

# Paw Print Press

Proudly Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since 1997

Itasca, Texas 76055

Vol. 2010 Issue #21

May 21, 2010

## Child ID Program Co-Hosted by Itasca PD, IHS Students

Reporter Brittany Reid – Photo Ashley Durham



IHS students and the Itasca Police Department hosted a child ID event on May 15, 2010 at the Itasca Depot Heritage and Education Center. Parents were urged to bring their K-6<sup>th</sup> grade children to be registered (fingerprinting and picture) in order to help protect them. Over 40 children were documented Saturday.

Matthew Hernandez (my cousin) who had just turned 1 year old was too excited for Devin Corbitt to fingerprint him but he did enjoy the refreshments while I covered the story. This service is a very important one especially if a child is lost or in an accident.

## Hillsboro Extension Office Assist with Annual Pre-K Hatching

Reporter Devin Corbitt



Thanks to the Hillsboro AgriLife Extension Office and Agent Sheryl Raley, twenty-five brand new baby chicks hatched in the Pre-Kindergarten classroom last week. It took 21 days to hatch the chicks that were kept under an

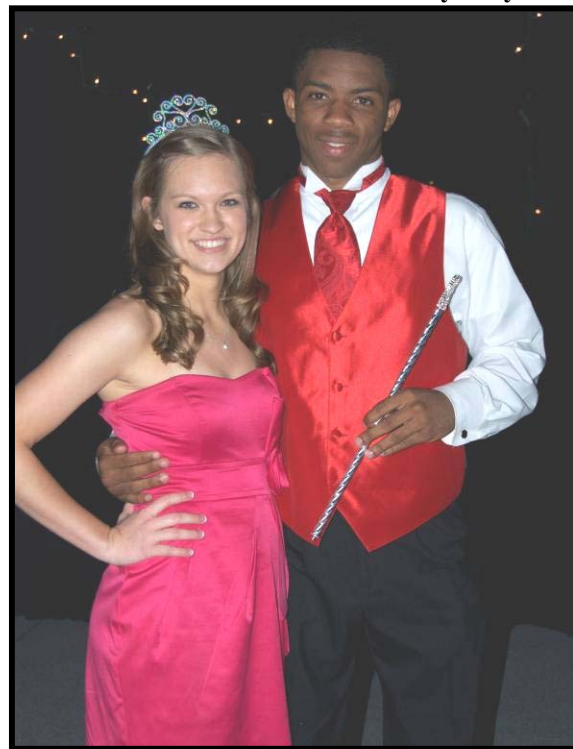
incubator that was also on loan from the Extension Office.

This is the fourth year that the Pre-K classes have hatched chicks, and the second year that the chicks have been provided by the Extension Office.

Continued on page 3.

## 2010 Prom King, Queen

Photo by Sally Crouch



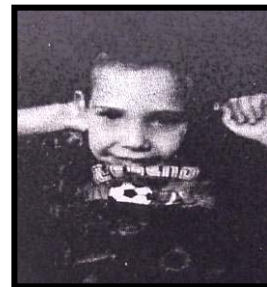
Seniors Courtney Barton and Desmond Guy were crowned 2010 Prom King and Queen at the Junior/Senior Prom May 8. The Prom theme was "Hollywood Nights."

## Benefit Street Dance for Jacob Whitlock "Total Strangers" Band Friday – May 21 8:00 p.m. during Chamber BBQ Cook-off

All proceeds will go  
to the Whitlock Family!

Jacob age 4 was  
diagnosed with Acute  
Leukemia.

He is at Cook's  
Children Hospital  
located in Fort Worth.



## 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.

Youth (7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade) 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Evening Worship 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Tuesday - Ladies' Bible Study 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday Adult Bible Study and Prayer 7:00 p.m.

Youth (7th-12th) 7:00 p.m. website - itascacbc.org

### First United Methodist Church

401 E. Main St, Itasca, TX 254-687-2475

E-mail: [itascaumc@digitex.net](mailto:itascaumc@digitex.net)

*Where Worship Is Joyous! Experience the energy of God's promise in a beautiful, historic sanctuary.*

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.-10:30 (All ages)

Sunday Worship Service 10:50 a.m.

