

# Paw Print Press

Proudly Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since 1997

Itasca, Texas 76055

Vol. 2007 Issue #3

January 19, 2007

## Home Destroyed in Fire



The residence of Tony and Bonnie Bell at 206 N. Aquilla St. was destroyed by fire at approximately 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 10. No one was hurt in the fire, but three young people were home at the time it started.

The Hillsboro Fire Marshall reported that there was indication that the fire was electrical. The entire house received either fire, smoke or water damage. The Hillsboro, Covington and Grandview Fire Departments were called for assistance.

## JSCM Breaks Ground on 1<sup>st</sup> Home in Spurgeon Addition



On hand for the ground breaking were the owners of JSCM, Mayor Matt Fehnel, Lance Meinzer, Grady and Karen Rodriguez and their children Trey, Shannon, Susie, Haley and Pepper.

Construction has started on the first home to be built by J.S.C.M. Property Builders on sites facing Spurgeon St. near the intersection of Files St. and Spurgeon St.

The house, a two-story structure with over 1900 sq feet facing Spurgeon Street, will be the home of the Grady and Karen Rodriguez family.

Continued on page 3.

## IHS Cheerleaders 9th at NCA Competition

Reporter Megan Goff



“C-A-T-S!” The tired cheerleaders screamed as they practiced the night their national competition in Dallas.

During cheerleading camp in Huntsville this summer the Itasca Varsity Cheerleading squad received a bid to go to NCA (National Cheerleading Association) National Competition. After football season, the squad worked on raising money and choreographing a two minute and thirty second routine including a cheer and dance. They had to work hard because a number of events hampered practice. Once the girls got the routine in order, they were ready to go. Continued on page 3.

## Elementary 2nd at UIL District Competition

Reporter Viddy Reyes

The Itasca Elementary Students competed in District UIL in early December. The meet was held in Grandview. The students participated in Spelling, Dictionary Skills, Maps, Graphs, and Charts, Ready Writing, Oral Reading, Number Sense, Listening Skills, Art, Creative writing, Music Memory, Storytelling.

Overall, the school placed 2nd with Grandview coming in first in the district. Students in grades 2nd – 5th participated. The winners are broken down by grade level.

2nd Grade: Chandley Sargent—4th place in Creative Writing. 3rd Grade: Amanda Rodriguez—1st place in Storytelling, Devin Crawford—2nd place in Music Memory, Chelsea Searcy—6th place in Ready Writing

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>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.	

### First Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church invites you to get to know us through our new website: [www.fbcitasca.org](http://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. 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday

\*\*\*Women's Bible Study - 7:00 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 687-2243

\*\*\*Exercise Classes for Senior Citizens or 687-2963

Tuesday & Thursday - 10:00 - Fellowship Hall.

### Itasca Ministerial Alliance Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of month - 9:00 a.m.

### Itasca Zoning Committee Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Month 6 p.m.

Municipal Court Building 136 N. Hill St.

### Itasca City Council Meeting

February 20, 2007

6:00 p.m.

Municipal Court Building 136 N. Hill St.

### Itasca ISD School Board Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Month 7:00 p.m.

IISD Superintendent's Office 123 N College St.

### Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Last Monday of Month 5:30 p.m.

Citizens State Bank E. Main St.

### Volunteer Fire Department Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Month Business Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of Month Fire Training - 7:00 p.m.

Fire Station Downtown Itasca

### Chamber Banquet Date Set

January 29, 2007 IISD Cafeteria

Silent Auction 6:00 p.m.

Dinner Served at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$10.00 \$12.00 at the door

Tickets are available at Citizens State Bank, Itasca High School, Poteet Motors, Itasca Nursing Home, Itasca Floral & Gift and HILCO.

### Accepting Bids

Itasca ISD is accepting bids on a 1978 Ford Truck. For information call 254-687-2922 ex. 133 and leave a message. Bid opening will be from January 8 until January 25 2007. Bids can be submitted to Itasca ISD Transportation, 123 North College St. Itasca TX, 76055. Itasca ISD reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

### Need Information

My deceased father, Garrett Arterburn, graduated from Itasca High School in 1934. He was a star Right End and Co-Captain of the championship football team. Can someone please research any existing yearbook (non-available at school) from back then, and scan any picture you may have of him, and send it to me as an e-mail attachment. I want to know what number he wore on his uniform. In addition, what exactly is a Wampus Cat? What is the origin of this mascot? How does it differ from any other Wildcat mascot?

Thank you. Craig Arterburn Carlsbad, California

## Cheerleaders Place 9th

Continued from page 1.

