

Paw Print Press

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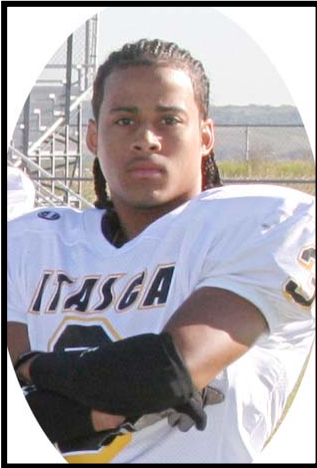
Itasca, Texas 76055

Vol. 2007 Issue #2

January 12, 2007

Mayberry Named to 2006 1st Team All-State Roster

Reporter Mark Cummings



Senior Kendale Mayberry was named to the roster of the 1st Team All-State Football squad. Being named to the 1st Team All-State is the most prestigious award that a football player can receive.

He earned this honor for his performance as a receiver during the season with 52 receptions for 923 yards. He also received All-State honorable mention as a defensive linebacker this year. Mayberry has earned many awards for his athletic achievements during his high school years. He was recently nominated for the Wendy's High School Heisman Award and named to the 11-AA 1st Team All-District Team. In 2004, he was named Best Offensive Sophomore on the All-Centex Area Team.

Itasca players Lamar Crawford (2nd team) and Justin Shelton (honorable mention) earned spots on the All-State Teams.

Hill County Fair Poster Contest Winners



Press Release from *The Reporter*

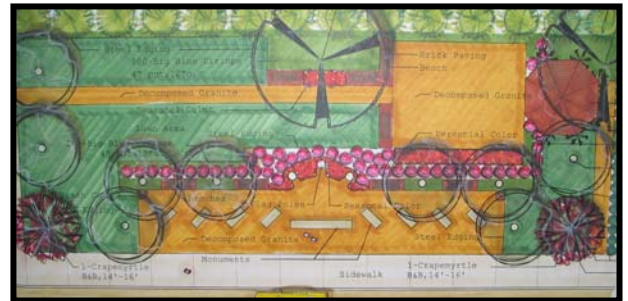
Winners were recently announced for the 2007 Hill County Fair poster contest. The fair will be held Tuesday through Saturday, January 23-27, at the fairgrounds in Hillsboro.

On hand for the presentation were (l to r): David Griego of Abbott, Daylan Schulz of Abbott, Alyssa Soto of Mount Calm, Wagner Nors of Abbott and Shelby Lewis of Covington.

Story on page 3.

Plans Underway to Expand Veterans Memorial Park

Press Release



The City of Itasca Economic Development has recently been presented with two landscape design plans for parks to be built on the northwest and northeast corners of Main and S. Hill streets in Itasca.

The northwest corner now is the new Veterans Memorial Park that houses memorials for the Itasca servicemen and women who have served their country in the various wars. The northeast corner is currently a vacant lot where the old First National Bank of Itasca was located.

Continued on page 3.

Itasca Weather 2006

Carl Sweeney in cooperation with NOAA

It seems that in the last few years we have had most of our winter weather in the fall. We started last January with higher than normal temperatures. On January 1, it was 84°, January 3; it was 85°, both records. On January 7, it reached 83°. On January 24, the low was 31° with a light frost. Weather bureau records show that it was the warmest January on record. In February, we had a cold spell. It was 30° on February 11, 24° on February 12 and on February 16 another record high, 86°.

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>	20 W. Marrion	687-2224
<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.	

First Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church invites you to get to know us through our new website: www.fbcitasca.org. The website contains basic information about our service times, sermon subjects, and upcoming studies. Also, we are making available some audio sermons for listening to at home. These sermons will be updated regularly, and are available for listening, downloading, or podcasting. This is an in-home point of contact, designed to encourage you to come and worship the Lord together with us.

Central Baptist Church

Come pray with us. A prayer box is available for your request. If you can't stay, we'll pray for you.

Prayer Service Every Wednesday - 12:05 -1:00 p.m.
Anyone who would like to see God move in our community!

Itasca United Methodist Church

Guaranteed no-nap Preaching, or double your doubt back.
Where Worship Is Joyous

Experience the energy of God's promise in a beautiful, historic sanctuary. Rev. Tom Wood, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 10:50 a.m. 254-687-2475

What Does Your Heavenly Account Look Like?

