

Paw Print Press

Proudly Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since 1997

Itasca, Texas 76055

Vol. 2007 Issue #4

January 26, 2007

Rotarians Present Books to 3rd Graders

Reporter Mary Maddox



Third grade students at the elementary school received an early Christmas present in December. Itasca Rotarians Bob Wilson, Beverly Fehnel, Brad Shotts, Johnny Hernandez, Ollie Baker, James Sumner, Glenn Pittman and Dr. Ray Freeman provided each of the fifty, third graders with dictionary/encyclopedias.

The program, 'Books for Children' is one of the many community service undertakings of the Rotary Club.

"Young people are our future," Bob Wilson, president of the Rotary Club said. "We will help them in any way possible."

The students were very excited and eager to get them home and start studying when they discovered the books contained biographies of the presidents and other history related information.

New Start Date Forces Schools to Rethink Calendar

Reporter Alecia Evans

Thanks to a new mandated school start date, Texas schools will be forced to start their first day no earlier than August 27, beginning in the fall of 2007. The lawmakers responsible for the new start date have dismissed any chance of waivers to allow an earlier start. With this new law, school administrators are finding it somewhat difficult to fit in breaks on next year's school calendar.

"We have not yet set next year's calendar but are hoping to keep it as close as possible to that of earlier years," Itasca ISD Superintendent Dr. Ray Freeman said about the calendar change. Continued on page 3.

2006 Toys For Tots Drive a Big Success



Press Release

SSgt Maria Zepeda, left, and U. S. Marine Corps Chief Hospital Corpsman Eric Rice, U. S. Navy, of the Marine Corps Reserve in Waco, are shown with HILCO Administrative Assistant Jill Huggins who organized the 2006 HILCO Toys For Tots drive.

Thanks to the U. S. Marine Corps, HILCO members and employees, and the citizens of Itasca and surrounding areas, Christmas was a little brighter for youngsters in our community. An overwhelming number of toys were donated and distributed to local children in December. Continued on page 3.

Edwards Supports Medicare Prescription Drug Price Negotiation Act Bill Would Require Medicare to Bargain for Lower Drug Prices for Seniors

Press Release

U.S. Representative Chet Edwards strongly supported [HR 4](#), the Medicare Prescription Drug Price Negotiation Act, which requires the federal government to use its immense bargaining clout to negotiate lower prescription drug prices for seniors under the Medicare prescription drug program. Current law prohibits the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) from doing so. The bill passed 255-170. 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 SIN CAN YOU NOT FORGIVE?

Matthew 6: 9 - 13 tells us that we must forgive those who trespass against us, or our heavenly Father will not forgive us.

Church of Christ 300 N. Aquilla
Sunday: 9:45 and 10:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 6:00 p.m.

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

February 3 - 9:00 a.m.

First United Methodist Church

Itasca Zoning Committee Meeting

2nd 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

2nd 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

2nd Monday of Month Business Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

3rd Monday of Month Fire Training - 7:00 p.m.

Fire Station Downtown Itasca

Chamber of Commerce

Banquet

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, Potet Motors, Itasca Nursing Home, Itasca Floral & Gift and HILCO.

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

***If you have any information send it to us & we will e-mail it to Mr. Arterburn. Or forward your address.

Edwards Supports Negotiating Medicare Prescription Drugs

Continued from page 1.

"This bill will save seniors and American taxpayers billions of dollars by lowering the cost of Medicare Part D drugs," said Edwards. "This bipartisan bill is an important first step forward that puts the needs of our seniors above the interests of the drug company lobbyists."

In 2003, Edwards introduced legislation similar to HR 4 to negotiate lower prescription drug prices under Medicare. As Chairman of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee, Edwards has seen firsthand how the VA uses its bargaining power to negotiate lower drug prices for veterans. Those negotiated prices are 58 percent lower on average than those under the Medicare prescription drug program.

"It makes absolutely no sense that Medicare is prevented from bargaining to reduce prescription drug prices for America's seniors as the VA does for our veterans," said Edwards. "Studies show that prices for the top 20 Medicare drugs were 58 percent higher than VA prices."

Prices charged by Medicare drug plans are rising at more than twice the rate of overall inflation. A Families USA study shows that, over a 6-month period, the median drug price increase among Medicare drug plans for the top 20 drugs prescribed for seniors was 3.7 percent - which translates into a 7.4 percent increase over a year. The study concludes that, "The Medicare drug plans are not containing drug price inflation."

