

# Paw Print Press

Proudly Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since 1997

**Itasca, Texas 76055**

**Vol. 2010 Issue #4**

**January 22, 2010**

## Itasca PD, Makes Drug Arrest, Seizure

Press Release

On January 5, 2010 at about 9:20 pm, a call came into the Itasca PD concerning a suspicious person at "Big B's" convenience store on E. Main Street. This call resulted in a drug arrest and the seizure of money and a vehicle.

Itasca Police Officer Ted Walton made contact with the persons, Cody J. Howard and John L. Mezger and a probable cause search using the K-9 resulted in locating an assortment of controlled substances in tablet form, methamphetamine, steroids and marijuana.

Seized because of the drugs were \$2,143.00 in cash and a 2006 Ford truck. Howard was charged with manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance (penalty group 3 under 28 grams) and Mezger was charged with manufacture/delivery of a controlled substance (penalty group 3 under 28 grams) and possession of a controlled substance (penalty group 1, under 1 gram). Both subjects were transported to the Hill County Law Enforcement Center and booked into jail.



## Itasca 4-H to Participate in Fair

Press Release from 4-H

Members of the Itasca 4-H will participate in the upcoming Hill County Fair. The fair will be held January 28-30 and entries must be turned in between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. on January 27.

The Creative Arts and Education portion of the fair is open to all Hill County residents and includes everything from sewing and cooking to drawing and woodworking. Brochures are available at the AgriLife Extension office in Hillsboro located next to the Driver's License Office.

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## Board of Trustees Recognized for Dedication to Itasca's Youth



The NSBA (National School Board Association) initiated January as National School Board Recognition Month in 1995. School board members are very important to the community as well as the school systems. They are the dedicated few whom you elected to represent the community's values and thinking about public education.

IISD Superintendent Glenn Pittman (left) presented the board members certificates of appreciation at the January 11 meeting. Serving on the 2009-2010 Board of Trustees are left to right Vice President Oscar Castillo, Jr., Marquita Lloyd, President Susan Bason, Secretary Angelia Orr, Kevin Cordell, Nancy Bowman, and Brian Bassett.

## Dollar General Holds Grand Opening Celebration

Reporter & Photography Brittany Reid

The newly relocated Itasca Dollar General celebrated their new location by giving the first 50 customers on Saturday, January 16 a \$10 gift card. That give-away took less than one hour, as many Itascans turned out to do their weekly shopping and to take advantage of the bonus.



## Churches of Itasca

<u>Bethlehem Missionary Baptist</u>	W. Spurgeon 687-2800
<u>Central Baptist Church</u>	401 E. Monroe 687-2343
<u>Church of Christ</u>	200 N. Aquilla 687-2774
<u>First Baptist Church</u>	107 S. Lamar 687-2783
<u>First Presbyterian Church</u>	106 N. Lamar 687-2243
<u>First United Methodist</u>	Main & King St. 687-2475
<u>Loveview Baptist Church</u>	FM 2959 East of I-35
<u>Second Baptist Church</u>	120 W. Marrion 687-9134
<u>Shiloh Community Church</u>	254-582-0487
<u>St. John Missionary Baptist</u>	506 S. Weaver 687-2821
<u>3<sup>rd</sup> Day Worship Center</u>	107 E. Adams 214 564-2185
<u>Itasca Nursing Home</u>	Sunday - 10:00 a.m.
Everyone Welcome	Monday Evening 6:00 p.m.

### Central Baptist Church

Sunday School 9:45 Worship 10:50 a.m.  
 R.A.'s & G.A.'s (1st-6th) - Youth (7th-12th) 5:00 p.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship 6:00-7:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday - Ladies' Bible Study 10:45-12:15 p.m.  
 Wednesday Supper 6:00 p.m. (\$2.00 ea. w/\$10.00 max/family)  
 Adult Bible Study and Prayer 7:00 p.m. - Youth (7th-12th)  
 7:00 Kids' Choir 7:00 p.m. website - itascacbc.org

### First United Methodist Church

Guaranteed no-nap Preaching, or double your doubt back.  
*Where Worship Is Joyous*  
*Experience the energy of God's promise in a beautiful, historic sanctuary.*  
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 10:50 a.m.

### Itasca Church of Christ - 200 N. Aquilla St.

Are we taking a test without reading the book?  
 That is exactly what many are doing when it comes to the Bible. They go by what they feel, think, or what others have told them, but have never read for themselves the complete book. This is the most important test you will ever take! Join us at the Itasca Church of Christ?

Sunday mornings - 9:45 a.m. - Bible classes-  
 10:45 a.m. - Worship - 5:00 p.m. - worship  
 Wednesday - 7 p.m. - Bible study All are welcome.

