



A welcome to Jack's building

Pat HATCHELL and **Annette HOAGLAND** embrace after ceremonies concluded April 27 for the dedication of the Jack Hatchell Collin County Administration Building, just before Commissioners held their first regular session in the new, four-story building on Bloomdale Road. See Page 2.

Walk Across Texas 2009

HR team walks away from the pack

By **Carrie BRAZEAL**

THIRTY-ONE TEAMS consisting of county employees, their friends and family members began the Walk Across Texas program, logging more than 43,000 miles – or 27-plus round-trip jaunts between Texarkana and El Paso.

Walk Across Texas is sponsored by the county's Health Department and the Extension Service, designed for teams of eight to pool their physical activity for eight weeks to see if they meet the challenge of walking the 800-mile breadth of Texas.

By April 25, when the challenge ended, a total of 25 teams met their walking challenge.

But the team that logged the most miles was the *Mighty*

Ducks, comprised of Human Resource staff. The *Mighty Ducks* walked 3,002 miles. Team members included: **Julie RUTHERFORD** (captain), **Uni HOUDECK**, **Erica JOHNSON**, **Matt LOPEZ**, **Jennifer KOERBER-MILLER**, **Gloria SAENZ**, **Heather CONRAD**, and **Dawn WALLACE**.

Along the way, team members reported their energy levels increased, pounds were lost, cholesterol levels lowered, stress levels reduced, more time was spent with family members and attitudes improved.

Right behind them was the Sheriff's Office's *Pink Diamonds* who walked 2,722 miles. Team members included team captain **Virginia WESTRICK**, **Tammy COOK**, **Donna GILMORE**,

Margaret OVERTURF, **Jennifer ADAMAS**, **Melissa POLLARD**, **Lisa MCCLUSKEY** and **Kathy WILSON**.

Other teams that met the challenge were **Angie YOST's A-Team** (Last year's reigning champs) **Suzanne CURTIS' Ramataz**, **Craig SONODA's Mile Makers** and **AWAT teams**, **Monica LOVE's Texas Trekkers**, **Jill PHARR's Road Graters**, **Laura AKINS' Sock and Sole**, **Jeff FALEFIA's Muli Shakers**, **Sharon ADAMS' J Walkers**, and **Joanie BISHOP's Simon Says Walk**. Also meeting the challenge were **Darla BARTLETT's Walkie Talkie 2**, **Marie CHACON-CRULL's Magnificent 8**, **Casey STONE's Rolling Stones**,

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FAMILY MEMBERS of the late **Jack HATCHELL** gather for pictures after the dedication of the new administration building during the first Commissioners Court regular session in late April. In the center is **Pat HATCHELL**, the longtime county commissioner's wife. Below right, Pat speaks on behalf of the Hatchell family.



A lasting tribute to Jack Hatchell

HUNDREDS OF well-wishers showed up in late April for the dedication of the new administration building, named in honor of the late **Jack HATCHELL**.

County departments, fresh from unpacking in the wake of moving offices from downtown McKinney to the Bloomdale Road location, also held an open house for residents

before the evening ceremony, which was followed with the first regular session of Commissioners Court in the building, running until almost 10 o'clock that night.

In the coming weeks, the county will install a plaque in Jack's honor, detailing his contributions to Collin County's growth over two decades.



Web site Wins state IT award

COLLIN COUNTY'S official web site has been recognized by other government-based web designers for innovations and a re-design project to attract more and more users to the growing number of online services available for residents and businesses.

In early May, the Texas Association of Governmental Information Technology Managers announced the award to the county's Information Technology department, and presented it to IT director Caren SKIPWORTH in Houston. TAGITM is a not-for-profit organization that provides information systems professionals in Texas cities, counties, and appraisal districts a forum for generating ideas, sharing problems, and developing solutions within their fields of expertise.



The end of one era

COUNTY COMMISSIONER **Joe JAYNES** (right) helps **Jayson HOPPER** (left) and **Seth TERRAZAS** of Facilities Maintenance lower the flags at 200 N. McDonald Street on April 27, as the last of the county offices were being packed up and moved. U.S., Texas and Collin County flags had flown over the location since 1979. Each flag measures 10-by-15 feet.

