

Paw Print Press

Proudly Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since 1997

Itasca, Texas 76055

Vol. 2007 Issue #13

March 30, 2007

Itasca Boy Scout Troop 366 Court of Honor

Press Release from Troop Mom



The Itasca Boy Scout Troop 366 held a Court of Honor on Tuesday, March 20, 2007. The Court of Honor is a ceremony that recognizes the young men who have advanced in Rank or who have earned Merit Badges or other awards.

After completing their Tenderfoot and Second Class Ranks, there were three who advanced to the Rank of First Class. Earning their First Class Rank are David Corbitt, David Maddox, and Justin Bonds. Earning the Rank of Tenderfoot are Tyler Odom and Daniel Odom.

Continued on page 3.

Perseverance Earns "Spirit Patch"

Submitted by Teresa McCoy



On March 10, 2007, students of the Unified Tae Kwon Do school in Hillsboro had their grading. Before the grading started there were two students who were recognized for their determination and willingness to continue with their

classes even though they both had injuries. Skylar Campbell and Michele Steele received the Spirit Patch, Mr. and Mrs. Kight said that this patch has not been given out in about 4 or 5 years.

Continued on page 3.

Local Organizations Receive Funding through Operation Round Up®

HILCO Press Release



At the January meeting, HILCO Electric's Trust Board for the Operation Round Up® program voted to disburse \$9,498.48 to sixteen requesting organizations in the HILCO service area. These funds were donated during the fourth quarter of 2006.

Pictures and a check presentation were held on February 15, 2006 at the HILCO office in Itasca. Checks were presented by HILCO Board Director William (Bill) Allen.

Two local organizations were granted funding to help with their activities. The Angel Food Ministries (above) received an award of \$500 for the purchase of canopy shelters for distribution of food during inclement weather. St. John's Youth Alternative Program (pictured below) was granted \$500 for assistance with start up expenses.

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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.	

Central Baptist Church

Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 10:50 a.m.
 Sunday evening Bible Study 5:00-6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday evening Bible Study and Prayer 7:00 p.m.
 Ladies Bible Study Tuesday 10:30-12:00
 Team Kids- for K-4th grade - Mondays
 3:30-5:00 p.m. More info, call 687-2620

First United Methodist Church

Come join us in our beautiful, historic sanctuary, where worship is a joyous celebration. Main at King St.
 Rev. Tom Wood, Pastor 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 & 10:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. Wed. 6 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Sunday Schedule

9:30 Fellowship - 10:00 Sunday School - 11:00 Worship
 Exercise Classes- Senior Citizens Tues.&Thurs. 10 a.m.
 Game Night -3rd Tuesday Night - 6:00 p.m.

Angel Food Ministry Host Site - 687-2243

Itasca Ministerial Alliance Meeting

April 7 - 9:00 a.m. Central Baptist Church

Itasca Zoning Committee Meeting

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

Itasca City Council Meeting

Monday, April 16, 2007 6:00 p.m.
 Municipal Court Building 136 N. Hill St.

Itasca ISD School Board Meeting

April 9, 2007 7:00 p.m.
 IISD Administration Building - 123 N College St.

Chamber of Commerce Meeting

April 30, 2007 5:30 p.m.
 Farrow Room - HILCO 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

Community Calendar

March 29 - IHS One Act Play cast & crew will present for the public - William Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* - Special Events Center - 7:00 p.m. Admission is free - Everyone welcome

March 30 - Wampus Cats' Baseball & Lady Cats' Softball vs. Dublin - District game - Here 4:30 p.m.

April 3 - Wampus Cats' Baseball & Lady Cats' Softball vs. Maypearl - District game - There - 4:30 p.m.

April 5 - Lady Cats' Softball vs. Grandview - District game - Here 4:30 p.m.