Edwards believes that passage of H.R. 4 can not only help lower Medicare prescription drug prices for seniors, but protect the Medicare system by lowering the overall cost of the program.

"Soaring drug prices put Medicare benefits at risk in the future by growing the cost of the program enormously. If Medicare drug prices are lowered, the cost of the Medicare program is reduced for taxpayers. That's a win-win," said Edwards. "Why should seniors and taxpayers pay the highest drug costs in the world for American made products? They shouldn't and this bill is a bipartisan, common-sense step forward for our seniors."

Numerous organizations have endorsed this bill, including, AARP, Families USA, Consumers Union, National Community Pharmacists Association, National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, Center for Medicare Advocacy, Medicare Rights Center, National Council on Independent Living, American Nurses Association, and many others.

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.

New School Start Date

Continued from page 1.

Some school districts are planning on waiting until they return in January to take semester finals and therefore taking some review time to catch up.

Freeman, however, is planning on Itasca students to continue to take exams before the Christmas break as not to waste those weeks reviewing. Days will be taken off holiday breaks to make up for the lost first week of school.

So aside from taking a day or two from holidays, or combining holidays such as Easter and Spring Break, there will be not much change in next year's calendar for Itasca ISD.

Toys for Tots

Continued from page 1.

The Toys For Tots program began in 1947 and has become an American holiday tradition. Christmas is a time of joy, happiness and goodwill, a time of giving and helping those less fortunate, especially impoverished children. The U. S. Marine Corps Reserve is the unchallenged leader in looking after America's needy children at Christmas.

HILCO is honored to partner with the U. S. Marine Corps during the holidays and thanks everyone who participated in the Toys For Tots and Angel Tree projects.

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.

Senior Spotlight Jonathan Saldierna

Photographer & Reporter Sarah Evans
Caricature by Gabby Rivera



“I would describe myself as brown, bold and happy!” said 17-year-old Jonathan “Johnny” Saldierna. He was born on December 28, 1988 and has two younger sisters Abby-14 and Joselyn-13

“One thing I will never forget about Itasca High School,” Johnny said, “is Mrs. Droll”

Johnny has attended Itasca Schools since pre-k and is looking forward to graduating in June.

“After I graduate I plan on attending TSTC to become a mechanic and someday open my own shop,” Johnny said, “or at least get out of Itasca.”

When Johnny is not at school or working at Dairy Queen, you might find him driving around, watching football or hanging out with his best buds, Corey, Gilberto, Carlos, Bill, Josh, Lamar, and Colleen. Johnny also enjoys watching his favorite movie, *Latin Kings of Comedy*, eating tacos, and making people laugh.

“My favorite subjects in school are art and video technology and my favorite teachers are Mrs. Hennig and Mrs. Gordon. There are two things I cannot stand: snitches and haters.”

Johnny has many funny memories about school and his friends that he will always cherish.

“One of the ‘funniest’ and one of my most embarrassing moments,” Johnny said, “was when I was trying to show off my system and my amp caught on fire.”

Johnny has some great advice for the underclassmen guys “Say no to drugs and yes to girls.”



Senior Spotlight Mercedes Snyder

Photographer & Reporter Devin Corbitt
Caricature by Gabby Rivera



At seventeen, Mercedes Shateaia Snyder is the youngest senior at Itasca High School, and she will not turn 18 until November 16. This is her second year in Itasca and she has already built up lots of memories, mostly about all the drama.

“The drama of a small school is what I will remember the most about Itasca,” Mercedes said.

Mercedes, or just plain Cedee, is active in athletics and UIL. She is on the JV basketball team and runs track. In track, she participates in shot put and discus. In the spring, she will compete in the UIL Prose event.

“My favorite subjects are English and Speech and Coach Horn is my favorite teacher.”

Mercedes has lots of favorites including fried chicken, R&B and Hip-Hop music and her favorite movie: *Love Jones*. She describes herself as easygoing, poetic, and the girl with the attitude. Maybe that’s because her hometown is Washington D.C.

“Living in a small town is just something I had to get used to. It’s so much different than Washington D.C.”

Mercedes works at Braums, but in her spare time, she enjoys reading poetry, talking on the phone, shopping, and teaching dance.

“I teach gospel dance at Second Missionary Church. It is so much fun!”

After school, Mercedes plans to attend Prairie View A&M University.

“In ten years, I see myself as very rich, but still single. I want to be like my mommy,” Mercedes said. “She’s my role model because she is one of the strongest females I know. I want underclassmen to remember to stay out of trouble and always be preparing to graduate. If you fall down, all you can do is get right back up.”