### First Presbyterian Church

106 N. Lamar Itasca 254-687-2243  
[itascapc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:itascapc@sbcglobal.net) [www.fpcitasca.org](http://www.fpcitasca.org)  
 "In mission to and with the Presbyterian Childrens Home to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ."  
 Sundays - 9:30-10:00 Fellowship in Barton Hall  
 10:00 - 10:45 Sunday School for All Ages  
 11:00 - Worship Service  
 6:00 - Praise and Worship in Sanctuary  
 6:30 - KFC and Hour of Power  
 Tuesday and Thursday - 10:00 Exercise Class in Barton Hall  
 Wednesday - 6:30 Vespers Service at PCH Chapel  
 7:15 Choir practice  
 ANGEL FOOD SITE

### Itasca Ministerial Alliance

February 6 - St. John's Baptist Church - 9:00 p.m.

### Itasca Zoning Committee Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Month 6:00 p.m. - 136 N. Hill St.

### Itasca City Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 16, 2009 - 6:00 p.m.

### Itasca ISD School Board Meeting

February 8 7:00 p.m.

### Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Awards Banquet January 25 6:30 p.m.

### Volunteer Fire Department Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Month Business Meeting - 7:00 p.m.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of Month Fire Training - 7:00 p.m.

## Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss Itasca Independent School District's Academic Excellence Indicator System 2008-2009 Report

The Itasca Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 7:00 p.m., February 8, 2010 during the regular board meeting in the IISD Library at 123 N College to present the Itasca Independent School District's 2008-09 AEIS (Academic Excellence Indicator System) report.

### Chamber of Commerce Banquet Monday, January 25

The Itasca Chamber of Commerce will hold its 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet on Monday, January 25, 2010 in the Itasca ISD cafeteria. The silent auction will began at 5:30 p.m. with dinner being served at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00 (\$12.00 at the door) each and can be bought from any Chamber director or at Citizens State Bank (Cory Cole), HILCO (Bob Wilson), Itasca Floral & Gift (Clay Dean Hamilton), or at the high school (Barbara Petrash).

### Playground Equipment Needed

The Itasca First United Methodist Youth Group is looking for any used outdoor playground equipment. If you have any to sell or donate that is in good condition, please contact Susan at 817-240-3553 or email at sbasonmkay@sbcglobal.net FUMC Youth

### Alltrades Hardware & Service

Mon.-Fri. - 8 am to 4 pm Sat. - 8 am to 12 noon  
 Household Heater Hoses & Fittings Available  
 687-9751 or 254-221-3023 cell  
 Downtown Itasca (Next to City Hall & Police Station)

### Main Place Dry Cleaners

Drop off/Pick up at JP Office - 104 N. Hill St.  
 Mon. - Fri. - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Closed 12 - 1 for lunch)

## Order Your Copy of *The Heritage of Hill County* *Vol. II*

Press Release

Volume II of *The Heritage of Hill County, Texas* has been sent to the publisher. Copies may still be ordered at the pre-publication price of \$50 each, picked up in Hillsboro. Books to be shipped cost an additional \$5.00.

David Bice of Heritage Publishing Consultants estimated that the book will be completed and ready for distribution sometime this summer. People who have ordered books will receive a letter notifying them when the books will be shipped or available in Hillsboro. At that time, the price to order a book will be \$60 picked up in Hillsboro. Books to be mailed cost an additional \$5.00.

To order a book, send a check or money order to Hill County HBC Vol. II, P.O. Box 555, Hillsboro, TX 76645. Please include your name, street address, and city and zip code as well as telephone number. For information on ordering by credit card, contact Richard Greenhill, 254 582-8912.

Mr. Bice brought three copies of Volume I of *The Heritage of Hill County, Texas* with him to Hillsboro. To purchase one for \$60 contact Mr. Greenhill. One copy remains for sale at Heritage Publishing Consultants, Inc.: telephone – 502-423-9016 or 1-800-568-1611 or check their website: [heritagepublishing.net](http://heritagepublishing.net) to see if books are still available.

## 4-H to Participate in Fair

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In addition, the 4-H would like to invite all area businesses to attend the Creative Arts auction at 7 p.m. Friday and the Live Stock auction at 6 p.m. Saturday. These auctions include the first place and Best of Category winners for the Creative Arts section and those who placed in the top 75% of their category for livestock.

This is a great way to support the young people of our community, so we really encourage everyone to attend.

Do not miss out on this fun event. See you at the fair!