On Pentecost, when Peter preached, the LORD added 3000 to His church. How many of those 3000 would be accepted at today's churches?

One place that you will be accepted is the church of Christ in Itasca. (200 N. Aquilla; Sundays at 9:45 and 10:45 AM. and 5:00 PM; Wednesdays at 5:00 PM)

Presbyterian Church

***Women's Bible Study - 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. 2nd Monday
***Women's Bible Study - 7:00 p.m. 2nd Thursday 687-2243
***Exercise Classes for Senior Citizens or 687-2963
Tuesday & Thursday - 10:00 - Fellowship Hall.

Itasca Ministerial Alliance Meeting

1st Saturday of month - 9:00 a.m.

Itasca Zoning Committee Meeting

2nd Monday of Month 6 p.m.
Municipal Court Building 136 N. Hill St.

Itasca City Council Meeting

3rd Monday of Month 6:00 p.m.
Municipal Court Building 136 N. Hill St.
All interested persons are welcomed!

Itasca ISD School Board Meeting

2nd Monday of Month 7:00 p.m.
IISD Superintendent's Office 123 N College St.
All interested persons are welcomed!

Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Last Monday of Month 5:30 p.m.
Citizens State Bank E. Main St.
All interested persons are welcomed!

Volunteer Fire Department Meetings

2nd Monday of Month Business Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
3rd Monday of Month Fire Training - 7:00 p.m.
Fire Station Downtown Itasca
All interested persons are welcomed!

Chamber Banquet Date Set Award Nominations Requested

The Itasca Chamber of Commerce will hold its 22nd Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet on January 29, 2007. The Banquet will be held in the Itasca ISD cafeteria. The silent auction and refreshments will begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner being served at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00 (\$12.00 at the door) each and can be bought from any Chamber director or at Citizens State Bank (Lance Meinzer), Itasca High School (Barbara Petrash), HILCO (Bob Wilson, Potet Motors (Charles Jones), or at the Itasca Nursing Home (Diane Taylor).

The Chamber is urging citizens to mail their ideas for awards to be presented and their nominations for those awards. This is everyone's chance to have a say in the Citizen of the Year, Community Service and all other awards presented.

Suggestions can be mailed to Itasca Chamber of Commerce, P. O. Box 205, Itasca, TX 76055 or given to any of the Chamber directors listed.

Chamber of Commerce Banquet

January 29, 2007 - Itasca ISD Cafeteria
Tickets \$10.00 (\$12 at door) available at
Citizens State Bank, Itasca High School,
Potet Motors, Itasca Nursing Home, HILCO

Hill County Fair Poster Contest Winners

Continued from page 1.

Winners in the annual Hill County Fair poster contest were recently announced. The 2007 fair will be held Tues-day, January 23, through Saturday, January 27. Entries were judged at the local level, with all first-place winners advancing to the area competition.

Winning at the final judging were:

***Kindergarten-Second Grade - First place-Daylan Schulz, Abbott and second-place-Shelby Jean Lewis, Covington.

***Grades 3-5 - First place-Alyssa Soto, Mount Calm, second place-Ben Maddox, Itasca home school and third place- Wagner Nors, Abbott

***Grades 6-8 - First place-David Griego, Abbott, second place-Melanie Garrett, Hillsboro and third place-David Maddox, Itasca home school

Area participant awards were presented to Kariann Baccus of Covington, Taylor Hayden of Hillsboro, Kymberlie Trevino of Hillsboro and Lane Rash of Mount Calm.

The top three winners received cash prizes of \$15, \$10 and \$8 respectively for places first through third.

Winners at the local level included:

***Mount Calm - Grades 3-5—first place-Alyssa Soto; Grades 6-8—first place-Lane Rash.

***Covington - K-2—first place-Shelby Lewis, second place-Kaitlyn Soule and third place-Kylon Johnson; Grades 3-5—first place-Karri Ann Bac-cus, second place-Jared Spain and third place-Lane Sewell.

***Hillsboro - Grade 6—first place-Kymberlie Trevino, second place-Marigona Misini and third place-Marcus Al-faro. Grades 7-8—first place-Melanie Garrett, second place-Chantel Rueb and third place-Juan Zuniga.