Refreshments between Sunday School & Church Services 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday 5 - 6:00 p.m. - Youth Bible Study (all ages)

Wednesday 6 p.m. - Youth Choir Practice (ages 11 up)

### 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 - 10:45 Sunday School 11 a.m. - Worship Service

6 pm - Praise/Worship (Sanctuary)

6:30-KFC/Hour of Power

Tues. & Thurs. - 10 a.m. Exercise Class - Barton Hall

Wed. 6:30 Vespers Service Chapel - 7:15 Choir practice

ANGEL FOOD SITE

## Second Missionary Baptist Church

120 W. Marrion St. Itasca TX 76055

Rev. George Demmeritte Jr. (Pastor)

Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study 5:30p.m.

2BC\*2 Youth Meeting 6:30 - 8:00pm Wednesday

### Itasca Ministerial Alliance

No Meetings in June, July, August

### Itasca Zoning Committee Meeting

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

### Itasca City Council Meeting

Monday, May 24, 2010 - 6:00 p.m.

### Itasca ISD School Board Meeting

Monday, June 14, 2010 7:00 p.m.

## Itasca Depot Heritage and Education

### Center

### Schedule

May 28 - Graduation -  
12 noon - 3 p.m.

Everyone Welcome



## Gospel Concert featuring

Travis (Gene) Farquhar

& Steve Sawyer

Special Events Center

Saturday May 22, 2010 7:00 p.m.

\*\*\*Fundraiser to benefit Class of '62 Scholarship Fund for IHS Graduates

\*\*\*Silent Auction Table in addition to the music. Any donations for the auction please contact Nancy Shelton Nolen at 254 687-9236.

## ~Parents night out~ \$10.00/child~

Who: All children 3 and up

What: Babysitting fundraiser

When: May 22, 2010 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Where: First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

Why: To support the youth in raising funds for church camp

How: By God's Grace!

\*\*\*Nachos, snacks & a drink will be provided for your child.

## Graduation Tiles

Call Belinda to add your name to the tiles! 254-205-1484

These can also be seen at

"Flowers by Karen" 138 W. Main in  
Itasca Cost is only \$40.00





## HILCO's Operation Round Up® Funds Local Organizations

Press Release

Operation Round Up® is a voluntary program in which residential members of HILCO Electric Cooperative, Inc. sign up to have their electric bills rounded upward to the next dollar. Every month, the additional pennies, nickels and dimes are added to a special fund. The Operation Round Up® Trust Board, comprised of representatives of the HILCO districts, meets once a quarter to review applications and to decide how the funds are to be allocated.

At their April meeting, HILCO Electric's Trust Board voted to disburse \$8,905 to nine organizations in the HILCO service area. These funds were donated during the first quarter of 2010.

The following organizations were recipients of the first quarter funds disbursements:

- 24 Hope, Inc. (Midlothian) \$1,000 - After school snack program and tutoring/mentoring
- Common Ground Ministries (Waxahachie) - \$500 - Snacks for children
- Dinah Weable Breast Cancer Survivors Event (Waxahachie) - \$1,000 - Screening mammograms
- Family Abuse Center (Waco) - \$2,100 - Three month supply of fresh foods for clients
- Isaiah's Place, Inc. (Whitney) - \$215 - Deaf Missions ASL DVD's
- Itasca Booster Club (Itasca) - \$500 - Summer track program
- Lakeview Volunteer Fire Department (Whitney) - \$1,140 - Dyna Med First Responder Equipment
- St. Joseph Catholic School (Waxahachie) - \$850 - Classroom tables
- WRC Pregnancy Center of Ellis County (Waxahachie) - \$1,600 - "Earn While You Learn" curriculum

Since the Operation Round Up® program began in 2001, over \$429,567.66 has been returned to communities within the HILCO service area. This has been made possible from the generosity of residential members who have opted to participate monthly in the program. Members may have their names added to or removed from the program by calling HILCO at 254-687-2331 or 800-338-6425.