April 5 - Junior High District Track Meet - Hico

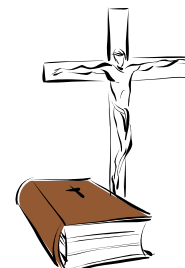
April 5 - Tenebrae Service - 7:00 p.m. First Presbyterian Church

April 6 - Wampus Cats' Baseball vs. Grandview - District game - Here 4:30 p.m.

April 7 - Itasca Ministerial Alliance Meeting - 9:00 a.m. - Central Baptist

Tenebrae Service

The First Presbyterian Church of Itasca will hold a Tenebrae (Latin for "shadows" or "darkness") Service, also known as the Service of Darkness or Service of Shadows, on Thursday evening, April 5 at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of this service is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story. As the service progresses through the Scripture readings and hymns, the lights and/or candles are gradually extinguished to symbolize the growing darkness not only of Jesus' death but also of hopelessness in the world without God. This is a very moving service, and we invite everyone to join us.



Community Sunrise Service

The Itasca Ministerial Alliance invites everyone to join us for Easter Sunrise Services at 7:00 am. Easter morning, April 8, at the gazebo in downtown Itasca. Ministers from several of the Itasca churches will lead the service of scriptures and songs. Please join us.



Boy Scout Court of Honor

Continued from page 1.



(Left to right) David Corbitt, David Maddox, and Justin Bonds earned their First Class Ranking.

Six members earned Merit Badges. Dylan Hernandez

earned his Mammals, Small-boat Sailing and the Rifle Merit Badges. The other five Boy Scouts earned the Swimming and the First Aid Merit Badges: Carter Reid, Wyatt Berry, Justin Bonds, David Maddox and David Corbitt. Four also earned the Pioneering Merit Badge: Carter Reid, Justin Bonds, David Maddox and David Corbitt. In addition, David Corbitt earned the Leather-work Merit Badge.

The scouts were appreciative to their adult leaders especially Scoutmaster Alan Corbitt and Assist Scoutmasters Steve Sawyer, Duane Cherry, and Charlie Byford for all the time, energy and hard work they put into making the Troop so successful.



(Left to right) Daniel Odom and Tyler Odom earned the rank of Tenderfoot.

Public Notice from IPD

Over the years, the Itasca police department has collected several items in its lost and found. Currently our storage is overflowing with items that need to be returned to their owners.

If you have lost something in the past 10 years and would like to see if we have it at the PD, please come by the police department on N. Hill St. and fill out a lost & found slip. If the slip's information matches items in our lost & found, we will contact you and return the items.

Come by Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Free to a Good Home
Sheppard mixed - female puppy
Call Jessica 254-498-3753
Very loveable & playful

Tae Kwon Do Grading

Continued from page 1.



The Kights also handed out patches and trophies to the students for Academic Achievement; this is for the students who maintain either "A" honor roll or "A-B" honor roll. To receive a trophy a student has to be on the honor roll all throughout the school year and the others get a patch.

At grading all students (there are several of them that attend school in Itasca) must know their pattern, break a board and spar. All of the students where able to move up to the next level and all White Belts received a trophy.



The fourth grade girls would like to thank Mrs. Jean for coming and showing her support. Also, a great big thank you for Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kight and their son, Master Kevin Kight and his wife Krissy.

If you would like more information about Unified Tae Kwon Do, please call 582-5111.



Notice - Accepting Bids

Notice is hereby given that the City of Itasca will begin to accept sealed bids on a manufactured doublewide home. The home will be sold as is. The home must be moved from its present location within 14 days of sale. All cost will be the buyer's responsibility. The closing date will be March 30, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. Contact City Hall for more information Sue Comer, Tax Collector

Senior Spotlight Heather Neuman

Reporter Devin Corbitt - Caricature by Gabby Rivera
Photo by Video Tech



17-year-old Heather Lanai Neuman began Itasca High School at the beginning of the second semester this year.

"Itasca takes some getting used to," Heather said. "Whitney was a lot easier, but I am really starting to like being here. Everyone is really nice."