***Abbott - K-2—first place-Daylan Schulz and second place-Brock Pustejovsky; Grades 3-5—first place-Wagner Nors, second place-Carly Pustejovsky and third place-Blake Pustejovsky; and Grades 6-8—first place-David Griego, second place-Marshall Nors and third place-Joshua Pustejovsky.

***Itasca Home School Group - Grades 3-5—first place-Ben Maddox; and Grades 6-8-first place-David Maddox.

The posters will be used to promote the fair, plus students can enter them in the Creative Arts and Education Division of the fair. Registration will be held Tuesday, January 23, from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Cost will be \$2 per entry.

Expansion of City Park

Continued from page 1.

Responsible for both of these landscape plans is Mr. Bill Wiginton, owner of W.W. Tree Farms in Dallas, Texas and native Itasca. He asked his landscape architect colleagues to present a plan for the Veterans Memorial Park and instead received two plans for the two corners. This was so the two plots of land would complement each other. Landscape architect Dan Barnes of Imagescapes or Texas, Inc. is the designer of the two parks plans.

The City of Itasca is currently demolishing the remainder of the old First National Bank and making the plot of land ready to go forward with their plans for the northeast corner.

The Veterans Memorial Fund has been raising money to implement their landscape design for the Veterans Memorial Park. The Ricky Wiginton Fund for the Beautification of Itasca has also earmarked their contributions for the development of this Park.

Anyone interested in making a financial donation or volunteer labor to help landscape the park should contact Georgia Wiginton at 254-687-9212 or Citizens State Bank for the Ricky Wiginton Memorial Fund or Clay Dean Hamilton for the Veterans Memorial Fund at 254-687-2811.

The designs can be viewed at Citizens State Bank in Itasca.

Itasca Weather 2006

Continued from page 1.

March was about the same, with 89° on March 1, which tied the old record. March 24, it was 33 degrees with a light frost. April had record or near record high temperatures. It was 96° on April 16, and 99° on both April 17 and 18.

May was uneventful, no storms of note. In fact, the whole spring was relatively free of storms. June was near normal with 100° or more on June 9, 10, and 13.

July was near normal in precipitation and temperatures. There were eleven days of 100° or more. The highest was 105° on July 18. August came along with 23 days of 100° or more temperature. The highest was 106° on August 17.

September had one, 100° day that occurred on September 2. October was uneventful, rather warm, but not excessively hot. November was rather cool. On November 12, the low was 39° with a very light frost. On November 30, the low was 30° with some sleet and a few flakes of snow. On December 1, the low temperature was 23° and we had our first killing frost; about two weeks late. Most of December was above normal temperatures.

During the summer, we had 38 days of 100 degrees or more. Normal is sixteen days.

Our precipitation for 2006 was: January 2.99 - February 2.18 -March 5.6 - April - 3.17 - May 1.49 - June 3.47 - July 1.18 - August 2.32 - September 1.67 - October 5.42 - November 1.63 - December 3.38- Total for 2006 was 34.50 inches.

Senior Spotlight Juan Carlos Nolasco

Photographer & Reporter Sarah Evans
Caricature by Gabby Rivera



“Juan, will you take these papers to the elementary, and will you deliver these boxes to Mrs. Cranfill, oh, and while you’re at it, will you take the mail to Mrs. Merkel?”

“Sure Mrs. Wilson” Juan says as he begins his aide period. “When

you get back, will you find a hole punch in the closet to take to Mr. Scott, and will you run these sheets to ISS and ask Mrs. Droll if she can teach Saturday School next Saturday for Mrs. Gordon?”

“No problem Mrs. Wilson.” When Juan finishes running errands, he walks into Mrs. Wilson’s office, sits down and “Riinngg” the 3:30 bell rings. “Finally” Juan says, “I get to go home!” This is how Juan Carlos Nolasco ends most B-Days at school. “Juan is a very good office aide” Mrs. Wilson said, “He works hard.”

Juan is the son of Felisa Jimenez and older brother to Erik-7 and Daisy-1.

This is Juan’s fourth year at Itasca ISD and said he will never forget the teachers or his friends.

“My favorite memory would have to be my first day at Itasca,” Juan said, “I didn’t know how to speak English and everyone was asking me questions.”

His four years at IHS have been a learning experience in many ways, but he is ready to leave.

“I am very ready to graduate” Juan said “And then I hope to get a good job, get married and someday have a lot of children.”