The next deadline for Operation Round Up® is June 30, 2010. Applications are available online at [www.hilco.coop](http://www.hilco.coop), or can be picked up at one of the three HILCO offices located at 115 E. Main in Itasca, 4581 FM 933 in Whitney or 300A Silken Crossing in Midlothian. Organizations can contact Jill Huggins, HILCO Executive Assistant, for more information at 254-687-2331 or 800-338-6425, extension 1142.

## A Special Visitor

By: JaMesa Long (3<sup>rd</sup> grader)



Guess what? On Friday, April 23, 2010, we had two special visitors in third grade. Well, one wasn't really a visitor, but he helped! His name is Wyatt Helms and he is in the third grade. His dad was the special visitor.

Mr. Helms came to visit third grade because we read a selection in our reading books called "Yippee Yay!" It was about cowboys, and Mr. Helms is a cowboy! He showed us things like his brand, a lariat, stirrups, chaps, and parts of his saddle. Did you know that a rope and a lariat are the same thing? We also got to see real live cow skin with the help of Mrs. Wells, our paraprofessional in third grade. We were really glad that he came and shared with us. Hats off to Mr. Helms!

## Pre-Kers Welcome Baby Chicks

Continued from page 1

The chicks will soon leave the Pre-K room to live at the Rutherford farm (as long as no one steals them this year as they did last year).

"Seeing new life is great," Toni Rutherford said. "Seeing the excitement on the faces of the Pre-Kers makes you feel warm inside. The miracle of birth is a blessing from God."

## Our School

Special thanks to Mrs. Weatherly and Mrs. Tinklenberg for all their work with the HS and MS Honor Societies. Also to Coach Horn, Mrs. Tinklenberg and Mrs. Malke for helping Mrs. Sargent during TAKS week and to the Junior Class Sponsors for their work on Prom.

Belated and Happy Birthday to Ms. Debra Scott (May 13), Ms. Stacey Mayberry (May 17), Ms. Kim Abbott (May 19), Mr. Will Johnson (May 23) and Ms. Susan Crawford (May 27).

## IISD Board of Trustees March Meeting

The Board of Trustees of the Itasca Independent School District met in regular session on Monday, March 08, 2010, in the Itasca ISD Library at 7:00 p.m. All board members and district administrators were present. Visitors present were Dr. Steve Johnson, Chantel Courtmier, Jared Bass, Desmond Guy, Patrick Middleton, Tevin Mayberry, Donny Faries, Mary Maddox, Megan Goff and Barbara Petrash.

Superintendent Pittman introduced the senior basketball players to the board. The board congratulated them for making the playoffs.

Motions were made and passed to approve the board meeting minutes from the February 8, 2010 meeting, to approve the financial report for February and to employ Southwest Securities as an investment banker and McCall, Parkhurst & Horton as bond counsel by the District and that the Order Calling an election be adopted as presented and that the President and Secretary of the Board of Trustees be authorized and instructed to execute all papers necessary to perfect the motion.

Donny Faries was recognized as the committee chairman for facilities assessment of the district. The committee met three times in February regarding the facility needs of the district. He thanked the committee members for their time and focus on the needs assessment for the district. The board was presented the first reading of TASB Update 87 and a motion was passed to approve the IISD AYP Corrective Action Plan as part of the 2010-11 District Improvement Plan.

Pittman reported that the ESC Region 12 Board of Directors was an uncontested race. He updated the board on the RF tracker visit and said that the report should be back to the district by April 5. The district was informed by TEA that the accreditation status for 2008-09 is now accredited warned, but for 2009-10 the district earned full accreditation. Dr. Steve Johnson was thanked for being instrumental in this process.

He discussed the Effective Schools Conference that was held in Arizona and reported on the ideas and strategies that received that they would implement during the next school year.

The Board approved Laura Marbut as a substitute teacher for the district. They entered executive session at 7:51 and reconvened in open session at 8:10 p.m. A motion was made to approve teacher contracts as presented, with the exception of Leslie O'Neil in which no action was taken. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

## May Police Blotter

5-1 – Vehicle pursuit (2 sports bikes 87 mph & 90 mph) – Speeds of 130 mph were reached – One stopped at Exit 370 & one at Hwy 77 @ Hwy 81 (W/M 22 & W/M 21) – I-35W southbound mm 7

5-2 – Domestic disturbance – 800 blk. Shuttle St.

