

Paw Print Press

Proudly Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since 1997

Itasca, Texas 76055

Vol. 2010 Issue #10

March 5, 2010

Itasca's Dollar General Receives Award for Sales

Reporters Megan Goff & Photographer Mary Maddox



The Itasca Dollar General, store #7758, was honored with The Founder's Award last month. The award was presented for achieving a million dollars in sales in the fiscal year of 2009. This award puts the store in the Million Dollar Circle. The plaque, which is on display behind the register, is signed by the Chairman and CEO of Dollar General, Rick Dreiling. The fiscal year starts on February 1 and goes to January 31.

"This store has done very well," store manager, Kevin Losciuto said. "We are already breaking records by double digits for the upcoming year."

In January, Losciuto also accepted an award from the Itasca Chamber of Commerce for the store's contribution to Itasca's economy. The Dollar General store recently moved to its new larger building on E. Main St. near Wampus Cat Dr.

Jr. High Artists Shine at Hill County Fair

Reporter Megan Goff



Three junior high students entered artwork in this year's Hill County Fair. Fisher Hennig entered 3 pieces and received 3 blue ribbons, Andrew Fails received a 2nd place for his piece and Dylan Schuman received a 3rd place.

"I'm just thrilled to have Jr. high students again, believe it or not," art instructor Nancy Watson said. "I just love the

work they produce at this age."

Another project these students made were some illustrated children's books. The PAL program read the stories to their elementary PAL classes.

"I read to Mrs. Eden's first grade class, and they really enjoyed them," Senior PAL Jesse Payne said.

Wampus Cats Win Bi-District Trophy in OT Lose Area Playoff Game to Goldthwaite 46-50



After a delay due to the snowy weather, the Wampus Cats met the Chilton Pirates in a Bi-District playoff match up in Whitney on Wednesday, February 24.

Itasca came out strong (14-6 at the end of the first quarter) but they allowed Chilton to gradually close the gap until they outscored the Cats by the end of the 3rd quarter (I-39 - C-41). The Wampus Cats led by #12 Desmond Guy (23 points for the game) were able to tie the score at 53-53 just before the final buzzer sounded to send the game into overtime.

In OT, Guy continued to press for the basket drawing a number of fouls and making his shots from the line to push the score up in Itasca's favor. Tevin Mayberry (15 points for the game) also drew a number of fouls in overtime to add 5 points to the tally resulting in a victory for Itasca 66-62. Matt Colbert was Itasca's other high scorer with 17 points.

With no break for rest, the Wampus Cats met the Goldthwaite Eagles Thursday night for the Area playoff game. Once again, the Cats came out strong but the Eagles kept the game close, always within 5 points. The deciding factor came late in the 4th quarter when Itasca received a technical and then allowed the Eagles to control the ball the last minute of play, giving them a 50-46 victory over the Wampus Cats.

Both the Lady Cats and Wampus Cats finish the 2009-2010 season as Bi-District Champs.

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>3rd 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 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

March 6 - First United Methodist Church - 9:00 p.m.

Itasca Zoning Committee Meeting

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

Itasca City Council Meeting

Monday, March 15, 2009 - 6:00 p.m.

Itasca ISD School Board Meeting

March 8 7:00 p.m.

Itasca Depot Heritage and Education Center Spring Schedule



March 27 - open 10 a.m. - 12 noon

April 24 - open 10 a.m. - 12 noon

Public Announcement from desk of Itasca Chief of Police



"Each afternoon at 4:30 p.m. during the week and for the whole weekend, the Itasca Police Department phone number (254-687-2020) is forwarded to the Hill County Sheriff's Department. As soon as you hear the recorded greeting, press 2, and you will be connected to dispatch. If you have an emergency, do not hesitate to dial 911."

