

Paw Print Press

Proudly Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since 1997

Itasca, Texas 76055

Vol. 2010 Issue #38

September 17, 2010

Mayor declares September 8, 2010 Carl Sweeney Day in Itasca

Reporter Hannah Johnson

Very few people in life have the honor of having a day named after them, especially not in Itasca. Last Wednesday, Mayor Matt Fehnel proclaimed September 8, 2010 officially "Carl Sweeney Day."

The Proclamation signed by the mayor and



witnessed by Sweeney's wife Marguriel, daughter Karen Degner, husband Bob, and granddaughter Shelley, the *Paw Print Press* staff, IISD Superintendent Glen Pittman and a number of city officials read in part: "Whereas, Carl Sweeney born on September 8, 1920 and raised in "The Big Little Town," is proclaimed a true Itasca." The proclamation continued by listing some of Sweeney's numerous achievements, many of which impacted the lives of the citizens of Itasca, over the last ninety years.

Itasca Weather

By Carl Sweeney

Recording Itasca's weather for 55 years
54 Years for the National Weather Service

This year Itasca started off cold and with more snow than normal. The cold and snow continued until April.

April, May and June had less than normal precipitation, just when the crops needed it most. Some farmers were lucky and had a few showers.

Our first 100° day came on June 4, 2010. We had four 100° days in June. July was a wet month with almost 4 1/2 inches of rain, but the heat continued. There was almost no rain in August.

Before the cold front came in September, I recorded 30 days of 100° or more with the highest being 109° on August 24, 2010. As of today, September 11, 2010, the weather has been nice since the cold front came in on September 3. As of this weekend, we have had over 8 inches of rain in September.

City Continues Beautification of Downtown Area

Reporter Emma Orr



In the last few years, downtown Itasca has undergone a transformation. This makeover has been the effort of many organizations including the Rotary Club, IISD and the EDC (Economic Development Committee). Unimaginable amounts of work have gone into Veterans' Memorial Park, Lawless Park, Itasca Depot Education and Heritage Center, and Heritage Park. Now the city is working on beautifying the downtown storefronts and sidewalks. They have installed awnings supported by wood columns that hold a lantern. This improvement has been done in an effort to make the downtown area more inviting to businesses that might decide to open in Itasca.

Continued on page 6.

Homecoming October 8-9

Friday, October 8

3:30 p.m. — Parade—Downtown

Open House- Citizens State Bank

7:30 p.m. — Football Game — Itasca vs. DeLeon

6:30 - 11 p.m. — Fellowship IISD Cafeteria

Saturday, October 9

9 - 11 a.m. — Coffee/Get Together ISD Cafeteria

11:30 a.m. — Barbeque Lunch in Cafeteria

1 p.m. — Business Meeting - Special Events Center

50-Year Honored Class — 1960

All Classes ending in 5s and 0s will be honored
All ex-students registered with the Ex-Students Association are receiving this issue of the *Paw Print Press*. There is more Homecoming information throughout this issue.

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

200 E. Monroe St.

Sunday School 9:45 Worship 10:50 a.m.

Youth (7th - 12th 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

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!

Obey 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 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 Zoning Committee Meeting

2nd 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, October 11, 2010 7:00 p.m.

Book Fair

Dear Parents, The Itasca ISD Library will host a Scholastic Book Fair Monday, September 27 through Friday, October 1. Students, parents, and teachers will have the opportunity to purchase titles, which include old favorites as well as the latest works by popular authors and book illustrators. The library will be open for purchases Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 7:45-4:30 and Tuesday 7:45-6:00. Money earned from the book fair will be used to purchase additional books for the library. All parents, students, and teachers are urged to support the book fair.



Public Notice

City Of Itasca

Texas Community Development Block Grant Program

The City of Itasca is giving notice of the city's intent to submit Texas Community Development Block Grant Program grant application for a Community Development Fund grant request of \$299,999 for the improvements to the municipal wastewater treatment plant located at 902 South Hill Street for citywide benefit. The application is available for review at City Hall during regular business hours.