## NBA All-Star Raffle Winner

Recently the Science Club students raffled off NBA All-Star tickets. The winner of the raffle was Pat Allen of Hillsboro. Science Club member Justin Zint sold the winning ticket. Ms. Allen was very excited to win the coveted tickets.

The Science Club members sold 424 tickets and raised \$1,455.00 with the proceeds going toward the educational trip to Florida scheduled for May. The club appreciates all who participated in their fundraising efforts.

## Absent Students Must Make Up Hours to Receive Credit

Texas law requires a high school student to be in attendance for 90% of the days during a semester in order to receive credit for a class. The district Board of Trustees has set the number of required days of attendance at 77 the first semester and 94 the second semester for grades 9-12. With block scheduling, a student would lose credit after 6 absences for periods 1 and 5 and after 3 absences for all others.

If a student has absences over the maximum allowed, they must attend Saturday School to make them up. A student will serve hour for hour for the amount they owe. Saturday School hours are 8:00 am – 3:30pm and held in the high school Room 6.

Students who owe hours may not go to prom, field trips, participate in graduation, etc. Those students will also be required to attend the additional nine days from June 1 – June 11. Seniors will not receive their diploma until their hours owed have been made up.

## Paw Pals Public Meeting to Meet Hill County Candidates for Election

Press Release

Paw Pals will hold a public meeting 6:30 pm Thursday, February 4 at 1500 South Abbott Avenue (South of TXDOT and north of Brazos Valley John Deere on Hwy 81). To help us, as citizens, make informed votes for the upcoming primary Hill County election, we have invited Honorable County Judge Justin Lewis, Honorable County Commissioner Precinct 2 Steve Sulak, and Honorable County Commissioner Precinct 4 Lee Harkins, Mr. Rudy Matthaei (candidate for County Judge), Mr. James Buzzbee (candidate for Commissioner Precinct 2), and Mr. Harley Davis (candidate for Commissioner Precinct 4).

We have asked each to provide a 5 minute presentation. This forum will NOT be a debate. To keep the meeting within time-limit, only two questions to each guest from the audience will be allowed. Our meeting's purpose is to provide an opportunity for us to become informed with each candidate's position, particularly for the need of county animal control. This meeting will also allow one to tour "your" new building and to be briefed on our operational plan to open as a pet adoption center. Paw Pals invites all to attend this important meeting. For more information about Paw Pals, please call (254) 580-0679; email [hcpawpals@yahoo.com](mailto:hcpawpals@yahoo.com); or visit our website: [www.hcpawpals.org](http://www.hcpawpals.org).



## Senior Spotlight - Jessika Rodriguez

Reporter Aren Barton  
Caricaturist Michelle Ignacz



Jessika Xtravigant Rodriguez has a unique name to match her incredibly unique personality. She sports her beautiful curly hair and great sense of style daily at IHS, but she also has lots of other great qualities. Jessika is very school-spirited, fun to be around, outgoing, responsible, trustworthy, and honest. She is involved in the athletic program, where she plays basketball and softball and is a cheerleader. She has played basketball for 5 years and wears #12 on the varsity squad. She has played softball for 4 years and has cheered on the squad for 2 years.

"I enjoy playing sports," Jessika said. "I enjoy the little families that I make in every sport."

Jessika is also very involved in publishing the Mowana (yearbook) this year and she is excited to be graduating this year and moving on to the next step in her education. She hopes to attend the Art Institute in Austin or Houston for culinary arts.

"I'm really excited about leaving," Jessika said. "Not so much the leaving but the exploring what comes next in my life."

When not at school, Jessika enjoys cooking, playing the game "Gestures," shopping, spending time with her family and friends, and participating in her church band.

"I've been in my church band for a year," Jessika said, "and I really enjoy it. When I am not playing music and studying, I also like watching funny and mystery movies, keeping up with Hello Kitty and listening to my favorite artists Lady GAGA and Al Green. I know he is old school but I love his music."

Katina Thompson and the late Larry Rodriguez are Jessika's proud parents. She has one brother, Jeremiah Perkins, in the third grade.

"My mother and my grandma are the two people who I look up to most," Jessika said proudly. "I look up to my mom because she was a single mother and my grandma because in hard times she always stays very positive."

To the underclassmen, Jessika said her best advice is what she has always been told, "Wear clean underwear, be true to yourself, and make sure you have good friends because they will make high school a lot better." To the *Paw Print Press* readers, Jessika left these words to be pondered, "It's not where you come from, it's where you go."



## Kristi Beck IISD Cafeteria

Reporter Mary Maddox



Since August, Kristi Beck arrives at the district cafeteria before 6:00 a.m. Her job is to join her co-workers in making sure that all of the IISD students have an opportunity to eat a nutritious breakfast before hitting the books.