The squad left the Wednesday after Christmas for the Adam's Mark Hotel in Dallas. They settled in their rooms and hit the practice floor. A large ballroom in the hotel was the practice area for many other squads as well. Intimidation was present all around but that only made the Itasca cheerleaders work harder to show how good they really were.

After a good meal and a good night's rest, the girls woke up at 4 a.m. to prepare for their performance at 9:38 that morning. Ex-cheerleaders Rose Strona, Ashley Johnson, and Cayce Mitchell came to help the girls look their best and to provide extra support.

When it was time for the bright lights, loud music, and a large crowd, the cheerleaders' nerves kicked in. After the first performance, where one stunt fell and the required attitude was left behind, the judges awarded the team a 6.81 which was not exactly what Co-captains Karla Ochoa, Valerie Farquhar and Nicole Kelley had hoped for. That night the team built up their confidence with another long hard practice.

Finals were held Friday morning and the team performed at 9:02 a.m. in the A Hall of the Dallas Convention Center. They performed with few flaws and were excited about the soon-to-follow award ceremony. The performance was rated a 6.96. The squad received 9<sup>th</sup> place out of 12 teams in the Varsity non-tumbling division.

The 2006-2007 cheerleaders performing were Karla Ochoa, Amanda Upchurch, Valerie Farquhar, Lindsey Laird, Nicole Kelley, Elizabeth Soto, Rikki Mason, Susie May, Eva Mayberry and Megan Goff. Also, present to support her squad was Kristin Rivera.

## J.S.C.M. Property Builders

Continued from page 1.

J.S.C.M. Property Builders is owned by Randay Jurgens, Greg Speicher and Oscar Castillo. The company is based in the Citizens Bank Building. They have plans for seven more homes to be built on the Spurgeon St. site.

The company offers assistance for future homeowners that begins with credit counseling, financial underwriting and help in designing their unique custom built homes. Purchasers will also be offered landscaping and furniture packages. All homes will include appliances. Prices will range from \$70,000 to \$120,000.

## BAND DAY

Saturday, January 27, 2007

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Their will be a guest director for the high school band and one for the middle school band which is a combination of the 7th and 8th grade.

**Concert 7:00 p.m. Special Events Center**

Students will practice and learn to play music they have never seen nor play before in one day. On that same night, both bands will perform a free concert for the community in the Special Event Center.

## Elementary UIL

Continued from page 1.

**3rd Grade: Music Memory Team**—3rd place (Devin Crawford, Jesus Gutierrez, Crisol Zavala, Lizbeth Ramirez, Chelsea Searcy)

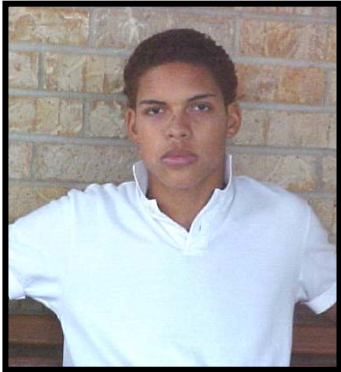
**4th Grade:** Alexis Whitlock—2nd place in Art, Shannon Rodriguez—6th place in Number Sense, Brandon Farquhar—6th place in Ready Writing, Peyton Cordell—5th place in Spelling, Hannah Hundley—6th place in Art, Triston Sulak—4th place in Music Memory, **Music Memory Team**—2nd place (Brandon Farquhar, Triston Sulak, Hunter Germer, Rachel Freeman, Tre Martinez), **Art Team**—3rd place (Hunter Germer, Hannah Hundley, Reagan Rugh, Alexis Whitlock), Spelling Team—2nd place (Peyton Cordell, Brandon Farquhar, Megan Terrell)

**5th Grade - Sam Orr**—1st place in Listening, 1st place in Dictionary Skills; 4th place in Maps, Graphs and Charts, Kaleigh Lightsey—1st place in Ready Writing; 4th place in Number Sense; 4th place in Spelling, Chelsea Faries—6th place in Ready Writing; 3rd place in Spelling; 4th place in Dictionary. Skills, Amanda Anderson—4th place in Art, Ema Orr—2nd place in Music Memory, Ednita Rivera—1st place in Music Memory, Fisher Hennig—3rd place in Maps, Graphs, and Charts, Ashlie Rodriguez—2nd place in Number Sense, Megan Spain—4th place in Social Studies, **Music Memory Team**—1st place (Ednita Rivera, Ema Orr, Janell Bruton), **Listening Team**—1st (Sam Orr, Carter Reid, Ema Orr), **Number Sense Team**—1st place (Ashlie Rodriguez, Kaleigh Lightsey, Amanda Anderson), **Dictionary Skills Team**—2nd place (Chelsea Faries, Sam Orr, Noah Karr), **Maps, Graphs, and Charts Team**—2nd place (Sam Orr, Fisher Hennig, Kameron Mayberry), **Spelling Team**—2nd place (Chelsea Faries, Kaleigh Lightsey, Ashlie Rodriguez), **Social Studies Team**—3rd place (Megan Spain, Breelle Garcia, Tristen Prescott), **Art Team**—3rd place (Destiny Gutierrez, Ema Orr, Amanda Anderson, Janell Bruton).



