

Decontamination training held here

A training for decontamination (Decon) was held recently at the Patterson Civic Center parking lot.

All first responders in Milam County were invited to participate in the training, which utilized equipment and supplies in the Milam County Decon Unit Trailer.

Allen Payne from DHS Technologies LLC conducted the two-hour training using the grant funded two-lane 10 x 12 shelter supported by a 165,000 BTU water heater. The unit also includes a collapsible patient roller system that allows non-ambulatory patients to roll easily through the decontamination process.

Equipment was purchased using grants available through Central Texas Regional Advisory Council TSA-L and Milam Commissioners Court approved the cost to providing a trailer to house the DECON equipment and supplies. Recently added to the trailer of equipment is an external lighting source of 2,000-watt light with poles to light up the area.

The Homeland Security department hopes to add a generator to support this light system so if the incident is during the evening-nighttime hours we can still



This decontamination tent was set up as part of Rockdale training for Milam first responders.

utilize equipment until additional support mechanism are in place, said Susan Reinders, Milam Homeland Security director.

Those attending the training include Milam County Judge Frank Summers; Fire Chief Gene Klein, Burlington VFD; Tim Hood, Regional Liaison Officer Region 6A; Chief Jeff Carroll, Gause VFD; Earl Campbell, training officer, Gause VFD;

Patsy Carroll, Randall Carroll, Sue Taylor, and Jennifer Mulac, volunteer firefighters from Gause VFD; Rockdale firefighter and Constable Pct. 3 Herbie Vaughan; John Lawhon, Minerva VFD; Ernie Glenn, Minerva VFD, and Richards Memorial Hospital rep; Marilyn Seekle and Eric Weinrich of Richard's Memorial Hospital; Ricky Tow, Cameron city manager; Franklin Stewart, amateur

radio emergency services coordinator; Chief Jesse Love, Milano VFD; David Fox, Travis Fisher, Blaine Wall and Ward Roddam, Rockdale VFD; and Reinders.

A functional exercise will be scheduled utilizing today's training. Persons with questions may contact the Milam Homeland Security Office at 254-697-7060 or email sreinders@milamcounty.net.