Name the Winery

We have not come up with a new name for our winery and 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. The words wild vine cannot be used in the new name.
Mike and Nanette Cox

On the Court with the 2006-07 Wampus Cats

Reporter Eva Mayberry & Ashley Durham

When the Varsity Wampus Cat boys began the basketball season by playing Whitney, they had very little practice since they were just getting out of the football playoff round. They were still determined to win, but the Wildcats showed the Wampus Cats that they were going to have to prepare and play as a team if they were to be successful this year.

That is just exactly what they have done; come together as a team and focus on each player's strengths. On the court, they are definitely the "Amazing Eight."

Senior starter Kendale Mayberry has been on varsity throughout his high school years and has received many awards for his outstanding years of hard work. He is a great leader on the team and always puts up points in the double digits. The team will sure miss him next year.

Junior Tralyn Harden amazes the crowd with his awesome shooting ability. He has also received many awards and looks up to Kendale as role model in hopes of inheriting the leadership role on the floor next year.

Dee Marshall, a junior, has stepped up his game and gotten a plethora (a whole lot) of rebounds. He also does not mind getting down on the court to tie the ball up. He plays amazing defense, which causes the other team to turn the ball over quite a bit.

Sophomore Mikey Marshall is another team member who does an outstanding job rebounding the ball. Mikey and Dee both make sure they are under the goal to get any missed three pointers and convert them to two points on the board. Mikey handles the ball well and assists in both offense and defense.

As a Freshman Desmond Guy has proven that he may be young but he has just as much talent as the older more experienced players. He plays good defense and hustles after the ball. He has become great at snagging those rebounds.

The only other senior on the team is Jesus Soto. Coming off the bench to give the starting five a break he does a great job of posting up and adding more points to the scoreboard.

Junior Clayton Wienecke adds height to the team. He is also another player that is great at rebounding. He posts up for the pass and makes points for the Mighty Wampus Cats.

The surprise of the season is probably Sophomore DeVeon Mayberry. He plays great defense, hustles for the ball and in the last few games has added numerous points with his outside shots.

Head Coach Cranfill and Assistant Coaches Basham and Mayberry have sharpened the team's skills and have definitely pulled eight players together to function as a team

The Cats have started the season off great and are hoping and working toward finishing as district champs.



2006 Varsity Basketball

Overall Stats	Won - 13	Lost - 4
District	Won - 4	Lost - 1

January

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 Assis-
tants: Kirby Basham & Jeff Mayberry (254) 687 -
2922 ext. 160

Lady Cats Basketball

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. 25 at Rio Vista 7G, 7B, 8G, 8B 5:00 p.m.

Feb. 1 at Dublin 7G, 7B, 8G, 8B 5:00 p.m.

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

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\$950.00

5121 FM 67 3 miles East of Itasca

Contact: Oscar Castillo 817-781-3040 or
oscatillo@c-pts.com

Itasca Garden Club Update

Press Release

The January Garden Club meeting was held in the home of Shirley Onnen. Hostesses for the meeting were June Henderson, Pat Gibbons and Haviland Barnes.

The program for the meeting was the annual "Member Plant Exchange." Plans are being made for the annual "Flower Show" which will be April 12, 2007 in the Farrow Room

The club wishes to welcome new member Georgia Wiginton.

2007 Starts with Positive Moves to Correct Pet Overpopulation

Press Release

Hill County Paw Pals' sponsored low cost sterilization and vaccination clinics started 2007 with a clinic on the first Tuesday of the New Year. This group, 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. This month's clinic (23rd service day) was made successful from the volunteer help of: Cleo Davis, Andrea Finch, Dana Fuchs, Jane Green, Mike Hendricks, Mary Ann Johnson, Kathy Moore, Diana Prince with her assistant in training seven year old Caitlin Claybour, Lea Slocum, and Bob Treadwell.

Thirty-seven pets were sterilized and 107 rabies vaccinations were administered.

"Pet overpopulation can only be corrected with proactive programs such as this low cost service", says Moore. "People cause pet overpopulation and it will take people to correct it," added Moore.

No community has solved their pet overpopulation issue without a low cost service being made available. Clinics are performed on the first Tuesday of each month at Hillsboro Civic Center. 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 10am-2pm. 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.