Hill County Genealogical Society March Meeting

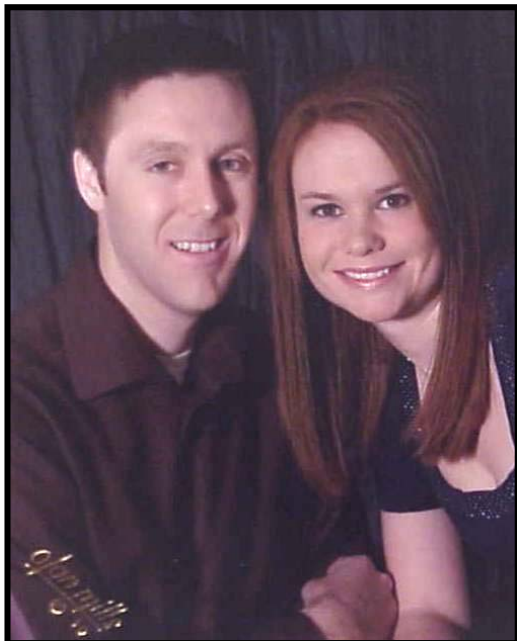
Do you know of an unusual or interesting epitaph on a tombstone? Mr. Paul Cline, Jr. of Fort Worth is compiling a book on Texas cemetery inscriptions, temporarily titled "Tombstone Texas: The Poetry, Prose and Prayers of Lone Star Cemetery Monuments." Mr. Cline's father was a monument maker in Plainview, TX—a "Master Craftsman in Stone" from the 1920s until his death in 1981. Thus, Mr. Cline became fascinated with the inscriptions, epitaphs, etchings, artwork, filigree, etc. on the beautiful memorials of granite, marble and other materials.

Mr. Cline will be the guest speaker for the Monday, March 8th, meeting of the Hill County Genealogical Society in Hillsboro. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm with a brief business session followed by the program. After the program, refreshments will be served and there will be ample time to visit with Mr. Cline. Your contributions to this project will be greatly appreciated. Pictures would be appreciated also along with accurate locations. Guests are always welcome.

The HCGS meets in the back room of the AgriLife office located at 126 South Covington Street in the Hill County Courthouse Annex.

For more information call Cleo Young Davis, VP/Program Chairman, at 254-582-3603 and leave a message. Your call will be answered as soon as possible.

Taylor & Billingsley to Wed



Delbert and Gerri Billingsley of Itasca are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Krista Ann, to Casey Lee Taylor, son of Kenneth and Cindy Taylor of Itasca.

The couple will marry on March 13, 2010, at the 1st Presbyterian Church in Itasca. After a honeymoon in Puerto Vallarta, they will reside in Lubbock, Texas.

Both Casey (Class of 2005) and Krista (Class of 2006) are graduates of IHS.

Alumni Receives Masters



Cymbre Weatherly (IHS Class of 2003) was awarded a Masters of Science Degree in Biology in December from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Weatherly is employed as a Consumer Safety Officer and Investigator for the Dallas District Office of the FDA.

County Sitting on Golden Egg for Correction of Pet Overpopulation

Press Release

If the richness of a community lies within its people, then Hill County is sitting on a golden egg. It is rewarding to say that our community is filled with compassion and a progressive spirit aimed towards the correction of pet overpopulation. Since Hill County Paw Pals originated some six years ago, our community has witnessed unprecedented achievements due to the backing of concerned citizens towards our achievable goals. Paw Pals can now boast the most recent purchase of property with making reality of the vision of establishing county animal control. However, in the interim, it must remain clear that Paw Pals cannot and will not function as county animal control (a level that we will continue to work towards). Initially, the facility will open as a limited private pet adoption center operated solely with volunteers and donated funds. It will always remain Paw Pals' premise that proactive county animal control is a core service expected by taxpaying citizens that can be prioritized into the existing budget without raising taxes.

Proactive animal control has three essential components of which two have already been established by Paw Pals - Education and Low Cost Pet Sterilization. The third and equally important proactive program is the legislation component, which currently remains to be developed as a county governmental entity for the enforcement of animal control laws. Think of these three proactive programs as a three-legged milk stool where each program must work simultaneously together towards correcting our pet overpopulation issue. Without this complete package, we will only witness the worsening of our pet overpopulation issue.