5-2 – Respond to call of man in southbound lane of I-35W (W/M 46) Search resulted in vehicle with baggie of cocaine – Assisted HCSO (Possession of Controlled Substance Under 1 gram) – I-35W southbound mm 7

5-3 - Domestic disturbance – 200 blk. Shuttle St.

5-3 – Sexual harassment report filed (O/M 30) – 1500 blk. E. Main St.

5-3 – Responded to 911 hang up call – 200 blk. S. Aquilla St.

5-3 - Domestic disturbance – CTW (Criminal Trespass Warning) issued - 200 blk. S. Lamar St.

5-4 – Bigamy charge filed – Itasca PD, Hill County

5-4 – Found property turned into IPD – 1500 blk. E. Main St.

5-4 – Report of reckless driver (B/M 42 - motorcycle) – 300 blk. S. Hill St.

5-4 - Domestic disturbance – 700 blk. Mill St.

5-4 – Citizen complaint (Noise) – 200 blk. S. Lamar St.

5-5 – Assisted EMS – 300 blk. K Lane

5-6 – Responded to accident call (Rollover with injuries) Itasca PD, first on scene, assisted Grandview PD with Careflite – I-35W @ CR 103 mm 15

5-7 – Burglary of a vehicle reported – 600 blk. S. Aquilla St.

5-8 – Assisted HCSO – Suspicious vehicle – 900 blk. Mill St.

5-9 – Assisted HCSO with traffic stop of possible burglary suspect – I-35W northbound mm 8

5-10 – Major accident (motorcycle) – W/F 56 transported to CareFlite quarters in Itasca & then to Care Flite helicopter – FM 934 & W. North St.

5-10 – Traffic stop (Speeding) Arrest for warrants (Denton, TX) – I-35W southbound mm 8

5-11 – Assisted HCSO (Disturbance on interstate - Argument about running out of gas) – Arrest made for driving without license and no insurance (W/M 36) – I-35W southbound mm 10

5-11 - Traffic stop (Speeding - 81 mph/65mph) Vehicle impounded - Arrest for Possession of Controlled Substance (Over 1 gram/ Under 4 grams) \$730.42 seized & held (W/M 45 & W/M 30) - I-35W northbound mm 8

5-12 – Funeral escort – Itasca Cemetery

5-14 – Suspicious activity – 300 blk. W. Main St.

5-14 – Report of possible drug use at Lawless Park - Citation for no rabies tag on dog – Monroe & Lamar Sts.

## Senior Sponsor Spotlights

### Mrs. Grace Hennig



Since coming to the IISD fourteen glorious years ago, Mrs. Grace Hennig has been a big part of the seniors' school lives. She has taught many of them English, TAKS English and been their high school counselor since becoming the full-time counselor for

the district two years ago.

Hennig graduated from the University of North Texas with a Bachelor's Degree and obtained her Master's Degree from Tarleton State University. She and her husband, John, have three children, Fisher (8<sup>th</sup> grade), Braden (4<sup>th</sup> grade) and Sophie (2<sup>nd</sup> grade).

"This is the best group of students that I've ever taught," Hennig said. "I'll miss them very much." Cartoon by Martin Martinez.



### Mr. Bobby Campbell



Senior sponsor, Bobby Campbell, has been teaching in Itasca for two years. He teaches Health, PE, and coaches track and football. Before coming to Itasca, Campbell taught at Fairfield ISD.

Campbell

and his wife of nine years, Lois, have two children, Markell (IHS Class of 2009) and Tamarus (IMS 8<sup>th</sup> grade).

Campbell left the class with an eye-opening statement, "Welcome to the real world."

