

## USDA Coop Grant Info.

USDA Rural Development Acting State Director, Scooter Brockette, announced the Agency

is accepting applications for the Rural Cooperative Development Grant (RCDG) Program for Fiscal Year 2008 as published in the February 8, 2008 Federal Register. Applications will compete nationwide.

The RCDG Program fosters rural cooperative development through projects that provide rural residents with education and technical assistance in areas of cooperative startup, marketing and managing, and other self-help tools.

The grants are available to nonprofit corporations and institutions of higher education. The maximum award per grant is \$200,000 and matching funds are required.

RCDG application materials may be obtained at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/rcdg/rcdg.htm> or by contacting Billy Curb, Business and Cooperative Specialist, at (254) 742-9775.

Completed applications must be postmarked and submitted to RCDG Program, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Mail Stop 3250, Room 4016-South, Washington, DC 20250-3250 or submitted electronically at <http://www.grants.gov> no later than April 8, 2008.

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**RAYMOND R. THOMAS, MD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**  
This scholarship has been established as a memorial to the life of Dr. Raymond R. Thomas, Sr. of Eagle Lake, TX. Its purpose is to train paramedics in a two-year course of study toward an Applied Associate Science degree in Emergency Medical Technology. It pays up to \$1,500 per semester at any accredited paramedic program. Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent and applications may be obtained from any high school in Colorado County. For GED applications, or questions, call (979)234/2792 or (979)234/7589. Friends of Dr. Ray may send tax deductible Gifts to this scholarship fund at 403 N. Walnut Ave, Eagle Lake, TX 77434.

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**Attend the Church of Your Choice...**

EQUIPPERS OUTREACH FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL: 200 N. College, Weimar, Texas 78962; 979-725-8233; Pastor Jerry Adkins.

GREAT RISING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH: 580 Old Altair Road, Eagle Lake; Rev. Truman Scott Sr., Pastor; 234-2423 or 758-3745.

GREAT 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.

BEREA 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.

GREAT 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. Kevin Collision, 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; 709 N. 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.  
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH: 306 E. Stockbridge, Eagle Lake, 234-3437.  
ROCK ISLAND BAPTIST: Bob Allison, Pastor.  
SHERIDAN FIRST BAPTIST: FM 2437, 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: Interdenomination 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.  
ASSEMBLEA 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.

## Obituary



**Louise Seaholm Spalinger**

Louise Seaholm Spalinger, 88, of Eagle Lake, passed away on Friday evening, February 22.

She was born, Elizabeth Louise Seaholm, May 24, 1919 in Eagle Lake to Ernest E. Seaholm and Susie Payne Seaholm. She graduated from Eagle Lake High School in 1936, and was a resident of Eagle Lake for most of her life.

She and Lloyd Spalinger were married on December 1, 1940; a partnership that lasted for 59 years until his death in 1999.

World War II put an early imprint on their marriage, by sending Lloyd to the South Pacific and Louise into the family hardware store, where they were to work alongside each other for more than 25 years. In 1968, they sold the store and moved to San Antonio.

There they became interested in real estate, coming back to Eagle Lake and opening Spalinger Realty which they operated

for another 25 years. After Lloyd's Alzheimers became too severe for her to manage at home, Louise visited him faithfully each day at the River Oaks Healthcare Center until his death.

She was preceded in death by husband; her parents; and her sister, Annette Rodgers.

She is survived by her son, Don Spalinger, his wife, Penny Smout, and her grandson, Toby Spalinger of Southampton, England; her sister, Ernest Mae Seaholm of Eagle Lake; her sister-in-law, Kate Spalinger of Eagle Lake; and her brother-in-law, Earl Rodgers of Eagle Lake.

Louise was a member and faithful servant of the First Presbyterian Church of Eagle Lake, serving as an elder and secretary of the session for many years. She was also a committed citizen of Eagle Lake, as well as an accomplished business woman.

She was a member of the Board of the Prairie Edge Museum, and was treasurer for many years. In her later years she was a dedicated Pink Lady at Eagle Lake's Rice Medical Center, contributing many hundreds of hours to the community's sick and infirm.

She took great joy in her work at the Food Pantry assisting the less fortunate. She was a life-long member of the Eastern Star, holding every position.

She was a much loved wife, mother, grandmother and sister. As a devoted mother, she was a den mother in the Cub Scouts, President of the PTA, a band

booster and traveled extensively to support Don's science fair activities.

Louise finally became a grandmother in 2003. She was much loved by Toby, her long awaited grandson. In her last month, she played tic tac toe and dinosaurs with Toby, and laughed at his antics as he tried to distract her from a discomfort.

Although he lived thousands of miles away, he loved to talk to Texas Grandma on the phone and tell her of his latest news. As well as being a wonderful grandmother, she was the perfect mother-in-law.

