

Emergency Care Class Starts March 13

The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has awarded an education grant to the Colorado County Emergency Medical Services to provide an Emergency Care Attendant (ECA) Class for the training of First Responders in Colorado and surrounding counties.

An Emergency Care Attendant or ECA certification is the entry or "first step" into EMS field in our state.

This class consists of 68 hours of classroom training covering CPR, bandaging and splinting, airway management and medical emergencies just to name a few.

An extrication weekend will be held for the students to practice the skills and knowledge acquired in class.

While our main focus is to provide needed training to the county fire and law enforcement personnel who are currently

or wish to establish a First Responder program within their respective departments, we extend an invitation to everyone who is interested.

Students will be taught skills and techniques that will not only allow them to help others in the field, but at home as well.

Colorado County is a big county. When someone calls with a medical emergency, time is precious. But because of some of the distances that must be traveled, we cannot always get to the patient as quickly as needed.

That is where the First Responder program fills that critical void when seconds count. Local firefighters respond to calls in their response territories ahead of the EMS units.

This not only allows critical care and treatment to be given in an expedient timely manner, but also allows on scene crews to radio important patient condition information to the dispatched EMS crews to make further care decisions and give on going treatment direction to on scene crews.

Although in its infancy, it is a long term goal of Colorado County EMS to partner with all fire and police departments or First Responder crews to provide training and equipment so that a First Responder is in reach of anyone in Colorado County at anytime.

The ECA training will begin on March 13 and end on April 17. Classes will meet every Tuesday and Thursday from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Colorado County Services Facility on Radio Lane, just behind the Colorado County Sheriff's Offices.

There will be some Saturdays also.

For more details and requirements or to sign up, please call the Colorado County EMS administrative offices at 979-732-2188.

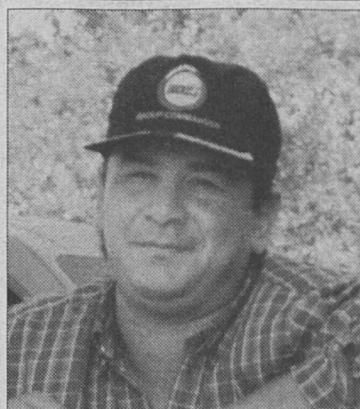
Prairie Edge Museum Fundraiser
Sunday, March 4 • 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 (3 pcs. of chicken, green beans, rice & gravy) • Dessert plates for \$2 each
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Obituaries



Jesus Mario Vargas
 Jesus Mario Vargas, 49, of Eagle Lake passed away February 13.

He was born on February 25, 1957 in Reynosa, Mexico.

Jesus was preceded in death by his father, Jesus Mario Vargas, Sr.

Survivors include wife, Cindy Aguilar Vargas of Wharton; children, Dominic Vargas of California, Angelica Vargas of Wharton and Lisa Vargas of Rosenberg; his mother, Maria Inez Fuentes Vargas of Eagle Lake; brothers, Eddie Vargas and Fernando Vargas of Eagle Lake; sisters, Marina Cavazos of Rosenberg and Yvonne Brown of Florida.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, February 18 at 10 a.m. at the Vine of the Lord Church in Eagle Lake. Interment followed at the Nativity Cemetery in Eagle Lake.

The family appreciates the help and support of the Barry Shepard with Eagle Lake Funeral Home and Rev. Paul Aguilar.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

Anita LaPorte
 Anita LaPorte, 78, of Austin passed away on Saturday, February 24.

She was born November 9, 1928 in Chesterville.

Anita was preceded in death by her parents, Wilhelm and Anna Feldhoff Schmidt and one brother, John Schmidt.

She is survived by her husband of 56 years, James E. LaPorte; six children: Patricia Brannen and husband, Wendall, Steven LaPorte, David LaPorte and wife, Joyce, Janice Ashton and husband, Charlie, Kathleen LaPorte, Thomas LaPorte and wife Pam; grandchildren, Christopher and William Brannen, Travis, Keven and Ricky LaPorte, Jessica Campos, Jamie Ray LaPorte, Jason Shoemaker and Jessica Youngblood; eight great-grandchildren; brother, Bill Schmidt; sister, Antoni Snowden; numerous nieces and nephews and hosts of loved ones who knew her as Nana.