# Senior Spotlight - Brandon Bell

Photographer & Reporter Megan Goff  
Caricature by Gabby Rivera



I don't like it when people touch my hair." Brandon said.

The boy with the pretty hair is seventeen year old Brandon Bell who has attended IHS since the beginning of this school year and is "extremely ready" to graduate.

Finding Brandon at school is not difficult because he is always close to the office. Not because he is in trouble, but because he is enjoying his favorite class, office aide. However, one thing he dislikes about Itasca schools is all the rules. He attended Richland High School before coming to Itasca, which he says, "is a lot different from here." Brandon's plan is to attend UT Arlington for a career in Nursing after high school.

"Conceited, laid-back and confused," are the words his friends and Brandon use to describe him. Their description goes along with his fondness for music, clothing and driving his red Mercedes in his laidback lifestyle. He also enjoys watching the San Antonio Spurs play basketball.

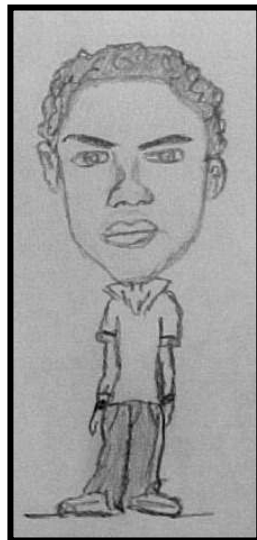
"My family is really large. It includes me, brother Damien 16, sisters Brittany 12, and Gabby 10 along with my parents, Tony and Bonnie, who get along well with all of my friends. I have a large extended family, too. My grandmothers are the ones who have made the biggest difference in my life. They went though so much it is hard for me to even imagine."

A fire recently destroyed the Bell's home.

"Everything was gone," Brandon said. "It looked like the House of Wax inside the house, because my mom had so many candles sitting around and they melted."

In fact, Brandon was at home alone with his two sisters when the fire started and he got them out safely and called the fire department.

"The quote I would like to leave the underclassmen is one I try to live by: 'Enjoy what you have and work hard for what you don't have.'"



# Senior Spotlight Taylor Rickman

Photographer & Reporter Devin Corbitt  
Caricature by Gabby Rivera



Taylor Ellen Rickman was born an April Fools' baby in Fort Worth, Texas. Her parents are Gail Welch and Terry Rickman.

"It's kind of weird being born on April Fools' Day, but it's fun."

Taylor has many nicknames but her favorite is the one the Minyard family gave her, Towhead.

"I've been around the Minyard family for a long time. Most of my favorite elementary and middle school memories are of the times I've spent with Chelsea and her family."

Since coming to Itasca in fourth grade, Taylor has been involved in numerous activities. She earned first flute chair in the Wampus Cat band, has been involved in the student council, worked on the One Act Play and been a member of the Science Club.

Taylor has lots of favorites: teachers Mrs. McClure and Mrs. Swilley, the movie *Beauty and the Beast*, all types of music, watching football, playing her guitar, and of course hanging out with her friends.

"My friends are reliable and trustworthy. I love being around them. I am unique in that I make friends very easily and that I can drive a standard."

Contrary to the belief that all seniors are ready to graduate, Taylor is not.

"To tell you the truth, I'm kind of scared of graduating. I am looking forward to prom though."

After graduation, Taylor hopes to become an ultrasound technologist.

"I see myself having a great career in the medical field with a wonderful husband and a few children."

Even if she is not ready to leave high school, she does have some advice that she would like to leave the underclassmen.

"Take too many pictures, laugh too much, and love like you've never been hurt because every sixty seconds you spend upset is a minute of happiness you'll never get back."



## Wampus Cats

Reporter Eva Mayberry & Ashley Durham



Tuesday, January 9, 2007 the Wampus Cats met the Rio Vista Eagles. The varsity girls and JV girls and boys were defeated but the varsity boys came away with a victory 84 to 53. This win gave the boys a 2-1 record in district play.

Last Friday the Itasca Wampus Cats played the Dublin Lions in the Special Event Center before an enthusiastic home crowd. The varsity girls and JV girls and boys were yearning for a win but they could not make it

happen. The varsity boys' game was another story. They defeated the Lions 81-44. The varsity boys did an outstanding job of working together as a team. They snagged rebounds, handled the ball well and played great defense.