IT survey to measure security & services

The Information Technology Department is inviting employees to provide feedback as to how they're serving your needs. The county recently selected *eGov Consulting* to perform an audit of IT to identify areas for improvement in security, technology and services.

The survey closes on June 11 at 5 p.m., and it takes about 15 minutes to complete. Responses go directly to the consultant and are kept confidential.

To get a link to the survey, contact the Help Desk at Ext. 4540), or email chhelpdesk@co.collin.tx.us.

DA John Roach recently named Outstanding Auburn alumnus

AUBURN UNIVERSITY at Montgomery School of Liberal Arts has selected Collin County DA John Roach as its first Distinguished Alumnus. Roach is a 1971 graduate of Auburn at Montgomery with a B.A. in History.

Mr. Roach was also named a Distinguished Speaker and delivered an address to faculty, students, and guests of the School of Liberal Arts on April 20. A luncheon in his honor with Auburn Montgomery officials and invited guests was held at the Capital City Club before the induction ceremony and Mr. Roach's speech. The day concluded with the presentation of a plaque and honors to Mr. Roach and a reception in his honor.



Women, Infants & Children

Some statewide exposure



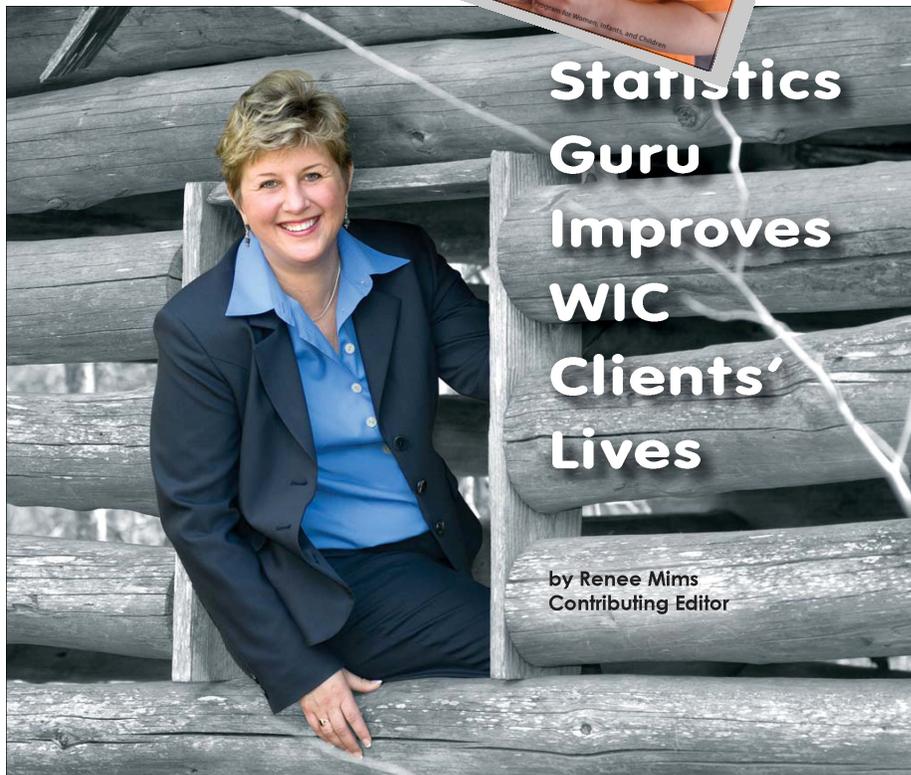
WIC Director **Michelle PATRICK** drew some statewide attention for her work in Collin County, being featured in the May/June edition of *Texas WIC News'* local agency spotlight.

Michelle is well-known around our neck of the woods for her expertise in writing grants for various local non-profit organizations and county departments.

But she's also had a hand in opening the fourth WIC clinic, for Frisco families, and has watched a 14.2% increase in WIC participation in the county in just the last year.

Michelle keeps a close watch on developing poverty patterns throughout Collin County so the offices can serve as many eligible residents as possible.

The WIC program is a special supplemental food program that provides nutrition education and food benefits for qualifying children and infants, as well as pregnant, breastfeeding, and post-partum women.