Defensive Driving Class

September 18, 2010

8:00 a.m. (lunch break) 2:30

For ticket dismissal & or insurance discounts

Available in Spanish also

125 W. Elm St. Hillsboro 254-582-5111

Walk-ins welcome!

Happy Birthday



Ashton Tinklenberg turned 7 years old on August 19. He celebrated with his cousins and friends by hosting a swim party at his home on August 21.

Ashton is the son of Mike and Kelly Tinklenberg and the grandson

of Daniel and Susan Bason, and Mike and Kathy Tinklenberg of Minnesota.

Antique Tractors, Engines at Go Texan/Fair

Antique tractors and engines will be on display during the Go Texan/Cotton Pickin' Fair to be held in Hillsboro Saturday, September 25. The fair will be held in the 100 and 200 blocks of East Franklin Street from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

The tractors and engines will be on display throughout the day. The show is sponsored by the Heart of Texas Tractor and Engine Club. People's Choice awards will be presented to the top three entrants in the show.

In addition, there will be awards for the Best Original, Farthest Traveled, Best Engine and Best Garden Tractor. All area residents with antique farm equipment are invited to participate.

For more information, contact Dee at 254-582-9875.

Local Organizations Granted Funds through HILCO's Operation Round Up® Program

Press Release

Operation Round Up® is a voluntary program that 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 July meeting, HILCO Electric's Trust Board voted to disburse \$10,496.24 to nine organizations in the HILCO service area. These funds were donated during the second quarter of 2010. Grant checks were presented on Thursday, August 5th at the Whitney HILCO office. On hand to help with the presentations was Trust Board Member Richard Turner and Board Directors Ron Roberts, Jan Smith and George Thiess.



Recipients of the first quarter funds disbursements were

- **Aquila Scholarship Foundation, Inc. (Aquila) \$500 - Funds for college scholarships
- **Building Leaders Using Education (Covington) \$2,000 - Contribution for the after school program (pictured)
- **Ellis Christian Women's Job Corps (Waxahachie) \$600 - Contribution towards four new computers
- **Ellis Co. Honor Flight (Waxahachie) \$1,200 - Contribution for Washington DC trip for WWII veterans
- **House Where Jesus Shines (Waco) \$2,842.50 - Commercial grade freezer
- **Isaiah's Place, Inc. (Whitney) \$553.74 - Educational materials and scholarship fund
- **Lake Whitney Ministerial Alliance-School Supply Committee (Whitney) \$1,000 - School supplies - needy children
- **Waxahachie Care Services (Waxahachie) \$1,000 - Food for the food pantry/food bank
- **Waxahachie Preparatory Academy (Waxahachie) \$800 - Start up cost for volleyball program

Since the Operation Round Up® program began in 2001, over \$440,063.90 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 September 30, 2010. Applications are available online at 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.

Senior Spotlight - Maria Coronado

Reporter Aren Barton & Brandon Duby
Caricature by Martin Martinez



Maria Coronado is known at Itasca High School for her style, outgoing and friendly demeanor and always smiling face. Maria is a friend to all who know her and a pleasant image to those who don't.

"I love making people laugh," Maria said. "Part of my motto in life is to give people you meet in life a million reasons to smile."

Maria Trinidad Coronado, also known as "Paloma" to her family and friends, lives with her grandparents, Mercedes and Andre Cruz. She has three older brothers: George, Joel and Eduardo, one younger brother, Jimmy John, a sophomore at Itasca High and two older sisters Edith and Erica. She has a large extended family which includes nieces Marilyn and Melody, three nephews Joel Jr., Favian, and Michael and favorite cousin Karen who is a freshman at Itasca High.

"My grandpa is my role model," Maria said. "He is a man of faith and he works for everything he gets."