We remain blessed to live in Hill County, which is rich because of its outstanding and compassionate people - our golden egg. It is the duty and privilege of every citizen to become civically involved in shaping our community. We encourage the involvement of all citizens in Hill County to become involved in molding a better community. Paw Pals believes the elected officials of our county and communities will welcome concerns and input from the public on combating the ever-worsening problems associated with pet overpopulation such as unregulated breeding of pets and animal abandonment - the very root of pet overpopulation. Our elected officials are your representatives and they work for you so please become a part of the solution and communicate with them.

Paw Pals' public meeting is scheduled March 4 (first Thursday) at 6:30 p.m. at 1500 South Abbott Avenue (new property location) which is next to TXDOT on SH81 as you travel south to Hillsboro High School. For more information about Paw Pals, please call 580-0679, email hcpawpals@yahoo.com or visit www.hcpawpals.org.

Senior Spotlight – Cherri Lynn Lloyd

Reporter Devin Corbitt

Caricature by Ex-PPP Caricaturist “The Great Cory Bourland”



“A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men.” –Willie Wonka

This quote very accurately describes the way Cherri Lloyd lives her life. She views even the most embarrassing moment in her high school career, the night she forgot to bring the band’s horns up so that they could play, as just another learning experience.

Cherri came to Itasca in 5th grade. Since then, she has been involved in UIL prose, yearbook, band, one act play, and cheerleading. She has been part of the yearbook staff and a cheerleader for one year, a member of the UIL prose team for two years, and acted since her freshman year. She was a drill sergeant in the band her sophomore year and the drum major her junior and senior year.

“The thing I will miss the most about Itasca is homecoming. I won’t be here cheering and playing my flute. I’ll just kind of be here.”

Cherri is the daughter of Larry and Terri Lloyd and the younger sister of Stefan (IHS Class of 2004) and Jordan (IHS Class of 2006). She has three pets: a dog named Oscar Meyer Wiener Dog Lloyd, a cat named Roxeanne “Roxie” Rainbow Lloyd, and a bird named Noah.

“Oscar is like my best friend. We have great times together even though he’s 14 years old. But I don’t like Noah. He’s mean.”

Cherri is an active member of the Grace City Church in Hillsboro. She helps lead worship with her voice and flute. Cherri is also a seasonal worker at GAP in the Outlet Mall. In her spare time, she loves doing crossword puzzles from the New York Times, playing piano, and trying to blow the biggest bubble she can. She is, at times, a bit crazy, but always willing to have fun and never steps out of line.

In keeping with Cherri’s craziness, one friend described her as a true bellibone (a woman excelling in both beauty and goodness), a true cruciverablist (a fan of crossword puzzles) and looking forward to get her liripoop (tassel on our graduation caps).

Cherri plans included attending either Baylor University or Southwestern Assemblies of God University (SAGU) in the fall. She hopes to become an English or theatre and music teacher.

“English, theatre and music are my three favorite things. I might as well teach others about what I love best!”

Speaking from experience, Cherri would like to give the underclassmen a bit of wisdom: “Don’t try picking up the quarter in the hall!”



IHS to Present “The Gift of Tenyin” at UIL Contest

Reporter Devin Corbitt

The Itasca One Act Play cast will present “The Gift of Tenyin” this year for contest. The play is about the birthday of a Japanese emperor, Matsu Suinin, played by Martin Martinez.

Each of his six daughters, with the help of interpreter Hakase (David Corbitt), presents him with a gift. Murasaki, played by Rebecca Maul, makes a sash, Tachibana (Michelle Ignacz) writes a poem, Oshidori (Emily Offutt) paints an umbrella, which turns out to be broken, Hariko Ningo (Jessie Johnston) creates a beautiful dance for her father, Sakazuki (Cherri Lloyd) sings a song that is dreadfully out of tune and Tenyin (Devin Corbitt) writes a play. This play defies the emperor - and changes all of their lives forever.

The One Act Play cast and crew will travel to contest in Frost on March 23. Their director is Mrs. Susan Crawford.

HCSO & HPD Helped with “Meals on Wheels”

Due to the in climate weather conditions last Wednesday, the Hill County Sheriffs Office and Hillsboro Police prepared and delivered 45 hot “Meals on Wheels” to area residents.

The program that originates in Waco was unable to fill the mission so the meals were prepared at the HCSO kitchen using inmate labor and packaged with materials supplied by the program.