DeVeon Mayberry made an outstanding shot at the buzzer before half time, which got the crowd excited, and he continued to keep them energized during the second half of the game. Another crowd pleaser was when Clayton Wienecke took a position as a wing and made a three pointer. The defeat of the Dublin Lions was definitely a team effort. All eight members of the roster scored against the Dublin Lions: Desmond Guy 16, Mikey Marshall 15, Tralyn Harden 14, DeVeon Mayberry 11, Kendale Mayberry 10, Dee Marshall 8, Clayton Wienecke 5 and Jesus Soto 2.

Tuesday night's game against Grandview was much the same story with seven of the eight players logging points to give the Wampus Cats a 72-58 win over their archrival, the Grandview Zebras. The Cats continue to play team ball, with lots of assists, defense and rebounds. When they are executing these skills well, the points seem to fall in place.

The Cats are currently holding on to second place in the district. They will meet Hico in an away game on Friday night before starting the second half of district play on Tuesday night when they meet the Maypearl Panthers in the Special Events Center. The Panthers are currently undefeated in the district, so Tuesday night's game is going to be one to see. Itasca has an open date on Friday, January 26.

## Letter of Thanks

Nanette and I would like to thank everyone for their support during the election in November. We are looking forward to being your friend and neighbor. We still have not come up with a new name yet. We are still accepting suggestions, they can be mailed to 664 HCR 4421 Itasca TX, or you can e-mail us at [michael.cox04@sbcglobal.net](mailto:michael.cox04@sbcglobal.net). We have had several good suggestions; however, the words wild vine cannot be used in the new name. Again we would like to thank everyone for their support.

Thanks Mike and Nanette Cox

## 2006 Varsity Basketball

Overall Stats	Won - 13	Lost - 4
District	Won - 4	Lost - 1
<b>January</b>		
19 * @ Hico	JVB, VB	4:00
23 * Maypearl	JVB, VB	2:30
30 * @ Keene	JVB, VB	4:00
<b>February</b>		
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		

## Lady Cats Basketball

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. 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.

## Country Living at Its Best

Newly Remodeled Large 2 story home  
3 bedrooms 2 baths Large kitchen/new appliances  
Utility with washer/dryer connections  
Lovely sunny living area

1-Year Lease Available January 12, 2007  
\$950.00 Per month + Utilities      Deposit \$950.00

5121 FM 67 3 miles East of Itasca

Contact: Oscar Castillo 817-781-3040 or [oscatillo@c-pts.com](mailto:oscatillo@c-pts.com)