In her free time, Maria enjoys playing soccer with her family, listening to country and Christian music, especially her favorite singing artist Carrie Underwood, and singing in her church band at Third Day Worship Center.

"I started singing when I was twelve," Maria reflected. "I love it!"

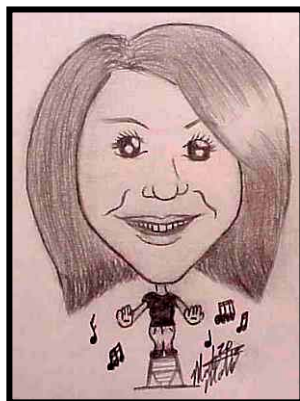
Singing is not Maria's only talent. She has been playing the flute in the high school band for four years and this year she earned the position of head drum major.

"Band has been a good experience for me, and it's really fun and interesting," Maria said. "Young people should always listen to the advice of wise older people, you made need it later. Remember 'God doesn't give you the people you want, He gives you the people you need to make you into the person you're meant to be.'"

Her years at IHS holds many fond memories for Maria such as "getting all excited and tatted up for the football games, laughing, being 'slow' with friend Nancy Reyes and being loud with Faviola Mandujano."

Maria plans to continue her education and become either an elementary music teacher or a Spanish teacher, but is unsure what college she will attend.

"I am considering being a teacher because I love music and kids," Maria Coronado said. "I want to be successful in my career, I want to travel around the world and I want to learn how to box." She continued with a smile, "I am also waiting for my fantasy prince."



Meet the Press - Emma Orr

Reporter Hannah Johnson

Starting the 2010-2011 school year are four new reporters on the *Paw Print Press* and only one of them is a girl. Emma Marie Orr is a thirteen-year-old freshman who is ready and very eager about being on the staff of the town newspaper.



"Since I am a reporter, I get to write some senior spotlights," Emma said. "I am very excited because I'm an underclassman. I'll be meeting new people and making friends, since I don't know everyone in the Big Little Town" of Itasca.

Emma is the daughter of Angelia and William Orr, and the younger sister of Sam, also a freshman at IHS. Other than writing for the *PPP*, Emma is busy being a varsity cheerleader, playing clarinet in the band and running on the cross country team.

When she graduates in four years, she wants to attend Texas A & M University and become part of their Visualization Program, where she will study the art of animation.

2010 Varsity Football

W - 2 L - 0

September			
17	Tolar	Home	7:30 p.m.
24	Wortham	Home	7:30 p.m.
October			
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.
*Depicts district games			

JV Football

W - 2

L - 0

September			
16	Tolar	Away	5:00 p.m.
23	Wortham	Away	5:00 p.m.
30	Teague	Home	5:00 p.m.
October			
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.

2010 Homecoming Information

Class of 1960

The Graduating Class of 1960 will have a Get-Together at the Curry Building, Saturday, October 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Class of 1970 Reunion

The Itasca High School Class of 1970 will have an informal Class Reunion after the Homecoming Parade until Midnight. The reunion will be at Bob Wilson's House located at 207 South College Street in Itasca. A light meal will be served around 6:00 p.m.

For more information contact Helen (Clay) Trlica on face book or @ 254-826-5828, Karen Sweeney Degner @ Kdegner52@yahoo.com or 254-533-2378, or Bob Wilson at bwilson@hilco.coop or 817-845-6072. If anyone has phone numbers or email address for class members please call or email us. All friends are invited.

30-Year Reunion Planned Class of 1980

The Class of 1980 is planning a 30-year class reunion. Members please contact us with addresses and contact information. Contacts are Dlvrb31@aol.com, Dlvrb31@yahoo.com, or on <http://www.facebook.com/deevrba> and you may also contact Debbie Sellers Gregory or Kathy Cadena. Please contact us as soon as possible. Go Wampus Cats! Debbie Vrba

Itasca Booster Club

Calling all Wampus Cat Fans

Wampus Cats come in all ages and all of them are needed to help make a difference in the district.