December Police Report

- 12-23 – Assisted citizen – 1200 blk. E. Main St.
- 12-23 – Loud music complaint – 100 blk. W. Main St.
- 12-23 – Complaint of juveniles in roadway – 100 blk. W. Main St.
- 12-24 - Loud music complaint – Party shut down - 100 blk. W. Main St.
- 12-24 – Possible public intoxication – 300 blk. S. Aquilla St.
- 12-24 – Suspicious vehicle – 100 blk. Wampus Cat Dr.
- 12-24 – Suspicious person – 800 blk. Mill St.
- 12-24 – Suspicious persons – 800 blk. Mill St.
- 12-24 – Assisted DPS – 300 blk. S. Park St.
- 12-25 – Minor accident – Citation for running stop sign – Hill St. & Main St.
- 12-25 – Assisted motorist – 1500 blk. E. Main St.
- 12-25 – Debris in roadway – S. Aquilla & E. Wilkerson St.
- 12-25 - Traffic stop – Speeding – Arrest for possession of marijuana <2 oz. – I 35 W southbound mm 7
- 12-25 – Reckless driver report – I 35 W northbound
- 12-26 - Traffic stop – Speeding - Arrest for DWLI – I 35 W northbound mm 8
- 12-26 – Assisted EMS – 400 blk. S. Files St.
- 12-26 – Animal complaint (loose dog) Citation issued – 800 blk. Weave St.
- 12-27 – Found property – Mill Block area
- 12-28 – Assisted juvenile – 800 blk. Mill St.
- 12-28 – Juvenile transported home – Mill St. & Harris St.
- 12-28 - Traffic stop – Vehicle impounded – No DL, No Insurance – Mill St. & Weave St.
- 12-29 – Arrest for possession marijuana <2 oz. – E. Main St. & Wampus Cat Dr.
- 12-29 – Burglary of a motor vehicle – 600 blk. of S. Hill St.
- 12-29 – Possible missing person report – 400 blk. N. Hill St.
- 12-29 - Traffic stop – DWLI arrest – Files St. & Milford Rd.
- 12-30 – 911 hang up – 500 blk. N. Wesley St.
- 12-30 – Crowd control – 100 blk. N. Hill St.
- 12-30 – Reckless driver report – I 35 W northbound mm 5
- 12-30 – Burglary of a vehicle – 100 blk. S. Weaver St.
- 12-30 – Possible attempted suicide – 500 blk. N. Wesley St.
- 12-31 – Arrest for failure to identify – 100 blk. N. Wall St.
- 12-31 – Welfare concern – 400 blk. S. Hill St.
- 12-31 – Assisted citizen – 300 blk. S. Aquilla St.
- 12-31 – Report of railroad crossing down – FM 934@FM 66
- 12-31 – Traffic stop – Arrested on outstanding warrants (Travis County) & possession of prohibited weapon – I 35 W southbound mm 8

Want to subscribe to *PPP*?

The Paw Print Press is a weekly publication that is currently in its 10th year. If you would like to subscribe send \$22 to *Paw Print Press*, 123 N. College, Itasca, TX 76055.

We welcome articles and Letters to the Editor but reserve the right to shorten or refuse them if they are deemed inappropriate.

One Act Play

Reporter Mary Maddox



This year's One Act Play is a story about love, war, deception, sorrow, and joy. Much Ado About Nothing by William Shakespeare, connects two separate stories into one plot: the baiting of Benedick (Zac Johnson), and Beatrice (Paige Bailey). Also the deception of Claudio (Clayton Wienecke) into mistakenly thinking that Hero (Cherri Lloyd) is unfaithful.

In Shakespeare's time, the "Nothing" of the title would have been pronounced "Noting." Thus, the play's title could read: "Much Ado About Noting." In order for a plot hinged on instances of deceit to work, the characters must note one another constantly.

Paige Bailey who will play Beatrice in the play, took some fencing lessons over the Christmas holiday to prepare for her bout with Benedict in the opening scene of the play.

"It was awesome to have the opportunity to learn something so interesting that will also help with the developing the story line of the play." Paige said.

Comical characters Dogberry and Verges are played by Tim Baker and Jake Key and comedy seems to come natural to them. Aaron Chavez and Shawn Ca-

dena play the "bad guys" that plot to disgrace Hero. Youngest on the crew, Cherri Lloyd is only a freshman and she is very excited to have a leading role.

"I just love acting, I don't know how else to say it," Cherri said. "The crazy and funny people I rehearse with make it even more worth while."

The One Act Play cast and crew have been working hard after school, with the little time they have left to perfect their roles. All the students involved are very excited about performing for the first time.

