

# NWS Brownsville/Rio Grande Valley In Your Neighborhood!

June 2013



June 1: Barry Goldsmith did a one hour live segment at **KURV-710 in McAllen** with host, **Sergio Sanchez**, and invited guests Cameron County Judge Cascos and Hidalgo County Health and Human Services Chair Eddie Olivera, on Hurricane Preparedness, the 2013 forecast and what it means, "More to the Story than the Category", and more.

-Barry Goldsmith also handed out approximately 150 Hurricane guides, mostly in Spanish, to visitors at **Walmart on Jackson Ave in McAllen**. Booth was setup to include hurricane preparedness supplies, hurricane guides and had a 17" monitor to display video. Around 2 pm that afternoon, Barry distributed 450 guides at **Walmart**

**on Nolana Loop in McAllen.** Signage included the hanging sign from 2012 over the high traffic area, door posters advertising NWS Brownsville at the booth, a 47" monitor to display videos and slideshows, chairs, and more. He had assistance from **Univision-48 weekend weather (Flores) and weekday health/other reporter (Nunez-Ramos).** Also, **Noticias Univision RGV** interviewed Barry on the 2013 season forecast for the 6 PM broadcast.

June 2, 9, 16, 23: Barry Goldsmith joined the discussion on the weekly **Texas Drought Monitor Telcon webinar** with John Nielson-Gammon the Texas State Climatologist, SRH, NOAA Southern Region Climate Services, and WFOs on the State of Texas.

June 4: Maria Torres distributed approximately 200 Hurricane guides at **Walmart on Alton Gloor** in Brownsville.

June 5: Barry Goldsmith handed out nearly 200 Hurricane guides at **Walmart in Raymondville.**

June 6: Geoff Bogorad distributed Hurricane guides at **Walmart in Port Isabel** at noon

-Justin Gibbs distributed Hurricane Guides in the afternoon at **Walmart in Port Isabel.**

June 7: Erin Billings distributed Hurricanes guides at **Walmart on Lincoln Street in Harlingen.**

-Justin Gibbs distributed Hurricane guides at **Walmart in Alton Gloor in Brownsville.**

-Maria Torres did a presentation at the **Texas A&M Colonia Hurricane Program at Browne Community Center in Brownsville.** The presentation was about Hurricane Season 2013. In the afternoon, Maria attended **Rockwell Apartment Public Safety Fair in Brownsville** and distributed Hurricane Guides.

June 8: Barry Goldsmith attended the **Citrus Wastewater Association meeting** to discuss hurricane preparedness for Citrus Wastewater. 55 people attended this meeting.

-Steve Drillette distributed Hurricane guides and other handouts to approximately 100 people who visited the **Hurricane Expo at Valle Vista Mall in Harlingen.** Also, he was interviewed by **Hector Zapata of Telemundo** about Hurricane Preparedness.

-Jose Algarin and Joeseph Martinez, PR students, distributed Hurricane guides at the **Walmart on Boca Chica Blvd. in Brownsville.**

June 11: Jose Algarin and Barry Goldsmith attended the **LaSara Colonia Hurricane Preparedness meeting in Willacy County.** Barry spoke to 30 colonia residents about hurricane preparedness, including sheltering and evacuation planning. Jose Algarin assisted with the Spanish translation.

June 12: Barry Goldsmith provided a presentation at the **Sunchase Apartments Hurricane Preparedness Talk in Harlingen**. His presentation was about "More to the Story than the Category", and the 2013 season forecast to 7 residents of the apartment complex.

June 13: Barry Goldsmith provided a 20 minute presentation to update drought conditions and forecasts for the remainder of the summer and beyond to **high level water management officials in Cameron County**. Event was similar to that held at the South Texas Hurricane Conference on May 8th (Hidalgo County). Speakers included **State Rep. Eddie Lucio III, Cameron Co. Judge Carlos Cascos, Rio Grande Regional Water Authority Exec. Director Joe Barrera, and others**. Event was facilitated by the Texas Water Development Board. Attendance: 35-40. Updates on regional comprehensive water management strategies were provided by other speakers.

June 14: Barry and Jose Algarin staffed a booth and spoke at the annual **Hurricane Preparedness Fair for the Cameron Park (Brownsville) community**. The brief bilingual presentation focused on cyclone hazards beyond category, the seasonal forecast, and the family plan. Around 30 persons attended.

June 15: Jose Algarin and Joeseeph Martinez attended **Su Clinica Summer Health Fair in Harlingen**. Approximately 30 to 40 people visited the booth.

-Barry Goldsmith spoke for 45 minutes to residents at the **Laguna Vista Hurricane Town Hall** on hurricane preparedness, "More to the Story than the Category", and the 2013 season forecast and what it means to Laguna Vista residents. Attendance: 10 persons, including Mayor Susie Houston.

June 18: Steve Drillette and Barry Goldsmith presented to President Angela R. Burton and 20 members of the **Brownsville Chamber of Commerce Monthly Coffee Talk President Angela R. Burton** on the NWS mission, nationally, regionally, and locally, and a brief preview of the 2013 hurricane season. Doug Butts, Timothy Speece, and Jason Straub conducted a tour and weather briefing with the Chamber members after the presentation.

-Barry spoke on **Hurricane Preparedness at South Texas Emergency Care in Harlingen**. Barry reprised a presentation on the 2013 Hurricane Season Forecast and the Challenge of Ending Reliance on a Single Hurricane Scale at the annual meeting of public and private health officials at South Texas Emergency Care (STEC). The audience of 45 persons included the COO of Valley Baptist Hospital, among others.

-Mike Castillo presented at the **Rio Grande Headstart Hurricane Preparedness in Brownsville**. He presented to approximately 30 families in Spanish and English about hurricane preparedness.

June 19: Steve Drillette did a presentation to the **US Coast Guard Auxiliary** at SPI. The presentation was about hurricane preparedness and Decision support and partnerships. Approximately 20 coast guard personnel attended.

June 25: Maria Torres attended **Ventanilla de Salud (Health Fair) at the Mexican Consulate in Brownsville.**

June 26: Steve Drillette, Mike Castillo and Doug Butts attended the **Hurricane Social at the U.S. Consul General in Matamoros, Tamaulipas in Mexico.** Mike Castillo presented the latest forecast in Spanish to an audience to Proteccion Civil, Televisa Noreste, and other Tamaulipas/Matamoros emergency officials.

-Barry Goldsmith attended the **Family Hurricane Preparedness Special event at the McAllen Public Library.** The presentation was about the Hurricane information and preparedness. Seven people attended.

June 27: Barry Goldsmith invited 12 residents to share their stories at the **Museum of Port Isabel.** The two hour session included story telling by residents of their experiences with past hurricanes, from the 1933 Labor Day storm through Allen and Dolly. The remainder of the interactive session covered "More to the Story than the Category" and the 2013 forecast.

June 28: Barry Goldsmith participated at the Hidalgo County "Dare to Prepare" **Hurricane Preparedness Activity at the Alamo Community Resource Center.**