The Hillsboro Police delivered the meals to area residents on the program. The menu was chicken nuggets, corn, beans and bread. The good deed only cost the HCSO \$35.43 and the HPD a few man-hours but it meant a lot to the people who received the hot meal. Many of the people on the “Meals on Wheels” list look forward to their meal, as it is their only hot food of the day.

In the Lady Cats' Dugout

Sports Reporter Ashley Spain

Entering a new year, the Lady Cats are ready to turn the softball program around. The Lady Cats are under a new coaching staff this year, with head Coach Calvin Wright and assistant Coach Justin Wood. With a new coaching staff, the girls are being taught different skills and plays. It is a difficult task but the Lady Cats are working hard to learn it all in a relative short period of time.

The coaches are also working hard to get to know each of the players and to evaluate their talent and skills in order to play them at the best position.

Since the Lady Cats' basketball team went into the playoffs the softball team has only had some very small practices since the whole team has not been at practice.

"Since we have not really had any real practices," Coach Wright said, "It is difficult to make out a line-up or assign field positions. I do have high expectations for this year's team and the future of the program."

The Lady Cats played Clifton Friday with only a week of practice. They lost their first game but are working hard to hone their skills and be ready for their upcoming opponents.

Our School

WAY TO GO to Brandon Kelley and your whistle. He spent most of the day Saturday running up and down the basketball court refereeing the Little Dribblers basketball games. Thanks Brandon for all of your hard work. Thanks also for being role models for younger students and volunteering.

Happy Birthday wishes go to Mrs. Susan Corbitt (March 4), Mr. Obid Massey (March 5) and Mr. Jonathan Bass (March 11).

Wampus Cats 2010 Track

March

6	Alvarado Invitational	JV/V	Alvarado HS
12	Pirate Relays	JV-V	Granbury HS
19	Pirate Relays	JV-V	La Vega HS
26	Bluebonnet Relays	JV-V	Ennis HS

April

1	Bulldog Relays	JV-V	McGregor HS
2-3	Texas Relays	V*	UT Austin
7-8	19-A District Meet	JV-V	Hubbard HS
23	Regional Qualifiers	V*	Lancaster HS

May

3-4	Regional Meet	V*	Palestine HS
4-15	State Meet	V*	UT Austin

*Only qualifying varsity athletes will attend these meets.

Head Coach Trey Bates Assistant Jose Rodriguez

Lady Cats 2010 Softball Enthusiasm Breeds Success!

March 1	@ Bosqueville	JV	4:00
March 2	@ Wortham	V	4:30
March 4-6	@Santo Tourney	V	TBA
March 5	@ Castlebury	JV	7:00
March 8	@Palmer(DH)	JV	5:00
March 9	@Hillsboro	V	5:00
March 12	@Axtell	V	6:00
March 12	@West	JV	6:00
March 16	Maypearl	JV/V	2:00/4:00
March 19	Perrin	V	10:00
March 23	@ Wax. Faith Family	V	4:30
March 25	Bosqueville(DH)	JV	4:00
March 26	Red Oak Life	V	4:30
March 30	@ Wax Advantage	V	TBA
April 1	G.P. Advantage	V	4:30
April 6	@Covington	V	TBA
April 9	Wax Faith Family	V	4:30
April 12	Itasca Women's World Series		TBA
April 13	Santo	JV	4:00
April 13	@Red Oak Life	V	5:30
April 14	Itasca Women's World Series		TBA
April 15	Itasca Women's World Series		TBA
April 16	Wax. Advantage	V	4:30
April 20	@ GP Advantage	V	5:30
April 23	Covington	V	4:30
April 27	District Certification		

Head Coach Calvin Wright Assist. Coach Justin Wood

Wampus Cats 2010 Baseball

March

2	Italy	Home	4:30
5	Hubbard	Home	4:30
6	Coolidge	Home	2:00
11-13	Venus Tournament	Away	TBA
23	Holland	Home	4:30
26	Life Schools-Red Oak	Home	4:30
27	Coolidge	Away	2:00
*30	Meridian	Home	5:00

