. Sanders, 2nd: Mrs. E. Barrera, 3rd: Mrs. N. Delgado, 4th: Mrs. J. Hernandez, and 5th: Mr. A. Castillo. A huge thank you goes out to all our students, families, and staff members for their food drive contributions. Way to go!

## DR. FERMIN CALDERON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ROBOTICS



The Robotics teams at Dr. Fermin Calderon, led by their sponsor, Ms. Angelita Fraga worked very hard this school year. The DFC Robotics teams competed in both the district scrimmage and the final championship competition this school year. At the last competition, each of the DFC teams landed in the top 4 semi-finals competitions. Two of the 4 DFC teams earned the 1st and 2nd place trophies. DFC is also happy for our Robotics coach as she was announced Coach of the year. DFC is very proud of the Robotics team for learning, building, working as a team and never giving up! Way to go, Robotics!

### DRHS CTE ANNUAL WORLD DIABETES DAY FAIR



November 14th marked the annual World Diabetes Day and DRHS CTE EMT students were invited to participate in the SWTJC diabetes fair. Students participated in sharing diabetes facts, healthy eating, and provided blood glucose readings.

### FCCLA CULINARY ARTS-CULINARY IN THE COMMUNITY!



Students in the DRHS Culinary program helped prepare food at the Chamber of Commerce's Annual Wild Game Dinner. Students used culinary skills learned in class to prepare guisado made from deer meat for the attendees. They helped to cook 300lbs of deer meet that was said to be delicious! Students also made over 140 cakes and items for the annual Monster Mash and other local community events. Students learn and use valuable skills and gain community service experience.

### FCCLA RAM CHAPTER-LEADING IN THE COMMUNITY



Members of FCCLA Ram Chapter helped organize the Children's Activities Event as part of this year's HEB Feast of Sharing. Members informed local children about leadership opportunities, taught about being thankful, organized crafts and games, and worked alongside members of local student organizations from Del Rio High School. Members from NTHS, NHS, FBLA, FCCLA Culinary, HOSA, Student Council, ROTC all helped HEB have a successful event. Members met local civic leaders and learned about being responsible community members.

## THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON AT DR. FERMIN CALDERON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary hosted its Annual Thanksgiving luncheon on Wednesday, November 20, 2019. The Coyote Café was full of school children and families taking the opportunity to sit down and enjoy, not just each other's company, but also a delicious Thanksgiving meal. The food was provided by the wonderful DFC cafeteria staff and SFDRCID's Food and Nutrition Services department. The luncheon was a huge success and parents were delighted to spend time with their children during this special occasion.

## VETERANS DAY CEREMONY AT DR. FERMIN CALDERON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary School honored veterans with a special Veteran's Day program to commemorate the efforts of our armed forces past and present. The assembly took place in the school's cafeteria during the students' lunch time on Friday, November 8, 2019. A display of military banners and American flags were hung all over to welcome the audience. Principal, Mrs. Jane Villarreal, along with Assistant Principal, Olga Torres Saldua, and School Counselor, Amor Perez, gave a warm welcome to all and invited the audience to stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance. The school choir led by Dr. Albert Salinas, and the honor student council, displayed their talents by singing and reciting beautiful poems to honor family members who have served our country. The veterans were also treated to lunch. Before lunch was over, the veterans were presented with a beautiful certificate and a pin in appreciation for their service to our great country. DFC sends a big thank you to all the veterans that have served and continue to serve this great country or ours!

## DR. FERMIN CALDERON PTO COYOTE HOWL-O-WEEN FESTIVAL



The Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization had a Coyote HOWL-o-Ween Festival on Friday, October 25 2019 from 5:00-7:00 pm on the school grounds. The recently established PTO joined forces with the awesome staff at DFC and put together a fun celebration for the community and families of DFC. A big thank you goes out to Toxic All Star Athletes and DFC Diamond Dancers for being a source of entertainment that night. We also would like to thank our families and community for their donations and Kaos Volleyball team for their help! It was a successful event! Thank you to our PTO officers for their hard work and dedication to our school: President, Michelle Cervantes, Treasurer, JJ Hernandez, and Secretary, Jessica Hernandez.

## ALWAYS REMEMBER



On Monday, November 11th, Ruben Chavira Elementary staff and students gathered to celebrate and honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country and willingness to serve. Organized by Mrs. Kelly Lujan, the event was a touching tribute to all that have sacrificed for our nation. R.C.E. students Natalia Hernandez and Sophia Cardenas led the program. American Legion volunteers were in charge of the flag ceremony and the Cougar Choir, led by Mr. Leonor, kept it lively with patriotic songs. A very special veteran, Superintendent Dr. Carlos Rios, was in attendance and spoke to the student body about commitment and sacrifice.

## A SEASON FOR GIVING



BFCU is helping students stay warm this holiday season. For the past several years, Border Federal Credit Union has given back to the community by donating new winter jackets to students at R.C.E. BFCU's generosity and thoughtfulness really WARMS the hearts of R.C.E. staff and students.

## B.U.D.D.Y. PROGRAM



The Building Up Dynamic Del Rio Youth (B.U.D.D.Y) Program provides a framework for positive relationships between the military and the school community. Increased academic achievement, self-esteem and social competence is the mission of this mentor program that Ruben Chavira Elementary School is so fortunate to be a part of. Mentors and students have started forming bonds through the mentor visits at the school. Playing games, working on schoolwork and having conversations has helped foster meaningful relationships. The R.C.E. family appreciates the time and effort put in by all the LAFB mentors.

