

# Paw Print Press

Proudly Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since 1997

Itasca, Texas 76055

Vol. 2010 Issue #35

August 27, 2010

## City Continues Work on Parks



In an effort to serve all the citizens of Itasca including the youngest, the mayor, City Council and city administrator have come together to address the needs and wishes of the future of the community.

Last year the City began the revamping of Lawless Park with the help of several businesses, churches and organizations. This year it is continuing with a \$6,000 investment from the City and a donation from First Presbyterian Church for playground equipment (monkey bars).

This phase of the refurbishing includes a rock waterfall where Mayor Matt Fehnel and City Administrator Mark Gropp are standing, new sidewalks that have already been poured, decorative and functional pole lights and a dome added to the monkey bars donated by FPC.

"Hopefully by next summer we will have added a 20' x 20' cooling off station for the children to play in," Gropp said. "We are also addressing some concerns we have about the lack of respect that some people have for public facilities."



Gropp was referring to the graffiti that has been written on the new picnic tables that the city has put in the park. It should also be noted that as he explained all that the city had planned for the children, he continually picked up soda bottles and trash in the park. The sad fact was that there were two trash cans within two feet of the litter.

Gropp also said that if everything goes well on this project, the city is looking into locating an area for a skateboard park.

## IISD Welcomes Faculty, Students 1<sup>st</sup> Phase of Expansion Completed on Schedule

Last week the IISD employees gathered in the newly expanded cafeteria for the first day of in-service. This was an unique meeting as there were only seven new faces joining the IISD staff. Pictured are new employees 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher Ms.



Rachel Dyer, 4<sup>th</sup> grade English/reading teacher Ms. Krista Weaver, 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher Ms. Rachel Matus, 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade social studies teacher Ms. Rose Donaldson, 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade English teacher Ms. Casie Davison, high school biology/physics teacher Mr. Garrett Dyer and bus driver Ms. Laura Shelby.

During the meeting, Superintendent Glenn Pittman explained the progress made on the expansion of the district. The old junior high has been demolished (pictured below as it went down) and the lunch room has been expanded. The playground for the elementary students across from the elementary school, should be completed by the end of August.

The TEA district rating of Academically Acceptable was discussed and explained.



Continued on page 3

## 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

200 E. Monroe St.

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)

#### APPLICATION PREACHING!

Sermons for the REAL WORLD that we live in.

What good is a wonderful sermon on Sunday if it cannot be applied to the concerns of your life when Monday morning rolls around?

Find the fun, joy, and comfort you were promised. Bring an open heart and mind.

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.

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

*Light The Night By Being Right!*

*Obeys Jesus Become A Nightlighter!*

Join us for worship at the Itasca Church of Christ

All are welcome

303 E. Monroe Sunday 9:45 & 10:45 a.m.

Itasca, TX 5:00 p.m.

254-687-2774 Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

### 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

## First Presbyterian Church

106 N. Lamar Itasca 254-687-2243

[itascafpc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:itascafpc@sbcglobal.net) [www.fpcitasca.org](http://www.fpcitasca.org)

"In mission to and with the Presbyterian Children's 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

### Itasca Ministerial Alliance

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday September 4 9:00 a.m.

### Itasca Zoning Committee Meeting

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

### Itasca City Council Meeting

Monday, September 20, 2010 - 6:00 p.m.

### Itasca ISD School Board Meeting

Monday, September 13, 2010 7:00 p.m.

## Come And See What You Can Do!

Sunday, August 29

PSA

Do you have a passion for helping kids? Do you feel called to reach out to families in need? Would you like to help offer a future with hope to a child?

Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS) is looking for a few volunteers to assist with their Itasca program. Make plans to attend a "Come and See" informational meeting Sunday, August 29, at 1:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall of the Presbyterian Church of Itasca (106 N. Lamar St. - behind the bank). You can meet PCHAS' Itasca staff, discover volunteer opportunities and learn how to become a volunteer with this vital ministry!