April

2	Bye		
*6	Covington	Away	5:00
9	Life Schools-Red Oak	Home	4:30
*13	Covington	Home	5:00
*16	Meridian	Away	5:00
20	Meridian JV	Home	5:00
*23	Covington	Away	5:00
*26	Meridian	Home	5:00
30	Meridian	JV Away	5:00

Head Coach Vance Estel

January City Council Meeting

The Itasca City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 in the Council Chambers at 136 N. Hill St. Mayor Matthew Fehnel called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. Council members present were Mayor Pro-Tem James Bouldin, Susie Davis, Denis Heyse and Doug Farquhar, also present was City Attorney Stephanie Davis. Councilmember John Laird was absent.

Motions were made and passed to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2009 meeting and to approve the bills for payment.

Greer Yeldell of Witherspoon, Yeldell & Wilson accounting firm presented, reviewed, and explained the FY 2008-2009 Annual Financial Report. The Council accepted and approved the report. The Council discussed and considered awarding an Engagement Letter for the FY 2009-2010 Audit. A motion for approval to retain Witherspoon, Yeldell & Wilson to perform the city's audit was passed.

Mayor Matthew Fehnel opened the meeting at 6:17 p.m. to hold a public hearing for Rio Motors located at 700 S. Hill Street, more specially known as legal description-Sunset Block 2 Lot 14-16, for a Chapter 11 Junk Vehicle Ordinance violation to determine whether the vehicles at that location should be abated in accordance with the Junked Vehicle Ordinance outlined in Chapter 11 of the City of Itasca Code of Ordinances. Larry Shrum addressed the Council stating he is in the process to acquire information and request the Council to consider a continuance to give him more time to gather information. The City Administrator recommended to the Council that Mr. Shrum go thru the City Attorney to request any information. The public hearing was closed at 6:29 p.m. A motion was made to grant a continuance and give Mr. Shrum time to request information thru the City Attorney.

The discussion and decision to take action on the results of the public hearing in regards to whether the vehicle located at 700 S. Hill Street, more specially known as legal description – Sunset Block 2 Lot 14-16, should be abated in accordance with the Junked Vehicle Ordinance outlined in the Chapter 11 of the City of Itasca Code of Ordinances was tabled by the council.

Monthly department and committee reports were given by Fire Chief Randy Kline (IVFD), Itasca Chief of Police John Griscavage (IPD) new Itasca PD Officer Benjamin Patrick was introduced , Wayne Upchurch (Water/Sewer Operations), Chris Barnes (Planning and Zoning Committee, Office of Code Enforcement and the Substandard Building Committee) He reported that a Substandard Building Committee meeting had been rescheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2010.

The Council agreed to take no action on getting a committee together for Itasca to participate in Antique Alley and will let the City Administrator know when to put on as an agenda item to discuss.

Fire Chief Randy Kline addressed the Council to discuss, consider and possibly take action on an agreement between the City of Hillsboro and City of Itasca for Automatic Mutual Aid, Fire Protection and Emergency Response. A motion was passed by the council to approve and accept the agreement between the City of Hillsboro and City of Itasca.

The meeting was open for general Mayor, Council and City Administrator discussion and reports. Council Member James Bouldin asked about filling in street potholes and was informed that asphalt had already been ordered. The City Administrator Mark Gropp reported houses that are dilapidated and torn down have been cleaned up in the past by the city at the city's expense. He suggested that the city should not do the clean up and tear down houses any longer at the city's expense. The Council agreed that the city will no longer clean up substandard properties at the expense of the city; it is the property owner's expense. Council Member Susie Davis stated she still would like to pursue with Antique Alley. The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Itasca VFD January Report

Type of Call	City	County
Assist EMS	10	4
Grass/Brush Fire		1
Haz-Mat	2	
MVC		1
Residence/Structure		3
Utility Emergency	1	
Road Hazard		1
Smoke Investigation	1	
Car Smoking	1	
Total Call	25	Total Members 15
Mutual aid Given – 5	Received – 0	Missed Calls – 0