\*\*\*Cartoon by Enzo Miale Merola



## "Uma" Mighty Chihuahua Dog

Press Release

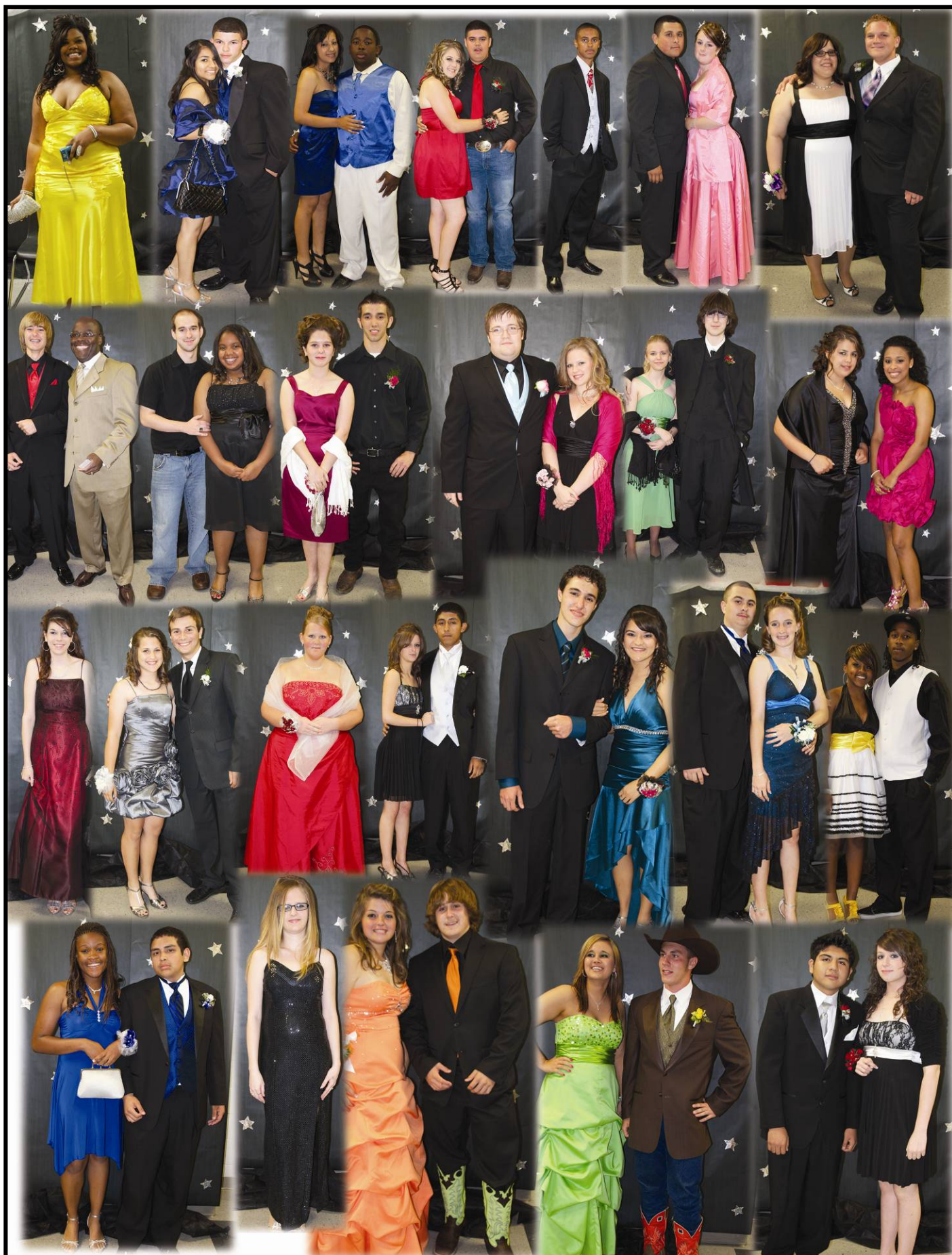


Within a day of being dumped on an isolated county road, I found myself fighting for my life. Didn't my owner know that 80% of dumped dogs die a horrific death and a large percentage of survivors never receive quality care? "Yelp! Yelp! Yelp!" be-