From its humble beginnings as a single orphanage in Files Valley, PCHAS has evolved over the past century to serve more than 3,500 children and families in Texas and Louisiana each year. PCHAS offers group homes, foster homes, community outreach programs, support for single parents and advanced education/aftercare opportunities. To learn more about the variety of Christ-centered services PCHAS offers to children in need and their families, visit [www.pchas.org](http://www.pchas.org). Discussed at this meeting will be

1. Short Term Volunteer Opportunities
2. Long Term Volunteer Opportunities
3. If I want to be a volunteer -
4. Volunteer Training Requirements
5. Information about PCHAS

Please join us! Also, First Presbyterian Church worship services begin at 11:00 a.m. and all are welcome. On August 29, we will also have a potluck lunch before the program. Everyone is welcome to join us for lunch, too. Just bring your favorite dish!



## List #1 of City of Itasca Delinquent Tax Information

The City of Itasca is once again shining the spotlight on businesses and individuals who owe delinquent taxes. According to City Tax Collector, Sue Comer, the city of Itasca is owed a large amount of back taxes. The names of the delinquent taxpayers will be listed in the *Paw Print Press* under a state law that allows for the exposure of tardy taxpayers. To avoid exposure taxpayers should pay their outstanding tax debt or set up an installment plan.

An installment plan is an agreement that is arranged by the city tax collector. The installment plan is paid monthly based upon the agreement between the taxpayer and the tax collector. Besides the unwanted publicity that being on the list can create, the interest and penalties make avoiding payments an unattractive option. That means even when a taxpayer is making monthly payments, the amount that's unpaid gets interest and penalties tacked onto it every month.

Should you feel that the information that is or was printed in incorrect, please contact the City of Itasca Tax Collector, Sue Comer at (254) 687-2201. Changes to the city tax roll can only be corrected and/or changed through the Hill County Appraisal District.

Listed below are the delinquent tax payers and the number of years the taxes are in arrears.

Arthur Anderson	28	James Bartley	18
Dominga Bason	2	Baylor University	2
Benbrook Development	5	Teresa Davila	6
Mrs Rufus Brunson	27	Concepcion Castillo	2
Hugh Edgar Channon	2	Elizabeth Coronado	2
Christina Delgado	2	Alma Dominguez	2
Susan Dominguez	3	Opal Mae East	5
Albert English	33		

## IVFD to Host Fish Fry Fundraiser



The Itasca Volunteer Fire Department will host a fish fry fundraiser Saturday, September 4, 2010 from 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m. at the Itasca Fire Station.

The menu will include fish, potato salad, beans, bread, pickles and tea for a \$7.00 donation per plate. Citizens may eat in, take out or have their orders delivered by calling 254-687-2588. Itasca volunteer firefighters will begin taking orders Friday September 3 for delivery.

All funds will go to support the IVFD and everyone's participation will be greatly appreciated.



## School Bell Rings for 2010-2011

Continued from page 1.

The high school and elementary schools both earned Exemplary ratings and the middle school received an Academically Acceptable rating. When all campuses were combined, the high school and elementary scores were not enough to raise the sub populations in the middle school.

With TPM (Texas Projection Measure, which grades schools on a curve) figuring into the equation this year, the TEA ratings are somewhat ambiguous and questionable. The TPM equations will not be used next year. Pittman explained what the district must do to address the areas that need improvement. These areas are what resulted in the middle school and the district receiving an Academically Acceptable rating.

"Our goal is that every student that walks in the door is to be educated in an exemplary manner," Pittman said. "The district's rating is a team effort. It is our job to be sure that every student is successful, with the emphasis on every.

All of these topics were re-addressed in campus meetings. Mr. Rickie Harris in the high school meeting praised his faculty for their hard work and presented them with their new motto, "Success, Every Child, Every Day, Every Hour." The 2009-2010 IHS motto was "Exemplary - 3peat" which they met.

## IISD Lanches New Website Online *Paw Print Press* has new Address

The school district has a new webpage and all employees have new e-mail addresses. The website address is <http://www.itscaisd.org> and there are links for district sites on that home page. A link to the published issues of the *Paw Print Press* is also on the home page of the district's website.

Citizens can send e-mails to the newspaper at that site. Everyone is urged to log on and "check-out" the new website.

\*note - For a short period of time e-mail will be forwarded from the old address.

## My Adventures in Washington DC

Freshman PPP staffer Emma Orr (2009-2010 - 8<sup>th</sup> grader)

Pictures (Top to bottom) – In front of the White House, Students at Mt. Vernon and Potomac River in background.

“Are you sure we won’t crash? Or fall out of the sky?” my friend asked in a shaky voice. “No, I have flown many times and so far I have not crashed, fallen, or even felt like I was in any danger,” I answered with a laugh and a smile.