Heather's hobbies include listening to country, rock and rap music, hanging out with her friends, riding four wheelers, and watching Johnny Depp.

"I love Johnny Depp! He's such a cutie."

Heather enjoys playing volleyball and watching football. Because she does not have a favorite team in either of these sports, she usually just cheers for the underdogs. Her favorite class is video tech. Even with the no flip-flop rule, Heather still considers this year to be her favorite.

"I would describe myself as random and fun. I'm different because I have the brightest green car in Itasca, and I am engaged to Corey White. Plus, I can drive with my knees and put on makeup at the same time." (We don't advise anyone to do that.)

Heather is active in church. She attends church every Sunday, and wants her fellow Christians to remember:

"Going to church doesn't make you a Christian anymore than sitting in a garage makes you a car."

Heather's parents are Tracy and LaRhonda Neuman. She has a brother Trā, 19, and a sister, Erica, 16. She also has a Chihuahua named Precious.

"I really love my parents. They have kept me in line for all these years. My dad is different from a lot of other dads because he was in New York on September 11."

After she graduates, Heather plans to go to college to become a dental assistant.

"I can't wait to graduate, but I will miss all my new friends here in Itasca. But to the underclassmen I leave this advice, Don't wait until tomorrow to do what you can do today."



Senior Spotlight Ying Chan

Reporter Sarah Evans - Caricature by Gabby Rivera



"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened." is one of 18 year old Ying "Kabeer" Chan's favorite quotes.

Kabeer is the daughter of Tung-Cheang Chan and Shi-Kwan Siu of Hong Kong. She has one older sister, Ling, a rabbit named BB.BU, and a puppy named BB.

"I love being a senior at Itasca High School," Kabeer said. "I will never forget how friendly the students have been here at Itasca."

When Kabeer is not at school, she enjoys watching Jackie Chan movies, shopping, singing karaoke, and reading (her favorite book is The Five People You Meet in Heaven).

"Something that is very unique about me is the fact that I can rap in Chinese and I can speak four languages, English, Cantonese, Mandarin and Hakka," Kabeer said. "I am also always up to doing something new and dangerous!"

Kabeer describes herself as special, outgoing, and cheerful.

"Someone who has made a big difference in my life," Kabeer said, "is my best friend Poon, because she has shown me what real friendship is."

Although Kabeer is surely ready to graduate, she has a bit of advice to leave to the underclassmen. "Trust yourself. You know more than you think you do."



For Sale

1985 Chevrolet Pickup
w/air & power
New battery & other new
parts. \$1100.



See at 105 Beard, Itasca
254-687-2345.

For Sale

1992 Ford Taurus Good running condition
\$1250 or best offer
Grandview - Vicki Powers
817-866-2456

Valley Mills Track Meet



Sophomore Courtney Phillips finished 1st in the 100 meter dash and 200 meter dash at the Valley Mills Eagle Invitational Track Meet on March 8, 2007. She also took 2nd place in the varsity long jump with a leap of 15' 9" only 2 1/4" behind the winner from Axtell.

Freshman Megan Goff finished 1st in the varsity pole vault event with a height of 7'0". She was 5th in the 400-meter dash, only 4 seconds behind the first place finisher.

In the JV division, Eva Mayberry finished 1st in the 100 meter dash. She also finished 1st in the 200 meter dash and Courtney Heath finished 4th less than 2 seconds later. Mary Maddox finished 1st in the long jump with a 13' 10" jump and 2nd in the 400 meter dash with teammate Courtney Heath finishing 6th only 4 seconds out of first. Ashley Durham finished 6th in the discus with a throw of 60' 1 1/2". Junior Oksana Diduhk finished 5th in the 800 meter run with a time of 3:10.80.

Texas Declares April Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month

Press Release

One of the most alarming problems in today's society is child abuse. In our state alone, hundreds of children die each year from abuse or neglect. We are shocked and appalled almost daily by news stories about children who are abused in our own communities and our state.