Everyone is urged to join the Itasca Booster Club. It is not just for band or athletics, but also for all classes and organizations in elementary, middle school and high school. The Booster Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the IISD library. Make plans to attend the next meeting and support the students with your time and effort. It will be greatly appreciated.

90's Classes Homecoming Reunion

Saturday, October 9th, 2010 6:00 pm-1:00 am Location: TRD, will post later

Calling all IHS graduates from the classes 1990-1999...

It's that time again, Homecoming!!! Let's do it up BIG by celebrating together. We will have music and food, but they don't come cheap. We ask that you please make a small \$20 donation to help with expenses! Mail all donations to the following:

Kelly Tinklenberg
602 Williams ST
Grandview, TX 76050

(make checks payable to: Kelly Tinklenberg)
Receipt Upon Request

Any remaining funds will be donated to the Ex-Students Association Scholarship fund

RSVP: Attending Not Attending Maybe

please return this form **EVEN IF NOT ATTENDING**

If you would like to scan and email any pictures/memorabilia from our school days, please send to ktink@itascasisd.org. I will put on display for all to see at the reunion! Thanks!

Calling All Present and Past Itascans

Our cemetery is in great need! I do not know how Clay Dean and her group have done the good job they have, with the small budget they have to work with.

Do you think your lawn would stay in good condition with a small payment you made many years ago?

We desperately need everyone who has family buried here to send a donation to help us build a fund large enough to keep the cemetery looking the way that would make us all proud. Our parents, family, and soldiers are all buried there. We need to step up and make a difference, I can think of no better way to honor them. Please send your donation to Itasca Cemetery Association, 131 W. Main Itasca, TX 76055. Betty Sumner, President of Itasca Revitalization

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 % Clay Dean Hamilton 131 West Main St. Itasca, TX 76055

Thanking you in advance for your continued support of Itasca.

Best regards, Debbie Cole

City Beautifies Downtown Area

Continued from page 1

Exes and residents who gather downtown for the Homecoming Parade this year will appreciate the shelter.

These awnings will also be beneficial to vendors if the city decides to accept the invitation that has been issued to join Antique Alley Texas and expand the semiannual "25 Miles of Sales" to include Itasca.

The downtown awning project is not the only project in the works for Itasca. The city is still searching for a location to build a skateboarding park.

Citizens have voiced their appreciation of the city council, administrator, mayor and city employees for their hard work that is continually enhancing the lives of Itascans.

"It is amazing to see what a difference ten years can make in a town," a visitor to Itasca said. "I was here after the fire in 1997 and this does not look like the same town. It is really becoming "downtown rural America."

Request for Homecoming BBQ Reservation

Saturday, October 9 – 11:30 p.m.
Itasca ISD Cafeteria

Please reserve _____ tickets @ \$12.00 each for the Noon Barbecue October 9, 2010.

Please print

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Tickets will be \$15.00 at door.

Total \$ _____

You will pick up your paid tickets at the door of the cafeteria. No mail outs.

Send check payable to: Itasca Ex-Student Association before September 27, 2010.

Itasca Ex-Student Association, P.O. Box 324, Itasca, TX 76055

Need a Place to Stay? Make Reservations Now.



Harry & Lisa Von Borstel
Owners

The Windmill Bed & Breakfast

(800) 951-0033
(254) 582-7373
www.windmillbb.com
Email: windmillbb@hillsboro.net

441 Hill County Road 2421E
Hillsboro, TX 76645

Have You Purchased Your Wampus Cat Brick?



If you would like to purchase one or more Wampus Cat memorial bricks, please clip and mail the form below along with a \$50 check for each brick you are purchasing. If you need further information please contact at Judy Offutt at 254-687- 2302 (work) or Matt Fehnel at 254-687-2331 ext 1132 (work).