"Acting is my favorite form of expression; it is so great that I can devote time to acting while I'm at school." Paige said. "I also am thankful that so many other people are as enthusiastic about participating as I am, not to mention how much fun we are having!"

All the cast and crew are devoted and dependable, which Director Susan Crawford is thrilled about.

"I chose this play because it is both a drama and a comedy, which makes everyone happy." Director Crawford said. "At times I feel a little overwhelmed doing a difficult Shakespeare play, but the students playing the parts are doing very well so far. Keeping up with the fifteen cast members is certainly a challenge, but they are entertaining! I am very thankful for Jarie Lewis who is making costumes for all fifteen characters; I don't know what I would do without her."



Cast:

Don Pedro...Nick Worth	Don John...Aaron Chavez
Claudio...Clayton Wienecke	Benedick...Zac Johnson
Leonato...Zech O'Rarden	Borachio...Shawn Cadena
Friar Francis...Clayton Johnson	
Hero...Cherri Lloyd	Beatrice...Paige Bailey
Ursula...Andrea Ramos	Margaret...Devin Corbitt
Dogberry...Tim Baker	Verges...Jake Key
Messenger...Marilla Smith	Attendant...Maria Worth

Alternates:

Estaban Gonzales, JJ Perez, Brandy Massey

Crew:

Sarah Evans	Isai Coronado
Kyle Baker	Bianca Heath

Joanna Diaz did the t-shirt design pictured at the top of this article.

Edwards Supports Bill to Cut Student Loan Interest Rates

Legislation Would Save Students Thousands of Dollars in Loan Debt

Press Release

U.S. Representative Chet Edwards strongly supported HR 5, the College Student Relief Act, which would help 5.5 million college students and their families save thousands of dollars over the life of their loans by cutting interest rates in half over the next five years on federally subsidized Stafford loans. The bill passed 356 to 71.

"Keeping the doors of our colleges and universities open to bright, hard-working students is not only important for their future, it is critical for the future of our nation," said Edwards. "If our nation is going to compete in the global economy, we must knock down the financial barriers that are making it harder for qualified students to pursue a higher education. This bill is a first but important step in the right direction."

Specifically, the bill will cut the interest rate on new subsidized student loans for undergraduates from 6.8% today to 3.4% by 2011. If enacted into law, the bill would save the average four-year college student starting school in 2007 with subsidized Stafford loans \$2,280 over the life of their loans. Once fully phased in, this bill would save the typical borrower, with \$13,800 in subsidized federal student loan debt, approximately \$4,400 over the life of their loan. After graduation, students would be able to consolidate their loans into one loan at the weighted average of the interest rates of their various loans.

In Texas, the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation has estimated that the bill would apply to over 133,000 Texas undergraduates who left school in academic year 2005-2006 with TG-guaranteed, subsidized Stafford loans. For every \$1,000 borrowed, students would save \$200 in interest payments over the 10 years in which the loan is repaid. Those students who have \$10,000 in subsidized loans, they would save over \$2,000 in interest payments over the next ten years for a total savings of over \$266 million. Over the past two years, Edwards has been a vocal opponent of the previous Congress' \$12 billion cut in funding for federal student loan programs, the largest student aid cut in our nation's history, which passed into law under the 2006 budget. He held several events with students and college administrators throughout his district to protest the cuts.

"Hard-working families are already facing fast rising costs for tuition, college textbooks, health care and home utility bills. This bill invests in the future and begins to repair the damage caused by last year's budget," said Edwards.

The cost of attending college continues to skyrocket - putting college out-of-reach for more and more students. According to the College Board, tuition and fees at public universities have increased by 55 percent or \$2,070 after inflation since 2001 and tuition and fees at private universities have jumped by 28 percent or \$1,841 after inflation. According to the Congressional Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, financial barriers will prevent 4.4 million high school graduates from attending a four-year public college over the next decade, and prevent another two million high school graduates from attending any college at all. Without changes, by the year 2020, the United States is projected to face a shortage of up to 12 million college-educated workers, directly threatening America's economic strength, according to projections from the American Youth Policy Forum.

"More than ever, the health of our economy depends on having a highly-skilled and well-educated workforce and creating opportunity to obtain a college education is the key to strengthening the American economy and protecting our standard of living," Edwards concluded.

Numerous organizations have endorsed this bill, including the National Education Association, American Council on Education, National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, American Association for State Colleges and Universities, National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, Association of American Universities, American Association of Community Colleges, Association of Community College Trustees, Alliance for Equity in Higher Education, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, College Board, College Parents of America, Institute for Higher Education Policy, and American Federation of Teachers among many others.



