

## **NEWS RELEASE:**

**City of Alvin  
216 West Sealy  
Alvin, Texas 77511**



**April 1, 2010**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Regional Emergency Mobile Hospital and Mock Drill Coming to Alvin**

(City Hall, Alvin, TX; Alvin Sun-Advertiser) The East Texas Gulf Coast Regional Trauma Advisory Council will be hosting an open house of its new mobile medical command center and hospital April 6-7. This mobile medical complex is referred to as the Regional Alternate Care Site or RACS. The RACS's heart is a 53-foot command trailer with high speed satellite internet and phone. The RACS also contains a 48-bed rapidly deployable medical hospital, completely self contained with 5000 square feet of climate controlled space. It will be open to the public for viewing, Tuesday, April 6 from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m. at Alvin Community College located in the North "B" parking lot, 3110 Mustang Road. Light refreshments will be served from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

On Wednesday, April 7, the public is invited to observe a large scale simulated mass casualty drill from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Approximately 75-100 participants will access and treat 50 victims during the drill. Also in attendance will be representatives of the Department of Public Safety, Texas State Department of Health Services, Texas State Guard, three Regional Advisory Councils (representing 24 counties), multiple hospitals, and dozens of Emergency Medical Services and other related responders. Mayor Gary Appelt stated, "The City Council has established many strategic partnerships and are pleased to have new partners and a worthwhile event such as this in Alvin."

There are 22 regional advisory councils in the State of Texas. Alvin EMS Director Ron Schmitz is current Chairman of the East Texas Gulf Coast Regional Advisory Council, which is composed of 20 hospitals and 40 EMS and ancillary providers. They were awarded the RAC of the Year from the Texas State Department of Health primarily due to this remarkable asset. The mission of the organization is to facilitate the development, implementation and operation of a comprehensive Regional Trauma System based on accepted standards of care.

Chairman and City of Alvin EMS Director Ron Schmitz said, "Following the Rita/Katrina experience, the East Texas Gulf Coast Regional Trauma Advisory Council elected to develop a unified plan and procure some portable, easily deployable facility to provide a hospital facility to triage, stabilize and hold medically dependent patients until transfer to an appropriate receiving facility could be arranged."

"We are very proud of our EMS Director Ron Schmitz for his service to this region and for his commitment to this movement to protect and serve a greater area", stated Mayor Appelt. This is a joint project of the East Texas Gulf Coast Regional Advisory Council, Christus Jasper Memorial, Christus St. Elizabeth and Brazosport Regional Health system. For more information, please contact Ron Schmitz at 281.388.4364.

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