Itasca ISD Brick Reservation Form

Inscription is limited to 3 lines with 15 spaces on each line.

Clip and send completed form with a check to Kelly Tinklenberg, 123 N. College, Itasca, TX 76055.

Bricks purchased this year and before September, 2011 will be laid by next homecoming.

Itasca Depot Heritage & Education Center 2010 Schedule

October

9 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

(Saturday, Homecoming)



Nolen's Woodworking and Engraving

We can do all your custom engraving as well as photos on wood, crystal, and t-shirts. If you have any special photos you want to preserve we can do that as well. Please call us at 245-205-3284 at any time and we will help you out.

Exes Show Your Wampus Cat Pride with Spirit Banner



The Itasca Booster Club is seeking Wampus Cat sponsors. Your banner will be displayed on the Patton Field fence for all football games and at the Wampus Cat Ballpark for all baseball games.

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 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.

Delinquent Tax Information #4

The City of Itasca is once again shining the spotlight on businesses and individuals who owe delinquent 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.

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.

The number to the right of the names is the number of years the taxes are in arrears.

Mercy Stewart-2	John Conners-7	Torino Retail-3
Don Thompson-2	Texas Three Health Associates-2	
Jose And Gladis Vincencio - 2	Trinity Aqua - 5	
Earl Valentine - 20	Carrie Washington - 24	
Bennie E West - 5	William Goar - 5	
Albert English - 33	Barbara Williams - 12	
Zelma Williams - 16	Annette Willis - 4	
Glen and Betty Worley - 2	Delores Evans - 4	
Maria Delosangele Escobedo-2	Denna & Jeffery Keller-3	
William Goar-5	Celeste & Eric Gardner-2	Etta Guy -33
Felipe Gonzales - 4	Eugene Hewitt - 7	
Vickie & Jackie Gossett - 2	Hester Lee Graves Est - 2	
Thelma Guy-13	James Harris Sr-2	Martha Holt-2
Veronica Howard - 8	L & S Materials - 2	
Tammy & Marvin Hyder - 3	Charles Jackson - 31	
Mrs Earl Jackson - 33	Van S Jarmon Jr Est - 11	
Geneva Johnson - 13	K D Properties 5	
Romona Sue Leonforte - 5	Lillie Lowe - 16	
Sue Machate - 32	Martha Martinez - 3	
Darrell Mayberry - 2	Annette Willis - 4	
Glen And Betty Worley - 2	Zelma Williams 16	

Paw Print Press

Have a news story, human-interest story, or need to advertise your business or garage sale? Call 254-687-2922 ext 158 or e-mail us at bpetrash@itascaisd.org or you may send articles for publication to: *Paw Print Press*, 123 N College St., Itasca, TX 76055. We do not charge for ads, but we do accept donations for our scholarship fund.

Letters to the Editor are also printed. Due to the limited amount of space we must ask that you limit your letters to 125 words and that they are not slanderous and malicious. All letters must be signed.

If you would like to subscribe to the *Paw Print Press*, send a check for \$25, to *Paw Print Press*, 123 N College St., Itasca, TX 76055 along with your correct mailing address.

The *Paw Print Press* is in its 14th year of publication. 625 copies are printed each week, which includes 295 paid subscriptions, 185 copies distributed in downtown Itasca, 140 copies sold on campus and 5 issues put in permanent file.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Paw Printers, I want you to know how much I enjoy reading the *Paw Print Press*. I have not lived in Itasca since leaving for college but I will always consider it my home town. The well written articles and good photographs give me the feeling that I have had a brief visit home.

My grandfather, John Coffin and grandmother were married in Itasca in 1889. My father, John Coffin Jr. and my mother, Margureite Glasscock, were married in Itasca in 1926. My roots are deep in what has been known as the "Big Little Town".