Paw Pals Donate "Kuranda" Beds

Press Release

Left is right - Lana Crow, Audri Crawford, and Animal Control Officer James DeLuca.

Hill County Paw Pals, a grassroots group raising funds to build and donate an animal shelter to service Hill County, recently presented Hillsboro Animal Control Program six "Kuranda" beds to be used at the Hillsboro impoundment facility. "Kuranda" beds are unique cot-styled beds that provide a comfortable resting place for all seasons. Money for the beds was awarded by HILCO Roundup Program

Elementary 3rd Six Weeks “A”-Honor Roll

Grade 1 - Jocelyn Ali, Alexis Arellano, Chalo Cavazos, Daniel Coronado, Alessandra Diaz, Brenna Durham, Erik Gonzalez, Brayden Hennig, Jennipher Ignacz, Matthew Lara, Melissa Maya, Tito Savala, Morgan Stoker

Grade 2 - Jimmy Arellano, Louis Arellano, Taylor Campbell, Lainey Cavazos, Marissa Champers, Kierra Clayborn, Jose Delgado, Jessica Edgar, Kenneth Fails, Donavan Garcia, Courtnee Gore, Robert Kirkpatrick, Jacob Lacy, Darius Lara, Kaleb McGill, Callie Pittman, Brandy Prosser, Aliegha Rodriguez, Gracie Rugh, Christian Runyon, Chandley Sargent, Jesse Savala, Jacob Schronk, Karon Webb, Elizabeth Wood

Grade 3 - Missy Barron, Madison Bassett, Shaun Castro, Devin Crawford, Cesar Diaz, Brandi Fehnel, Jesus Gutierrez, Allena Heath, Bradley Martinez, Wesley Neese, Amanda Rodriguez, Amber Schronk, Chelsea Searcy, Crisol Zavala

Grade 4 - Peyton Cordell, Brandon Farquhar, Rachel Freeman, Hunter Germer, Tristan Sulak, Alexis Whitlock

3rd Six Weeks “A-B”-Honor Roll

Grade 1 - Amanda Arellano, Rebecca Arellano, Kahleil Barlow, Angelina Botello, Nicky Butler, Heidi Delgado, Jessica Ellis, Dustin Feazel, Kyra Henderson, Cody Hundley, Ethan La Fountain, Landon Lain, Treylan Lewis, Andrew Martinez, Katie Nalley, Alexcia Rodriguez, Lucas Sayers, BayLee Smith, Monay Snyder, Sydney Williams, Rogelio Zavala

Grade 2 - Marshal Couldron, Karla Cruz, Anthony Fowler, Daniel Montes, Augustin Pacheco, Esmeralda Rivera, Paul Sais, Anna Salazar, Jessica Sanchez, Ricky Sanders, au'Breana Simmons, Lacy Stoker, Macey Terrell, Autum Throckmorton, Cameron Wells

Grade 3 - fathe Altum, Tommy Ashley, Caitlin Bruton, Tristan Davis, Devin Donawho, Kassandra Gabino, Harley Germer, Leticia Gonzales, Tanner Graig, Brenda Hernandez, Andrea Hightower, Tyler Kittoe, Lydon Lain, Kambria Lusk, James Melson, Keith Mitchell, Abraham Ortega, Lizbeth Ramirez, Tiffany Ramos, Haley Rodriguez, Angel Stephens, Michael Terrell, Bailey Vaughan, Bryant Wilson

Grade 4 - Autumn Beaty, Garrett Bruton, Skylar Campbell, Darrion Crawford, Mason Farquhar, William Gunn, Hannah Hundley, Gabriel Macias, Tre Martinez, Shannon Rodriguez, Emilee Ross, Reagan Rugh, Megan Terrell, Johnathon Young

Middle School “A” Honor Roll

5th Grade - Amanda Anderson, Chelsae Faries, Fisher Hennig, Kaleigh Lightsey, Emma Orr, Samuel Orr

6th Grade - David Corbitt, Rebecca Durham, Michael Macias, Jessica Zint

7th Grade - Hannah Johnson, Rebecca Maul, Erin Rinehart

8th Grade - Keyre Ortiz, Nancy Reyes

3rd 6-Weeks “A-B” Honor Roll

5th Grade - Cade Biggs, Cora Bruton, Shelbee Coleman, Andrew Fails, Jessica Farquhar, Noah Karr, Daniel Rasco, Carter Reid, Ednita Rivera, Ashlie Rodriguez, Amber Shelby, Megan Spain, Jordan Whitfield