## December Police Report

- 12-1 – Assisted HCSO with warrant arrest
- 12-1 – Funeral escort from Presbyterian Church to Itasca Cemetery
- 12-1 – Traffic stop – Subject arrested for DWLI – I35 W northbound mm 8
- 12-2 – Report of verbal fight in progress – E. Spurgeon & S. Hill St.
- 12-2 – Traffic stop – Possession of marijuana < 2 oz.
- 12-2 - Report of fight in progress (verbal) – 400 blk. of N. Hill St.
- 12-2 - Traffic stop – Subject arrested for DWI – I35 W southbound mm 7
- 12-3 – Assisted motorist – 500 blk. E. Main St
- 12-2 – Traffic stop – possession of a dangerous drug
- 12-2 – Animal complaint (loose dog) – 800 blk. Weave St
- 12-4 – Assisted DPS with minor accident – I 35W southbound mm 5
- 12-4 – Traffic stop (Speeding in school zone) – Subject was arrested on outstanding warrant – S. Files & E. Main St.
- 12-4 – Criminal mischief report – 600 blk. E. Main St.
- 12-4 – Gas drive off – 1200 blk. S. Files St
- 12-4 – Complaint of reckless driver – K Lane & S. Files St.
- 12-4 – Speeding traffic stop – Vehicle stolen (Bell County) – Arrests for possession of crack cocaine < 1 gram I35 W northbound mm 8
- 12-5 – Assisted IFD – 800 blk. E. Adams St.
- 12-5 – Assisted motorist – 1200 blk. E. Files St.
- 12-5 – Identity theft report – 100 Blk. E. Martin St.
- 12-5 – Domestic violence report – Arrest made – 500 blk. S. College St.
- 12-5 – Suspicious person report – 200 blk. E. Main St.
- 12-6 – Traffic stop – Arrest for DWLI – I 35W northbound mm 8
- 12-7 - Traffic stop – Subject arrested for DWI – I35 W southbound mm 7
- 12-7 - Traffic stop – Subject arrested for DWLI – E. Main St. & S. Aquilla St.
- 12-7 - Traffic stop – Subject arrested for DWLI – Files St. & E. Adams St.
- 12-8 – Identity theft report – 100 blk. N. Park St.
- 12-9 – Assisted stranded motorist – I 35W southbound mm 10
- 12- - Assisted HCSO w/traffic stop – DWI arrest 900 blk. S. Hill St.
- 12- 9 Traffic stop – DWI arrest – 200 blk. N. Hill St.
- 12-9 - Traffic stop – Arrest for possession of marijuana < 2 oz. – 200 blk. N. Hill St.
- 12-10 – Animal complaint (loose dog) 800 blk. Shuttle St.
- 12-10 – Report of theft (>\$50/<\$500) 400 blk. of E. Main St
- 12-10 - Traffic stop (88 mph/65 mph) – DWI & evading arrest – I35 W northbound mm 7
- 12-11 – Warrant arrest – 100 blk. Hall St. Hillsboro
- 12-12 – Request to locate citizen
- 12-12 - Traffic stop (speeding) – Arrested on outstanding warrants (Hale County) – I 35 W northbound mm 9
- 12-12 – Loud music complaint – E. Henderson St.
- 12-13 – Report of vehicle damage – Hwy. 81 South of Itasca
- 12-13 – Juvenile incident – 200 blk. W. Files St.
- 12-14 – Two-vehicle accident – 300 blk. E. Wilkerson & N. King St.
- 12-14 - Traffic stop (78 mph/65 mph) – Arrest for possession marijuana (< 2 oz.) I35 W northbound mm 8
- 12-15 – Traffic stop – DWLI – Elm St. & Main St.
- 12-15 – Assisted DPS w/accident – Hwy. 67 & Hwy. 81
- 12-15 – Welfare concern – 300 blk. Minnie Dr.
- 12-16 - Traffic stop – Possession of marijuana & cocaine – Hwy. 81 south
- 12-16 – Loud music complaint – Arrest for furnishing alcohol to minor – 500 blk. N. King St.
- 12-16 - Traffic stop (speeding) – Arrest for outstanding county warrants – 300 blk. S. Hill St.
- 12-16 - Traffic stop – DWI arrest – Main & Hill Sts.
- 12-16 - Traffic stop – DWLI & possession of a firearm (convicted felon) arrest – 100 blk. N. Hill St.
- 12-16 – Found property – Hwy. 81 south of cemetery
- 12-17 - Traffic stop – DWI arrest – Files St. & E. Adams St.
- 12-17 – Noise disturbance – 300 blk. S. Aquilla St.
- 12-17 – Welfare concern – 400 blk. N. Wesley St.
- 12-18 - Traffic stop – DWI, Open container & stolen items arrest – I 35 W mm 8
- 12-19 – 911 hang up calls – 100 blk. S. Aquilla St.
- 12-19 – Burglary of a habitat – 100 blk. W. North St.
- 12-19 – Report of threats by telephone – Itasca Police Department
- 12-20 – Forgery report – 1200 blk. E. Main St.
- 12-20 - Traffic stop – Arrest for possession of dangerous drug – I 35 W northbound mm 9
- 12-20 Traffic stop – Arrest for supplying dangerous drug – I 35 W northbound mm 9
- 12-21 - Traffic stop – Speeding - DWLI arrest – I 35 W northbound mm 7
- 12-21 – Forgery report – 1500 blk. E. Main St.
- 12-21 - Traffic stop – Recovered stolen trailer – I 35 W southbound mm 8
- 12-21 – Domestic disturbance - 400 blk. K Lane
- 12-22 – Assisted citizen – S. Hill & Harris Sts.
- 12-22 – Assisted citizen – 100 blk. E. Wilkerson St.
- 12-22 – Assisted DPS with search for escape felon – Captured – I 35 W northbound mm 4
- 12-23 - Traffic stop – Speeding (121 mph/65 mph) reckless driving arrest – I 35 W northbound mm 7
- 12-23 – Assisted citizen – 1200 blk. E. Files St.
- 12-23 – Assisted citizen – 600 blk. E. Adams St.
- 12-23 – Welfare check – 300 blk. S. Aquilla St.

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## October City Council Meeting

The Itasca City Council met for its regular session October 16, 2006. Present were Mayor David Heald, Steve Solis, James Bouldin, Susie Davis, John Laird and Harvey Wilson. Motions were made and passed to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2006 meeting & for payment of bills.

Giving their monthly reports were Fire Chief Chris Shuffield, Water & Sewer Operations Manager Todd Williams, Zoning Committee President Matt Fehnel (approved applications for 104, 105, 110, 112 Grayson, 608 Milford & 106 Weaver – denied application at 815 Shuttle), Chief of Police John Griscavage and Code Enforcement Officer Felicia Mayberry.