I began primary school in 1935 and all my classes through high school were in the large three-story building located where the present school now is. There were only eleven grades in those days. Our house was only a few blocks from the school so it was an easy walk. Some of the students in the countryside had much longer walks because there were no school busses in those days. We were proud of our Wampus Cats football team and would not miss a game.

I am now in my eighties but the *Paw Print Press* lets me remember my early years and I appreciate you all letting me have this brief visit home each week.

Sincerely, John M. Coffin

Annual Hillsboro Cemetery Association Meeting

Press Release

The Hillsboro Cemetery Association will hold its annual meeting Sunday, September 19, at 1 p.m. in the Hill County Courthouse Annex meeting room, 126 South Covington Street, Hillsboro.

Anyone with family or friends buried in the Hillsboro City Cemetery or in Ridge Park Cemetery are invited to come to this meeting. New officers will be elected and there will be a discussion on improvements in the future.

For further information you may call Melvin Bryant, 254-582-1056, melb7055@sbcglobal.net, or Cleo Young Davis, 254-582-3603, cleodavis@sbcglobal.net.

Team Roping, Calf Roping Practice at T3C3

Trail To The Cross Cowboy Church of Hillsboro has Team Roping & Calf Roping Practice every Friday beginning at 7:30 pm. The T3C3 Arena is located at 226 Stadium Drive, which is behind the High School Football Stadium. Cost is \$15 per roper. There will be a short devotional message. For more information, please call 254-640-7560.

Central Texas Cowboy Churches' Mutton Bustin'

Written & submitted by Rhonda Rodrick

The Central Texas Cowboy Churches ("CTCC") held its First Annual Mutton Bustin on Sunday, August 29 at the Open Range Cowboy Church in Whitney. The CTCC consists of the Open Range Cowboy Church of Whitney, Trail to the Cross Cowboy Church of Hillsboro, Ranchhouse Cowboy Church of Maypearl and Bosque County Cowboy Church of Meridian.

The Mutton Bustin included over 30 cowboys and cowgirls from Grandview, Waco, Whitney, Blum, Covington, Itasca, Teague, Kopperl, Clifton, Abbott, Cransfill Gap, Hillsboro and Burleson. The Top Ten Mutton Bustin riders were Riley Finney of Clifton, Makenna Simmons of Whitney, Will Kazda of Hillsboro, Jordan Koonsman of Blum, Haleigh Buchanan of Whitney, Kooper Kennedy of Teague, Harley Votaw of Whitney, Blake Allen of Cransfill Gap, Hayden Pustejovsky of Abbott and Colt Edrington of Grandview.

Colt Edrington was the night's big winner with a score of 90 and he walked away with \$100. Second place went to Riley Finney with \$80, third place was Blake Allen with \$60, fourth place was Kooper Kennedy with \$40 and fifth place was Makenna Simmons with \$20.

A Mutton Muggin' was also part of the evening's events with a come from behind win for the Itasca team of Heidi Delgado and Brett Rodrick.

The success of this event couldn't have happened without the assistance of the stock contractors, Doug & Justine Edrington of the Ranchhouse Cowboy Church, Judges Jack Merrill and Jimmy Key, photography by Action Graphics and arena facilities of the Open Range Cowboy Church. Special thanks to each of these folks and everyone else who helped throughout the evening.

Judges Needed For Annual Barbecue Cook-Off

Judges are being sought for the annual Go Texan/Cotton Pickin' Fair barbecue cook-off to be held Saturday, September 25, in Hillsboro.

Judging in the cook-off will be as follows: chicken-noon, pork spareribs-1:30 p.m., brisket-3 p.m. and Go Texan division-chicken-3:30 p.m. All judging will take place at Historic City Hall in the 100 block of East Franklin Street. To volunteer as a judge, contact Lea Sanders at 254-687-2331, extension 1126.

State Championship Barbecue Cook-Off Set

Press Release

With a new designation of state championship barbecue cook-off, the Go Texan/Cotton Pickin' Fair Committee is gearing up for the 2010 event. It will be held in downtown Hillsboro Friday and Saturday, September 24-25.