Texas is working at making a difference in the lives of Texas children from ever needlessly suffering of abuse and neglect. As part of an ongoing program to educate Texans about the signs of child abuse and neglect, and how to report suspected incidents, the State of Texas will observe the month of April as Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month.

The Hill County Child Protective Services Board will host a luncheon on April 2 for representatives of several organizations and county officials to share information concerning this growing problem and to make everyone aware of how to actively prevent and report incidents.

If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, please call the Child Abuse Hotline at 800-252-5400 or your local law enforcement. For more information, log on to <https://www.txabusehotline.org>.

Itasca Senior First in Iredell Invitational Tennis Meet



Thirty high school singles tennis players met on March 22 in Waco for the annual Iredell Invitational tournament. This tournament and several others are held shortly before the district meets to help prepare the players for their competition. Itasca senior Rachel Anderson had to defeat five opponents in order to bring

home the championship trophy.

Athletes from sixteen large and small schools participated. Represented were Connally, Whitney, Brock, Martins Mill, Crawford, Kopperl, Stephenville, West, Normangee, Iredell, Rio Vista, Aquilla, Mullin, Dawson, Abbott and Itasca.

Anderson will represent Itasca in the district meet on April 2. On April 3, the JV doubles' teams of Rikki Mason/Nicole Kelley, Jake Mears/Jake Key and Nick Worth/Tim Baker will compete.

Wampus Cats Baseball Schedule

	Won - 0	Loss - 5
March 30	*Dublin	Home 4:30 p.m.
April 3	*Maypearl	Home 4:30 p.m.
5	*Grandview	Home 4:30 p.m.
9	*Hico	There 4:30 p.m.
13	*Rio Vista	Home 4:30 p.m.
20	*Dublin	There 4:30 p.m.
24	*Maypearl	There 4:30 p.m.

Coaches: Craig Horn & Fred Dakan

Lady Cats 2007 Softball Schedule

	Won - 3	Loss - 5
March 30	*Dublin	Here 4:30 p.m.
April 3	*Maypearl	There 4:30 p.m.
5	*Grandview	Here 4:30 p.m.
9	*Hico	There 4:30 p.m.
13	*Rio Vista	Here 4:30 p.m.
20	*Dublin	There 4:30 p.m.

Head Softball Coach Maddox - Assistant Coach Lawyer

2007 Track Schedule

April 5	Junior High District	Hico
10 & 12	High School District	Hico

2007 Tennis Schedule

April 2	Varsity District Meet
3	Varsity Final & JV Meet

IHS One Act Play cast & crew will present for the public



"Much Ado About Nothing"

By William Shakespeare

Thursday, March 29, 2007

7:00 p.m.

Special Events Center

Free Admission

Student award winners from District UIL @
Cleburne High School March 200, 2007



All Star Cast: Paige Bailey (front left), Zac Johnson (back left), Clayton Wienecke (Back center)

Honorable Mention All Star Cast: Cherri Lloyd (front right)

Best Crew Member: Kyle Baker (back right)

Set Up Your TIVOs & VCRs

Parts of the museum move that took place in June 2006 is set to air on the National Geographic Channel on Thurs., March 29 at 9:00 p.m. Central Standard Time.

Operation Round Up®

Continued from page 1.

In addition, the fourteen following organizations from within HILCO's service area were also granted funding:

Central Texas Senior Ministry - \$500 for senior transportation assistance

Daniel's Den Ministries - \$475 for child care assistance of clients seeking employment/training

Hill County CPS Adopt-a-Caseworker Program - \$320.18 for client assistance

Hill County Fair (Creative Arts/Education) - \$250 to purchase supplies; set up/clean up expenses

Hill County Retired School Personnel - \$300 to purchase books for Head Start program

Hillsboro Junior High - \$900 Student attendance assistance for an educational field trip

Hospice of the Heart, Inc. - \$500 for a propane grill for fundraising and volunteer functions

House Where Jesus Shines - \$1,213.30 for the purchase of a commercial kitchen mixer