When he is not in school or doing homework, Juan enjoys listening to Mexican, hip-hop, and reggae music, watching movies and television, eating quesadillas, and spending time with his girlfriend.

The underclassmen should take Juan’s advice to heart, “Don’t get into trouble and always do your work.”



Senior Spotlight - Gabby Zuniga

Photographer & Reporter Devin Corbitt
Caricature by Gabby Rivera



Gabriela Mariel Zuniga was born to Fransisco and Rosa Zuniga in Laredo, Texas on October 27. Gabby has one older brother, Francisco and an older sister, Pamela.

“My parents are really fun because they joke around a lot,” Gabby said. “Also, I expect lots of gifts next year since you all know the date of my birthday.”

Gabby, as her friends call her, has attended school in Itasca since the third grade, and at 19, she is ready to graduate.

“I plan on going to Hill College to study about immigration. I want to be a Border Patrol Agent.”

Right now, Gabby’s favorite time at Itasca High is being Mrs. Gordon’s aide in speech. Her favorite teachers are Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. Petrash, Mrs. Crawford and Mrs. Wilson. She enjoys watching soccer and she loves all kinds of food – except spinach.

Gabby is one of three senior flute players in the band and considers playing the flute to be one of her greatest talents. Gabby has participated in band since the sixth grade, through the good and bad, the excitements and disappointments.

Gabby likes to spend her free time dancing or listening to music.

“I listen to anything – country, rap, but I especially love Mexican music!”

Gabby’s role models are George Clooney and Brad Pitt. However, on the local scene she thanks “Mr. Pittman for making such a huge difference in my life! Ha-ha!”

Gabby describes herself as beautiful, gorgeous and sweet.

“I’m very unique. I care about people. I especially care about my friends and family. And, of course, my dog Sammy Jojo. I love him!”

Gabby will take many high school memories with her as she graduates.

“I will always remember skipping school on Fair Day and how the Spring Festival was such a pain in the rear in elementary. However, the thing I will remember most of all is the fun I have had in Itasca. But before I leave, I want to give the underclassmen some advice: Keep up with your work and stay sweet.”



Wampus Cats "Hoop It Up"

Overall Stats Won - 10

Lost - 4

District Won - 1

Reporter Eva Mayberry
Lost - 1

Even though the Mighty Wampus Cats Varsity Boys have had some obstacles to overcome this year, with losing senior starter Michael Whitfield and junior Edgar Soto, the Cats have not let any of this stop them from succeeding.

The new starting line up is Senior Kendale Mayberry, Juniors-Tralyn Harden and Dee Marshall, Sophomore-Mikey Marshall, and Freshman Desmond Guy. Rounding out the team are relievers Jesus Soto, Clayton Wienecke and DeVeon Mayberry.

The Cats lost to Whitney in early December, but they were just coming out of football playoffs and had

had very little practice. They then met Avalon and put their skills and knowledge to work, winning the game 95-47. Next, they met Christian Life. Although they did not have starter Kendale Mayberry they worked as a team and came away with a victory.

On December 19, the Cats played their first district game. They were up against a tough Maypearl team. The Cats suffered a tough loss, but they did not let it affect their confidence. During the Christmas break, the team stood strong and took 2nd place in the Scurry-Rosser Tournament playing Chapel Hill, Cayuga, and Kennedale.

On January 2, the boys met Bruceville-Eddy and came away with a big win. Kendale Mayberry did an outstanding job of stepping up and being a leader on the court. He showed his experience by setting up the offense and giving his team members the opportunity to take many of the shots. Post players Dee Marshall, Mikey Marshall and Desmond Guy are doing an excellent job under the basketball as they pulled down many rebounds.

Last Friday night the Wampus Cats met the Keene Chargers in their second district game and showed that they are the team to beat in district. They defeated the Chargers 70-57. Once again, the fans saw a team effort on both sides of the ball with leadership skills playing a major part in the victory.

The Wampus Cat teams will host the Dublin Lions Friday night in the Special Events Center. The JV girls' game starts at 4:00 p.m.



Lady Cats Basketball

Reporter Ashley Durham



The game against Grandview on December 12, launched the district season for the Lady Cats. Both varsity and JV fought hard to defeat the Lady Zebras but the Zebras galloped away with the victory.

