



Official Welcome

Deputy **Robert HINTON** (center), bailiff in County Court at Law No. 6, congratulates County Commissioner **Matt SHAHEEN** shortly after the commissioner and other county officials — newly elected, re-elected and appointed — were sworn into office on Jan. 2.

New Year's oath

Newly & re-elected are sworn into public office

More than a dozen county officials took the oath of office in January, five of whom assumed public office for the first time. Just in case you're unfamiliar with some of these new names and faces, we thought it might be helpful to introduce them.

For starters, we have two new state District Judges on the bench in Collin County.

Judge **Suzanne WOOTEN** was elected to the 380th District Court, and took the bench on Jan. 2. Judge Wooten's courtroom staff includes: **Amy CABALA**, administrator, **Karla KIMBRELL**, court reporter, and **Kim ZACHARY**, bailiff.

Gov. **Rick PERRY** appointed Judge **Jill R. WILLIS** to the newly created 429th District Court in December. Judge Willis will serve a two-year term and then run for re-election in 2010. She is still in the process of choosing a permanent court reporter and bailiff, but has brought on **Darla J. WRIGHT** as the 429th's court administrator.

Across town — at least for now — **Matt SHAHEEN** took office as County Commissioner for Precinct 1. The Commissioner lives in Plano and his background is in tech-

nology and management consulting. His biography is listed on the county's website.

We also have two new constables:

Chuck PRESLEY, Sr. takes the reigns of Constable for Precinct 3, which mostly covers the south central area of the county, including much of Plano. Constable Presley, a former captain in the Sheriff's Office, was elected after Constable **Bob BELL** retired.

For Precinct 1, which covers a large section of the central and north central parts of the county, **Paul ELKINS** was elected after **Jerry KUNKLE** chose to retire. We have more on Precinct 1's changes on Pages 2 and 9.

The county also saw seven incumbents win re-election in the last cycle, including:

Judge **Robert DRY, Jr.**, of the 199th District Court; Judge **Mark RUSCH**, 401st District Court; Judge **Chris OLDNER**, 416th District Court; **Joe JAYNES**, County Commissioner, Precinct 3; Judge **Johnny LEWIS**, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3-1; **Terry BOX**, Sheriff; **Kenneth MAUN**, Tax Assessor-Collector; **Joe BARTON**, Constable Precinct 2; and, **Johnny TODD**, Constable, Precinct 4. *Newcomers' photos are on Page 2.*

Newly Elected County Officials ...



Jill R. WILLIS,
429th District Court



Suzanne WOOTEN,
380th District Court



Matt SHAHEEN,
Commissioner, Pct. 1



Chuck PRESLEY,
Constable, Pct. 3



Paul ELKINS,
Constable, Pct. 1

Constable, Pct. 1

Kunkle retires, Elkins begins first term

On December 31st, we had the heartfelt task of saying goodbye to our Constable, **Jerry KUNKLE**.

Jerry had been the constable in precinct 1 since 1979. During his tenure he implemented a traffic division, warrant division and a separate civil division. The office thrived under his leadership and grew to a staff of 6 deputies, a sergeant, chief deputy, an administrative secretary and two secretaries.

He always treated his office staff as a family and enjoyed many meals and meetings at the conference table in the office. He stood tall and always fought for his office personnel and worked diligently for what he felt was right.

On December 12th, we celebrated Jerry's retirement and the hallway at the Bloomdale courthouse was filled with co-workers, former co-workers, staff, and friends from his career. He will be greatly missed in our office, but has moved on into the joyous time of retirement. Good Luck and we will miss you from your previous staff.

January 1st rang in a new era at Collin



The Constable Precinct 1 staff pose for a final picture as **Jerry KUNKLE** retires.

County's Constable Precinct 1 with **Paul ELKINS** assuming the office as the newly elected constable. Paul was elected in the November and has proven, right from the start, his strong work ethic and ability to understand and listen to voters.

Paul graduated the Dallas Police Academy and served as a Dallas Deputy City Marshal and McKinney Police Officer before settling down with Collin County.

Paul has served the Constable Precinct 1 for over 20 years as a civil deputy, warrant deputy, traffic deputy and as the sergeant over warrants and daily operations. Constable Elkins was sworn into office by Judge **Paul RALEEH** during a ceremony at the Collin County Courthouse on Jan. 2.

