

C O N N E C T I O N

Your Source for Employee Information



**Bunny
Tour 2013**

Public Works' **Alan STEPHENS** (left) and **Larry TRUSTY** pose with the Easter Bunny just before the Good Friday holiday. Photos of the bunny's complete tour are available online in the Human Resources section of *MyCollinCounty*.

County Benefits

A detailed description of your prescriptions

If you feel under the weather, you may need to go to the doctor to find out what's wrong and you might get a prescription for medicine to help you feel better. Sometimes, you may need a prescription to help you keep a medical condition under control. Nearly half of all Americans take at least one prescription medication in any given month.

To help you and your family get the medication you need, Collin County offers prescription drug coverage in both the Advantage and Advantage Plus medical plans. There are two ways to get prescriptions through the plans – by using either an eligible, local pharmacy or the mail order service.

If you are taking medication on a short-term basis, such as an antibiotic, using a local pharmacy to fill the prescription is probably the most effective option. To identify if a local pharmacy is within the network of eligible pharmacies, you can consult the myuhc website (www.myuhc.com) and use

the "Locate a Pharmacy" option under the "Pharmacies and Prescriptions" area. Most large pharmacies in Collin County such as CVS and Walgreens are considered in-network as well as many grocery store pharmacies.

If you have a medication you take long-term or for an on-going condition, the most affordable and convenient way to fill your prescription is usually through the mail order service. If this benefit meets your needs, you can purchase up to a 90-day supply of most prescription medications and are delivered straight to your door. Some medications, such as narcotics, may only allow for a 30-day supply at a time.

This convenience eliminates trips to the pharmacy and separate co-pays on every visit. Not only is it more convenient, it is also cheaper. For example, if you order a 90-day prescription of a generic drug through the mail order service, it

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

will cost you \$25.

If you were to fill three 30-day prescriptions for most generic drugs at an eligible, local pharmacy, you would pay \$30, or \$10 a prescription. The mail order service saves you time and money. You also have the ability to select the "Worry Free" refill option and your medication will arrive right on time without any action from you.

On Collin County's insurance plans, prescription medications are categorized within three tiers: generic, brand name, and non-preferred brand name. The amount you pay is based on the tier in which the medication falls.

Here's how the tier system works:

- ◆ **Tier 1-generic drugs** are your lowest co-payment option. Medication in this tier will cost \$10 at an eligible, local pharmacy for a 30-day supply or \$25 for up to a 90-day supply through the mail order service. This tier is mainly generic medications but may also include some brand name medications. Examples of Tier 1 medications include common antibiotics such as Amoxicillin, Azithromycin, Penicillin, and Ciprofloxacin.
- ◆ **Tier 2-brand name drugs** are your middle co-payment option. Medication in this tier will cost \$25 at an eligible, local pharmacy for a 30-day supply or \$50 for up to a 90-day supply through the mail order service. Examples of Tier 2 medications include some high cholesterol medicine such as *Crestor*, the nasal allergy medication *Nasonex* and the antibiotic *Augmentin*.
- ◆ **Tier 3-non-preferred brand name medications** are your highest co-payment option and costs \$50 at both an eligible, local pharmacy and through the mail order service. Examples of Tier 3 medications include sedatives such as *Ambien*, antidepressants such as *Lexapro*, and antivirals like *Tamiflu*.

Sometimes there are alternatives for tier 3 medications available in tier 1 or tier 2. If you are currently taking a medication in tier 3 and would like to

Collin County spends over \$3 million annually on its prescription drug coverage.

reduce your out-of-pocket cost, ask your physician whether there are tier 1 or tier 2 alternatives that may be appropriate for your treatment.

Approximately 75 percent of brand medications have generic equivalents available. Generic medications contain the same active ingredients as brand medications and must meet the same FDA brand medication standards.

Collin County spends over \$3 million annually on its prescription drug coverage. By using generic medications when available you can help reduce Collin County's costs and keep your own benefit costs from rising.

For example, a monthly prescription of the tier 3 antidepressant *Effexor* would cost you the co-pay of \$50 and cost the county \$136.92. If you choose the generic equivalent, *Venlafaxine*, a monthly prescription would cost you the tier 1 co-pay of \$10 and cost Collin County \$3.46. It is easy to see that choosing generic drugs saves money for both you and Collin County.