## GET OUT FAST!



The City of Del Rio recently provided valuable information about natural gas to first graders at R.C.E. The Natural Gas Safety Program "Smell Gas - Get Out Fast" explained what natural gas is and what it is used for in homes. The primary objective of the presentation was to educate students about the safety precautions to take around gas and what to do if gas is smelled in the home. Students interacted with the presenters, answered questions and received safety bags filled with several informative items. Thank you to Mr. Jose Meza, Mr. Mark Rodriguez, Mr. Seferino Gomez, Kindle the Flame (Mr. Santos Gonzalez), Mr. Danny Jalomos and the city of Del Rio Gas Department for this presentation.

**GO HARD, OR GO HOME!**



The 4th grade UIL Spelling Team at Buena Vista is hungry for another win! These die-hard students eat their spelling words for breakfast and spit them out for lunch!

**HUNGRY FOR READING!**



At Buena Vista Elementary, students take reading seriously. Mrs. Harris's 2nd grade class met 100% of their Accelerated Reading goal and was treated for a delicious meal at Buffalo Wings and Rings.

**UIL SPELLING DREAM TEAM IS COMING FOR YOU!**



The Mighty Longhorns have been working day and night with heart and soul to secure another BIG win at this year's meet. The competition will be held at Garfield Elementary on December 14th.

**BUENA VISTA ELEMENTARY STUDENTS WILL "KEEP CALM AND SCIENCE ON"!**



The Buena Vista Science Fair on December 5, 2019, was a great success due to the help of our community members. The students who placed 1st and 2nd in each category will participate in the SFDR-CISD District Science Fair on February 13, 2020.

**GO HARD, OR GO HOME!**



Buena Vista Elementary Students had the pleasure of listening to the Del Rio High School Mariachi band. The band performed some classic mariachi songs and delighted the students with traditional Christmas songs.

**COOKIE MONSTER VISITS BUENA VISTA**



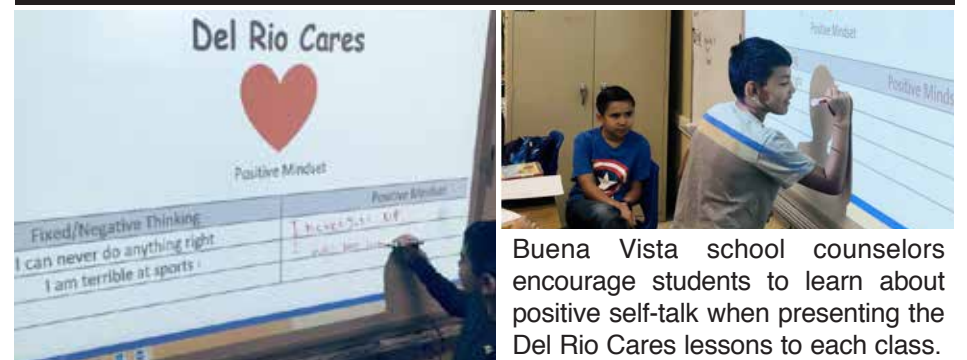
Kinder students at Buena Vista Elementary School were treated to cookies and milk by "Cookie Monster" for having the highest attendance percentage on Zero Absence Day!

**TO INFINITY AND SUCCESS!**



The Buena Vista Robotics team competed in the SFDR-CISD robotics tournament with meticulous precision. They worked diligently throughout the season staying for practice and preparing their robots for battle! The awesome team took home the Pit Award for best decorations!

**CREATING A POSITIVE MINDSET**



Buena Vista school counselors encourage students to learn about positive self-talk when presenting the Del Rio Cares lessons to each class.

## SFDRCID SPORTS RECOGNIZED ATHLETES



**News-Herald photos by Brian Argabright, file:** Six members of the Del Rio Queens varsity volleyball were recognized as members of either the District 29-6A All-District athletic teams, all-academic team or both. Pictured, from left, are Sara Martinez (all-district first team), Kyndal Gladson (all-district second team, all-academic team), Jessika White (all-district honorable mention), Sofia Zarazua (all-district honorable mention, all-academic team), Tatum Koehler (all-academic team) and Karime Ramirez (all-academic team).



**Courtesy photos:** Six Del Rio High cross-country runners were recognized for their performers at this year's district and regional cross-country meets. Pictured, from left, are Ozlynn Urias (district MVP, all-region team), Raymon Gonzalez (district MVP), Kimberly Gloria (all-district first team), Mackenzie Pulliam (all-district first team), Itzcoatl Vazquez (all-district first team) and Mikael Perez (all-district second team).

### ALL DISTRICT RAMS



**Diego De Leon - SP (First Team)**   **Andrew Garza - ILB (Second Team)**   **Alejandro De Luna - OLB (Second Team)**   **Gabriel Zapata - K (Second Team)**



**Ivan Basurto - RB (Second Team)**   **Ricky Haynes - WR (Second Team)**   **Dominick Sanchez - TE (Second Team)**   **Sergio Mireles - P (Second Team)**   **Isaac Salazar - OL (Honorable Mention)**

### ACADEMIC ALL DISTRICT SELECTIONS



**Miguel Griner**   **Orlando Guerrero**   **Joseph Sulaica**   **Sergio Treviño**



**Robert Chavez**   **Jesus De Luna**   **Alex Garcia**   **Andrew Garza**



**Daniel Rios**   **Abraham Rosas**   **Isaac Salazar**   **Dominick Sanchez**   **Oscar Sandoval**