-- **Sgt. Chris FILLINE**

*The **Collin County Connection** is published six times a year for the benefit of county employees by the Public Information Office. Submissions of articles, photographs and announcements should be made to: publicinfo@collincountytx.gov.*

Information Technology

Countywide effort helps pull off a 'migration' 20 years in the making

By Tim NOLAN

The IT department migrated almost 70 percent of Collin County's computer business applications and data from the old courthouse on McDonald Street to a new home in the data center on Bloomdale Road.

So what does migration mean? In this case, it does not mean physically moving the AS/400 hardware from one location to another. We backed up and restored all data and applications from the 825 AS/400 located in the old courthouse to the i5 AS/400 located in the new courthouse's data center. But this was no simple backup/restore procedure.

The AS/400 has been a fixture in Collin County for more than 20 years – longer than the tenure of almost all the IT staff. Plus, many windows-based systems have been integrated with the AS/400 over the years.

The migration included Jail Management, non-CIJS Justice System, Budget, Auditing, Fleet Management, Permitting, Work Orders, Inventory, Content Management, MyCollinCounty and Public Notices among other applications. The idea was to move the AS/400 core systems with as little disruption to daily business as possible.

This project provided many challenges. For one, you may remember reading in a previous *Connection* that the IT department restructured its organization chart back in October 2008 in an effort to run more efficiently, so the migration took place "under new management," department-wide.

The migration project also involved moving the windows-based applications to our new enterprise Blade Center, backing up or restoring the legacy data and applications to the i5 and, finally, testing, re-testing and testing some more.

Bobby GROUNDS, David McCURDY and Jeff SPRINGFIELD played a large role in the success of the first phase. The last two phases took place during the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday weekend. **David ESCAMILLA, Jason McCABE, Tim SHARKEY and John DANIELS** performed the backup/restore phase commendably. There were some technical issues and late hours, but it got done. **Joe FIERRO and Jeff SPRINGFIELD** performed the preliminary testing before enlisting our Corps of Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to perform the scheduled final testing on Monday.

Our AS/400 Migration SME team (the heroes) that participated on MLK are: **Brigitte BAKER, Casey ROPER, Chuck PRESLEY, Devin ROBERTSON, Donna STRUB, Jerry BUNCH, Mark CRULL, Judy BLAZIER, Margaret OVERTURF, Melissa GUERRA, Misty BROWN, Mitzi WILLIAMS, Monica LOVE, Randall RICE, Sandy CLINE, Shannon WILLIAMS, Sharon BUTLER, Monika ARRIS, Gloria BAILEY and Candy BLAIR.**

The IT AS/400 Migration team that performed the miraculous are: **Albert JUAREZ, Bobby GROUNDS, David ESCAMILLA, David McCURDY, Jason McCABE, Melinda CLANCY, Jeff SPRINGFIELD, Joe FIERRO, Tim SHARKEY, Caren SKIPWORTH, Christina DIVERS, Lanette SAETRE, Larry JONES, Lisa ZOSKI, Mike MALAK, Susan WHITAKER, Bryan YATES, Robyn WINANS, Darryl METZ, John DANIELS, Estella ALMENDAREZ, Maurice FITZGERALD, Ray LIU and Marty STREETMAN.**

Purchasing



'Best Value' items bring big discounts

As we all know, the economy has taken a downturn which is beginning to affect everyone. As a result, Purchasing, as well as other departments, are making every effort to find ways to save money in our budgets.

One way that can help us save is in the way we order office supplies from Office Depot. Office Depot has recently reported that only 12% of all office supplies are ordered from the *Best Value* core group. The core group, at up to 90% off list price, gives us the best value for our buck and is a great way to save money in our budgets.

So, we recommend that the next time you order office supplies, make every effort to order the *Best Value* items, which are highlighted under each supply category. Based on Office Depot cost analysis, the county could save 30% on office supplies by ordering *Best Value* items. We hope that everyone will make a conscientious, voluntary effort to choose *Best Value* items when ordering.



Roach Sr., lauded as Lone Star Prosecutor

Texas prosecutors named Collin County Criminal District Attorney **John ROACH** the Lone Star Prosecutor of the Year for his courage and discretion in prosecuting – or choosing not to prosecute – several cases in 2008.

The award is given on behalf of the Texas District and County Attorneys Association. The TDCAA recognized Mr. Roach for steadfastly refusing to take on cases contaminated by a network television news investigation called, "To Catch a Predator." The cases linked to the TV show were mired in controversy because the investigations were conducted under the supervision of television producers, not law enforcement, and would not have held up in court.