The International Barbecue Cookers Association (IBCA) will sanction the cook-off. Entry fee will be \$100 per team. The guaranteed purse will be \$5,000 in the open category, plus there will be cash prizes for the Go Texan division, which is for Hill County participants only. Awards will be presented through 10 places in chicken, pork spareribs and brisket. The Go Texan division this year will be chicken. The top local team will advance to the World Championship Barbecue Cook-off prior to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in Houston next February. Chicken will be judged at noon, pork spareribs at 1:30 p.m., brisket at 3 p.m. and Go Texan division at 3:30 p.m. Saturday.

Teams may start setting up at 3 p.m. Friday, and a kids' pork chop cook-off will be held Friday evening. The Go Texan Committee will provide the pork chops at 6 p.m., and turn-in will be at 7 p.m. Winners will be announced at the cooks' meeting and Calcutta to be held at Historic City Hall starting at 8 p.m.

Other weekend activities will include washer, horseshoe and doubles' domino tournaments, special entertainment, pet parade and antique farm equipment. In addition, during the weekend, the Elm Street Rod Run will be held on East Elm Street, featuring over 250 street rods, customs, bikes and classic cars.

Registration starts at 8 a.m., and it will be "show and shine" from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Awards will be presented at 3:30 p.m. Being sanctioned as a Go Texan county automatically qualifies a Hill County senior for a \$15,000 scholarship through the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Association. Local scholarships, combined with awards made by the livestock show, have totaled over \$200,000 during the past 19 years.

This year's sponsors include Ag-Texas Farm Credit Services, Brookshire's Food Store-Hillsboro and Whitney, Cole Ford Sales, Cheers, Hill County Farm Bureau, APEX Grain, Tipton International, HILCO, Fort Worth Gear and Axle, Wells Fargo, Gerik Ag Service, Warren Laboratories, Citizens State Bank-Itasca-Whitney-Hubbard, Oncor Electric Delivery, Texas Land Bank, CenTex Trailers, Hillsboro Sand and Gravel, Hubbard Livestock Auction, Monsanto, Bobcat Contracting and American Ice.

For more information, call the Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce at 254-582-2481 or, toll free, 1-800-HILLSBORO.



Remember When . . . “School & Community Stories”

Columnist Carl Sweeney

Typist & Carl's Assistant Brittany Reid

For some reason I am especially looking forward to homecoming this year. I am sure that it is because the older we get the more we enjoy getting together with old classmates, recalling the old school plays, the football and basketball games and all the other happenings that occurred to us. I recently came across an old issue of the *Itasca Item* of 1928. Some of the 1929 graduating class were; Maner Dunn, W.A. Johnson, Odell Morgan, Alvin Reece, J.W. Sweeney, Jessie Mae Burch, Jewel Easter, Hattie Ruth Hooper, Louise Ritchey, Minnie Lee Reece, who later married J.W. Sweeney, Fanabel Davis, and more.

Itasca had some good football teams about that time. The Wampus Cats scratched Hubbard to the tune of 81 to 6 on Friday, September 21, 1928. Olin Payne was a big boy who came in from a country school to play for Itasca. The coach Johnny Naylor said he ran through lines like a pile driver. The Cats played Walnut Springs that fall and came out the winner by a score of 104 to 0. Virgil Gilliland was another who contributed to that team. It has been said that Virgil was the best to ever play for Itasca.

There was a boy in school named B.B. “Pat” Christian who wrote columns and articles for the *Itasca Item*. He eventually wrote for the *Item* for years, and was a great booster for Itasca even after he moved away. I credit him with his comments about Loretta Wakefield. He said when she came to Itasca from Iverson; she lived with Mr. and Mrs. Bob Taylor, her dad's sister when asked the difference between her country school and Itasca. She said, “Restrooms are on the inside, and also the school was much warmer in winter.”