Itasca PD January Report

Arrests	Cases Filed
6 Felony	7 District Attorney
4 Misdemeanor	4 County Attorney
Total calls for service – 76	
Traffic Citations	
272 – Moving	20-Non-moving 81 Warnings
Class “C” Citations	
3 Open container	8 Possession of drug paraphernalia
	City Ordinance
2 - Loud muffler	

November IISD Trustee Meetings

The Board of Trustees of the Itasca Independent School District met in regular session on Monday, January 11, 2010, in the Itasca ISD Library at 7:00 p.m. with President Susan Bason presiding. Trustees present were Oscar Castillo, Jr., Angelia Orr, Kevin Cordell, Brian Bassett, Nancy Bowman and Marquita Lloyd. Administration present were Superintendent Glenn Pittman, Principals Rickie Harris, Keith Hannah and Karon Farquhar, Business Manager Kim Eaddy, Special Programs Director Amy Reyna, Coordinator of Student Services Kristi Sargent and Secretary Norma Merkel. Visitors present were Dr. Steve Johnson, Barbara Petrash, Grace Hennig, Jessika Rodriguez and Shelby Jones.

Grace Hennig thanked the board of trustees for supporting the staff and students. Jessica Rodriguez spoke to the board regarding her positive experience attending the John B. Sheppard leadership conference. She thanked the board for all they do for the students. Shelby Jones addressed the board regarding offering classes on Saturdays for college preparation tests. She is very appreciative of the board supporting school programs.

Motions were made and passed to approve the minutes from the December 12 board workshop and the December 14 board meeting.

Lindsey Fajkus of Pattillo, Brown & Hill, L.L.P., Certified Public Accountants presented and discussed the 2008-2009 district audit. She stated the audit of the district found an unqualified opinion with no control or material weaknesses reported. The Trustees passed motions to accept the 2008-2009 district audit and to approve the bills and financial report. The board reviewed the quarterly investment report and Superintendent Pittman went over the second reading of the TASB policy update 86. A motion was passed to approve the TASB policy update 86 adding the following to EIE (Local): *A student in Grades 3 and 4 must meet the passing standard established by the State Board on the applicable assessment instrument in the subjects required under state law in order to be promoted to the next grade.

Dr. Steve Johnson discussed the team self-assessment instrument with the board.

The Board approved a transfer student as presented and the 2010-2011 District Improvement Plan.

Superintendent Pittman discussed the need for facility growth. In the last two years the district has grown by 3%. He reported that the district's AYP appeal was denied. The item appealed is a federal regulation, therefore; it is non-appealable. The district is now in Stage I school improvement. Plans are already being implemented to address the issue. He updated the board on the special education program. He explained that the Residential Facilities monitoring by TEA will be in the district February 15-19. Kristi Sargent was currently attending training and phone conferences to coordinate the visit. The district is currently working on any corrective action plan that may be needed.

The meeting recessed at 8:08 pm. and reconvened at 8:10 pm. At that time Superintendent Pittman presented each board member with an appreciation certificate.

The board entered executive session at 8:20 pm. And reconvened at 8:42 pm. The meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Income Tax Preparation

\$65 for most returns - Add \$15 to e-file

For more information call Oscar Salinas

682-225-7442 or e-mail oas4562@gmail.com

Garage Sale Saturday, March 6 March 6 8:00 a.m. to noon.

Hwy 22 west of Hillsboro

(Next to Leonard Lewis Appliance)

Raising money for the 8th grade

Washington, D.C. trip

FOR SALE

**1.4 acre country home sites
located off FM-67**

Gated, underground utilities, deed restricted, great Itasca schools

Owner/Broker-817-366-1106 anytime

Benefit Dance for Jacob Cansler

Saturday, March 6 8 p.m. – 1 a.m.

The Warehouse (downtown Itasca)

\$5 for 12 years & over BYOB DJ Larry

Jacob is going to be having Surgery on his head. All proceeds will go to family to help pay for medical expenses!