"John Roach showed the true backbone of a Texas prosecutor in standing up to a national television network and this show by refusing to prosecute cases tainted by an entertainment-driven 'investigation,'" said **Barry MACH**, Criminal District Attorney in Wichita County and TDCAA President.

Mr. Roach was also cited for agreeing to prosecute another elected prosecutor, **Ray SUMROW**, for abuse of office, resulting in a 15- year prison term; and dismissing charges against the man convicted of murdering young **Ashlee ESTELLE** after doubt was cast on the evidence used to convict him.

Mr. Roach said that recognition by his fellow Texas prosecutors as Lone Star Prosecutor of the Year is a great



Barry MACHA (left), Texas District and County Attorneys Association president and DA of Wichita County, and **John ROACH Sr.**, in Austin for award presentation.

honor, "and doubly so because of our shared dedication to the truth, justice, and the rule of law."

Each year the Board of Directors of the

Texas District and County Attorneys Association names a Lone Star Prosecutor who demonstrates professionalism and dedication to the highest standards of prosecution.



Assistant Criminal District Attorney **Alyson DIETRICH** (above, right) organized Collin County's 4th Annual National Adoption Day in November. The day is meant to bring courts, communities, and families together to finalize and celebrate thousands of adoptions of children from foster care. This year, 30 children were adopted in ages ranging from 21 months to 17 years old. There were also donations and 50-75 people volunteered in this effort from all over Collin County. She's pictured here with DA investigator **Marletta SCRIBNER**.

Tax Assessor



Retiring ...

Charlene GUNTHER (above, right) retired in January after eight years of service with the Motor Vehicle division of the Tax Office in McKinney. A retirement party was held to honor Charlene. Terry WILLEY (left), Tax Office Chief Deputy, presented Charlene with a plaque to commemorate her years of service.



... and Graduating

Rosanna STRICKLAND (right), a title specialist in the Tax Office, graduated with her Bachelors of Business Administration degree from the University of North Texas in December.

Juvenile Services

Retirement bound

After 14 years at the county, Norma NICHOLS (right) retired in January and received this plaque from Joe SCOTT, director of Juvenile Services. Norma served as an administrative assistant in the Plano Juvenile Probation Department for entire span of her career with the county.

Putting in a little time

Celebrating a combined 30 years of service to Collin County are Loretta DAY, 10 years; Betty PETERSON, 15 years; and, Cecelia LEGGIERI, five years of service.





Forensic work in murder case nets SO scholarship

Congratulations to the Criminal Investigative Section of the Collin County Sheriff's Office which has recently received recognition from the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).

Sheriff **Terry BOX** announced that the CIS Division received the "2008 August Vollmer Excellence in Forensic Science Award" in November at the IACP Awards Ceremony in San Diego. This prestigious award was presented for investigative work done in comparing wood sample DNA that helped to convict a suspect of capital murder and incidentally was the first time that wood DNA has been successfully used in a capital murder case. Presented along with this award was a \$7,500 scholarship to the world-renowned National Forensic Science Institute at the University of Tennessee.

This scholarship will pay tuition and lodging for one of our criminal investigators to attend a 10-week class in the most up-to-date crime scene training available in the nation.



Major Chuck RUCKEL (left) and CIS Sgt. Mitch SELMAN with the \$7,500 Forensic Science Scholarship and the "2008 August Vollmer Excellence in Forensic Science Award."

Lee Howe: '08 Employee of the Year for Sheriff's Office

Congratulations go out to Deputy **Lee HOWE** for being named the 2008 Employee of the Year for the Collin County Sheriff's Office.

Deputy Howe received the award from Sheriff **Terry BOX** in December.

A patrol deputy, Howe is a six-year veteran of the Collin County Sheriff's Office who was selected for this award based on his professionalism and maturity as an officer.



Sheriff **Terry BOX** (left) & 2008 Employee of the Year, Deputy **Lee HOWE**.

He received numerous letters of appreciation and commendation from Collin County citizens who have praised him for his courtesy, professionalism and compassion.



Sworn in

Transfer Deputy **Jared CLARK** was sworn in by Sheriff Box in January. Congratulations and best wishes are extended to Deputy Clark in his new position as Transfer Deputy.