The varsity and JV have continued to play district games, all ending in devastating losses. The Lady Cats are desperate for a win.

The Varsity has plenty of talent but the team is young. There are only two seniors and one junior (currently on the disable list) with six sophomores and freshmen. Although the Lady Cats are not logging the wins, they are building a team for the future. The young team is working on basic skills like rebounding and making their shots during practice.

With a shortage of players on both varsity and JV and the height deprivation, many of the players are being put into situations and positions they have not have to contend with before, but they continue to strive to hone their skills.



JV Wampus Cats

Reporter Eva Mayberry

	Won 2	Lost 4
District	Won 0	Lost 2



The season for the JV Boys started great with a win against Whitney, but they knew that they still needed a lot of practice.

The team lost the next several games including their first district game against Maypearl.



The JV team only has six players but they have lots of heart and give 110% each game.

Playing on the JV team are Juniors Terry Brumbalow, Jonathon Ponce, and Jacob Pelham, Sophomore Angel Turubiartez, Freshmen Tevin Mayberry and Isaac Perez.



2006 Varsity Basketball

January

12	* Dublin	JVB, VB	4:00
16	* Grandview	JVB, VB	4:00
19	* @ Hico	JVB, VB	4:00
23	* Maypearl	JVB, VB	2:30
30	* @ Keene	JVB, VB	4:00

February

2	* Rio vista	JVB, VB	4:00
6	* @ Dublin	JVB, VB	4:00
9	* @ Grandview	JVB, VB	6:00
15	* Hico	JVB, VB	6:00

Head Boys Basketball Coach: Greg Cranfill
 Assistants: Kirby Basham & Jeff Mayberry (254) 687 - 2922 ext. 160

Chamber of Commerce Christmas Lighting Contest

Taking the top honor in the 2006 Chamber of Commerce Lighting Contest was the house at 3917 FM 67. Second place went to 304 N. Hill St. and third to 808 E. Main St.

Receiving honorable mention was 504 S. Files St., 304 E. Main St. and 209 S. Lamar St.

In order to be judged owners had to fill out a request form and submit it prior to December 13.

Carters Donates Bear to Paw Pals

Press Release



Pictured for left to right is Sonia Cochran, Manager of Carters, Inc., Diana Prince, Paw Pals Volunteer, and Sandi Farmer, Carters Associate.

Carters recently donated a toy bear valued at \$50 to Hill County Paw Pals, the grassroots group organized to build and donate an animal shelter to service Hill County. Carters specializes in children's clothes and is located at Hillsboro Outlet Mall.

Lady Cats Basketball

Jan. 12	*Dublin Home	JV, V	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 16	*Grandview Home	JV, V	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 19	*Hico	JV, V	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 23	*Maypearl Home	JV, V	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 30	*Keene	JV, V	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 2	*Rio Vista Home	JV, V	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 5	*Dublin	V, V	4:00 p.m.

*District Games

Junior High Basketball

Jan. 11	OPEN		
Jan. 18	Keene	7G, 7B, 8G, 8B	5:00 p.m.
Jan. 20	Meridian Tourney	7G, 7B, 8G, 8B	TBA
Jan. 25	at Rio Vista	7G, 7B, 8G, 8B	5:00 p.m.
Feb. 1	at Dublin	7G, 7B, 8G, 8B	5:00 p.m.

IISD October Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees of the Itasca Independent School District met in regular session on Monday, October 09, 2006. Present were President Marquita Lloyd, Nancy Bowman, Donny Faries, Kevin Lightsey, and Susan Bason. Vice President Rex Jean and Secretary Claude Garrett were absent.

Administration present were Superintendent Dr. E. Ray Freeman, IHS Principal Glenn Pittman, Asst. Middle School Principal Larry Mynarcik, Elementary Principal Karon Farquhar, Special Populations Director Barry Durham, and IISD Secretary Norma Merkel. Brian Bassett was noted as a visitor.

Motions were made and passed to approve minutes from the previous board meeting, to approve bills and financial report and to accept the election results for the Itasca ISD Special Election held on September 30, 2006.

The totals for the election are: For: 153, Against: 69. Total ballots cast: 222. The tax rollback election sets the district tax rate for 2006-07 at \$1.5894. Maintenance and operations \$1.50, interest and sinking .0894.