Keeping your Guard

JUDGE **Greg WILLIS** (center), Collin County Court at Law No. 6, was awarded the ESGR Patriotic Award in April by **Larry THOMPSON**, a representative of the Employers Support for the Guard and Reserve. The ESGR is a U.S. Department of Defense organization that promotes a culture of employers who support and value the military service of their employees. Also shown in the photo is Bailiff **Robert HINTON**, a member of the Governor's State Guard Maritime Regiment.



More than just a NASCAR fan

Leigh GORDON-RILEY, who works as a program administrator in Sex Offender Services for Adult Probation, stands with her framed *Carl Edwards Recognition Award* from NASCAR for fundraising efforts to send kids to camp in the North Texas area. Leigh, a huge NASCAR fan as evidenced by her office wall, was recognized for doubling her donation goal, thanks to the help of friends and colleagues from the District Clerk's Office, the Community supervision and Corrections Department, District Judges, and her church.



Juan PENA (right) receives his 10-year service pin from Unit Supervisor, **Mike COMBEST** in April. Juan serves as a probation officer with a specialized sex offender caseload in the Plano unit of Juvenile Probation.



CSCD staffers mark Service milestones

MORE THAN A DOZEN staff members from Collin County's Community Supervision and Corrections Department celebrated milestone years of service with CSCD this spring. They are:

20 years

Charla COXWELL

Roy HUGHES

Patty WATSON

10 years

John HIX

Annette PASLEY

Janie SANCHEZ

5 years

Tyra BARDIN

Joe BULLARD

Teneka BURRELL

Cassandra DELGADO

Beverly JOHNSON-McCREE

Richard KENNEDY

Bob MATHEWS

Sheriff's Explorers win big during state competition

The Collin County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post 660 came out big winners in the 2009 Texas Law Enforcement Explorers Advisors Association State competition in April at The University of Texas at Dallas. The Team competed in four different scenarios winning 2nd place in Bomb Scene Search, Domestic Crisis Intervention and Unknown Call for Police. They also received a 3rd place Overall Team Average and 2nd place Overall Post Average. There were 78 teams from 34 different law enforcement agencies from three different states competing in the competition.

Sheriff **Terry BOX** said "the accomplishments of these young men and women demonstrate what is good about America's youth. Exploring is a great way to bring out the best in our young people. Our Explorers have worked very hard and deserve all they have earned."

Collin County Sheriff's Office Explorer Captain **Lisa HAMMANN** was honored with the Texas Law Enforcement Explorers Advisors Association Explorer of the Year. Lisa was chosen for this award for her outstanding performance in the Exploring Program. She joined the post less than 3 years ago and in that short time has been looked upon as a leader, being awarded Post Rookie of the Year during her first six months and Post Explorer of the Year the following two years. Lisa has proven to be dependable and trustworthy by following through with her goals for herself and the program

Lisa is a junior at McKinney North High School where she is a member of the National Honor Society, History Club, Literary



L-R: Sheriff Box, Lisa HAMMANN, Brandy SHIPP, Justin DUNHAM, Jeremy JACKSON.

Club, Varsity Choirs and Tennis team. She has also been recognized by the Rotary Club Honor Roll and as a National Merit Scholar.

Law Enforcement Exploring is a part of the Boy Scouts of America. It is a worksite-based program for young men and women who plan to pursue a career in Law Enforcement.

For more information regarding the Explorer Program contact Sgt. **Diane STUBBS**, 972-547-5170.

2 deputies lauded for saving inmate's life

Detention Officers **Jeff COLLINGSWORTH** and **Sarah RODD** were honored in April with Life-Saving Bars by Sheriff **Terry BOX** for their successful attempt in saving an inmate's life. A medical emergency was called when an inmate in the Collin County Detention Center choked on food during a meal. Officers Collingsworth and Rodd responded to the call, performed the Heimlich Maneuver, and saved the inmate's life.



Sheriff Box, Sarah RODD and Jeff COLINGSWORTH.



Peace Officer Memorial Day Service

The Collin County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard participated in the Peace Officer Memorial Day Service on May 13, hosted by the Plano Police Department. The annual service was held at Haggard Park in Plano to honor Texas Law Enforcement Officers who have been killed in the line of duty. Other participants in the memorial service included officials of the City of Plano, Collin County, and Honor Guards from several surrounding agencies. A special 'thank you' is extended to the following Collin County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard members for their participation in the ceremony: Detention Sgt. **Brad DENISON**, Court Transfer Deputies **Joe PEEBLES** and **Jessica TAYLOR**, Detention Officers **Tim PATTERSON**, **William CRUM**, **Billy KERR** and **David BARNETT**.