Isaiah's Place, Inc. - \$450 - for a youth saddle for clients and leather crafting supplies

Midlothian Fire Department - \$1,000 Assistance with purchase of rapid intervention rescue bag kits

Midlothian Senior Citizens Center - \$818 - For the purchase of computer

North Ellis County Outreach - \$500 for client assistance

The Boys and Girls Club of Hillsboro - \$500 for assistance with start up expenses

The Compassionate Friends - \$500 for assistance with printing and postage of monthly newsletter

Since the Operation Round Up® program began in 2001, over \$295,588 has been returned to communities within the HILCO service area. This has been made possible from the generosity of residential participants whose electric bills are rounded upward each month. The additional pennies, nickels and dimes are added to a special fund, which is distributed to organizations for charitable needs. So far, a majority of the disbursements have been used to assist with child advocacy services, to aid local fire departments and to help organizations provide services to those in need.

The next deadline for Operation Round Up® applications is March 31, 2007. Organizations interested in applying for funds may contact Jill Huggins, HILCO Administrative Assistant, for information, 254-687-2331 or 800-338-6425, extension 1142. Applications are also available online at www.hilco.coop, or at either HILCO office at 115 E. Main in Itasca or at the corner of FM 933 and FM 1713 in Whitney.

Mary's IMS Focus

B.J. Jackson

Reporter Mary Maddox



Bernard Jackson known as B.J. has been a Wampus Cat since birth. He has always participated in athletic activities such as football, basketball, baseball and track.

He is only waiting for the day when he can represent the Cats officially in high school events.

Sports may be his favorite thing to do, but he doesn't slack in any school situation.

BJ keeps his grades high and maintains a permanent position on the "A-B" Honor Roll, and was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society last year.

"BJ is a hard worker," English teacher Larry Maddox said. "He is always mindful of his goals and strives to achieve them."

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor, I would like to publicly thank Gloria Rodriguez, the manager at Lane Bryant #4246 for her kind act. Words cannot express how wonderful she is and how great she made me feel last week when I was going through a difficult time and she rearranged her schedule so I could do what I needed to do.

She also supported me with her prayers. If more people were like her, it would be a better world. I thank her from the bottom of my heart.

Lizzie Jacks

Dear *PPP*, I have just finished reading the *PPP*, which arrived today. As always, it was a truly bright spot in my day. Carl's article was especially good. So many of his articles hit "close to home" as I lived the times he writes so well about. Keep up the good work!

Question: Can you publish some information in the upcoming year of the Wampus Cat Football team (1937)? Will there be a special recognition of our accomplishment this Homecoming? I would like to know if any plans are in the offing. There are still a few of us around from the 1937 team.

Any information would be most welcome by me and others I am sure. Many Thanks.

Still a Wampus Cat – Cub Sanderson
Right Guard #67 – Regional Champs 1937

Readers, please send the *PPP* any information you have about Homecoming & any other planned celebrations. We would also love to print your stories about the football team & high school life in 1937 or any honored year. You were there and know the details; our information is sketchy at best.

PPP Editor

Edwards Encourages Area Students to Participate in Congressional Art Competition

Press Release

Congressman Chet Edwards announced that his office is now taking applications from high school students in his 17th district for this year's Congressional Art Competition. Since the competition's inception in 1982, hundreds of thousands of high school students have been able to participate and Members of Congress have been able to showcase the talent of their creative high school constituents.

"This competition will provide an exciting opportunity for aspiring young artists in our congressional district to display their talent," said Edwards. "I encourage all interested students, parents, and teachers to get involved in this program."

This year's competition deadline for submission of artwork is April 20. Edwards is requesting that every high school within his 17th district submit two pieces of artwork. The final judging of the artwork will take place approximately May 1. The winning artwork will be sent to Washington, DC to be viewed by hundreds daily for one year in the Cannon Tunnel located in the US Capitol building.