Within the tiers, there are some medications that require pre-authorization from your physician and *UnitedHealthcare* before you are able to fill the prescription. A complete list of all medications available through our medical plans can be found in the Prescription Drug List (PDL) on myuhc.com. If you have any questions about a medication you have been prescribed, you should consult the Prescription Drug List for further information.

The *UnitedHealthcare* website is a valuable resource to research your prescription needs. Under the "Prescriptions and Pharmacies" area of the myuhc.com website, you also have the ability to

price out medications, see if our insurance plans cover those medications, and identify generic alternatives through the "My Rx Choices" option. After clicking on that option, simply type in the drug name or search drugs by category or condition and a variety of information will appear.

This option also allows you to compare drug information between a higher tier or non-covered drug with that of a lower tier or covered drug.

On June 1, Collin County's prescription benefit will shift from *Medco* to *OptumRx*. There should be little if any change in your prescription service. You should continue to use your old insurance card until you receive a new one in the mail. Most existing mail service prescriptions with remaining refills will automatically transfer but there will be some medications, like painkillers, that will not transfer. If your prescription will not transfer, you will receive a letter from *UnitedHealthcare* with further instructions. Additional information on the transition will be provided in the upcoming months.

If you have questions about Collin County's prescription drug coverage or would like more information about saving money with the mail order service, please contact either **Abby SPENCE** at Ext. 4602 or **Kim McPEAK** at Ext. 4687.



Law Library offers variety of legal resources

The Collin County Law Library team of **Diane ROBERTS**, Law Librarian; **Bethany FANSLER**, full-time Assistant Law Librarian; and **Gina ZIMMEL**, part-time Assistant Law Librarian, invite you to visit the law library in its new location on the lower level of the Collin County Courthouse.

The library houses current legal materials including: Texas statutes; Texas Administrative Code; rules of procedure; litigation guides; information on family law, probate, real estate, business and corporate law; immigration; bankruptcy; and federal materials including the United States Code Annotated and information on federal practice. In addition to printed material, the library has access to online legal databases from its four public



From left: **Gina ZIMMEL**, **Diane ROBERTS** and **Bethany FANSLER**, staff of the Curt B. Henderson Law Library, located on the lower level of the courthouse.

computer terminals.

Need to make copies, print a document, or send a fax? The law library has two public

copy machines, two public printers (charges for copies and prints are \$.10 per page) and a fax machine (fax cost

is \$1.50 for first page and \$1.00 for each additional page, excluding the cover sheet).

The law library will be adding some new databases to our current *Westlaw* account and these will be highlighted in our quarterly newsletter *Truth, Justice and Information for All*, which is available for free via e-mail.

Come visit us and sign up for our newsletter, get a copy of our legal resources handout, or a copy of the Law Librarian's recent seminar article *Cost-Effective Legal Research*.

You can also access some online forms and legal resources on our website at http://www.co.collin.tx.us/law_library/index.jsp.

Immunization team gets high marks in state audit

During the last two years the state audits conducted on the immunization department have been 100 percent, an improvement from previous years.

But the 2012 audit surpassed all previous audits and proved to be an example of how a team of four nurses, four ImmTrac/Front Office Staff, a Vaccine Manager, Program Manager and a Clinical Coordinator can overcome the changes state legislature passed while serving a population more than 812,000 county residents, new state immunization requirements and no change in grant funding.

The 2012 audit the immunization team scored yet another 100 percent, but also increased the adolescent immunization coverage rate. Last year was the first time the immunization team

was audited for adolescent immunization coverage rates.

In 2011 the immunization coverage rates for adolescents in Collin County were 49 percent. In 2012 the immunization coverage rate was 87% with a state coverage rate of 80%. The task of finding an adolescent 7 years after their last immunization visit takes a great deal of time and pushed the immunization team to set standards and best practices for other counties within Texas.

The immunization team was also recognized with several "best practice" acts by incorporating access to Medicaid by creating a partnership with Children's Medical Center and is the first county in Texas to have a volunteer member whom helps families fill out Medicaid applications two days a week.