Prior to coming to work at Itasca ISD, Beck worked at Chevron Station, across from the post office in town. She attended high school in Houston, Texas then moved to Itasca.

Beck and her son first grader Dustin Latray enjoy living in Itasca.

"I like Itasca, the community and the school," Beck said. "There are lots of great students and good employees to work with."

## Alicia Ramos IES Paraprofessional

Reporter Brittany Bourland



"I graduated from a small school but I have experience with both. I definitely like a smaller school better because I like to be a part of the community," Ramos said.

Ms. Alicia Ramos, who began working at IISD this year drives one of many buses every morning and afternoon. During the day she is a paraprofessional working with the Preschool Program for Children with Disabilities. She moved to Itasca from Decatur, Texas, where she worked in a doctor's office.

"I really enjoy it here. It's a fresh start for my children and me," she said.

Ramos is currently in a relationship with Vance Estel, a middle school teacher at IISD. She has three children, Halie, Nathan, and Jacob, four dogs and a cat.

## Wampus Cats' Basketball

Sports Editor Ashley Durham  
Sports Reporters Ashley Spain/Shelby Ledwig



The Varsity Lady Cats played an outstanding third district game last Friday night against Grand Prairie Advantage. They started the game off with good defense and ran a high scoring offense. Within the first minutes of

the game Megan Goff was already the high scorer, getting the ball at the block and always looking to score. The Lady Cats went into the locker room at half time with a 34-5 led and they never looked back. Beruke Namaga started the third quarter off with a few steals that resulted in additional scores for the Cats. The JV girls who were playing on varsity got a lot of playing time during the third and fourth quarters. The Lady Cats ended the game with a blow out score of 53- 22.

Tuesday night they play Faith Family Lady Eagles and blew them away with a 81-24 score. The ladies were hot from the 3-point line. Scoring 3's were #13 Mary Maddox, #2 Jasmine Guy and #10 Beruke Namaga. Even post #20 shot a 2 pointer that was almost a 3 pointer.

The Wampus Cats played their first district game last Friday night against the Grand Prairie Advantage Eagles. Although #23 Shakeal Mozon is on the injured list due to broken fingers, the Cats didn't let that affect their game. They started the district season off great, looking for another district championship.

The Cats started off a little slow, finishing the first quarter with an 18-10 score, but the Cats controlled the game and kept the Eagles from scoring. #10, Isaac Perez had a great game, playing exceptionally well on both ends of the court. #5, Opie Mayberry used his athletic abilities to jump and snag some important rebounds. With a couple of very nice offensive and defensive rebounds he proved that he is a force to be dealt with.

Continued bottom next column.



## Lady Wampus Cats Basketball



District – Won -3 Loss - 1  
Overall - Won - 18 Loss – 6  
JV District – Won -1 Loss - 0

January

22	*Waxahachie Adv	Home	V	6:00
26	*Italy	Away	JV, V	4:00
29	*Gateway Acad	Home	JV, V	4:00

February

2	* Grand Prairie	Away	V	6:00
5	*Faith Family	Home	V	4:00
5	Italy	Away	JV	4:00
9	*Waxahachie Adv	Away	V	6:00

Head Coach – Clint Wallace

## Wampus Cat Basketball-

District – Won - 2 Loss - 0

Overall - Won - 11 Loss – 6

JV District – Won - Loss -

January

22	*Waxahachie Adv	Home	JV, V	6:00
26	*Italy	Away	JV, V	5:00
29	*Gateway Acad	Home	JV, V	5:00

February

2	* Grand Prairie	Home	JV, V	5:00
5	*Faith Family	Home	JV, V	6:00
9	*Waxahachie Adv	Home	JV, V	6:00
12	* Italy	Home	JV, V	5:00
16	*Gateway Acad	Away	JV, V	5:00

Head Coach – Jimmie Lott

## Junior High Basketball

January

21	Godley	Girls	Home	All	5:00
21	Godley	Boys	Away	All	
23	Itasca Tournament	Girls	A & B	TBA	
28	Rio Vista	Girls	Away	All	5:00
28	Rio Vista	Boys	Home	All	5:00

February

1	Grandview	Girls	Home	All	5:00
1	Grandview	Boys	Away	All	
8	Keeney	Boys	Home	All	

Head Coaches – Jimmy Lott & Clint Wallace

Assistant Coaches – Jeffery Mayberry & Calvin Wright

The final score was Cats 68 - Eagles.

The Wampus Cats met Faith Family Tuesday night in their 2<sup>nd</sup> district match up and won 41-26.

Both teams will play Waxahachie Advantage Eagles Friday night in the Special Events Center beginning at 6:00 p.m.