For more information on the guidelines of the competition, please contact the Edwards' district office closest to you:

Waco Office College Station Cleburne Office
Jakob Stewart Lindsey Davis Jennifer Ward
(254) 752-9600 (979) 691-8797 (817) 645-4743

Annual Itasca Garden Club

Flower Show

April 12, 2007

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Farrow Room

115 E. Main – Itasca

The public is invited to attend and enjoy the floral arrangements and refreshments that will be provided by club members.

Students from Itasca High School will hold a sidewalk plant sale during this time. The plants being sold are from the school's greenhouse. All proceeds from the sale will go to the school.

Card of Thanks

We would like to thank all of our friends for their thoughts, cards, telephone calls, visits, flowers, memorials and most of all your prayers at our time of sorrow. May God bless each of you.

The Family of Doris Barnes

Tornado Safety for Texans

PSA – www.txdps.tx.us

Austin-Tornadoes can occur at any time of the year in Texas, including December, but they happen most often in spring and summer. Spokespersons for the governor's Division of Emergency Management urge Texans to learn what to do when a tornado is sighted. The most important rule is to get low and stay low.

- Seek shelter in an interior room on the lowest floor of the home, such as a bathroom, closet or room without windows.
- In an office building, go to an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor.
- Leave your mobile home and take shelter in a nearby building. If no building is nearby, lie flat in a ditch or ravine.
- Never stay inside a car. Leave the car and lie flat in ditch or a ravine. If a building is nearby, take shelter inside. Never try to outrun a tornado in your car.
- At school, follow plans and go to a designated shelter area, usually interior hallways on the lowest floor. Avoid auditoriums, gyms and areas with wide, free-span roofs.
- Go to the interior rooms and halls on the lowest floor of a shopping center. Do not leave the shopping center to get in your car.
- If you are in open country, take cover on low, protected ground.
- Avoid areas near exterior glass or doors, areas along exterior walls, or rooms with wide expanse roofs—such as auditoriums, cafeterias and gyms.
- Learn the difference between a Tornado Watch and a Tornado Warning. A Tornado Watch means watch the sky. A Tornado Warning means a tornado is on the ground and you must seek shelter immediately.

For more information about the Governor's Division of Emergency Management go to www.txdps.tx.us

Paw Pals' Sterilization/Vaccination Clinic Celebrates 2nd Anniversary

Controlling pet overpopulation can only be accomplished with proactive measures. Reactive measures of adoption and euthanasia will never correct a phenomenon that has exponential growth—the fact remains that two uncontrolled breeding dogs can produce 4,372 offspring in just four years while cats can produce 420,715 offspring in this same period. Without correction, pet overpopulation will only worsen and present continued burdens to our communities with health, economic, legal, and safety liabilities. Hill County Paw Pals realized that no county has ever corrected pet overpopulation without offering affordable sterilization services. This realization, generated collaboration with Texas Coalition for Animal Protection (TCAP), a non-profit organization based in Denton, and Paw Pals sponsorship of a low cost clinic was initiated. This service is offered free of taxpayers' expense on the first Tuesday of each month. Paw Pals receives zero income for this service—all costs go toward compensating the licensed veterinarian and technicians performing the surgeries. The clinic marked its second anniversary since being founded by Kathy Moore of Hillsboro on February 15, 2005. The volunteers who made this clinic another success were Jackie Chance, Cleo Davis, Andrea Finch, Jane Green, Mike Hendricks, Kathy Moore, Lea Slocum, Lonnie Tilson and Lorie Welch.