The September 1, 1931 article in the *Item* had a notice that had mixed emotions for the school kids. It stated that school will not open until September 28, in order that they younger people can help gather the cotton crops. Some kids were kept out each year longer than that, especially if there was a shortage of cotton pickers. Back around 1931-to 1934 the students published an effort they called the “*I-Hi Press*.” It came out in the *Itasca Item*. It was mostly about school activities and of course kept up with the various romances that might be current at the time.

Some of the *I-Hi Press* items were; that there are 75 students out with colds and fever, at the regular meeting of the FHA the program was presented on “manners,” Smitty Crouch announced that the Itasca High School seniors will present “Desperate Ambrose,” a play Friday at 8 p.m. admission is 25 cents for students and 50 cents for adults of course this was a much later *I-Hi Press* by Nancy Barnes - The student body had as their speaker, Rev. A.G. Standlee at Chapel. Rev. Standlee was introduced by Rozelle Wilcox. I haven't uncovered how long the *I-Hi Press* was in existence.

The Class of '59 seemed to be the most mischievous class of all. The following incidents were mentioned in Pat Christian's columns. He said, “I cannot vouch for the veracity of any of these stories, but they did elicit many laughs. Superintendent Patton threatened to cancel Homecoming completely unless certain culprits remove the outhouse from the top of the school building. No one admitted guilty, but Kenneth Upchurch, Durwood Vinson, Ernest Divin, and Tommy Gardner removed it. Durwood and Roy Mabry were accused of putting a live possum in Charlotte Curry's locker; they said you could hear her screaming all over the building. One winter night, Ray Turner, Kenneth and Ronnie Upchurch went rabbit hunting and they tied rabbits to the top of the school flag pole. When Larry Coffey started to raise the flag the next morning, the cold rabbits came down on his head. Then there was the night when David Hal Williamson and Loren Weaver went out to the Interstate 35 construction site, but perhaps we shouldn't tell that one.

The Class of '69 had a lot of mischievous members also, but we do not have space to list all of the doings of the classes. It was about this time when the boys drove with one hand while the other was around the girlfriend's neck. About this practice of the kids, Pat said, “Heck. I didn't have a problem driving like that, I simply threw the lines over the buckboard, and then I had both hands free.”

Pat also said that Eddie Chiles remarked that he was glad the stock market was closed on the weekend, so his fingernails could grow back. The Methodist preacher visited Sims Hooper at Pluto, and he was on the front porch reading his Bible. He told the preacher he was reading the book of Job to see what he did for boils.

See you at homecoming on October 8, 2010

***I am both grateful and humbled by the cards, phone calls and personal acknowledgements of my birthday. Your friendship is most appreciated. Sincerely, Carl Sweeney



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Wampus Cat Running Backs

Reporter David Corbitt



(Left to right) #32 Khumbo Bailey, #6 Tee Sheppard, #14 Tyler Snow, Coach Bobby Campbell, #2 Shakeal Mazon, #5 Dontrell Thompson and #22 Jonathon Frederick.

The running backs are the playmakers of the team. They are the guys who get their names in the paper week after week for the touchdowns scored. These are also the guys with the biggest shoes to fill in the Wampus Cat offense.

After losing all-star Desmond Guy, the new backs have had to jump into this high-octane offense and be able to put up points the way he did. Remarkably, they are doing just that. An outstanding 364 combined yards (with zero fumbles) were racked up off of 33 carries by the backfield in last week's home game against Rice.

"We are young and inexperienced," said backfield coach Bobby Campbell. "But we're working hard and getting better every day."

Friday Night Lights at DQ!
September is Mini Blizzard® Month 10% discount on
all flavors of mini Blizzards®

Support your Wampus Cats on Thursday & Friday by wearing the school colors (black & gold) & showing your team SPIRIT
Receive 10% off your purchase at Itasca Dairy Queen
Go Wampus Cats!