Germer's Smokehouse

New Hours 11:00 – 2:00 & 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Monday – Spaghetti & Meat Sauce & Garlic Bread

Tuesday – Cheese & Beef Enchiladas Rice & Beans

Wednesday – Mesquite Grilled Chicken & 2 sides

Thursday – Meat Loaf - Mashed Potatoes

Friday – Catfish – French fries, cole slaw, beans

Saturday – Ribs (while they last) +2 sides

Recent Death

Gilbert, Marian M. Tolleson – Marian Gilbert passed away Wednesday, February 24, 2010. Graveside services were held Saturday afternoon in Rose Hill Cemetery, Cleburne. Services were under the direction of Clayton Kay-Vaughan Funeral Home in Itasca.

She was born December 12, 1920, to Albert Ira and Allie Jane Tolleson of Sand Flat. She married Joe Calvin Gilbert on December 11, 1937. She lived for 45 years in the Itasca and Covington area and the last two years in Cleburne. She was a loving wife of 66 years, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, and was a member of Central Baptist Church of Itasca. She was predeceased by her husband, Joe Calvin Gilbert, on February 18, 2004.

Survivors are daughter, Dianne and Roger Swofford of Mansfield; son, Leonard Gilbert of Itasca; grandsons, Steve and Julie Swofford of Arlington, Craig Gilbert of Euless and Rease Gilbert of Irving; granddaughter, Shelley and Spencer Plumlee of Fort Worth; and great-grandson, Seth Plumlee of Fort Worth.

Card of Thanks

Dear Mr. Mike Tinklenberg, Thank you so much for helping me when I fell in Jimmy's parking lot last month.

Thank you, Kathleen Moore

Piano Lessons

I have 2 openings for Beginner Level Piano lessons. I live in Itasca, have over 30 years piano experience and provide a Christian based atmosphere.



For more information call 214-212-5798.

Free Dance Lessons

Willie's Line Dance Team (formerly Hill-Tex Line Dancers) invites all members of the community to join them for free line dance lessons every Wednesday at 6:30 pm in the Theater at Willie's Place located at I-35E at Carl's Corner.

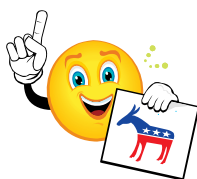


For more information, call Jane Rizo at 254-582-0268.

Hill County Democrats Meeting

Democrats of Hill County hold monthly meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month. The next meeting will be held Monday, March 8, 2009 at the Texas Heritage Museum Theater at Hill College at 6 pm.

Contact Lanore Dixon for more information at lanore@dixonpen.com or call 254-221-0511.



Child Find Screening

for children from birth to age 5

Itasca Elementary School

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

1:00-3:30 pm

- * hearing/ vision screening
- * screening for speech & fine/gross motor skills
- * educational screening
- * ALL screenings are provided at no cost
- * free book for participating children

For additional information, please contact:

Hill County SSA- (254) 582-3814, ext. 214 or

Itasca Elementary School- (254) 687-2922



TAKS Test Information

Notice from Itasca ISD

Anyone who needs to retake the Exit Level TAKS test, can do so at Itasca ISD which is a testing site for out-of-school testers.

These tests will be given the week of March 1 through March 5. Please contact Kristi Sargent at 254-687-2922, x. 139 for more information.

H1Ni Immunizations Available

Itasca ISD March 1 - 5

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. daily

Adults & Children (3 yrs & older)

Free – Nurse's Office

For more information call Vickie Macias RN

254-687-2922 Ext 127

Remember When . . . “Church Wit & Wisdom”

Columnist Carl Sweeney



At present and also in the past, bloopers, misprints and just plain fool-ups have provided material for newspapers, television and other media. Jay Leno has fun with errors in newspapers advertisement. Neither television nor anything else has a monopoly on errors and mistakes, or misprints. The church bulletins are right up there with the rest of them. We will list the funny ones first, and then perhaps we can list some of a more serious nature.

A Jewish bulletin read; the victim of an attack by a rabid dog was rushed to the hospital for anti-rabbi shots. This being Easter Sunday, Mrs. Brown will come forward and lay an egg on the altar. Next Wednesday there will be an ice cream social, all ladies giving milk please come early. On the National Day of Prayer and Fasting, the cost for attending includes meals. Remember in prayer those who are sick of our community. Don't let worry dis-able you, let the church help. Mrs. New sung, “I Will not Pass This Way Again,” to the pleasure of the congregation. Mrs. Carter remains in the hospital and has trouble sleeping; she requests tapes of the pastor's sermons. A potluck supper was held in the Methodist Church Friday, prayer and medication followed. The Bible study will be held Wednesday. All ladies are invited to lunch after the BS is done.