Communications Center Receives Agency of the Year Award

The Collin County Communications Center was recently chosen as the "2008 Communications Agency of the Year" by the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

The center is among the 43 agencies in the 16-county region of north central Texas vying for the annual award. Two major urban centers, Dallas and Fort Worth, are also included in Region 40. The Communications Center is staffed by 15 dispatchers, three shift supervisors, one GEO-coordinator and a communications manager.

Support Services Major **Pam PALMISANO** said that "each of these employees played an important part in receiving this distinguished award. They offer superior service to the citizens of Collin County and I'm very proud of the job they do." The CCCC was selected for this award based on 100-percent compliance with the criteria for communications management as set forth by the North Central Texas Council of Governments.



(l-r): Communications Manager, **Regina RAMON** with Shift Supervisors **Maria LEMONDS**, **Cheryl MATHIS** and **Jim RIZZO**.



CCCC shift teams

Counter Clockwise from upper left: Shift A (l-r) **Aubrey SAYLOR**, **Stacy MOODY**, **Stacey RAINWATER**, **Jim RIZZO**, **Sheila DAVIS**, and **Paula CROWLEY**; B-Shift: **Terrye BRADFORD**, **Karen NEVIL**, **Cheryl MATHIS**, **Todd EADES**, **Jamie McCARTY** and **Erwin WHITFIELD**; C-Shift (l-r): **Tim GREEN**, **Maria LEMONDS**, **Melissa ROMINE**, **Judy PRITCHARD**, **Bonnie BOWERS**, and **Barbara MORMAN**.

More Sheriff's News on Page 8



(l-r) 2008 Explorer of the Year **Lisa HAMMANN**; 2008 Advisor of the Year **Robert LANGWELL**, and 2008 Rookie Explorer of the Year **Kayla PHILLIPS**.

LE Explorers recognized for 2008 efforts

The Collin County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Explorer Post #660 held its annual awards celebration in early January, and the award for 2008 Advisor of the Year went to Deputy **Robert LANGWELL** (center), who has served as an advisor with the post since May 2007.

The 2008 Rookie Explorer of the Year award was presented to **Kayla PHILLIPS** (right) who joined the Post in September and is a student at Celina High School.

Lisa HAMMANN (left) was awarded the 2008 Explorer of the Year for the second straight year.

Other awards she received were: Profi-

ciency Awards for attending the National Competition; 100 hours of Community Service; two years Perfect Attendance and last, but not least, promotion to Post Captain.

Brandy SHIPP received promotion to Post Lieutenant along with Proficiency Awards for tenure and National Competition. Other Explorers receiving awards were: **Justin DUNHAM** for tenure and the Meritorious Award for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. The following Explorers also received tenure awards: **Dustin EITEL, Jeremy JACKSON, Zachary LaFERNEY, Ashley PREAM** and **J.P. STEWART** for successfully completing their first year in the Explorer Program.



A citizens' visit

As 35 members of Class 15 of the Collin County Citizens Sheriff's Academy graduated in early December, Congressman **Sam JOHN-SON** (center) attended the ceremony and offered congratulations to Sheriff **Terry BOX** and his staff for the recent success of National Night Out. Here, he poses with **Brandy SHIPP** (left) and **Lisa HAMMANN**.



CSCD welcomes new supervision officers

Collin County Community Supervision and Corrections Department recently welcomed three new community supervision officers to its staff in recent months.

Armando "A.J." JIMENEZ began working for the department in October, and is a graduate of Texas Tech University where he obtained a Bachelor degree in Political Science with a minor in Spanish. A. J. served in the U.S. Marine Corp for six years, and previously worked for Marriott security department.

Joel THOMAS also began employment in October. Joel is a graduate of Texas State University in San Marcos with a degree in Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement. He previously worked for Ellis County CSCD and Denton County CSCD.

Mark GROSS began work here in October 20, 2008. His resume includes probation, corrections, special education, police, and he spent the last 5 years in Mexico, serving with TIME Ministries. Mark is married, and has four beautiful kids. He is a *northerner*, and received his BS degree from Western IL Univ.

A brief introduction to some of your county ...

Co-Workers

Jayson HOPPER

I work in Facilities as a Carpenter. I've worked here since 2007. I live in McKinney. I'm married to Christi We have 2 boys. My hometown is Blue Ridge. My hobbies are hunting. I'm most proud of my family. When I was a kid, I wanted to grow up to be a firefighter. My hero is my Dad. The best advice I was ever given:



"Work hard and never give up." My favorite music is Hip Hop.