The board retired to executive session at 7:03 p.m. Upon coming out of executive session at 7:07 p.m., a motion was made to expel a student for sixty days.

Don Rinehart updated the board on the progress of the SOS program.

Motions were made and passed to approve the Governor's Educator Excellence Award Program for the junior high and high school, to approve class size waivers for second and third grade, to approve the transfer for 5 students to the district and to approve Elena Johnson, Samantha Srafek, Peggy Snider and Sherry Snyder to substitute teach for 2006-07. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

IISD November Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees of the Itasca Independent School District met in regular session on Monday, November 13, 2006. Present were President Marquita Lloyd, Vice President Rex Jean, Secretary Claude Garrett, Nancy Bowman, Donny Faries and Susan Bason. Kevin Lightsey was absent.

Administration present were Superintendent Dr. E. Ray Freeman, IHS Principal Glenn Pittman, Asst. Middle School Principal Larry Mynarcik, Elementary Principal Karon Farquhar, Special Populations Director Barry Durham, and IISD Secretary Norma Merkel. Brian Kelley was noted as a visitor.

Motions were made and passed to approve minutes from the previous board meeting, to approve bills and financial report, to approve the first 2006-07 budget amendment and to table the 2005-06 AEIS report until the December board meeting.

The board went into executive session at 7:07 p.m. Upon coming out of executive session at 7:45 p.m., the board reconvened to executive session at 7:46 p.m. Upon coming out of executive session at 8:00 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn at 8:01 p.m. with no action being taken by the Board.

IISD December Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees of the Itasca Independent School District met in regular session on Monday, December 11, 2006. Present were President Marquita Lloyd, Secretary Claude Garrett, Nancy Bowman, Donny Faries, Kevin Lightsey and Susan Bason. Vice President Rex Jean was absent.

Administration present were Superintendent Dr. E. Ray Freeman, IHS Principal Glenn Pittman, Elementary Principal Karon Farquhar, Special Populations Director Barry Durham, and IISD Secretary Norma Merkel.

Motions were made and passed to approve minutes from the previous board meeting, to approve bills and financial report, to approve the 2005-06 district audit report and to approve the 2005-06 AEIS report.

The board went into executive session at 7:40 p.m. Upon coming out of executive session at 7:50 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Letter to the Editor

I found 3 pictures on the floor at the last Homecoming reunion. If you lost these pictures, please contact me.

One is of a man smoking a pipe (he is kneeling and is wearing a suit), another is 3 guys standing against a stack of automobile tires & one is a small girl standing by a house window.

E-mail wampuscat.fields@sbcglobal.net

Itasca Basketball Sign-ups

Pre-K thru 6th grade

Place: Itasca Middle School Gym

Time: Thursday Jan. 11 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Saturday Jan. 13 9:00am to 12:00pm

Cost: \$ 25 per Child (Due at Signup)

For information, please contact Brian Kelley at
254 687-2129

Kindergartener Wins Super Christmas Stocking



Malacia Guy was the lucky winner of the stocking drawing at Smart Stop Gas Station. She is 6 years old. Proud sister of Desmond and Jasmine Guy. Her parents are Tracey and Felicia Guy. Thanks to Grandma Kathryn Guy who entered her name in the drawing.

Relay For Life Meeting

Press Release

The Hill County Relay for Life Committee invites anyone in Hill County who has interest in having a Relay for Life Team or anyone who would just like to learn more about the American Cancer Association, to a meeting this Saturday.

The meeting will be at the Woodman of the World Lodge in Hillsboro. The Kickoff Party begins at 2:00 p.m. For more information please call Bob Wilson at HILCO Electric. (254-687-2331 Ext. 2210)

Itasca Garden Club

Press Release – Photo by Pam Willman



The Garden Club's December meeting was hosted by the Itasca Nursing Home. After a general business meeting, the club enjoyed their annual gift exchange and the singing of Christmas Carols for the residents. Carolers were accompanied on piano by Janie Baker.

Club members and two guests were then treated to a wonderful lunch provided by the nursing home. The Garden Club wishes to thank everyone who participated and give a special thanks to the nursing home for their hospitality.