During the absence of our pastor we enjoyed the rare privileged of hearing a good sermon, by the Reverend Walker. A bean burrito supper will occur in the fellowship hall, music will follow. The low self-esteem support group meets Monday at seven, please use the back door. Weight Watchers will meet at the Presbyterian Church, please us the double doors. The associate minister unveiled the new tithing campaign, “I Upped my Pledge, Now up Yours.”

The Methodist Church often has bake sales in the lobby of the bank. Mrs. Smith was to bake a cake, when she took it out of the oven the center fell, she said, “Oh dear, I do not have time to bake another.” She looked around and spotted a roll of toilet paper on the counter. She placed it in the center of the cake and covered it with icing. The cake looked beautiful, and she rushed it to the bank lobby. She gave her daughter some money and told her to buy the cake first thing. When she arrived, the cake had already been sold. Alice was devastated. A few days later she was invited to a friend's home for a social. There was a fancy table all set for lunch, and there in the middle was the cake. Mrs. Smith was beside herself with anxiety. Then one of the ladies exclaimed, “What a beautiful cake,” to which the hostess replied, “Yes and I made it myself.”

Quite often pastors get letters from small children; the following is a sample of a few of them.

Dear Pastor, My mother is very religious. She goes to church to play bingo every week, even if she has a cold.

Dear Pastor, I think more people would come to church if you moved it to Disneyland.

Dear Pastor, I hope to go to heaven some day, but later rather than sooner.

Dear Pastor, I liked your sermon Sunday, especially when it was finished.

Dear Pastor, My father should be a preacher everyday he gives us a sermon.

Good News and Bad News for Pastors

Mrs. Cantrell likes your sermons; she also likes Beavis and Butthead, The Gong Show & The Chain Saw Massacre.

****Good News & Bad News:** Your deacons want to send you to the Holy Land the next time they have a war.

****Good News & Bad News:** Church attendance rose last Sunday while you were on vacation.

The following is a few musing observations and philosophy that most of us can relate to.

****Why look for the perfect church, you would feel out of place?**

****Some people would walk a mile for a Camel, but not two blocks to church.**

****We sit in the cold rain at a football game, but if it sprinkles Sunday morning, it is too bad to go to church.**

****Some people go to church to see who didn't.**

****Don't stay away from church because of the hypocrites. There is always room for one more.**

****It is not the talented people who serve the Lord, it's the dedicated ones.**

****Making a great sacrifice now means doing without things parents never had.**

****No man's character is better than his word.**

****Faith is not believing that God can, but that he will.**

****Great preaching deserves great listening.**

****Some preachers preach from text - too far from it.**

Preach from the Bible, it will scare the hell out of people.

****Trying to do away with the truth of the Bible is like trying to mop up the ocean with a sponge.**

****Some people are regular church goers, they never miss Easter.**

****The devil is not afraid of a dust covered Bible.**

Paw Print Press
123 N. College
Itasca, Texas 76055

Wampus Cats of the Week

“Undecided” Perform at Annual Chamber Banquet

Reporter Brittany Bourland



Rocking out at the Chamber of Commerce Banquet last month was a new band to the Itasca scene, “Undecided.” All four members of the band sing. They are led by lead singer Bekah Payne. Emily Offutt plays the bon-

go, Netty Payne the bass guitar and Ema Payne the guitar.

“We wanted to share with others how we praise God,” Emily said. “A year ago while hanging out and talking, we decided to create a band but were undecided about the name so we settled with, “Undecided.””

The members have not written any songs of their own, but their favorites to sing from other artists are ‘Jesus, Lover of my Soul’, and ‘You Alone.’

Special of the Week



“These young ladies are destined for great things. With their talent and willingness to serve, they are sure to be a hit. Glad they are part of the Wampus Cat Pride.”

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