The family received friends at Harrell Funeral Home on Tuesday, February 27 from 6 till 8 p.m.

Graveside services were held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, February 28, at Chesterville Cemetery in Chesterville.

Donations in her memory may be made to Hospice Austin or the Chesterville Cemetery Association, PO Box 824, Eagle Lake, TX 77434.

Guest book and obituary available online at harrellfuneralhomes.com.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.



Martha Janik Roberts
 Martha Janik Roberts, 91, born April 21, 1915, died February 21, a Good Christian Catholic and Good Mom died on Ash Wednesday.

She is survived by three sons, eight grandchildren; and many great grandchildren

Martha was preceded in death by her husband; T.C. Roberts.

Funeral services were held Saturday, February 24, at 10 a.m. at Eagle Lake Funeral Home in Eagle Lake with Father Robert Guerra officiating. Burial was at Lakeside Cemetery in Eagle Lake. Eagle Lake Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Pallbearers were Thomas C. Roberts, Eugene F. Roberts, Jerry Gibson, Louis Kopecky, Van Ramos, and Stephen Roberts.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.



True Love Waits Starting March 3

The area wide True Love Waits Christian based abstinence program for teens 7th to 12th grade will begin the first of four sessions at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 3 in the East Bernard ISD Cafetorium, 727 Fitzgerald in East Bernard.

This 11th annual Parent and Teen program extended to youth of every faith has teens attending from four surrounding counties. "Some years as few as 16 teens complete the program, other years over 30 made a commitment to live pure from this day until they enter a Biblical marriage". "The number of teens making the commitment is not pertinent to the success of the program or to our Lord", said Mrs. Terrie Vacek, the program coordinator. "The focus of this program is to allow God to obtain your attention. Allow God to fill your needs and remove your doubts as related to chastity. The key day for a True Love Waits participant is the moment they submit themselves to the authority of God on this issue".

Many Christian teens today want to worship God and usually know that the purity of their lives is a beautiful instrument of worship to Him.

Contrary to the message on

television and in the movie industry, every church and community is filled with teens that have not made a conscious decision whether or not they will have sex before marriage.

Most may have studied about sexual morality in Scripture, listened to their parents talk about it, or talked with their friends. But they simply have not made up their minds.

Such teenagers may be in a precarious position. Those who are simply living day to day without a clear-cut decision on the issue are more likely to fail in a moment of strong temptation. They are literally placing their physical and spiritual life at risk.

Each teen must ask them selves if they are at a point in life where they are ready to make a sacred promise to God to avoid sex from this day until a biblical marriage. Anyone willing to respond to God with "Yes" is more likely to keep that sacred promise.

By using the tools of the True Love Waits program, boundaries, understanding and communication manifest within the entire family of each participant.

The material presented and the one-on-one daily involvement

of parents represents the need for at least one parent to accompany each teen participant.

With permission by a participant's parent, he/she may have a sponsor such as an adult family member or church sponsor who will work the program with them. This has proven very successful in past years.

The True Love Waits community wide campaign is providing tools to keep our teens on track, and present a vivid awareness of how society immunes our nation to a worldly way of looking at sex through movies, music, the internet, printed matter and so-called jokes. "True love" has been minimized and "living for the moment" has been glorified. Parents are needed to make tough choices, walk in tough love, and journey with their teens to a mental, spiritual and physical way of living in the Will of God.

Our teenagers deserve better than the false presentation of recreational sex and compromise.

There is a better way. It has been arranged through a community effort for you to hear about sexual abstinence (purity thinking and chaste living) through the True Love Waits annual program. The program is direct and precise in its presentation of God's plan for the sexual act.

For more information please contact your church office or Terrie Vacek 979-335-7344, or terriev@wcn.net.

