

# NWS Brownsville/Rio Grande Valley In Your Neighborhood...and Beyond!



Meteorologist and Observation Program Leader Erin Billings takes questions from an attendee at the annual Rio Grande Valley Arc User's Group GIS Day Conference in McAllen, November 20, 2015.

## November 2015

**November 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30:** Warning Coordination Meteorologist *Barry Goldsmith* and Meteorologist *Erin Billings* participated by e-mail, phone, or both, in the **Weekly Texas Drought Monitor Teleconference**.

**November 6:** Forecaster *Maria Torres* provided an **office tour** to a group of 7 Cub Scouts. Maria spoke about the different aspects and programs of the office and showed the evening balloon launch.

**November 7:** Information Technology Officer *Pablo Gonzalez* participated in the **Rio Hondo ISD 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Parent Involvement Conference**.

**November 12:** *Barry Goldsmith* provided **six presentations** about careers in the National Weather service at the **Cummings Middle School Career Day** in Brownsville.

**November 13:** *Pablo Gonzalez* and *Erin Billings* participated in the **Sharp Elementary Career Day** in Brownsville. Pablo and Erin spoke about different careers with the National Weather Service and the importance of education.

**November 17:** Forecaster *Blair Scholl*, Senior Forecaster *Mike Castillo*, and *Erin Billings* provided an **office tour** to a group of 3 Cub Scouts and their parents. Mike and Blair spoke about the different aspects and programs of the office and Erin showed the evening balloon launch.

**November 20:** *Erin Billings* and *Barry Goldsmith* staffed a booth at the **RGV Arc User's Group GIS Day** and spoke to visitors about how GIS is used in the weather service and local products. Barry gave a presentation about GIS use in the National Weather Service. More than 100 persons attended the conference; dozens stopped by the NWS Brownsville/Rio Grande Valley booth and about 30 heard the presentation.

**November 24:** Forecaster Blair Scholl gave an **interview** to the **Brownsville Herald** about Thanksgiving Day weather, the impacts of Tropical Cyclone Sandra across the area, the incoming cold front and cooler temperatures for the weekend. He also followed up with a weekend update on the cold front and temperatures and rainfall with and after the front, as well as conditions for the upcoming week (**November 27**).

## December 2015

**December 1:** Pathways student *Randall Hergert* and Meteorologist *Chris Birchfield* staffed a booth at a **career day** event for middle schoolers at the Los Fresnos High School. Randall and Chris spoke to dozens of interested students about careers in the National Weather Service and educational requirements.

**December 2:** *Barry Goldsmith* provided an **office tour** to the **Junior Leadership Class** of about 15 students.

**December 3:** Electronics Technician *Derek Urch* and Senior Forecaster *Geoff Bogorad* attended the **Breeden Elementary School Career Day** in Brownsville. Derek and Geoff spoke about the various careers in the National Weather service and the educational requirements.

-- *Pablo Gonzalez* represented the NWS on the **Kaplan College Workforce Advisory Board**.

**December 7, 14, 21, and 28:** *Barry Goldsmith* and *Erin Billings* participated by e-mail, phone, or both, in the **Weekly Texas Drought Monitor Teleconference**.

**December 9:** *Barry Goldsmith* provided a presentation and an **office tour** to **Leadership Laguna Madre**. (15 students)

**December 10:** *Barry Goldsmith* provided a presentation and an **office tour** to **Leadership Brownsville**. (15 students)

**December 15:** *Pablo Gonzalez* staffed a table at the **Skinner Elementary Career Day** in Brownsville. He spoke to approximately 70 students about careers in the National Weather Service and the importance of education.

**December 27 to 30:** *Barry Goldsmith* taught four 75 minute weather merit badge classes at the **Boy Scout Winter Camp** in Rio Hondo (18 students).

**December 31:** *Erin Billings* provided an **interview** to the **Valley Morning Star** about the outlook for January through March 2016.