## December Police Report

12-1 – Traffic stop (76 mph/65 mph) Driver (W/F 21) had no drivers license – Owner of vehicle (W/M 49) was intoxicated – Citations issued for no license, open containers, vehicle was impounded – I-35W northbound mm 8

12-2 – Assisted HCSO with minor accident and DWI – Hwy. 81 north of Itasca

12-2 – Report of theft and criminal trespass issued upon complaint by citizen – 700 blk. E. South St.

12-4 – Traffic stop (Speeding) Driver (B/M 49) had suspended drivers license– Citation issued for no license - vehicle impounded – 100 blk. Minnie Dr.

12-4 - Traffic stop (78 mph/65 mph) Driver (H/F 39) had no drivers license – Citation issued for no license - vehicle impounded – I-35W northbound mm 8

12-5 – Citizen complaint (Loud music) – 300 blk. W. Main St.

12-5 – Assisted business in reviewing tape concerning employee theft – 1200 blk. E. Main St.

12-6 – IPD responded to domestic disturbance – 100 blk. E. Adams St.

12-6 – Animal complaint (2 dogs attacked but did not bite) Unable to locate dogs – E. Henderson & S Lamar Sts.

12-6 – Criminal trespass warning issued (H/M 52) – 700 blk. E. South St.

12-7 – Report of burglary of a habitation – 900 blk. Mill St.

12-8 - Traffic stop (80 mph/65 mph) Driver (H/M 22) had no drivers license – Citation issued for no license - Vehicle impounded – I-35W southbound mm 7

12-9 – Report of gas drive off (\$51.98) – Dark blue pick-up w/step side rails – 200 blk. S. Hill St.

2-9 – Served warrant arrest for HCSO in Grandview (Class B) Transported to Hillsboro.

12-10 – Assisted HCSO with “shots fired” report – No shots – Gas well machinery – FM 934 west of Itasca

12-10 – Assisted with unattended death – Itasca Nursing Home to Hill Regional Hospital

12-10 – Report of found property (Cash) – Returned to place of business – 100 blk. N. Hill St.

12-11 – Traffic stop (Following unsafe distance) Driver (H/M 23) no drivers license – Citation issued for no license - Vehicle impounded – I-35W southbound mm 7

12-11 – Warrant arrest made – Itasca PD

12-12 – Assisted IVFD with traffic control for utility pole fire (Large hawk landed on pole & was electrocuted and caused fire – E. Main & Files Sts.

12-13 – Report of burglary of a habitat (Air conditioner unit) – 100 blk. E. Henderson ST.

12-14 - Traffic stop (78 mph/65 mph) Driver (B/M 22) had no drivers license – Citation issued for no license - Vehicle impounded – I-35W northbound mm 9

12-14 – Report of gas drive off (\$60.98) – Blue Chevy pick-up – 200 blk. S. Hill St.

12-15 – Assisted with EMS call (No transport) – 1500 blk. E. Main St.

12-16 – Report of theft (>\$50<\$500) from Itasca Self Storage (items recovered) – 900 blk. E. Main St.

12-17 – Domestic disturbance (Assault) – Turned over to HCSO – N. Hill St.

12-17 – K-9 Officer assisted Covington PD with possible drug stop (no hit on drugs) – FM 67 & FM 171

12-17 – Warrant arrest (Failure to appear) also had drug paraphernalia on person – (B/F 56) – 300 blk. S. Hill St.

12-18 – Arrest for theft (<\$50) Check revealed outstanding warrant (Tarrant County) transported to Hill County and criminal trespass warning issued (W/F 23) – 1200 blk. S. Files St.

12-18 – Assisted HCSO with locating hit & run driver of another vehicle – I-35W northbound mm 3

12-18 – Assisted HCSO with warrant service – 800 blk. Weave St.

12-19 – Assisted HCSO with traffic control due to accidents on both north & south sides of I-35W mm 1

12-20 - Traffic stop (Speeding 83mph/65mph) Driver (B/M 31) invalid drivers license – Citation issued for no license - Vehicle impounded – I-35W northbound mm 7

12-21 – Report of possible criminal mischief – 100 blk. E. Adams St.

12-22 – Report of telephone harassment (Ellis County)

12-22 – Assisted HCSO with report of possible prowler (Milford)

12-22 – Served code violation papers (Junk building) – 400 blk. S. College St.

12-23 – Investigated report of Anhydrous leak – 800 blk. S. Hill St.