Many of the sixteen students who set out in June had the same fear since they had never flown in an airplane before, but their fear was later masked with the sheer excitement and wonder of the adventure we had begun.

Somewhere around 5:00 a.m. June 15, sixteen incoming freshmen (class of 2014) loaded their bags on a charter bus bound for D/FW airport. Little did we know about the adventure we were soon to embark on as we got on the airplane. We stepped off the plane in Reagan National Airport, eager to start our sightseeing.



Washington, D.C. is an amazing town that’s full of history. Everyone got to see many monuments, memorials, and museums that they had never dreamed of seeing up close such as the Library of Congress, the Capitol, Mount Vernon, the Vietnam Memorial, the National Archives, and the Lincoln Memorial just to name a few.

One of my favorites was actually the Washington Monument because while I was nervously making my way to the top of the monument, I faced a fear of mine: claustrophobia, a fear of being around too

many people or in tight places. The only way up (as well as the only way down) was a large elevator, which our whole tour group was crammed into. But by the time we were up at the top, taking pictures of all of Washington, I had forgotten my fear and was simply thrilled to be up there.

I also made some friends while in D.C. Since Itasca is so small, we toured the area in a group with two other schools - Hart’s Bluff and Seadrift. Both schools are quite a ways away from Itasca, so it was exciting to meet some new people that I probably wouldn’t have met otherwise.

Something cool I learned about Washington, D.C. was that at the top of the capitol stands a statue of a lady name the Goddess of Liberty, which stands 19 ½ feet tall. It’s the largest statue in D.C. because the government would not allow any other statue to be taller than it. The second tallest was the Lincoln Memorial, which was close to 19 feet.

Also, in the Lincoln Memorial there were two of Lincoln’s famous speeches. We were told by our WorldStrides tour guide that one of them had a typo, and all the students were determined to be the first to find it. But my friend that was afraid of flying found it—the word ‘future’ was misspelled. Whoever carved it put an E at the front instead of an F.

Continued on page 5.





## 2010 Wampus Cat Quarterbacks

Sports Reporter David Corbitt



The 2010 Wampus Cat quarterbacks are led by Coach Joe Rodriguez. Starting quarterback this year is sophomore Opie Mayberry, backed up by sophomores Cole Coleman and Preston Head. All three have proven that they have what it takes to lead this Wampus Cat team to another great year.

"All three of these young men are capable quarterbacks," Coach Rodriguez said. "We could start the game with any of them and never miss a beat. They are all versatile and quick, but more important they are smart and coachable. They listen to their coach and then they are able to assess the situation on the field and apply their knowledge. Freshman Fisher Hennig (left) will be the starting JV quarterback but he has the same skills and could easily play on the varsity. We are looking forward to a good year."

## Washington D.C.

Continued from page 4.

There was one experience that I'll never forget—and it didn't happen at a museum or memorial. As one of our days of sightseeing drew to a close, we ventured into a mall in the area for dinner. Nick was dared by his father to dance with some senior citizens in the mall—and he danced with pleasure! One lady even gave him her phone number.

Eventually our fun had come to a close when we dragged our suitcases (which were even heavier than when we first arrived due to all the souvenirs we had purchased throughout the trip) back to the airport. Some of us were sad to leave, while some others were eager to get back home. Either way, each and every one of us had shared a unique experience that week that we will never forget. I encourage everyone who has not yet been to Washington, D.C. to check it out sometime—you will learn something!

## 2010 Varsity Football

<b>August</b>			
27	Ranger	Away	7:30 p.m.
<b>September</b>			
3	Rice	Home	7:30 p.m.
10	Open		
17	Tolar	Home	7:30 p.m.
24	Wortham	Home	7:30 p.m.
<b>October</b>			
1	Teague	Away	7:30 p.m.
8	*DeLeon	Homecoming	7:30 p.m.
15	*Bosqueville	Away	7:30 p.m.
22	*Valley Mills (Sr. Night)	Home	7:30 p.m.
29	*Santo	Away	7:30 p.m.
<b>November 5</b>			
	Bye		
*Depicts district games			

## JV Football Schedule

<b>August</b>			
26	Ranger	Home	5:00 p.m.
<b>September</b>			
2	Rice	Away	5:00 p.m.
9	TBA		
16	Tolar	Away	5:00 p.m.
23	Wortham	Away	5:00 p.m.
30	Teague	Home	5:00 p.m.
<b>October</b>			
7	DeLeon	Away	5:00 p.m.
14	Bosqueville	Home	5:00 p.m.
21	Valley Mills	Away	5:00 p.m.
28	Santo	Home	5:00 p.m.