6th Grade - Emily Basye, Wyatt Berry, Brittany Bourland, Cole Coleman, Trinton Crawford, Christian Cruz, James Hanes, Michelle Ignacz, Emilee Nalley, Tyler Odom, Brittany Reid, Jordan Sizemore, Da'jae Wells, Ashley Wilkins

7th Grade - Andrew Clarke, Courtney Conway, Stephanie Ignacz, Robert Marshall, Daniel Odom, Emily Offutt, Joshua Shelton, Cory Wright, Maria Zuniga

8th Grade - Jasmine Guy, Christina Manasco, Bob Slotvig, Colton Sullins, Philip Thomas

High School “A” Honor Roll

9th Grade - Connally Baskett, Devin Corbitt, Ashley Durham, Megan Goff

10th Grade - Maria Worth

11th Grade - Oksana Didukh, Konstantin Suspitsyn

12th Grade - Rachel Anderson, Stephanie Campbell, Candice Kowalski

“A-B” Honor Roll 3rd Six-Weeks

9th Grade - Eddie Coronado, Ryan Crouch, Desmond Guy, Cherri Lloyd, Mary Maddox, Eva Mayberry, Chad Rutherford, Cierra Thompson

10th Grade - Pilar Baskett, Journey Douangsouphonh, Timothy Earhart, Sarah Evans, Susie May, Chelsea Rodriguez

11th Grade - Tim Baker, Terrey Brumbalow, Isai Coronado, Jamie Hanes, Zach Johnson, Inesa Kachurivska, Jake Key, David Martin, Jake Pelham, Jonatan Ponce, James Rosas, Chris Turner, Clayton Wienecke, Nick Worth

12th Grade - Paige Bailey, Clayton Beatty, Autumn Bennett, Brittany Christopher, Alecia Evans, Bianca Heath, LB Mosely, Karla Ochoa, Taylor Rickman, Ashley Swilley

4th Six Weeks ends February 16
Presidents' Day - February 19
Spring Break - March 12 - 16
Good Friday - April 6

Paw Print Press
123 N. College
Itasca, Texas 76055

Wampus Cat of the Week

Carl Sweeney - Columnist

Reporter Colton Yarbro



Paw Print Press Columnist Carl Sweeney wrote his first column for the paper on April 15, 2005 and has been serving Itasca in this way since then.

Sweeney graduated from Itasca High in 1940. He has had numerous jobs but one of the most interesting is the one

he has done since 1957. He has recorded the official weather data for NOAA (National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration) and in 2003; they presented him with the prestigious Richard H. Hagemeyer Award for his hard work and dedication. This award is given to individuals who have committed 45 years to the country. Sweeney also received the prestigious John Campinus Holm Award, which is given to individuals who have provided outstanding accomplishments in the field of meteorological observation.

This week we present him with our highest award, "The Wampus Cat of the Week" award for his contribution to the *Paw Print Press* and Itasca.

Special of the Week



"Carl would have been on Cloud 9 if he had had a Lloyd Ford to impress the ladies with in 1940.

'99 Camaro

V6, Automatic, Loaded



77K Miles, Extra Nice - Only \$4,985!

Lloyd Ford – Proud Supporter of the Wampus Cats

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1998 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 Heavy Duty
Ext. Cab, Long Bed, Clean, Runs Great,
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Help Your Community Join the Chamber of Commerce

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Now Open – Exit 8 Café

1500 E. Main St. Itasca, TX
Call in or Come by 254-687-2028
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Daily Specials

Friendly Atmosphere – Clean Environment
Come meet the sisters Chrissy & Laura
We'd Love to Serve You

The Hayloft Café #2

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Itasca, TX 254-687-2045

***Enjoy some good home cooking made the
old fashion way – from scratch!

To Go Orders Welcome!

Karen's Breakfast Burritos

Open Monday – Saturday 4 a.m.–2 p.m.

Call in orders welcome! 254-687-9076

Breakfast Burritos \$1.25 - \$2.40

Tax included in price

Enchilada Plate - \$5.99 (w/rice & beans)

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
Old Wal-Mart Building - 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Support this project by saving your aluminum cans.
For more information about Paw Pals call 580-0679 or
email hcpawpals@yahoo.com.