Texas is the uninsured capital of the United States. 1.2 million children lack health insurance. Compared to the United States' average of 10 percent, the Texas average is 17 percent. The state also commended the staff for reaching out via social media by placing information on the county's Facebook page.

Christie HIX, Immunization Program Manager, Dr. **Muriel MARSHALL**, **Pat-sy MORRIS**, Clinical Coordinator, and Administrator **Candy BLAIR** would like to congratulate their staff on a job well done and for their dedication to promoting immunizations and preventing vaccine preventable diseases.

Those staff members are: **Crystal CROSS**, LVN, **Carla CANNEDY**, LVN, **Kathi HARNACK**, RN, **Nhu NGUYEN**, RN, **Monica HAYWOOD**, **Mandie SO-SA**, **Madia LARA**, and **Vicky MINTER**.



Facilities Maintenance

Lloyd ROLLINS, (above right, with Dan JAMES) Facilities Technical Coordinator, recently received his 25-year service pin. He began his career with Collin County in the mail room in February 1988, and shortly was promoted to Central Supply. In 1993, Lloyd was hired by Facilities Maintenance as a Control Room Operator and worked in that capacity for the next couple of years. Then, as a parts specialist for 11 years. In February 2006, Lloyd was promoted to his current position. As a Technical Coordinator, his responsibilities include grounds (53-plus acres) and housekeeping (736,443 square feet). Lloyd also coordinates the mandated equipment inspections of elevators, boilers, hot water heaters, the backflow system, fire sprinkler system, fire extinguishers and the vent-a-hood suppression system throughout 14 county buildings.

County Clerk

Christine LUNA (right) was presented her 5-year service pin by **Stacey KEMP**. She works in the Land Recording Department in the County Clerk's Office.



Public Works

Linda SMITH (left) retired from Public Works after 21 years of service for Collin County.

District Clerk

New Clerks in the District Clerk's office are (below, l-r) **Michaela BAILEY** who joins us as a Plano Passport Clerk and came from a law firm in Louisiana, and **Brandi BROWN**

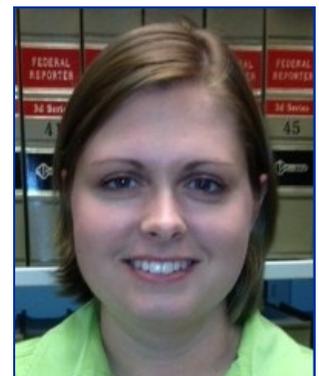


who is now working in our AG/Child Support and came to us from the AG's office.



Andrea THOMPSON presented **Traci LONG** (left) with her pin for 15 years of service in the District Clerk's office.

The District Clerk's office welcomed two new employees to work the civil front counter: **LeAnne BRAZEAL** (below left) and **Lisa HAWK** (below right).



(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

429th District Court

Darryl SMITH (right) was awarded his 20-year service pin by state District Judge **Jill WILLIS**.



Constable, Pct. 1

Constable **Shane WILLIAMS**, Precinct 1, welcomed two new members to his office. Deputy **Rick BURNS**, (above, right) came to Collin County from the Bonham Police Department where he was a Corporal with the K9 unit. Rick has 13 years of experience that includes a time as the Police Chief of Trenton, Texas. Deputy **Kyle BAILEY** (above, left) came to Precinct 1 from the Detention Center. Kyle spent 4 ½ years with the Sherman Police Department in the patrol division before coming to Collin County.

Constable Williams brought **Donna GELVAN** (right) on board as Administrative Secretary in February. Donna has been with Collin County for over 30 years and is now working closely with the administration of Precinct 1.



In late January, Constable Precinct 1 said goodbye to **Pam REYNOLDS** (left). Pam has been the Administrative Secretary to the last three constables and had over 32 years

with Collin County. She is now spending her time with her grandchildren and enjoying what free time she finds. We wish her well in her new endeavors.