2006 Closes with Positive Movement to Correct Pet Overpopulation

Press Release

Hill County Paw Pals' sponsored low cost sterilization and vaccination clinics ended 2006 with an 18% increase in pet sterilizations and a 14% increase in rabies vaccinations from last year—bringing the totals to 786 sterilizations and 1,716 rabies vaccinations. This is a significant accomplishment when one presents the fact that had each of these pets bred and produced a litter of eight offspring, some 6,288 unwanted pets were prevented!

Responsible pet owners are coming forward to correct pet overpopulation one pet at a time. It is important to note that no community has corrected their pet overpopulation issue without a low cost service available. Rabies is nearly 100% fatal in humans and can be transmitted from contact with unvaccinated cats and dogs. It is not known how many pets in Texas do not get rabies vaccinations, but estimates run from 50-70% of pets being unvaccinated or not current on vaccinations.

Paw Pals, the group that has organized to raise funds to build and donate a county animal shelter, introduced this service in the beginning of 2005 in collaboration with Texas Coalition for Animal Control (TCAP), another non-profit organization which is based in Denton. Paw Pals gains zero dollars in performing this service in that the money generated goes directly to TCAP to compensate their licensed veterinarian, technicians, and to purchase supplies. This service was founded by Kathy Moore of Hillsboro and is performed on the first Tuesday of each month at Hillsboro Civic Center. December's clinic (22nd service day) was made successful from the volunteer help of: Patsy Bishop, Cleo Davis, Andrea and Noel Finch, Dana Fuchs, Jane Green, Mary Ann Johnson, Jean and JD Landis, Kathy Moore, Diana Prince, and Lea Slocum.

Each pet will need an appointment for surgery by calling 1-866-310-PETS (7387). Vaccinations do not need an appointment and are performed from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. If you would like to volunteer, please call Kathy at 582-9374. For more information about Paw Pals, call 580-0679 or visit their website: hcpawpals.org.

Do You Remember . . . ? – “Itasca Horse Show 1951”

Columnist Carl Sweeney (Pictures reprint from *Itasca Item*)



The 1951 Itasca Horse Show was held August 24, and was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, the Itasca Jaycees, and the Coffin, Reese, Sumner Post of the American Legion. Leonard Gardner continued as president of the horse club. It was the ninth annual show. Governor Alan Shivorn and Attorney General Price Daniel were invited, but I do not know if either attended, it is doubtful. The Carswell Air Force Band led the parade and gave a concert downtown following the parade.

Carl Hilton was parade chairman; the reception committee consisted of Mrs. E.H. McCarter, Mrs. Walter Shelton and Mrs. Wallace Stufflebeme, Mrs. R.E. Evers, Mrs. Mayme Martin, Miss Lila Southward, and Miss Gaynell Gardner. The reception committee of men was Earl Farrow, Jim Huddleston, Wallace Stufflebeme, Frank Davis, E.H. McCarter, Lloyd Forrest, and Joe Martin.

There were hundreds of horses and an estimated 5,000 people in attendance and competing in the show. Prizes were given by ticket drawing and consisted of an Admiral T.V. set, combination radio and record player, an Admiral portable radio and other things. The competition and judging were that afternoon. The Queen of the 1951 show was 16 year old junior student from Arlington Heights High School, Kitty Bit Mimms riding P.C. Parks' "Golden Boy," of Fort Worth.

There were dozens of winners in thirty two categories. Some of them were: Palomino - Mary Bridges on "Booger Bear," she was The Horse Show Queen in 1950. Fox Trotting horses - Shirley Gardner, Pleasure horse - Bob Taylor, Fox Trotting Horse Men - Leonard Gardner, Kids Pair Class - Tommy Gardner, and Men's Barrel Race - Bobby Gardner, riding "Ball." We wish we could name all of the them, but there are too many winners in dozens of categories; however, a list is available upon request, for the 1949, 1950, and 1951 show results.

The Itasca Horse Show has received many compliments and letters of commendation for the shows. Mr. C. T. Watson, a horse show participant in many shows said in a letter, "Your entire community is to be congratulated. I have seen many shows and Itasca's show is one of the best for any size town."

Mr. Ross Carney, who conducted the square dance, said that the Itasca people were the most congenial and cooperative group of people he had ever worked with. After the Horse Show was finished that night Mr. Carney conducted the square dance on the streets. The dance was unusually large with 17 squares going at once. Mr. Carney also furnished the music for the dance. After this, the 9th Annual Horse Show in 1951, I have found no evidence of any more, if anyone has knowledge of another, we welcome the information.