My favorite type of food: Steak and potatoes. I'm a regular at home and my own cooking. No one knows that I love to cook. I always wanted to learn as much as I can about everything. I'm an avid football fan. If I could vacation anywhere, I would go to Hawaii. My favorite spot to visit in Texas: I love ALL of Texas. The best book I ever read: "Where the Red Fern Grows." I volunteer time to my family.

Constable, Pct. 1

20 years service

Jan TURLEY received her 20-year service pin with Collin County in February, having joined Constable Precinct 1 in 1997 after transferring from the Precinct 3 Constable's office.



New deputy constable

On December 18th Constable Precinct 1 welcomed Allen "Shane" WILLIAMS on board. Shane came to our office from the Dallas County Constable's Office where he served as a Deputy Constable for three years. We welcome Shane and wish him a long career with our office.



In early February, Constable Paul ELKINS (above left) presented Sergeant Chris FILLINE with his five-year service pin with Collin County. Chris has been with Precinct 1 for the entire time. Also pictured are Deputy Mike HUGHES (back left) and Deputy Mike McCANDLESS.

People

2 departments find unique ways to protect the community and help re-stock local food banks



In the Community Supervision and Corrections Department, probation officers (from left) **Edgar ESPINOZA**, **Tess STEPHENSON** and **Meredith SMITH** look over what's poured in from a food donation program where probationers are allowed to donate canned and dry goods for community service time. Food pantries provide CSCD with a list of needed items, and defendants receive five hours credit toward community service for every \$25 donated in approved items. Then, inmates from the SCORE program deliver the food to the pantries. The food pantries appreciate the donations because of increased demand from families due to the increase in job layoffs in the area. As of January, 10 courts were using the temporary nine-month program for probationers.

Meanwhile, over at Health Care Services, the immunization clinic began offering flu shots in exchange for canned and dry goods to help out local pantries in January, and the public responded by bringing more food than was required. Pictured among some of the donations at right are (l-r) **Christie HIX**, **Candy BLAIR**, **Patsy MORRIS** and **Carla CANNEDY**. Candy says that it appeared that people were looking to help out the pantries as much getting the vaccine. The department also just found out that their program, which is in its second year, has taken hold as a best practice with immunization clinics in counties across the state.



Some tips for getting wired at the new Admin. Bldg.

The move to the new Administration Building is quickly approaching. With a mid-April move window coming up, the Information Technology department would like to share the following information with you.

By following these simple steps you will be able to help us help you move into the new building.

- ◆ Use the purge and shred bins to reduce the amount of paper documents to be moved, and coordinate with your department move coordinator for any document retention issues.
- ◆ In addition to purging paper documents it also a good time to purge any outdated data from your computer. This could include documents you have not used for a long time, personal data files such as music, pictures or games, screen savers or other non-work related data and programs.
- ◆ Please keep in mind that document retention policies may also apply to your electronic documents.
- ◆ Make sure your system has been backed properly, be-



fore April 13, 2009. Follow the BackupYourData video instructions posted on the <http://mycollincounty/training> website.

- ◆ Remove all personal items (i.e. sticky notes, pictures, etc.) from your system and monitor.
- ◆ Have all of your computer parts labeled with a moving label (labels will be provided by your department move coordinator).
- ◆ IT staff will pack your computer and phone equipment in a sealed container.
- ◆ Only computer equipment will be packed in the computer crates.
- ◆ Please do not pack any items in the computer crate.
- ◆ If you find any extraneous computer related items as you prepare for the move, please contact your department move coordinator.
- ◆ Your department move coordinator will submit a work order to pick up the items and an IT Technician will be dispatched to collect them.

More information will be coming to you through your department move coordinator. The department move coordinators, along with their IT Move Coordinator counterparts, are:

Department	Move Coordinator	IT Move Coordinator
Purchasing	Rachael Warren	Margaret Anderson
Audit	Patricia Campbell & Randall	Margaret Anderson
Treasury	Tonya Hagar	Margaret Anderson
Budget, Administrative Services & Commissioner Court	Marie Chacon / Rhonda Kiesling	Larry Jones
Human Resources	Nicole Caserma-Welch	Joe Fierro
Tax Office	Terry Willey & Judy Mervicker	Christina Divers
Justice of the Peace Pct. 1	Shannon Robertson	Albert Juarez
Constable Pct. 1	Pam Reynolds	Tim Nolan
County Clerk	Tonya Hagar	Mike Malak

Announcements

Sophie Rae was born to **Robin** (District Clerk) and **Jared WHITE-HEAD** on Jan. 26, 2009; 7 pounds, 5 ounces, and 20 inches long. Proud grandparents are **Ernie KELLOGG** and **Tonya HAGAR** (County Clerk), and grandmother **Kelly KELLOGG**, and **Andy and Sybil WHITE-HEAD**.