The Council discussed a loan of \$60,000 for maintenance and or improvements to the sewer plant with Todd Williams. He reported that a wheel is down at the sewer plant (it has had extensive repair work done on it in the past three years). He suggested purchasing new aerators instead of putting more money into the repair of the wheel. A motion was made and passed to purchase two installed 25 HP House Units for \$63,930 and to give the City Administrator the authority to negotiate a bank loan for the project.

City Administrator Mark Gropp requested that the committee appointed to decide on a schedule of fees for the Zoning Ordinance could have only one council member. Motion was passed to keep Susie Davis on the committee and drop John Laird. Fehnel addressed the Council concerning the denial of the application at 815 Shuttle. The application did not meet Zoning guidelines on a technicality; it recommended approving the application. Council voted to approve the building of a Jim Walters' Home at that location. Barbara Petrash's resignation from the Planning and Zoning Committee was accepted & the Council thanked Ms. Petrash for her service. An application to fill the vacancy was accept (Martin Carranza).

Gandolf Burrus reported on the proposals received in connection with the City's 2006 Community Development Block Grant #726281 for sewer system improvements. The Council passed a motion to accept Grant Development Services Letter of Agreement for Administration Management Services for the grant. Frank Razor gave the engineering firm proposals in connection with the grant. A motion was passed to accept Razor & Associates, LLC Letter of Agreement for Engineering Services.

In the open meeting discussion by the Mayor, Council and City Administrator the need to repair Spurgeon Street and the replacing of the stop/yield sign at the intersection of S. College and E. Adams was addressed. The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

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## November City Council Meeting

The Itasca City Council met for its regular session November 20 16, 2006. Present were Mayor David Heald, Steve Solis, James Bouldin, Susie Davis, John Laird, Harvey Wilson, City Attorney Stephanie Johnson and City Administrator Mark Gropp. Motions were made and passed to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2006 meeting & for payment of bills.

Giving their monthly reports were Fire Chief Chris Shuffield, Water & Sewer Operations Manager Todd Williams, Zoning Committee President Matt Fehnel (approved applications for 3900 FM 934, 903 S. Hill, 211 Jones, 1500 E. Main, 200 S. Park, 815 Shuttle and Grayson) turned over chairmanship to Bettye Lewis. Chief of Police John Griscavage (the Department has received \$500 in seized money) and Code Enforcement Officer Felicia Mayberry.

The official canvass of return votes from the November 7, 2006 Municipal Election were: Mayor–Raymond Arellano 137, Mayor–Matt Fehnel 210, Alderman–John Wayne Laird “Skipper” 235, Alderman–Harvey Wilson 242.

Mayor Matt Fehnel, incumbent council members John Wayne Laird “Skipper” and Harvey Wilson were sworn in and Susie Davis was elected Mayor Pro-Tem.

A motion was made and passed to open a Special Revenue Fund in the Municipal Treasury to be known as the Seizure and Forfeiture Fund.

A motion was passed to scheduling the Regular Council Meeting in December to December 11, 2006.

The Council entered executive session at 6:28 p.m. and returned to open session at 6:39 p.m. with no action taken.

In the open meeting discussion by the Mayor, Council and City Administrator the question arose on why the election had been moved to November from May. It was explained that having the City election at the same time as the National election was more cost effective than having separate elections.

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.



## Recent Deaths



**Bruton, Cora Elizabeth** – Cora Elizabeth Bruton, 95, of Itasca, passed away on Friday, December 8, 2006 in a Hillsboro hospital. She was born to the late John Cornelius and Ida Elizabeth Isbell on December 2, 1911. Cora was a faithful member of the First Baptist Church in Itasca. She loved to sew and was very talented in making doll clothes, which she enjoyed taking to shows and meeting people. She loved staying on the go and being active, walking 2 miles a day all the way up to the age of 92 years. Cora loved her family and spending time with everyone. She will be missed so much by everyone.

She is survived by her son, Elwyn Ray and his wife, Devin of Milford; daughters, Dorothy Davis of Hillsboro, Edna Weeks, and husband, Atlon of Duncanville; 14 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren, and 8 great-great grandchildren; sister, Helen Chandler of Dallas; and many other extended family members. She is preceded in death by her loving husband, Elwyn "C. E." Bruton; son, Douglas Bruton; 3 brothers &

2 sisters; and her son-in-law, Thelbert Davis.

Funeral services were held December 10, 2006 at the Clayton Kay-Vaughan Funeral Home Chapel in Itasca with Rev. Greg Ray officiating. Interment will follow at the Itasca Cemetery.