(Far Left) McKinney Police Chief Doug KOWALSKI and Collin County District Attorney John ROACH; (left) Collin County Assistant District Attorney Curtis HOWARD.

Crime Victims Week

Remembering those victimized throughout the year

National Crime Victims' Rights Week ran from April 26 through May 2 under the theme **25 Years of Rebuilding Lives**. This year's events were sponsored by the Collin County Crime Victim's Council and District Attorney **John R. ROACH**.

Events included a luncheon at Collin College's Spring Creek Campus, and honored resource agencies in Collin County. Master of Ceremonies for the luncheon was **Curtis HOWARD**, Misdemeanor Division Chief. Guest speaker

was Mr. Roach, and the Keynote speaker was McKinney Police Chief **Doug KOWALSKI**.

Throughout the week, silhouettes depicting the various types of crime victims served were on display at the Collin County Courthouse. Also, the Empty Shoe Project, in which each pair of shoes displayed depicted almost 1,500 crime victims served by area agencies during the past year.

Agencies that participated in setting up the Empty Shoe display were: Farmers-

ville Varsity Cheerleaders; Allen High School, College and Career Center; Roundtree Elementary in Allen; Rent-a-Center; Children's Medical Center of Dallas; Army Veterans; Collin County Sheriff's Office; Collin County Sheriff's Office Explorers, Collin County Crime Victim Council, Collin County District Attorney staff, Collin County Commissioners; Press Elementary in McKinney; McKinney North and Boyd High School; Atmos Energy; Allen Police; and, McKinney Medical Center.

A 'life-changing' experience back to Nigeria

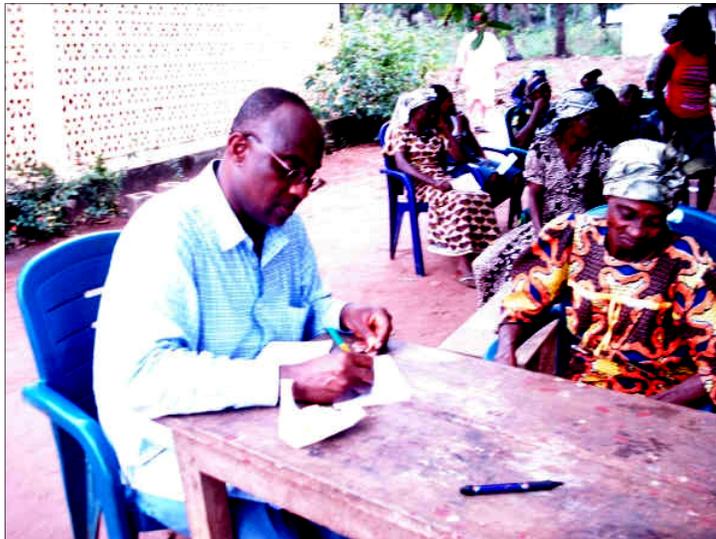
FELIX NNAJI, a Community Supervision Officer in the Plano office, recently returned from a seven-day medical mission trip to Nigeria. The mission team, lead by Ikeduru National Association Inc., USA, delivered much needed health care and saw first hand, the hunger and malnutrition of the people of the Ikeduru Local Government of Imo State.

The Medical Mission Team included three medical doctors, three pharmacists, two nurses, two medical technicians, and a dietician while Felix and two others -- including the president of the organization -- provided help with registration, crowd control, and personnel issues.

Felix said he was glad to return to his native country to help the many in need of healthcare: "I am glad I was able to do this in my lifetime, it has brought me such joy to have this accomplishment in reaching out to help the people."

He noted that, as a result of the testing done by the medical team, some people found out they have diabetes, high blood pressure, and malaria and they were able to receive treatment.

"Many of the people have medical conditions caused by malnutrition and lack of basic primary health care, especially children and the elderly. There are a lot of people who



Felix NNAJI

should be seen in hospitals, but they don't have access," Felix said.