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 GREATER RISING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH: 580 Old Altair Road, Eagle Lake; Rev. Truman Scott Sr., Pastor; 234-2423 or 758-3745.
 GREATER UNION BAPTIST CHURCH: Matthews Community; Co. Rd. 141; Rev. Lawrence C. Robertson, Pastor; 234-2581.
 MT. CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: Hwy. 90-A (Pecan Valley), Eagle Lake; Rev. H.O. Williams, Pastor; 234-5813.
 LIVING HOPE CHURCH: Eagle Lake; Revs. Joe and Mercy Fling; 234-5536.
 BEREIA CLADIC: 623 Maple Avenue, Eagle Lake; 234-2130.
 ROCK ISLAND FULL GOSPEL: P.O. Box 232, Rock Island; 234-5840.
 CHRISTIAN CITY FELLOWSHIP: 1140 Meyer, Sealy; Rusty Griffin, Pastor.
 THE DAY OF PENTECOST APOSTOLISTIC REVIVAL RISING STAR: FM 102 South, Matthews; 4 p.m. (at Mt. Zion), Rev. R.L. Carter Sr.
 GREATER NEW FAITH CHURCH: 6406 Guylar, Wallis; Rev. Clay Spears, Pastor; 979-478-2169.
 EAST BERNARD FIRST BAPTIST
 FIRST BAPTIST: 527 N. Lake, Eagle Lake; Rev. Chris Thacker, Pastor; 234-2571.
 FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST: 405 S. Lake, Eagle Lake; 234-5795.
 IGLESIA BAUTISTIA GETSEMANI: 901 B Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Mario Vasquez.
 GREATER MT. OLIVE BAPTIST: Rev. Dave Curry; 705 Lake, Eagle Lake; 234-3545.
 WRIGHT GROVE BAPTIST: Rev. T.J. Cunningham Jr.; Altair.
 PROVIDENCE BAPTIST: 1207 Seaholm, Eagle Lake; Rev. Coby Shorter Jr.; 234-3735.
 ROCK EPISCOPAL CHURCH: 306 E. Stockbridge, Eagle Lake; 234-3437.
 CHRISTIAN BAPTIST: Bob Allison, Pastor.
 SHERIDAN FIRST BAPTIST: FM 2437; Rev. Jim Dunn, Pastor; 234-3136.
 WHITE CLOUD BAPTIST CHURCH: 202 Old Altair Road, Eagle Lake; Rev. Obie Rhodes, Pastor; 234-3800.

CHURCH OF CHRIST: Sheridan.
 NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP: Hwy. 90A, Sheridan; Del Sanford, Pastor; 234-3276.
 CHRIST OUR REDEEMER-Charismatic: Jerry C. McKinney, Pastor; 979-478-7534 or 478-6512.
 HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH: East Bernard.
 CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE NATIVITY: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sanctuary; 308 N. Stevenson, Eagle Lake; 8 a.m. (Español), 10 a.m. (English) 6 p.m. Saturday (English), Rev. Robert F. Guerra, P.O. Box 307; 234-2842.
 ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH: Box 97, Nada; Fr. Joe Vrana; 758-3218.
 GRACE LUTHERAN: 408 N. Stevenson, Eagle Lake; Services begin at 10 a.m.; Rev. Clements Richard, Pastor; 234-3381.
 LEHRER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST: Garwood; 9 a.m. worship.
 LISSIE UNITED METHODIST: J. L. Craft, Pastor; 234-2112, Lissie.
 ROCK ISLAND METHODIST: Ken Sellar Jr. Lay-Pastor.
 UNITED METHODIST: 200 W. Prairie; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:45 a.m.
 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN: 106 E. State Street, Eagle Lake; 234-3368.
 VINE OF THE LORD: 1300 E. State Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Paul Aguilar, Pastor; 234-7543.
 CrossRoad ASSEMBLY OF GOD: 510 Wallace, East Bernard; Pastor George Kutach; 979-335-7706.
 THE CHURCH OF CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS: 600 W. St., Sealy; Marshall Crosby, Branch Pres.
 CHURCH OF CHRIST: 815 Milam, Columbus; Lynn Wilson, Minister.
 THE SHEPHERD'S WAY: Interdenominational Christian Fellowship; 1225 Eagle Lake Road, Sealy, Frank Lucas, Pastor; 979-885-1225.
 SOUTH POINT BAPTIST CHURCH: 6407 Hwy 71-S, Garwood; 979-758-3039.
 ASEMBLEA DE DIOS HOSANNA: 403 East Main, Eagle Lake; 979-732-1966; Pastor Romero Rodriguez Jr.
 BIBLE TRUTH APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Corner of S. Wharton & E. First St., El Campo; Pastor Larry T. Smith, 979-543-2331, non-denominational.

Bible Verse of The Week

"And now abide faith, hope, love these three; but the greatest of them is love."
 -1 Corinthians 13:13
 Submitted by Neddy Phillips

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