came my battle cry as I was surrounded by three hungry coyotes. Little did I know that coyotes are instinctive hunters that work as a team by attacking from the rear and flanks. I wasn't only outnumbered but was outsized because by breed is Chihuahua. My breed may be small but our character is as mighty as the largest of breeds. All I can remember during the attack, as any living creature, was that I wanted to survive and demonstrated my last act of defiance by showing every tooth and stood strong with grace from God and I survived the attack. But I did not escape injury. I weakened fast with the loss of blood from near fatal puncture and lacerate wounds on my rear and flanks (a classic coyote attack). After spending days crawling through the grass and bush, a Good Samaritan found me and provided me with food and water, but I was so weak. By the time I was found, my wounds were infected and the smell of rotting flesh was prevalent. I was within hours of dying. At this point my near lifeless body weighed less than eight pounds. I fit and literally looked the definition of "skin and bones". This Good Samaritan made a generous donation toward my medical care and handed me off to a group called Paw Pals where my precious life was given a second chance. I received emergency veterinarian care with intravenous fluids, cleaning and stitching my wounds, and antibiotics. I was given the name "Uma". Perhaps my name can be an acronym for "Unsung Miracles of the Angels." It seems the horrific deeds of man are often overshadowed by the spirit of angels that God placed in so many other men. I was blessed to live in a caring community. The deeds of the many people responsible for saving my life will go unsung because individual recognition is not what they seek. The people who touched me in their kind way are marching forward to overcome correctable "unchecked" pet overpopulation by bringing awareness for the need of a "proactive" county animal control program. Perhaps an operating animal shelter supporting a county animal control program would have given my owner a more humane choice. Please continue to support the endeavors of Hill County Paw Pals. They saved my life and can save many more. Public meetings are on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month from 6:30-7:30pm at 1500 South Abbott Avenue in Hillsboro (next to TXDOT or north of Hillsboro High School on Hwy 81). For more information, visit [www.hcpawpals.org](http://www.hcpawpals.org); email [hcpawpals@yahoo.com](mailto:hcpawpals@yahoo.com); or call 254.580.0679.



## 2010 Prom – “Hollywood Nights”





# 2010 Prom – “Hollywood Nights”

Collage by Emily Basye



Emily Basye



## Recent Deaths



**Huggins, Johnny** - On Sunday, April 25, 2010, our heavenly father called Johnny home to join Him. Johnny was born November 6, 1969, to Troy Milton and Imogene Sellers Huggins. He lived his life in the Hill County area. He attended schools in Itasca and graduated from Itasca High School. Following in the steps of his father and brother, Johnny started doing power line work. He was working for Mar-Tex Contractors with his father when he asked his true love, Belinda Jene Hightower of Whitney to become his wife. They were married on July 14, 1990 at Fort Graham Baptist Church. Johnny continued with Mar-Tex Contractors until August 1992 when he hired on with Hill County Electric Cooperative (now HILCO). While there, he worked his way up to 1<sup>st</sup> class lineman. He worked at HILCO for 12 years. After HILCO, he carried that experience down the road while working for Wing-T Construction and finally being a foreman for Techline, Inc. Being in the power line work is something that Johnny took pride in and loved doing. And as he would say, "I learned from some of the best!" Johnny finally had to hang up his hard hat and put his steel toe boots away in the fall of 2007 due

to health issues. But that did not slow him down. Over the years, you have found him coaching football for the WWFL or baseball for the WYA. Wherever his kids were, he was there too. He also served on the WWFL Board of Directors and the Whitney High School Athletic Booster Club. Johnny was a member of the Cedar Creek Baptist Church. He, Belinda, J.T. And Kati were baptized as a family in May 2003. From vacation bible schools to church programs, Johnny was there to help where the Lord needed him. Johnny loved his family very much. When he was not working, he was spending every other moment with them. Football, Basketball and baseball practices and games kept him busy. He was very proud of his children and their accomplishments and wanted them to do their very best at whatever they attempted in life.

Johnny was preceded in death by his father, Troy M. Huggins; brother, James Troy Huggins, brother-in-law, Bobby Hightower; grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J.K. Sellers and Mr. And Mrs. Samuel Troy Huggins.