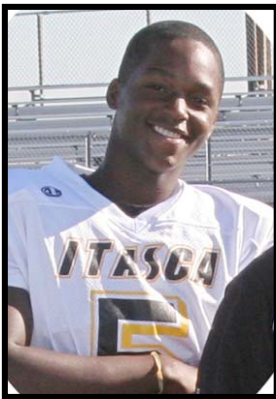


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Itasca, Texas 76055

Wampus Cat of the Week

Mikey Marshall

Reporters Ashley Durham & Eva Mayberry



Itasca Wampus Cat Quarterback Sophomore Mikey Marshall was awarded the Super Centex Football Team "Offensive Newcomer of the Year." As a first year quarterback, Marshall exceeded all expectations that the coaches had for him this year.

Marshall has received many awards for his outstanding athletic abilities both on the football field as

well as on the basketball court. During the 2006 football season, he passed for 2,228 yards and 21 touchdowns and ran for another 1,104 yards and 10 scores. With two more years of high school, Marshall will be one to watch on the gridiron

Also receiving Super Centex honors are Kendale Mayberry (second team wide receiver), Tralyn Harden (honorable mention receiver) and Lamar Crawford (honorable mention defensive lineman).

Special of the Week



"Marshall is making a name for himself on the field & the court. Watch him play Friday night against the Dublin Lions."

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Fajita Plate - \$6.25 (w/rice & beans)

Hamburger - \$2.40 Cheeseburger - \$2.65

Wampus Cat Double meat - \$3.25 w/cheese - \$3.50

Hill County Paw Pals Recycling Cans to Save Lives

Press Release

First Tuesday of each month

Low Cost Sterilization/Vaccination Clinic Court
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For more information about Paw Pals call 580-0679 or
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Busy Women CAN Fit It In: Health, Cooking & Stress Management

Texas Family Forum Annual Conference Offers Tips to Women

Press Release

WACO, TX – Run the kids to school, clean the house, go to work, tend to the animals, make doctor appointments for the family. There just never seems to be enough time in a day. There's certainly never time to take care of oneself. What is a busy woman to do?

Fit It In! That's the theme for the annual Texas Family Forum on Tuesday, January 16, 2007. Held at the Waco Convention Center, this year's event promises to show busy women just how they can make it all work and take care of themselves, as well.

Featured speakers include Dr. Lucy Villareal, an OB/GYN, who will speak on the importance of fitting regular health screenings into your schedule and tips on taking care of oneself. The Texas Beef Council will present a program entitled "The Beefy Life is Good for You" with tips, recipes and more. Clayton Watkins, LPCI, with DePaul Center, will offer a wealth of suggestions and quick tips for stress management.

Interspersed with the three keynote speakers will be activities designed to help women Fit It In. Interactive demonstrations on fitness and exercise, cooking and organizational tips will engage and encourage attendees to find ways to take care of themselves while taking care of the rest of family.

In addition, attendees will have the opportunity to browse various exhibits related to the overall theme and take advantage of an array of free health screenings. The free screenings will include blood pressure, blood sugar, weight and body fat calculation.

The Family Forum, sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension, is held in conjunction with the Blackland Income Growth Conference. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Exhibits and health screenings will be available during registration and throughout the day. The program gets underway at 9:00 a.m. with an interactive demonstration on exercise, followed by keynote speaker, Dr. Lucy Villareal at 9:30 a.m. An exhibit break will follow and the Texas Beef Council will present their program at 11:00 a.m. At noon, attendees can choose to lunch at one of the area restaurants or take advantage of the barbeque luncheon on site. The event will reconvene at 1:30 p.m. with keynote speaker Clayton Watkins. Another interactive demonstration will follow at 2:30 p.m. with wrap-up and an opportunity to visit the exhibits again at 3:00. The day will conclude at 4:00 p.m.

Reservations are \$20 and should be made by January 10. You can register at the door for \$25. The reservation does not include lunch; however a barbeque lunch will be available for an additional \$12. To reserve your seat, mail a check payable to District 8 FCS Association c/o Pate Adams, P.O. Box 38, Marlin, TX 76661.

For more information, please call your local County Extension Agent or contact Lisa Brown at (254) 687-9947. Those wishing to pre-register can also visit www.mclennan-tx.edu for a registration form.