CSCD Anniversaries

Gloria BAILEY, pictured here with **Bob HUGHES**, celebrates her 35th year in the Community Supervision and Correction Department this April. When Gloria started with Collin County, there were only eight employees at CSCD and we now have more than 100. Gloria started her career right out of high school, and is one of the few active county employee that actually worked in all three courthouses. Currently, there is only one Collin County employee that has more years of continuous service than Gloria. She is a consummate professional and sets the example for excellence in our department. Thank you, Gloria, for your service.

- ◆ **Alan FRAZIER**, Supervision Officer, 15 years;
- ◆ **Clay SOLOMON**, Supervision Officer, 5 years;
- ◆ **Elizabeth AGAN**, Supervision Officer, 5 years; and,
- ◆ **Kileigh EVEN**, Collections Compliance Unit Caseworker, 5 years.

Juvenile Services

Ken TOMAS, Juvenile Probation Officer received his 5-year service pin from McKinney Unit Supervisor **Christy OWEN**. He has a total of 20 years of experience as a Texas Juvenile Probation Officer. Prior to joining Collin County he worked for Orange



(Continued on page 7)

Recent Retirements



Captain **Tom FRANCIS** (above right) retired from the Collin County Sheriff's with over 27 years of distinctive service. He was honored with a retirement reception attended by friends, family and co-workers. Sheriff **Terry BOX** presented him with a Retirement Plaque and expressed gratitude for his loyal and dedicated service.

Sgt. **Mike DAVIS** (right) retired with over 23 years of dedicated service with the Collin County Sheriff's Office and was honored with a retirement reception. Family and friends gathered to wish him well, and Sheriff Box presented him with a retirement plaque.



Deputy **Dickie THOMAS** (left) recently retired with over 10 years of loyal service. He was recognized for his accomplishments as Crime Prevention Deputy during a retirement reception held in his honor. Sheriff Box congratulated him and gave him a retirement plaque.

Gail TOULMIN (right) recently retired from the Collin County Sheriff's Office with 19 years of service. She was employed as Food Service Tech in Detention. Sheriff Box expressed his gratitude for her dedicated service and presented her with a retirement plaque during a recent ceremony.



20 Years of Service

Detention Officer **Mary LEWIS** (right) celebrated 20 years of dedicated service with the Collin County Sheriff's Office and was honored with an anniversary reception. A host of friends, family and co-workers gathered to help Mary celebrate the occasion. Sheriff Box presented her with a 20-Year Plaque in appreciation of her service.



Promotions



The following employees have recently been promoted:

Bryce THOMPSON (above left) recently received a promotion from Detention Lieutenant to Detention Captain by Sheriff Box.

Chris PEREPICZKA (above, right) was promoted from Patrol Sergeant to Detention Lieutenant and was presented his Lieutenant's Badge by Sheriff Box.



Tim PITTS (left) received a promotion from Detention Sergeant to Detention Lieutenant and was presented his Lieutenant's Badge by Sheriff Box.

Eric HOCHSTATTER (right) was promoted from Detention Officer to Court Deputy and was sworn in by Sheriff Box



during a recent ceremony.



New Employee

The Sheriff's Office welcomes a new Deputy, **Candice HERRON** (left) who was recently sworn in by Sheriff Box.

(Continued from page 5)

County, Jefferson County and Jasper County. He enjoys spending time with his wife, Elizabeth and his 8 grandchildren.

District Attorney

The District Attorney's office honored **Kathy DECKER** with a farewell tea in March. She left the office to be a missionary in Peru. Kathy was the State's lead appellate attorney in at least 14 published decisions in the Texas appellate courts, and she successfully led the post-conviction State litigation in two death-penalty cases. While with the District Attorney's office, she guided her son and daughter

through graduation from college while co-authoring a law book and presenting CLE courses for our office and at the Center for American and International Law in Plano. Kathy will be greatly missed.

Congratulations to **Sandra GODWIN** for her 10 years of service to the District Attorney's office. As a legal secretary for the Victims Assistance Division, Sandra enjoys shepherding victims through what is often the most challenging and difficult time in



their lives.

Nancy LLOYD (left) celebrated 10 years of service to the District Attorney's office. Nancy enjoys working as a legal secretary for the Family Justice Division, which handles juvenile, CPS and protective orders. She is extremely hard-working and maintains a positive and helpful demeanor.