## JH Football Schedule

<b>September</b>			
9	TBA		
16	Tolar	Away	5:00 p.m.
23	Wortham	Away	5:00 p.m.
30	Teague	Home	5:00 p.m.
<b>October</b>			
7	DeLeon	Away	5:00 p.m.
14	Bosqueville	Home	5:00 p.m.
21	Valley Mills	Away	5:00 p.m.
28	Santo	Home	5:00 p.m.

## IISD Calendar

<b>August</b>	
26	JV football game Patton Field 5:00 p.m.
27	Varsity football game Ranger HS 7:30 p.m.
<b>September</b>	
6 (Monday)	Labor Day - Holiday
7 (Tuesday)	Middle School Open House - All grades (5, 6, 7, 8) 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
9 (Thursday)	IHS Open House (Seniors & parents - Library 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.) All grades - 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. high school



## Businesses Show Your Wampus Cat Pride with Spirit Banner



The Itasca Booster Club is seeking Wampus Cat sponsors. Show your support for the Cats with the purchase of a banner. Your banner will be displayed on the Patton Field fence for all football games and at the Wampus Cat Ballpark for all baseball games. Banner sale proceeds provide Booster Club funds for activities and items needed for student educational and extracurricular activities that fall outside the scope of the Itasca

ISD budget. Itasca ISD has given approval for the Booster Club to sell and display these banners. All other individuals wishing to display banners must seek school administration approval.

Yearly banner sponsorship cost is \$100. The 3' x 6' banners are black with gold lettering. Please keep your banner simple with as few words as possible so that it may be read easily.

The banners can be personalized with your logo if it is digitized or you can put a slogan or the name of your favorite Wampus Cat.

The Booster Club will display the banner for you and all banners become Booster Club property. If you have any questions, please call Laura Crouch at 254 – 337 - 0830.

## More Back to School Community Fair Pictures



## July/August Police Blotter

7-14 - Traffic stop (Speeding 86 mph/70 mph) Vehicle impounded - No drivers license H/M 20 - I-35W northbound mm 8

7-14 - Request for civil standby - 500 blk. E. Wilkerson

7-15 - Criminal mischief report - (Damage to property) - 500 blk. E. Wilkerson St.

7-16 - 911 hang up call (Cell phone) - 100 blk. E. Marrion St.

7-16 - Report of reckless driver - Hwy 81 northbound

7-17 - Request for a death notification - HCSO

7-17 - Assisted stranded motorist (set up emergency lights) - I-35W southbound mm 7

7-17 - Report of hit & run accident - Motor home backed into parked pickup truck - 1200 blk. E. Main St.

7-18 - Assisted DPS with DWI arrest H/M 36 - I-35W southbound mm 8

7-19 - Assisted wrecker company with a vehicle pick up for city - 800 blk. Mill St.

7-19 - Assisted HCSO & DPS with one car accident - Roll over (Traffic control) - Hwy. 81 south of Itasca

7-20 - Report of suspicious person throwing rocks at residence - 300 blk. N. Aquilla St.

7-20 - Disturbance (Verbal) - No arrest or citations - 200 blk. S. King St.

7-20 - Family conflict - 300 blk. N. King St.

7-22 - Complaint of juveniles possibly breaking windows - 100 blk. Front St.

7-22 - Report of 18 wheeler driving reckless - I 35W northbound

7-22 - Secured building with open door - 100 blk. N. Hill St.

7-22 - Assisted CPS with welfare of baby - HCR 2719

7-23 - Assisted DPS with DWI - Oklahoma drivers license - I-35W northbound mm 12

7-23 - Assisted HCSO with traffic stop & recovery of stolen property - 200 blk. W. Wilkerson St.

7-23 - Animal complaint (Dog bite child) - Animal quarantined - Citations no rabies vaccine & dog at large - 500 blk. E. South St.

7-23 - Warrant arrest executed - 200 blk. N. Hill St.

7-24 - Report of phone harassment - 200 blk. N. Hill St.

7-24 - Alarm call - 900 blk. E. Main St.