\*\*\*\*\*Mrs. Bruton wrote her autobiography 10 days before she passed away. She wrote it for her grandchildren and in honor of her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday that she celebrated on December 2, 2006. We are going to print part of it in an upcoming issue.

**Chapman, Maidell** – Maidell Hobbs Borelli Chapman of Cleburne passed away December 20, 2006, at a Cleburne nursing home due to complications of pneumonia.

She was born April 2, 1914, in Itasca in Hill County, daughter of the late Jim and Hattie Hobbs. She resided in Itasca before moving to the Cleburne nursing facility. She loved shopping, was a great cook and loved to crochet and needlepoint. She had immense pride and self-esteem, which went very well with her wonderful personality. She also enjoyed dancing on Saturday night and playing bingo. She was preceded in death by her husband of 41 years, Frank Borelli; her husband of five years, Duncan Chapman; four brothers, J.S., Howard, Glen, and C.B. (Red); and two nieces, Mary Gladys Bessol and DeAnn Richardson.

Survivors include: one sister, Doris Castle and husband Lee; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Graveside services were held at December 21, 2006, at Itasca Cemetery with Rev. J.R. Fields officiating. Memorials may be made to a charity of one's choice.



**Lightsey, Bobbie Faye** - Bobbie Faye Lightsey, 74, of Itasca, passed away on December 26, 2006 at her residence. She was born to the late Richard and Lala Faye Johnson on September 4, 1932 in Hill County.

Bobbie loved her family very much and enjoyed spending time with them. She especially enjoyed the holidays, spending Christmas and Thanksgiving with the ones she loved. In her younger years, she loved to play basketball and was known as "The Tall Red Head," to just about everyone. She loved to read and always enjoyed sports, watching the Mavericks and the Cowboys on television. She was a member of the Church of Christ in Itasca. Bobbie loved everyone and she will be missed by so many people who enjoyed loving her back. All that loved her will miss her jokes, her strong willed but loving personality, and playing those long late night Yatzee games.

She is survived by her sons, Phillip Lightsey and his wife, Terri of Cleburne, Kevin Lightsey and his wife Karla of Itasca; daughters, Denise Sawyer and her husband, Steve of Itasca, Vicki Powers of Grandview; 10 grandchildren; 6 great grandchildren; brother, Mack Johnson and his wife, Barbara of Grandview; nephew, Rick Johnson of Grandview; very close and dear friends, Vera, Ovilla, and Linda.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, V. H. "Curley" Lightsey; sister, Betty Johnson. Services were December 29, 2006 at the Clayton Kay-Vaughan Funeral Home with Charles Horn officiating. Interment followed at the Itasca Cemetery.



**Medina, Eleazar**, - Eleazar Medina, 45 of Itasca, passed away December 31, 2006 in a Houston hospital. He was born on August 23, 1961 in Mexico to Pedro Medina & Ignacia Diaz. Eleazar loved being around his family and enjoyed fishing. He was employed at the CO-OP in Itasca for 23 years and enjoyed working and staying busy. Eleazar had so many close friends and family that will miss him very much.

He is survived by his parents, Pedro Medina & Ignacia Diaz of Mexico; sons, Hector Medina and Javier Medina of Itasca; daughter, Brianna Medina of Hillsboro; brother, Aniano Medina of Itasca; 7 sisters, Pilar Medina, Rosa Medina, Antonia Rangel, Patricia Medina, Josephina Medina, Nicholasa Medina, all of Mexico, and Margarita Alvarez of Itasca.

Funeral services were held January 4, 2007 at the Clayton Kay-Vaughan Funeral Home Chapel in Itasca with Rev. Noe Gonzales officiating. Interment followed at the Itasca Cemetery.

Donations to help with expenses may be made at the Itasca Coop. Checks should be made to Rodney Adams, Eleazar Medina Memorial Fund.



## Do You Remember . . . ? – “Smoking: Past & Present”

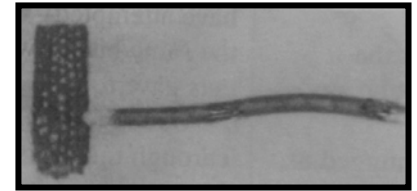
Columnist Carl Sweeney



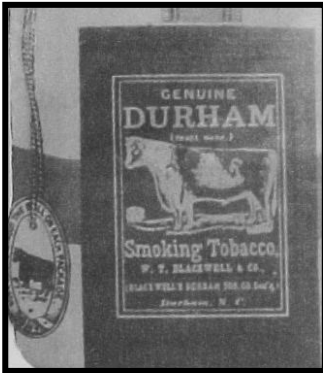
People have been using tobacco in one form or another for hundreds of years. Some say for thousands of years. It is said that Columbus carried tobacco back to Europe when he found it growing and used in Cuba. When the pilgrims came to America, they discovered that the Native Americans were using tobacco, and that states such as North Carolina and Virginia were good areas for its production.