Juvenile Detention

Chris ENLOE (right) is the 2012 Juvenile Supervision Officer of the Year. He graduated with a Bachelor's Degree from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in 1999. Chris works in our



specialized Post Adjudication CSI Program (Children with Sexual Issues), and has been part of the JDC staff for 12 years and is a positive role model for both juveniles and fellow officers. Chris has a humble approach and leads by example. He is originally from Vernon, Texas.

Elliott BOSH received his 5-year service pin recently. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Recreation from North Texas State University in 1979, and Elliott previously worked with both Dallas Parks and Recreation and McKinney Parks and Recreation for 11 years each before joining the Juvenile Detention Staff.

Eileen TOTTY (right) received her 5-year service pin. She graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Biology from East Texas Baptist University in 1993. Eileen brings a nurturing and firm approach coupled with a positive attitude to the juveniles she serves. She is originally from Nigeria.

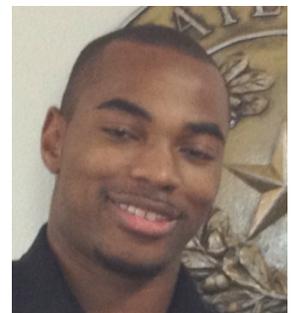


Sharon WARREN celebrated 10 years of service. Sharon graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Texas AM University - Commerce. She is originally from Paris, Texas.



Glenda BEAUCHAMP (left) now has her 5-year service pin. Glenda initially started her career with the tax office for four years before joining JDC in 2012. Glenda brings her organizational skills, experience, work ethic and a positive attitude to JDC. Glenda has been married to Bruce for 27 years and enjoys spending time with her grand babies Wyatt (4), Weston (1) and soon to add one more boy in May of 2013. Glenda is originally from Princeton, and served on the Princeton ISD School Board for 7 years. Glenda also recently received a GEM award from her supervisor, **Thresa OWEN**.

Courtney DOWDY (right) received his 5-year service pin recently. He graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Sociology from McMurry University in 2007. Courtney serves in all capacities with our kids and is dependable, a positive role model and has a humble spirit. Courtney just recently completed his certification as a juvenile probation officer. He is originally from Ladonia.



New digs on campus

Cindy EASTHAM of Development Services (left) and **Tony WONG** of the Auditor's Office go over some paperwork in the reception area of the newly converted offices for Development Services, the Fire Marshal, Engineering and Special Programs. Staff moved in March from their old digs on North McDonald Street, next door to Healthcare Services.

Their new offices were fashioned out of a mostly unused portion of the JJAEP/Juvenile Probation building on the northwest corner of the main county campus.



Announcements

Callie Lyn McClAIN: born Dec. 31, 2012, 7.12 pounds and 19.5 inches long to parents **Cherish CATTERALL** (Human Resources) and **Dave McClAIN**.



Classifieds

PUPPIES: The puppies are here just in time for Mother's Day! Come see us on Facebook @ Northridge Labradors: northridgelabradors@yahoo.com.



WEIGHT LOSS: Was one of your New Years' resolutions to lose weight. Then join in the Crusade for Health with Zeal Weight Management Zeal for Life Challenge. For more info, email Christie Hix at mylittle-mancash@yahoo.com.

WEIGHT LOSS: If you are looking to lose inches, manage your weight, gain lean muscle mass, or just feel better then take the next step. Join in the Crusade for Health with Zeal for Life Challenge. For more info, email Carla Burnett at bur-

nett1994@cableone.net or contact me at 903-815-9396.



FURNITURE: Like new leather Love seat and chair with ottoman for sale: \$850; Purchased from Ashley Furniture, original receipt available. If interested, call 214-562-9099.

LAWN MOWERS: Looking for running and non-running riding mowers; also repair and maintenance of mowers. Call 214-726-5780.



WREATHS: Mesh wreaths for any reason: Holidays, Birthdays, Weddings, Baby, Every Day. Can be used as a money wreath, too. Contact Melinda at Ext. 4196.

POOL: Family size pool, asking \$200, never been opened; new. Call 903-355-3896.