12-25 – IPD had road hazard (1993 Ford Thunderbird) towed - Hwy 81 & HCR 4138

12-25 – Assisted HCSO with vehicle that had left road and crash through fence – Driver fled but was located (Arrested for DWI & Possession of marijuana <2oz.) – I-35W northbound mm 11

12-25 – Assisted IVF with vehicle fire – I-35W southbound mm 6

12-26 - Traffic stop (Speeding 83mph/65mph) Driver (B/M 18) no drivers license – Citation issued for no license - Vehicle was impounded – I-35W northbound mm 8

12-27 – Investigated possible injury to a child – CPS & EMS called – Child transported to Cooks Hospital – 500 blk. S. Wall St.

12-27 - Traffic stop (No license plate light) Passenger (W/M 27) had outstanding warrant (DWI Freestone County) –I-35W northbound mm 8

12-28 – Arrest warrant issued for Failure to Register/Sex Offender (Fort Worth PD served warrant)

12-28 – Animal complaint (2 large loose dogs killed a small dog in his garage) Citations were issued – 800 blk. Weave St.



## Elite Splits Club

Press Release



The Hillsboro Unified Tae Kwon Do School-125 W Elm-Hillsboro is proud to announce our Elite Splits Club. These Splits Club students must be able to perform the splits and re-qualify each grading period to be included in the Splits Club.

The students are demonstrating a Christmas tree. Pictured are Kaydee Jean-Black Belt-Blum, Toni Rejcek-Bynum, Litzy Escamilla-Hillsboro, Christine Rejcek-Bynum, Quetzaly Benitez-Hillsboro, Lindsy Price-Black Belt-Hillsboro, Juliana Busby-Hillsboro, Quinton Kight-Mascot, Lorena, Will Teague-Hillsboro, Jonathan Monroy-Hillsboro, Austin Rodriguez-Black Belt-Mertens, Harley Snider-Itasca, and Griffin Shropshire-Hillsboro.

Classes are taught each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 4:45, 5:45 and 6:45 p.m. The first two classes are free and parents are always welcome. For a informational brochure call 582-5111 or check out our web-site at [www.hillsborotkd.com](http://www.hillsborotkd.com)

## Card of Thanks

The *Paw Print Press* staff would like to thank Mr. & Mrs. Grover Kemp for their generous donation made in memory of Mary Helen Wakefield Bridges to the *Paw Print Press* Scholarship Fund.

Mary Helen Wakefield graduated from Itasca High School in 1952. She was a true Itasca and held her roots close to the heart.

She and her husband Jim Bridges have been a great supporter and subscriber of the *Paw Print Press* for many years.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Graders Explore Their Futures

Reporter & Photographer Devin Corbitt



Eighth grade students were given the opportunity to take a peek at what the future might hold for them. Instead of having to come up with a career path on their

own, Betty Penney from the Texas Education Agency guided the students through CareerScope®.

"The interest inventory is a great start to our career exploration as we choose our classes for high school," Counselor Grace Hennig said.

CareerScope® is an interest and aptitude test that provides students with a summary of their strengths and interests. It also lists possible careers that would suit each student. Students are tested on twelve different areas of interest ranging from animals to business to protective services. They are also given six types of aptitude tests that determine which skills a student excels at.

"The eighth graders were really, really good," Hennig said. "I am proud to work in a school where the students are so respectful. I just want the kids to know that I am proud of them and I hope they are very successful throughout their lives."

## 2009-2010 Super Citizens

### 1<sup>st</sup> Six Weeks

Pre-K	Cade Gordon
	Alyssa Jackson
K	Abby Salinas
	Abby Weaver
Grade 1	Freddy Gonzales
	River Gordon
	Arly Zavala
Grade 2	Lily Cleveland
	Ryan Markwardt
	Fayth Searcy
Grade 3	Kenzie Boyd
	Imelda Hernandez
	Elisa Persons
	Anistashia Rockuemore
Grade 4	Chalo Cavazos
	Alessandra Diaz
	Brenna Durham

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Six Weeks

Alex Andrade
Gabby Rodriguez
Yakziry Garcia
Madison Rodriguez
Jacob Ramos
Marcus Yanez
Alex Gonzalez
Weston Helms
A'leayah Hogan
J.T.Cardona
Aileene Diaz
Sophie Hennig
Kaylie Soward
Jocelyn Ali
Emili Sarli
Rogelio Zavala

## Recent Deaths



**Bridges, Mary Helen Wakefield** - Mary Helen Wakefield Bridges, 75, of Mansfield passed away peacefully at her home Friday, January 8, 2010, after a long and courageous battle with carcinoid cancer. Funeral services were held January 12, 2010, at the United Methodist Church in Mansfield. Interment was at the Itasca Cemetery.