Felix said the doctors, nurses, and the entire team are to be commended for their commitment.

"They have big hearts, and they did a tremendous amount of work," he said.

A typical day began at 7:00 am and ended around 7 or 8 p.m.

"When daylight ended, the doctors wrote prescriptions by the light of their cell phones or by candlelight," Felix said, adding that the team shared their own food and

water with the patients at the various locations.

All of the operations were conducted in health centers except in Uzoagba, Felix's home town. There, a school compound provided the space needed. All facilities were without running water, medical equipment, beds, and medications. There is a shortage of trained medical staff in all the centers.

Felix is hoping to return on another mission trip sometime in the coming year.

"The people need so much. There is so much more to do", Felix said. "It's life-changing."

2009 Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year

TIM ESHBAUGH was recently named 2009 Employee of the Year for the Juvenile Probation Department. Tim has been with the department since October 1995, and began working as a line officer at the Juvenile Detention Center. In 1997, he began serving as the McKinney Office Intensive Supervision Probation Officer. He has also served as an intake officer for a brief period. In 2005, Tim was promoted to Assistant Supervisor of the McKinney Unit. He now serves as the Probation Department's Training Officer, the Federal 4E

Officer, and is a Certified Instructor in Crisis Prevention Intervention. He also coordinates the sealing and restricting of juvenile records.

Tim is a dependable employee who exemplifies the "good work ethic," according to juvenile probation officials. He makes prompt and sound decisions and is familiar with all aspects of the probation field. Furthermore, he has been instrumental in implementing in-house training programs which are beneficial and pertinent as well as cost-effective.



Tim ESHBAUGH.

Substance Abuse section moves to Plano sub-courthouse

A MIDST ALL THE SHUFFLING of county office this spring, the 3-person Substance Abuse staff quietly packed up and relocated to the Plano's sub-courthouse on E. Park Avenue.

The Substance Abuse Program provided alcohol and drug prevention, and intervention services to more than 3,200 county residents last year. Formerly next door to Health Care Services, the move to Plano made it easier for clients from adult and juvenile probation, as well as students from truancy court, to stop by their offices.

The program is staffed by (from left) **Janell DAVIS**, director **Tommy BLAKEMAN**, and **Beth AKERS**.



20 years of Service

Debbie GONZALES received her 20-year service pin in April, which happened to coincide with her birthday. We are forbidden to give out her age, but the staff at the ME gathered to show their appreciation for all she does for their office. Left to Right, **Lee PASSMORE**, **Nicole ALLEY**, **Dr. William ROHR**, **Debbie GONZALES**, **Dr. Sheila SPOTSWOOD**, **Jennifer AKIN** and **Robert LAUGHON**.

Clerks' Fun Run/Walk

Charitable event raises funds for 2 local groups

The Annual Collin County District and County Clerk 5k Walk/Run, benefiting *Hope's Door Women's Shelter* and *Collin County Children's Advocacy Center*, was held May 9 at Towne Lake Park in McKinney. With the help of some generous sponsors and walkers, the 2009 walk raised \$3,955.70, making total donations to the charities for the last two years \$8,525.70. Thanks to everyone who participated, and we look forward to seeing you there again next year. Clockwise from right, **Hannah KUNKLE** and **Patricia CRIGGER**; **Stacey KEMP** and **Sherry WILLIS**; and, **David & Regina DO-BECKA**, holding their dogs, Miguel & Margarita.



'Piece of cake ...'

Rachael WARREN, a Contract Administrator in Purchasing, recently participated in the Sugar Wonders 5th Cake and Sugar Art Show held at the Heard-Craig Hall in McKinney. Rachael competed against hundreds of cakes and placed 3rd in the Adult



Advanced Sculpted cake category and 2nd in the Adult Advanced Confections category. Rachael has been professionally creating custom designed bridal and groom cakes, sculpted cakes and party cakes for the last five years. To see more of Rachael's custom cake creations, visit:

www.hvnscreations.com

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Denise BIGHAM's Sole Survivors, Rita EDD's Happy Feet, Susan WHITAKER's Globe Trekkers and Janessa MILLICAN's Clyde's Angels. Additional teams beating the 800-mile challenge were **Brandi BREWER's Heavy Breathers, Angela FISHERS' Road Runners, Kathy BOUNDS' Official Walkers, Jennifer SNAILUM's Foot-loose, Cindy PRESSNELL's Texas Hammer Toes and Vicky MINTER's Pavement Pounders.**

Walk Across Texas is an online physical activity program that can be started at any time by individuals as well as teams. Contact me at Ext. 4231 for details.