7-24 - Disturbance (Physical - slap - threaten with gun) - 2 arrests (Aggravated assault w/deadly weapon & public intoxication) - 800 blk. Shuttle St.

7-25 - Disturbance (Verbal & Physical) - 300 blk. E. North

7-25 - Animal complaint (Pit bull dog had attacked another dog) - While making the call another attack occurred - Pit bull was shot - Dog was not claimed - 500 blk. E. South St.

7-26 - Request for close patrol concerning threats - Itasca PD

7-26 - IPD took receipt of two counterfeit Postal Money Orders - 200 E. Main St. & 200 S. Hill St.

7-27 - Report of theft over \$50 - 800 Weave St.

7-28 - Report of a violation of a CTW issued by IPD - 200 blk. Hamilton St. (Continued bottom next column)

### Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held on September 13, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Court Room, 136 N. Hill St. Itasca, Texas. The purpose of the hearing is to order the repair/removal of the following structure: 801 E. Main St., Itasca, Texas Files & Chiles Blk. 4 Lot 5 & 6

Wayland Price, Code Enforcement

### Beautify the Itasca Cemetery

Back in the day when the main road went directly past the Itasca Cemetery everyone took pride in insuring their family member's final resting place was always landscaped and beautiful. Now many family members have moved away or passed on themselves, leaving no one to tend to the cemetery plot but local concerned citizens.

There is a small group of people in Itasca who work diligently to maintain the cemetery and honor those who have been laid to rest there, but this does not come without some cost of both time and money.

Now the cemetery lies in a corner where few pass any more, except local residence going home and trains, and seems to be a past priority to many, but WE can change that or at least help. Your monetary donation can certainly go a long way in assisting this small committee. It would be great if you could mark it on your calendar to send in an Annual Donation, but if not, I ask that you at least send in a one time donation to assist this marvelous group of Itasca Citizens. Please mail your donation to:

Itasca Cemetery Association

% Claydean Hamilton

131 West Main St. Itasca, TX 76055

Thanking you in advance for your continued support of Itasca. Best regards, Debbie Cole

### Police Blotter Continued

7-29 - Reports of burglaries of 2 different vehicles - 200 blk. S. Lamar St.

7-29 - Report of theft of lawnmower - 400 blk. E. Main St.

7-31 - Citizen complaint (loud music) - 400 blk. E. Adams St.

7-31 - Report of burglary of a resident (Over \$50) - 300 blk. W. Main St.

8-1 - Assisted truck w/trailer full of horses - I35W southbound mm 7

8-2 - Report of theft of service (water) - 300 blk. N. Wesley St.



**Tommy Alverson**  
**Curry Building Itasca**  
**Saturday, August 28**  
**8:00 p.m. \$10.00**  
**BYOB**

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### For Sale – 2 Lots

Corner of S. Wesley & E. Henderson Sts.  
 Itasca Call 817-368-1772 or 254-205-0704 for more  
 information

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### Sherry's Licensed In-Home Day Care

\*\*has openings starting August 23 for 18 months-3 years  
 and before and after school I have 35 years experience, all  
 meals served, structured days, learning program, lots of  
 fun and activities. Come see us. Only a few slots available.  
 Call Sherry @ 817-202-5695

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### Civil War Information Needed

The Hillsboro Hill County Genealogical Society is seek-  
 ing locations of Confederate and Union Soldiers buried  
 within Hill County, Texas. If you know of such burials  
 please e-mail Ms. Fox at [peggyfox1861@sbcglobal.net](mailto:peggyfox1861@sbcglobal.net) or  
 mail information to:

Peggy Fox, Confederate Consultant HCGS  
 P.O. Box 636 Hillsboro, TX 76645

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### 30-Year Reunion Planned

The Class of 1980 is making plans for a 30-year class  
 reunion and would like members to contact us with ad-  
 dresses and contact information. Contacts are  
[Dlvrb31@aol.com](mailto:Dlvrb31@aol.com), [Dlvrb31@yahoo.com](mailto:Dlvrb31@yahoo.com), or on  
<http://www.facebook.com/deevrba> and you may also con-  
 tact Debbie Sellers Gregory or Kathy Cadena. Please con-  
 tact us as soon as possible. Go Wampus Cats! Debbie  
 Vrba

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### For Sale

### Great Starter Home

Located on a corner lot with plenty of trees and a large  
 fenced backyard. It's just a few blocks from the Itasca  
 School District. It has been completely renovated from  
 top to bottom and freshly painted inside and out. It has 3  
 bedrooms, 1 full bath, large kitchen, nice size living room  
 with beautiful hardwood floor, central air/heat. It has new  
 plumbing, wiring and hot water heater along with new  
 carpet and energy efficient windows.