Mary Helen Wakefield was born November 20, 1934, in Hillsboro to Claude and Gladys Wakefield. She graduated from Itasca High School in 1952. She attended Texas Wesleyan College in Fort Worth and graduated in 1955. It was there that she met the love of her life, Jim Bridges. Three children were born to this union. Together, they went into business and ran Jim Bridges Sporting Goods for 30 years. After retiring, they loved to travel to their lake house on Lake Whitney and their annual vacation to Lake City, Colorado. She also enjoyed playing duplicate bridge.

She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren were the light of her life.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and one grandson, Andy.

She would like to give thanks to Dr. Angel Negron, Susan Broyles, LaShana and the staff of Texas Oncology for their compassionate, encouraging and loving care for the past nine years. It was important to Helen for her family to know that her faith in Jesus Christ is the greatest gift they could receive. With it, you have everything—without it, you have nothing.

Survivors include her husband, Jim Bridges, of 55 years; children, Marshall Bridges and wife, Melinda, Monty Bridges and Melissa Smith, all of Mansfield. Grandchildren, Jimmy Bridges and wife, Morgan, Neal Bridges and wife, Lizz, Mary Lee Stagner and husband, Eric, Kathleen England, Blake Bridges and wife, Clarissa, Stephanie Woods and husband, William, Stacia Lucas and husband, John, and James Smith. Seven great-grandchildren, Derrick and Bryson Nipp, Brendan Woods, Katelyn Bridges and Dylan, Brionna and Bailey Bridges. Brother, Claude Wakefield of Fort Worth, two sisters, Patsy Cockerham of Itasca and Loreta Craig of Dallas and many loved nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorials would be appreciated to Trinity Presbyterian Church, 1200 Clover Hill, Mansfield, Texas; Presbyterian Children's Home, 300 Brookside Road, Waxahachie, TX 75167; or Dan Hart/Jim Bridges Scholarship Fund, Texas Wesleyan University, 1201 Wesleyan Street, Fort Worth, TX 76105.



**Sumner, James Dump**- James Sumner passed away on Friday, January 15, 2010, at Scott and White Hospital in Temple, TX. He was born at home in Itasca, March 31, 1926, to Frankye Woolsey Sumner and Dump Burnham Sumner, the oldest of three children. James lived his entire life in Itasca and Hillsboro and attended Hillsboro High School and graduated from Itasca High School in 1943. He was inducted into the U. S. Army in 1943 and was stationed in Tennessee and Florida until 1945. After military service he attended Hill Jr. College and graduated from Baylor University in 1949. After graduation he continued the family tradition by owning and operating the Sumner Grocery Store in Itasca from World War II till 1970. Sumner Grocery was opened in the late 1880s in Woodbury Texas. In 1950, he married Mary Ellen Arthur who preceded him in death in 1991. They had two children, Sue Ellen and John Woolsey. John preceded him in death in 1987.

After he sold the grocery store he was the Administrative Dean of Hill College until 1984. After Hill College, he was an entrepreneur in many ventures and became a licensed real estate broker and later an Enrolled Agent tax preparer. He continued his tax preparation business until his death. He was a faithful member of the Itasca Church of Christ and also was a founding member of the Itasca Lions Club and later a member of the Itasca Rotary Club. He enjoyed spending time with family and friends and loved taking long road trips; he drove cross country many times during his life.

Funeral services were held Sunday, January 17, 2010, at the chapel at Clayton Kay-Vaughan Funeral Home in Itasca, with burial at Itasca Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Itasca Church of Christ, 200 N. Aquilla St, Itasca, TX 76055.

**BBQ Benefit Dinner**  
for cancer patient Scott Baccus  
February 6 Covington Masonic Hall  
Lots of food – BBQ, cole slaw, potato salad, beans,  
dessert & drink  
\$8.00 donation – Everyone urged to attend

**In Concert January 31, 2010**  
10:45 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.  
**Heaven's Harbor**  
Hillsboro Church of the Nazarene  
306 FM 286 - 582-3736 or 205-0876







## Remember When . . . “The Deer Lease”

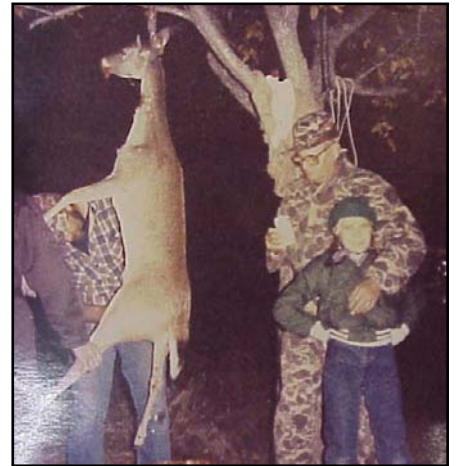
Columnist Sweeney

Typist/Editor Brittany Reid

**\*\*Note from Brittany, My friend, Mr. Sweeney will be entering the hospital to have surgery on Thursday, January 21. Everyone needs to remember him in your prayers.**

Now that the 2009 deer season is over, or when the season is over in any year, it is time to reflect the experience of being together as friends. Nothing compares with the friendship and camaraderie that exists. The experience can be beneficial in many ways, including maybe even soul satisfying.