Survivors include his loving wife, Belinda; sons, J.T., Johnathan, Jacob, and daughter, Kati, all of Whitney; daughter, Jasmine Fuller, of Hillsboro; mother, Imogene Huggins of Blum; brother, Ricky Huggins and wife, Jacque of West; sister, Paula Watson and husband, William of Blum; sister, Jackie Teel and husband, Shane of Blum; brother-in-law, Brandon Hightower and wife, Krissi, sister-in-law, Brandy Hightower, sister-in-law, Deanna Hightower, all of Whitney; mother-in-law Becky Rankin and husband, Tim of Abilene; father-in-law, James Hightower of Whitney and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends.

Funeral services were held April 29, at Cedar Creek Baptist Church with Pastor Wade Yarbrow officiating. Burial was in Whitney Memorial Park. A memorial fund has been set up for his children at the First National Bank, 307 N. Brazos, Whitney, Texas 76692.

**Kunkel, Lydia** - Lydia Kunkel, 89, of Bynum died April 28, 2010, at Itasca Nursing Home. She was born September 7, 1920, in Hill County, daughter of the late William and Marie Schreiber Priebe, where she had lived all of her life. She attended White School in eastern Hill County. On December 21, 1938, she married Albert Herman Kunkel. After their marriage, they settled in the Malone area. She was very enthusiastic in tending to her yard and plants. She had a green thumb and could grow anything. Among her other talents, Lydia was a wonderful cook and enjoyed preparing dishes for her family and friends. She was a member of Christ Lutheran Church of Hillsboro. Also preceding her in death were her husband, Albert, one son, Billy Ray Kunkel and one daughter, Barbara Greene. Survivors include: one son, Mickey Kunkel of Bynum; one granddaughter, Tammy Eastland of Hillsboro; and two great-grandsons, Collin and Nick Eastland, both of Hillsboro. Funeral services were held April 30, 2010, at Christ Lutheran Church in Hillsboro with its pastor, Michael Nemec, officiating. Burial was at Ridge Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Christ Lutheran Church, 915 Corsicana Highway, Hillsboro, TX 76645.

**Cervantes, Arturo** - Arturo Cervantes, age 57, passed away Sunday May 9, 2010. Funeral services were held May 12, 2010 at the Clayton Kay Vaughan Funeral Home in Itasca. He was preceded in death by his father, Florencio Cervantes and one brother.

Survivors include his wife Angelina Cervantes; son, John Robert Cervantes; mother, Maria Torres; 11 brothers and sisters and a host of nieces and nephews.



## Remember When . . . “Dr. G. R. Ritchey”

Columnist Carl Sweeney



G.R. Ritchey received his diploma from the Texas State Dental College in Dallas, April 1910, and thus became Dr. G.R. Ritchey. He came to Itasca in 1912, and practiced here the rest of his professional life, eventually becoming the oldest dental practitioner in Texas, working into his nineteenth year. His dental assistant was Miss Annie Hall. She was with him for several years, and later was office nurse for Dr. Campbell.

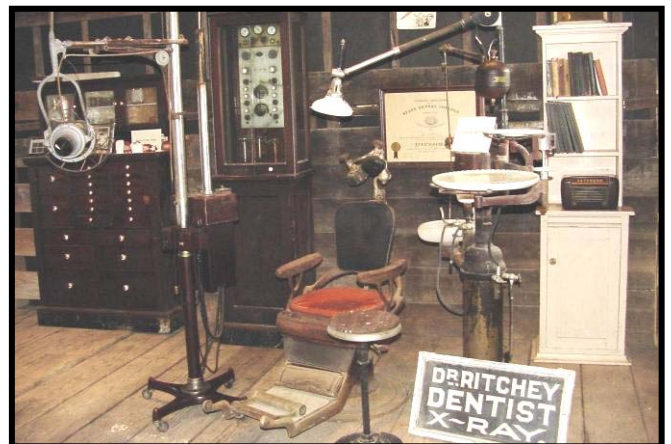
Dr. Ritchey installed the first x-ray machine in this area. The machine along with his chair and other office equipment can be seen in the Itasca Depot Museum, or Heritage Center, I believe it is called now. There are also several of his appointment books there with some entries as follows; 1917 - A.S. Hockaday 50 cents, Sam Files \$2.00 April 1931, Froggie Poe \$1.00, Mrs. Chas Barnes 50 cents, Jenette Sanford \$2.50, and W.B. Blair \$2.50. Dr. Ritchey kept good records. In the blank space in the appointment books he made notations almost like a diary, some of them are; went to Nolan River, went fishing yesterday with Columbus Johnson, went to the Nolan River with Will Massey, was with the Hickey Fishing Club last weekend on the Llano River. There are many other entries like that in those old appointment books. Someone once said that Dr. Ritchey went fishing almost every Friday and listed the fish he caught.