\$69,800/OBO (no owner finance). For more info call  
 Willie @ 972.365.7318 or Teresa @ 214.621.8332.

### House for Sale in Itasca

Built in the 1930's this house was completely  
 remodeled in 2006 with new hardwood floors, cab-  
 inets, countertop, dishwasher and walk-in marble  
 shower. It has 2 bedrooms, living room, kitchen,  
 hall, small backroom, screen porch w/ceiling fan  
 and 1 car detached garage. A 13 SEER Rating  
 central AC and gas Central Heat was added in  
 2006. Call owner - cell # 817-909-1459.

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### Need to Hire

### Elementary Crossing Guard

7:15 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. 2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.  
 Contact Principal K. Farquhar 687-2922 ext 120  
 Must be able to pass background check.

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### Local Artists Needed

September 17-19, 2010

Antique Alley Texas and 25 MILES of SALES  
 Downtown Grandview is seeking LOCAL ART-  
 ISTs to take advantage of the crowds of people in  
 Grandview. Vendor Inquiries Welcome! If you are  
 a talented artist and want to sell your work con-  
 tact [AntiqueAlleyTexas.com](http://AntiqueAlleyTexas.com) or call 817-240-4948.

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### Cindy Lou's Café

Monday- Thursday & Saturday 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Friday 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

w/ "All U Can Eat" Catfish dinner - \$9.99

Single catfish plate - \$7.99

Closed on Sunday.

\$5.99 lunch special during week

(meat, 3 vegetables & dessert)

Delicious homemade pies \$2.49 a slice

Special order - Whole pie - \$13.00

Pecan Pie - \$15.00

Call 254-687-9982 for to-go orders.

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### FUMC Taco Supper Fundraiser

Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2010 5:30 p.m.

Itasca First United Methodist Church

\$6.00 includes taco salad

w/all fixings, tea/coffee & dessert

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### Hill County Defensive Driving School

September 18 8:00 a.m.

Walk-ins Welcome! 582-5111

Insurance Discounts!

125 W. Elm – Hillsboro, Texas



## Remember When . . . “The Burial Garden”

Columnist Carl Sweeney

Typist & Carl's Assistant Brittany Reid



A picture of the Itasca Cemetery taken last Saturday (August 21, 2010)

Humans consider death as the final darkness at the end of life. It has been both feared and worshipped since the beginning of history. We simply cannot stand the thought that death might be final, therefore all civilization, tribes, or groups of people have their beliefs of life after death. For this reason, we have dreamed up numerous practices and rituals to deal with it and perhaps understand it. We have personified the unknown with a mythical figure we call the “devil,” or the “grim reaper.” We have given him a scythe to harvest human souls, still, death remains a mystery.

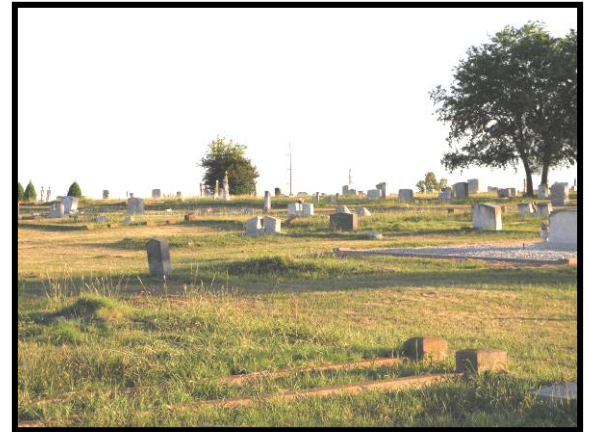
Perhaps because of this mystery we immortalize death with our monuments, stones and markers that tell about a person who is buried there. We take the bodies of those whose spirits have departed and place them in the ground beneath the markers. It is not only out of respect for the dead, but also to remember the living. Before the advent of the “Garden Cemetery,” the dead were buried in churchyards of Europe. At first the rich or famous were buried within the church. The rest were buried in the churchyards, and even here, the social status dictated what section in which a person was buried.