Mighty Ducks, from left: Julie RUTHERFORD, Heather CONRAD, Gloria SAENZ, Dawn WALLACE, Jennifer KOERBER-MILLER, Uni HOUDECK, Erica JOHNSON and Matt LOPEZ. Their combined 3,002 miles over 8 weeks translate into an average of 375



miles each — or a blistering 6.7 miles each day per team member.

A 'ground' opening



Clockwise from far left, **Jayson HOPPER, Timmy DOOLEY, Seth TERRAZAS and Larry JONES** of Facilities Maintenance lift out one of two time capsules buried near the entrance of the old McDonald Street courthouse since 1979. Since the City of McKinney, who now owns the building, currently has plans to tear it down, county officials wanted to make sure the time capsules are re-planted or stored on county property for the next 19 1/2 years until their 2029 grand opening. Facilities also removed the cornerstone to the courthouse and a set of bronze plaques of the U.S. Constitution.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ **Luke Ashmore LAUGHON**

was born Jan 2, 2009. 8 pounds, 9 ounces and 21 inches long. Big sister is Hadley, and proud parents are **Robin** (DA's office) and **Robert** (Medical Examiner) **LAUGHON**.



◆ **Courtney HARRIS**, daughter of **Richard** (Deputy Constable Pct. 3) and **Lora HARRIS** graduated from the *University of Central Arkansas* with a Bachelor of Science Nursing degree on May 9, 2009. She will begin an internship in the Clinical Decision Unit at Medical Center of McKinney in June.

◆ **Britney THOMPSON**,

daughter of **Lavada GARRISON** (Plano Tax Office) will be graduating from Wylie High School on June 12, 2009. Britney is a Major in the AFJROTC and has been the recipient of many awards including a national award from the Air Force Sergeants Association for Outstanding Leadership Skills. Britney will be attending *Tarleton State University* in Stephenville, TX with a partial scholarship she received from the AFJROTC. She has plans of joining the Marine Corp. and aspires to be a Large Animal Veterinarian one day.



◆ **Allison LEGGIERI**, daughter of **Cece** (County Clerk's Office) and **Paul LEGGIERI**, has received a full academic scholarship, as well as a per-semester stipend, from the *University of Alabama*. Allison received the UA Scholar Award 2009, Engineering President Cabinet Supplement and Engineering Leadership Scholarship. Allison will graduate from Canyon Creek Christian Academy in Richardson on May 29th, 2009, where she was Captain and MVP of the Varsity Basketball Team, as well as First Team All District Player.

FOR SALE/SERVICES

2008 YAMAHA Roadstar Silverado 1700. Midnight Star package. 3,300 miles. Hard saddle bags and driver and passenger floor boards. \$11,500. 214-551-6166 or ext. 3614

QUEEN-SIZE CANOPY bed frame complete. Asking \$50. Also have a **29-gallon aquarium** with metal stand. The aquarium has never been used. Asking \$100. Contact **Brian EDWARDS**, 972-548-4106 or 214-491-9024.

SCENTSY WICKLESS Candles: Great gift ideas or start a new business. This great product is also good for your office since there are no open flames. Go to my website at www.scentsy.com/jenniferbrooks and check out the Latest/Greatest thing... Order online or call me with an order. 469-323-4681.

MARGARITA MACHINE Rentals. Contact Lorrie ROBERTSONS, 903-267-2500. Delivery Available.

Connection connection:

The Connection is published in-house by the Public Information Office for Collin County employees, and we're here to post your news, accomplishments, good deeds — even some items you might want to sell to another employee.

Send your information by email to:

publicrelations@collincountytexas.gov



Deputy **Hugh McCLELLAN** and Deputy Clerk **Judy HARGETT** recently were instructors for Adult Leader Training held at Erwin Park in McKinney. Both are members of Boy Scout Troop 135, sponsored by Wesley United Methodist Church.