The morning starts with an early breakfast. Someone will ask, “Where do you plan to hunt today?” Most leases have several blinds and some will not use blinds but will simply hunt the woods. Usually each one had a “personal” blind, and no one used it unless invited. Around the middle of the day, most hunters came to camp for lunch and a nap. Then the conversation turned to, “what did you see this morning, how many bucks or does and various wildlife?” Then in late afternoon we all went back to hunt until dark. At night during and after supper, our experiences were discussed. It included what we saw during the afternoon. It could be deer, turkeys, quail, birds, squirrels and other wildlife. We especially enjoyed it when we saw a red fox or a bobcat. Our hunters never killed those, we just enjoyed them. Hunting used to be a way of life in America before there were many grocery stores and limited money. We now have gone from an agricultural society into one of technological, industrial, and service oriented society. We do not depend on hunting, fishing, or gardening for our food now. With those changing times, hunting that was once so vital to us is distant and unknown or strange to most people. To most city folks today, they do not have a true understanding of what hunting and the woods and wild life are all about. There is no pressure to perform like there is in sports. We can relax in the woods as well as in camp. The success at hunting always makes a good story, but the failures can be equally as entertaining.



Non-hunters usually do not really comprehend why people enjoy hunting. It is simple; they enjoy the tranquility of the woods. The elation that comes with the chase, the pleasure of being with friend and relatives and sitting around camp at night talking of our families, our successes and yes, even our problems, the kids and school. You would be surprised how many down home free psychologists there are in a deer, fishing or any other camp. The friend and “good ole boy lease” is a very enjoyable experience but it has to take a back seat to the family lease or any other recreational facility. Sometimes it is immediate family and sometimes with other relatives. I know of no other activity or situation that bridges the generational gap like enjoying a hunting camp or any other outdoor activity.

Being together is a good time to teach traditions and social skills to the younger generation. We leave our jobs and cares back home and enjoy the simple things, such as a bonfire at night in the yard, roasting wieners and marshmallows, and learning that a marshmallow is hot when you take it out of the fire. Poking in the campfire and the wood stove was a favorite of our granddaughter, Shelley, who bagged her first deer at the age of ten (pictured). I hesitate to talk about personal experiences as a family, but it may be a good way to inform those who might not have ever enjoyed the experience of being together in the woods of outdoors.

On our lease, the men hunted alone the first week. When Thanksgiving came, the rest of the family came to the lease. The day before Thanksgiving Marguriet and I went down and prepared the camp. We filled the deer feeders, gathered wood, and generally prepared the camp for the others who would come on Wednesday night. We also prepared the turkey and food to be cooked the next morning for the Thanksgiving dinner.

After a joyful and satisfying get together hunting, fishing, picking up pecans, and other activities, that included playing card or dominoes at night, we all went home on Sunday. We have not had our lease for some time now. When we get together on Thanksgiving now days, someone will say, “where would you like to be right now?” The answer is always “The Deer Lease!” We all wish we were doing it again. Those were such good times. The bonding and the memories we experienced will likely endure the rest of our lives.

## Our School

Happy Birthday to Ms. Brenda Griffin (January 21), Ms. Kim Eaddy, Ms. Patty Miller & Ms. Cathy Wood (January 25), Ms. Karen Boyd (January 26), Ms. Amanda Cranfill (January 27) & Coach Jose Rodriguez (January 28).

***Paw Print Press***  
**123 N. College**  
**Itasca, Texas 76055**

## Wampus Cats of the Week

### Kindergarteners Serenade Trustees



At the December IISD Board of Trustees' meeting eighteen kindergarteners and teacher Ms. Michelle Cole gave the board members a very special treat. They sang several holiday songs and even added some special lyrics and movements to some of the songs.

Board President Susan Bason thanked the students for sharing their cheer and for brightening the meeting and their parents for bringing their youngsters.

### Special of the Week



Lloyd Ford has many new and used vehicles to choose from. Now is the time to make a great deal!

**2007 Escape XLT**  
**Loaded, Automatic, One Owner**



**Only 35K Miles!!!**  
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