He was also a charter member of the Hickey Fishing Club, which included a few Hillsboro men as well as Itasca residents. Some of them were Dr. C.C. Campbell, Fred Newport, Milton Hampton and others, some of whom were listed in a prior column. Dr. Ritchey served his community in many ways. He was mayor of Itasca when the street paving was done in 1922. They found the old well that initially served Itasca in the early days. It was filled in, covered and paved over. The location of the well was in front of the old Leatherwood Grocery. Later he served on the Itasca City Council for more than one term, and was instrumental in many city improvements during his tenure. He served on the school board for sixteen years, and was active in his church, serving in several capacities there. He was a charter member of the Itasca Rotary Club, and a member all the rest of his life. Every Thursday he helped make the ice cream for dessert, and also led the singing. He also raised flowers and gave them away to his friends.

The smile on his face never changed. His positive attitude and friendliness never changed. Another service that Dr. Ritchey did was that of scoutmaster for Itasca's old Troop 209. I don't know how he found the time to do all the things he did which included going on camp outs and other activities with the scouts such as helping with merit badges. I am sure his influence was beneficial to many of Itasca's young men. Another service Dr. Ritchey performed was doing the dental work for the kids at the Presbyterian Children's Home. In one of the old "Orphan's Herald" back in the late twenties, there was notation that was added the end of the year. He was asked by the Director what they owed him for the year's work. He said, "Oh! I guess about ten dollars will do it." That was dedication folks!

Dr. Ritchey was also vice president and director of the First National Bank in Itasca. When he was mayor the men who served on the city council were; S.J. Files, Joe Martin, Sr., George Derden, and Williard Rees. I don't know who the fifth member was. Mrs. Ritchey was also active in the community with the Ruskin Club, the garden club, her church and many other activities including helping during Rotary meetings, and helping Dr. Ritchey bring his civic activities to fruition.

They raised two children; Howard Ritchey who also became a dentist and practiced in Bryan, Texas. I do not have any information about their daughter Louise.



### YARD SALE - 2 FAMILIES

Friday & Saturday May 21 & 22

Furniture, antiques, low profile wheels, small appliances, farm items, 2 adult bicycles, china, dishes, clothing, tools, and more! Free kittens, too! Proceeds for one sale go to cancer research. Go 3 miles north of Itasca on Hwy 81. Turn left on FM2719 and go 1/4 mile. Turn right on HCR 4115 and follow signs to 132 & 133 PR411.



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

## Wampus Cats of the Week

### Itasca Well Represented at State Spring Meets



Three talented writers proudly represented IHS in the State UIL Academic Meet in Austin on May 6. Devin Corbitt placed 6<sup>th</sup> in Editorial Writing, Megan Goff 7<sup>th</sup> in Feature Writing and Mary Maddox 7<sup>th</sup> in News Writing. These three young ladies are all seniors and were very excited to compete in the meet. This was Corbitt's second time to compete

in Editorial Writing at State. Last year she brought home a 2<sup>nd</sup> place medal.

On May 14, senior Megan Goff and junior Phillip Thomas competed in the State Track and Field Meet. Megan placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in pole vault with a 10' 6" jump and Philip placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the 2 mile run and 6<sup>th</sup> in the one mile run. Megan competed at State last year and placed 5<sup>th</sup> with a 9' 6" jump.



### Special of the Week



"My Wampus Cats believe it is important to be well-rounded. They work hard in the classroom, on the field and in the community."

### '08 Pontiac G6 GT V6, Automatic, Loaded



**One Owner, 19K Miles!**  
**\$13,985**

**Lloyd Ford – Proud Supporter of the Wampus Cats**