During the 1700s, the population became too much for burials in the churchyards. In France in 1786, it was decided to move all the bodies from the cemetery to catacombs. It was a huge undertaking. There was no way to identify remains, so they simply arranged the bones in rows. It has been estimated that there are three to six million bodies in the catacombs. At first cemeteries were built within the city. One in France was named Pere-Lachaise. It was named after the Confessor Priest Louis XIV. Some of the burials there were Victor Hugo, Chopin, Oscar Wilde and Sarah Bernhardt. Pere-Lachaise is known around the world for its beauty and landscaping, with pathways for carriages. They thought it reflected the new creative age where art and nature could combine to celebrate the lives of those buried there.

America followed the standard set by Paris, but England was slow to accept the new way of burial. Throughout the 1800s, the people of London continued to be buried in over flowing churchyards, or private burial grounds within the city. In 1832, the London Cemetery Company opened the first public cemetery at Kensal Green; it consisted of fifty-four acres quite a distance from the city. It was very fashionable to be buried there. It boasts the greatest number of royal burials outside of Windsor and Westminster Abbey. Kensal Green might be the most fashionable but Highgate is the most romantic. It has fallen into disrepair now, but for many years it was considered the “Victorian Valhalla.” The main purpose of our column today is to bring attention to our own Itasca Cemetery. I can find no history of when it was first started or who started it. It had to have been started when people settled in this area. Itasca was incorporated in 1885, but of course people were living here prior to that.

The first I can remember was when Mrs. Pat E. Hooks was in charge of the cemetery association. If someone knows anything about it, the information would be appreciated. In 1951, Mrs. Hooks could no longer see after the cemetery, and apparently, no one else was interested. The city of Itasca assumed the responsibility. Paul McKown was city administrator at the time. Paul set up a file card system and sent notices for lot upkeep to owners and also to close relatives of lot owners. For years, enough money was collected to keep the cemetery. This practice was discontinued some time ago. As a cemetery gets older there are fewer people to contribute, since lots of them have no living descendents. At one time, the city had a man hired full time to keep the cemetery, now it is too large for one man to keep.

Folks if you have a lot, you need to pay for its upkeep or keep it up yourself. Our cemetery needs all the help it can get. The income is not enough to keep it up. The cemetery association needs to do its part also. It needs first to have enough volunteers for an association. The association needs to keep the public informed of its finances and to try to enlist the aid of volunteers. An informed public will be more sympathetic to their needs. Monuments should be straightened, bushes trimmed and roads maintained. But they cannot do it without help and funds. Those are your people buried there, so let's help the cemetery association take care of our loved ones' graves with monetary assistance, physical assistance and perhaps a remembrance in your will.



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## 2010-2011 IHS Varsity Cheerleaders



Photo by Ms. Penney Faries

"Alright ladies, let's get together on this one and as Megan used to say, put a little SPIRIT in it!" The 2010-2011 cheerleaders are ready to hit the field and cheer for the Black and Gold. Cheering on the Mighty Wampus Cats this year are team captain Jasmine Guy, who is the only senior on the squad, junior Aren Barton, sophomores Da'Jae Wells, Brittany Reid and Alaina Valentine, freshmen Emma Orr, Susie Rodriguez and Chelsea Faries. The squad is coached and sponsored by Ms. Brenda Swilley who also sponsors sophomore Jessica Zint who suits up as the beloved Wampus Cat and the junior high cheerleading squad.

The squad's preparation began at the National Cheerleader's Association cheer camp at Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas the last week in June. The camp took the girls through an ex-

tensive four days of cheering, chanting, stunting, and performing. Leadership and teamwork classes were also held to make the team stronger in all aspects.

For the second year in a row Jasmine Guy made the All-American Team and Wampus Cat Jessica Zint earned the "Most Improved Mascot" trophy.

The squads first appearance on the field will be this Friday night in Ranger, but they have already been hard at work representing IHS. They opened the Back to School Community Fair with a cheer and later preformed a crowd pleasing "Electric Slide" dance which had other attendees, including high school principal Rickie Harris and senior Alex Sparks, joining in the fun. Two weeks ago, the squad traveled to Waco to do a photo shoot for the Waco Tribune webpage. There are 156 shots of the cheerleaders that can be seen at [wacotrib.com](http://wacotrib.com) (click on sports and then high school).