She also had a strong interest in her heritage and her extended family, having helped her sister, Ernest Mae Seaholm, to organize a Seaholm family reunion in 2001. She deeply appreciated Sister's research into the family and tracing of distant cousins, and enjoyed meeting new family members.

For many years Louise received close support and friendship from her sister, and the certainty that she was always there for outings, special occasions or assistance meant a great deal to her.

As well as her citizenry and family interests, Louise was a keen sports fan, especially football and anything 'orange and white'. For many decades, autumn Saturday afternoons meant closing up whatever she and Lloyd were doing, and heading to Austin or Houston for the football game.

In her later years, other than TV sports, she enjoyed watching game shows and loved to work word puzzles.

She had a life long desire to travel and had visited most of the states, with a particular focus on visiting the state capitals. She had even ventured to Cuba in the 1930s.

Louise had suffered health problems for many years. She was a 40 plus year survivor of cancer. She also suffered for decades with osteoarthritis.

More recently she was afflicted by a myriad of ailments including heart and lung problems. Despite all these health challenges, she forged ahead with life and did not let them hold her back. This spirit is one of the things we most admired about her.

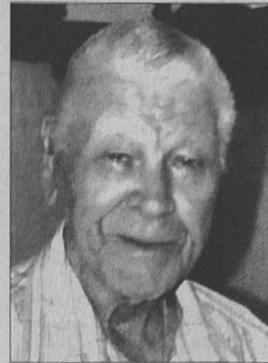
In 2005 she suffered a stroke and decided to stay at the River Oaks Healthcare Center after her recuperation. Her family much appreciates the care the staff there provided.

Mother's Day in England is to be celebrated on March 2 this year, and Don had scheduled to travel to be with her on that day.

He had selected a card to give her, which she will physically never see. So spiritually this message is being sent to her:

*Mom - I'm so thankful for your love - kindness brought, lessons taught, times to share tender care - what special love a mom's made of. You've always been there, Mom, with an open heart, and open arms. And Mother's Day is the perfect time to thank you for everything you've done and tell you that you mean more than you could ever know!*

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.



**Benno A. Staudt**

Mr. Benno Alfred Staudt, 92, of East Bernard passed away Saturday, February 16, in a Houston Hospital following an extended illness.

He was born on November 14, 1915 in Fredericksburg, the son of Joseph Peter Staudt and Helena Stein Moritz Staudt.

Mr. Staudt had been a resident of East Bernard for the past 27 years and was a former long-time resident of Wharton.

He married Clarice Adale Dunaway on November 12, 1945 in Freeport, and she preceded him in death on June 27, 1972. He later married Rosemary Smith on November 8, 1980 in Garwood.

He was also preceded in death by five brothers and six sisters.

Mr. Staudt worked by trade as a Jeweler in Freeport and for Wynn's Jewelry Store in Wharton, and later was a route carrier for the Houston Post. He was a member of Holy Cross Catholic Church in East Bernard. He enjoyed gardening and working in his yard.

A Prayer Service was held at 7 p.m. Tuesday evening at the Chapel of the Wharton Funeral Home with Rev. Michael Holcomb officiating. Funeral services were held at 10 a.m., Wednesday, February 20, at the Wharton Funeral Home with Deacon Alvin Matthey officiating and assisted by Rev. Michael Holcomb. Graveside services followed at 2:30 Wednesday afternoon at the Restwood Memorial Park Cemetery in Lake Jackson, Texas.

Survivors include his wife, Rosemary Staudt of East Bernard; daughters and sons-in-law, Mary Helen and George Guttenberger of Wharton, Barbara Ann and Larry Shishkoff and Karen Elizabeth Rogers all of Houston and Barbara and Joseph Ardis of East Bernard; sons and daughters-in-law, James and Ellie Staudt of Anahuac, Texas, Michael and Donna Staudt of Wharton, Russel Smith of Austin and Mitchel and Patsy Smith of Garwood; sister, Xavier Gifford of Lake Jackson; 14 grandchildren and eighteen great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were his grandsons Guy Guttenberger, Kelly Guttenberger, Travis Staudt, Mike Shishkoff, Jim Staudt and Bryan Ardis.

Honorary Pallbearers were Adam Shishkoff, Kerrie and Allen Cunningham, Lauren Staudt, Traci and Doug Lee, Christine and Brandon Rabius, Beckie Staudt, Coli Guttenberger, Libby Ardis, Delana and Will Joines, Lori and Brennan Jobe, Max Willburn Staudt and Milton (Sonny) Crenwelge.

In lieu of usual remembrances the family requests memorials to the Church or Charity of your choice, or the East Bernard EMS.

Funeral services were under the direction of the Wharton Funeral Home.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

## Bible Verse of The Week

"And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he respects as a son."  
-Hebrews 12:5-6  
Submitted by Neddy Phillips

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