FOR SALE: 1995 Toyota Camry XLE, new motor in 2006, runs great. \$2,400. 1987 Shasta trailer, 24-foot, sleeps 6. New hot water heater, A/C motor and carpet, \$3,000. Contact **Carrie BRAZEAL** at 972-727-2054 or cbrazeal@aol.com.

WANTED: a good treadmill that you are not currently using. Can't afford much or would be willing to baby-sit your equipment until you decide to start using it again. Call **Donna FOSTER** at Ext. 4146, cell 214-578-6221.

SERVICES: Body Pro -- mobile personal training and customized diet plans. Discount available from regular rates. Please call **Jimmy HATCHER** at 972-268-2083 for Collin County prices. Regular rate is \$75/hour. Packages available; no contracts required; pay as you go.

A Word of Thanks

I would like to thank everyone who donated items to the animals at the Collin County Shelter and the McKinney SPCA at Christmas. This event proved to be a huge success. In total, 19 large garbage bags of toys and treats and beds, five extra large boxes of biscuits and several bags of dog food and containers of cat litter were collected and donated in the name of Collin County. This was all due to the very kind-hearted employees of Collin County and I want to thank you all. Please plan ahead for 2009 as I will be organizing the event again and hopefully we can collect even more this year. -- **Janna CAPONERA**

Ready to Walk Across Texas?

Dust off your walking shoes and get ready for the 7th annual Collin County Walk Across Texas! In 2008, county employees and their friends and family as well as others walked, jogged, swam, and ran more than 14,000 miles in just eight weeks.

Along the way, they lost a few pounds, lowered their blood pressure, reduced their stress level and managed their diabetes better.

The 2008 team that walked the most miles, The A Team, has already issued the challenge: Do you have what it takes to beat us in 2009?

Walk Across Texas is sponsored by the Extension Service, Human Resources and the Health Department.

The program works simply: teams of eight pool their miles to see if they can walk the 800 miles across Texas in eight weeks. Team members do not work out together; in fact, they may not even know each other. Team members may be recruited from friends, co-workers, neighbors, family, and so on.

Each team needs a captain and a name. Since teams from other companies may be participating in this event, all county teams should start

with "CC" (Collin County). Example: CC Athletes Feat. This will make it easier to track county teams. The captain agrees to register the team and each member on-line. All team members report their weekly miles to their team captain, who logs it in. At the end of the eight weeks, team members complete a wrap-up form and the captain enters it.

Don't enjoy walking? No problem! All kinds of activities can be converted to miles on the new on-line equivalent chart.

Teams officially start on Sunday, March 1 and end on Saturday, April 25. All teams should be registered on-line before February 27. More details about weekly random drawings and other incentives will be announced soon.

Gather your team and email Carrie BRAZEAL. Team captains will receive more details, including the website and a chart listing possible activities. Don't have a team? Contact Brazeal and you will be assigned to one. For more information, call Ext. 4231.

Who's going to challenge The A Team?

— **Carrie BRAZEAL**

2009 Walk MS slated for late March

Teresa CAMPBELL of the Collin County Sheriff's Office will be joined by family and friends for the 2009 *Walk MS: Dallas* on March 28 at the Addison Circle Park. This is a one-mile walk in which 90 percent of all proceeds helps fund research to find a cure for Multiple Sclerosis.

The 2009 *BP MS 150* is April 18-19, where cyclists ride from Houston to Austin, and one of the cyclists is a family member of Teresa's who will be riding for her. These fundraisers are particularly important to Teresa and her family, since she was diagnosed with MS about 15 years ago.

Teresa is also taking donations to present to the National MS Society. Your donations will be made in her honor. Those who would like to donate can contact Teresa at 903-640-6335 or at Ext. 5144. More information is available online at www.JointheMovementLoneStar.org where donations can also be made under the name of "Team Teresa".