Support Itasca Elementary



Save General Mills
Box Tops 4 Education

Guitar Lessons

Ages 10 yrs. & Up - \$15.00 an hour
Call 687-2581 - Clayton Wienecke



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Paw Print Press

Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since
1997

Stories and advertisements for publication may be
sent to: Paw Print Press, 123 N College St., Itasca, TX
76055 or e-mailed to bpetrash@itasca.k12.tx.us. We do
not charge for ads, but we do accept donations for our
scholarship fund.

To subscribe to the Paw Print Press, send a check for
\$22, to Paw Print Press, 123 N College St., Itasca, TX
76055 along with your correct mailing address.

The Paw Print Press is in its 10th year of publication.
625 copies are printed each week, which includes 263
paid mail out subscriptions, 45 paid hand delivered sub-
scriptions, 185 copies distributed in downtown Itasca,
127 copies sold on campus and 5 issues filed in perman-
ent file.

PPP phone number - 254-687-2922 ext 158.

Public Notice January 22, 2007

The Itasca Independent School District Board of Trustees, in a called meeting on January 22, 2007, named Glenn Pittman as the lone finalist for the position of Superintendent of the Itasca Independent School District.

Public Notice Abandoned & Junk Vehicles

The Office of Code Enforcement would like to inform the community concerning abandoned and junk vehicles, in hopes that it could encourage our citizens to abide by the Itasca Code of Ordinances and continue the beautification of our city.

A "Junk Vehicle," is defined as a vehicle that is self-propelled and inoperable and does not have lawfully attached to it an unexpired license plate and a valid motor vehicle inspection certificate, wrecked, dismantled or partially dismantled or discarded, and has remained inoperable for more than 72 consecutive hours, if the vehicle is on public property or 30 consecutive days, if the vehicles is on private property.

Anyone violating this ordinance will be sent a Notice of Violation letter informing the property owner/vehicle owner to remove the vehicle(s) within 10 (Ten)-calendar days. If the vehicle(s) are not removed within the stated time and a hearing has not been requested, a citation will be issued and the vehicle(s) will be removed from the property.

Should you have any questions regarding any of the City of Itasca Code of Ordinances, please call 687-2201 during normal business hours.

Felicia Mayberry
Office of Code Enforcement

Quaternaglia Guitar Quartet from Brazil.



Press Release

The Hill College Performing Arts Series will begin the spring concert season on February 8th, Thursday, at 7:30 pm, in the Vara Martin Daniel Performing Arts Center on the Hillsboro Campus with the Quaternaglia Guitar Quartet from Brazil.

Formed by Fernando Lima, João Luiz, Fabio Ramazzina and Sidney Molina, Quaternaglia Guitar Quartet has been a strong international reference of artistic excellency and magnificence of repertoire written for four guitars. During the last ten years, the group has established a real canon of unedited original pieces, almost all of them written by Brazilian composers. The group performance started to call the attention of

the international critics in 1998 after receiving the "Ensemble Prize" at the International Guitar Contest of Havana (Cuba) and also after its participation in several important guitar and chamber music series in the United States, like Guitarists of the World, the American Guitar Society Concert Series, Fort Worth Classical Guitar Society, Friends of Music and Round Top Festival Hill.

The launching of the album Forrodo in Europe by Carmo/ECM label (2000), produced by Egberto Gismonti, was the first register of an original repertoire of great virtuosity - almost integrally dedicated to the quartet - which has been an example to the most important guitar ensembles of the present time. The album Antique, launched in 1996, has transcriptions of renaissance, baroque and classic pieces. The album helped the group to receive the Carlos Gomes Prize (São Paulo) as the best chamber ensemble of the year (1997).

According to Los Angeles Times' critics, "Quaternaglia Guitar quartet was attracted by opportunity to add experience and spice to a young genre, creating a canon of fire" and "an aura of purity pervaded the concert of the Brazilian guitar quartet, that met all the requirements with equanimity and intelligence in its California debut". The critics of Fort Worth Star Telegram wrote "the four Brazilians performed the entire concert from memory and with a precise interaction" and "not a note was out of place, and every nuance of interpretation was in harmony at this concert that thrilled the crowd".

The first Quaternaglia's concert occurred in São Paulo in As always, our Performing Arts Series admission is free. A reception following the program will be provided by North Texas Airstream Community Women's Club. Please come join us for this exciting evening! For more information, please call Phillip Lowe at 254-582-2555, ext. 270 or Shirley Erickson at ext. 261 or check the Hill College Performing Arts Series website at www.hillcollege.edu/performingarts. For senior citizen transportation information call 582-5851