

Community Emergency Response Training (CERT), Jan 29-31

Because public services such as law enforcement, fire rescue, and emergency medical care can be delayed during a large-scale emergency, it's important for members of the community to learn how to care for themselves, their loved ones, and their neighbors until help can arrive. Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes work to enhance the safety of all citizens by preparing them for these events.

A CERT class was offered to the community on Jan. 29-31 at Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church and hosted by the church's Emergency Preparedness Group. Volunteers from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office spent 16 total hours teaching topics including general disaster preparedness, terrorism signs, disaster psychology, basic medical, search and rescue, fire safety, and a tabletop disaster exercise.

Individuals interested in hosting a CERT class or becoming volunteer CERT instructors should contact Dr. Lizabeth Jordan, El Paso County emergency program manager, at 719-575-8401 or LizabethJordan@elpasoco.com.

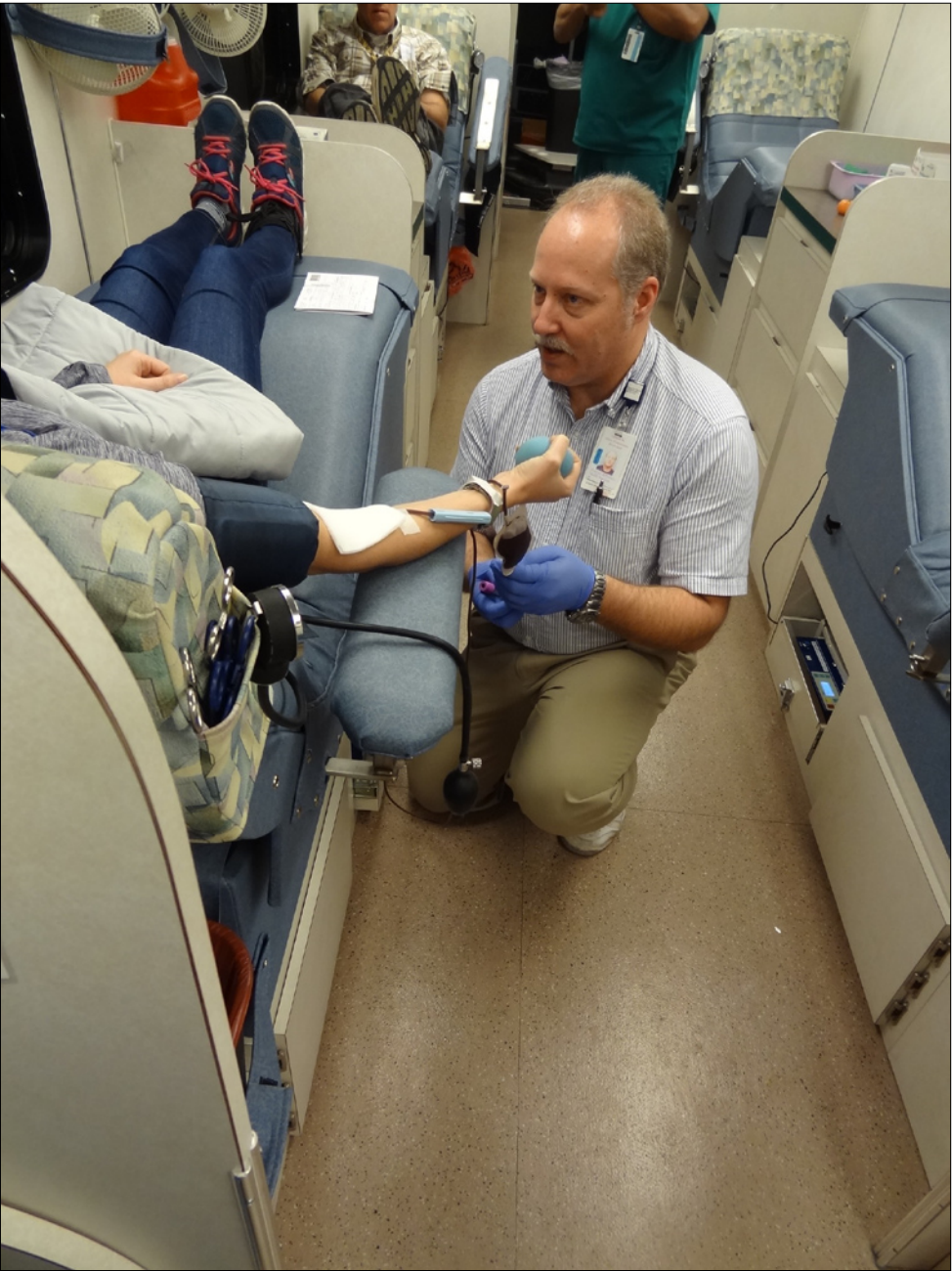


Above: Dr. Lizabeth Jordan, El Paso County emergency program manager, shown here, explained how civilians can assist with medical emergencies in mass casualty events. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*



Above: CERT students got to use fire extinguishers to put out live fires as part of the instruction. *Photo by ham radio operator Dan J. Oldfield, N0OLD.*

Tri-Lakes Cares blood drive



Above: Tri-Lakes Cares, a volunteer-supported resource center, held a blood drive on Jan. 20. Donor phlebotomist Lance W. attends to donor Tiffany Miller, a Monument resident. Tri-Lakes Cares will host additional blood drives on March 17, May 19, July 21, Sept. 15, and Nov. 17 from 2:30 to 7 p.m. Individuals who

are interested in donating will find the donation bus parked in front of the Tri-Lakes Cares building at 235 N. Jefferson in Monument. Tri-Lakes Cares can be contacted at 719-481-4864. Visit www.tri-lakescares.org for further information on the organization. *Photos by Allison Colburn.*