In the late twenties and thirties, we began to take notice that tobacco might be detrimental to one's health, but it was not taken seriously then. Most people smoked, dipped or chewed. Our grandmothers dipped snuff such as Copenhagen or Levi Garrett. Young people were forbidden to use tobacco, but we did it anyway. It was ironic that the people that forbade us to use it were users themselves. We used innovative ways to indulge smoking: discarded butts, coffee grounds, cotton leaves, seeds from a plant called sour dock and even sections of dried cornstalks that were smoked like a cigar. Usually the first time we smoked, we became ill but this was seldom a deterrent.

Some of us preferred a pipe and again we had to improvise. The corncob made a very good pipe. We cut it to the desire of length, hollowed out the center with a pocketknife and for the stem; we got a small twig from the Box Elder tree. It had pith in the center so we ran a wire through, and Presto! We had a stem. Here again we used substitute tobacco such as cedar bark and coffee, but avoid the drip grind because it will go through and be sucked down your throat.



One of the most popular tobaccos was “Bull Durham.” It was a dry granular tobacco you had to roll by hand. We pinched the ends after licking the paper to make it stick, because the paper was not gummed. Some could roll with one hand and myth has it that a real cowboy could roll it with one hand while riding a bucking horse. Bull Durham came in a tightly packed muslin bag about the size of a cigarette package with a black label. There were two red packets of cigarette papers underneath the label. Printed on the label was a picture of a Durham Bull. It stated, “Genuine Durham Smoking Tobacco, W.T. Blackwell & Co. Durham, N.C.” Attached to one of the yellow drawstrings was a paper disc about the size of a quarter with a bull on it. A common practice was to let the tag hang out as a sort of status symbol.



About this time, someone, I think it was “Bugler,” invented a cigarette-rolling machine. Now we country boys could have our own ready rolls. The tobacco was shredded to make it easier to roll. There were other brands beside Bugler, such as Kite Mentholated. The self-rolling practice went out of style somewhat just before World War II and then came back for a short period after the war.

The popular brands went to war. There was Lucky Strike, Camels, Chesterfield and Phillip Morris. They were replaced at home with Viceroy, Winston and Kent. Most of us remember the old saying “Lucky Strike green has gone to war!” They said the paint was needed for camouflage, when in fact I think they decided it was time to change the package and white was more attractive.

About the time of the Korean War, Bull Durham somehow became less popular, and it was hard to find. Eventually it faded out of the picture and Bull Durham lovers had to find other brands such as Golden Grain, R.J.R or other types such as Bugler. We seldom see anyone rolling their own cigarettes today. Everything now is easy, instant or disposable. It was said that leisurely rolling a smoke had a calming effect and helped cut down on chain smoking.

Getting back to the earlier days before World War II. There was very little opposition to smoking; most everyone used tobacco in one form or another. When we watched movies or “picture shows” as we called it, we saw that most of the stars almost invariably had a cigarette in their hand. I remember only one woman who smoked when I was young. She was the mother of a friend of mine; she smoked Bull Durham. She was Mrs. Tom Tidwell whose husband delivered ice in Itasca.

As stated before as young folks we were forbidden to use tobacco. The only time I can remember my father administering corporal punishment to me was when someone told him I was smoking. He said he did not whip me for smoking, but for lying about it (yeah, right).

Soldiers were issued cigarettes during World War II. As we know, smoking is forbidden in lots of place and the practice is growing. It looks like tobacco might be a thing of the past, and then older folks will have something else to be nostalgic about. I wonder how many of us remember Franklin Roosevelt with his long cigarette holder or General Douglas MacArthur with his big corn cob pipe or Phil Harris' song “Smoke, Smoke, Smoke That Cigarette”

***Paw Print Press***  
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## Wampus Cats of the Week

### IISD Board of Trustees

NSBA Website



The NSBA (National School Board Association) initiated National School Board Recognition Month in 1995. School board members are very important to the community as well as the school systems. They are the dedicated few whom you elected to represent the community's values and thinking about public education.

IISD Superintendent Dr. E. Ray Freeman presented board members certificates of appreciation at the January meeting.

Front row (l to r) Nancy Bowman, Marquita Lloyd and Susan Bason, Back row (l to r) Rex Jean, Kevin Lightsey, Donny Faries and Claude Garrett.

### Special of the Week



“Board members keep the dream of public education alive for every child and make sure students achieve and succeed.” (NSBA)

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