By using a Humane Society of the United States' pet population formula, it is estimated that 28,239 family pets live in Hill County. It is also estimated that 50-70% are not current on vaccination for rabies—leaving a dangerous number of between 14,000- 20,000 susceptible pets that are in direct contact with our children (this figure does not include the thousands of unwanted dogs and cats that have been “dumped”). Texas Rabies Control Act states that every pet over 4 months of age must be vaccinated against rabies. Violation of this law is a Class C Misdemeanor with a fine up to \$500. Rabies virus is transmitted from the saliva of an infected animal. Although usually transmitted from a bite wound, a simple cut on one's finger has the potential of being the entry point for the deadly virus. Once the symptoms of rabies virus occur, it is near 100% fatal in both animals and humans. This zoonotic disease (an animal disease that can be transmitted to humans) must be taken seriously. Vaccinating a family pet indirectly affords some protection from rabies to human members of the household. Paw Pals encourages all pet owners to establish a relationship with a local veterinarian for routine care. Paw Pals Low Cost Clinics are offered 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). Pets needing only vaccinations do not need an appointment. Vaccinations are given 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: hcpaw-pals.org.

Do You Remember . . . ? – “The Endangered Male”

Columnist Carl Sweeney



We recently published a humorous column that seemed to be well received, so I thought another might be in order.

To the male gender, this one might not be so funny. If you have noticed in recent years, we men seem to be losing out in the scheme of things. The ladies are outdoing us in practically all categories in the business world, news media, and sports, even invading the formerly all male, Rotary and Lions Clubs. When we think about it, this has been going on for some time, and is becoming increasingly obvious that like some other forms of animal life, we may become extinct.

Let us examine a few facts; since the episode in the Garden of Eden with Eve and the Serpent, there seems to be a conspiracy against us men. Adam did not have a chance against Eve, even before her alliance with the snake, not to mention the apple. After that, his chances were nil. Look at Samson; he was invincible until he was clipped by a woman. From that time on down through the ages the fairer set has been pushing a little here and a little there until we have almost been eliminated.

I guess the last straw was when women finally invaded man's last sanctuaries: the political office and his bathroom, which was the absolute worst. It wasn't so bad when we had outdoor toilets. They felt they were being discriminated against when they were not allowed to use restrooms designated, "For Men Only." Why they wish to share restrooms with men is a mystery. As far as I can determine men's and women's restrooms have basically the same equipment, with the exceptions of urinals on the wall. Unless a woman is endowed with exceptional athletic abilities, I doubt this would warrant the invasion of man's last sanctuary. To add to the problems, this invasion continued into the private home. We no longer enjoy the privacy we had there. Once the smell of Old Spice and shaving cream prevailed, now hair spray coats the mirror. The last place where man could retreat, lock the door and have a little privacy is gone forever.

Now days instead of a neat and orderly room, it seems that chaos reigns. The lavatory and the vanity surfaces are piled high with body lotions, perfume, curlers, a hair dryer and other items. There is also a mirror that enlarges the pores.

One time, I saw what looked like an unidentified insect, after using an insect spray and it did not move, I discovered it was a pair of false eyelashes. Pantyhose seem to do well in this atmosphere; they are hanging from the showerhead, on the shower curtain, towel racks, and everywhere else even the light fixtures. I once found a girdle that looked like it was in the last few minutes of its allotted 18 hours. There was also a bikini bathing suit stuffed behind a tube of toothpaste, and a small tube at that.

Now we come to the shower. As we slide back the door after removing more pantyhose, the sight that confronts us could be likened to an obstacle course, or a minefield. Be careful where you step, shampoo bottles, razors, and numerous other articles are on the floor of the tub. There are other areas and other situation that could be mentioned, but perhaps we are pressing our luck now. We have already displayed a lot of valor and not much discretion.

In conclusion, it appears that the women libbers' victory is nearing completion. Man's last strongholds have been invaded and taken. Man will likely be added to the list of other endangered species. Losing political offices, sport jobs, weather forecasting, and other things we were established in was not as bad as losing our last stronghold, the bathroom, of which we are not likely to recover from.

Relay For Life

Quilt Raffle

Handmade by Carol Upchurch
 Tickets \$1 each 6 for \$5
 Citizens State Bank - Itasca
 Drawing March 30, 2007
 254-687-2331.

For Sale

3-bedroom house - 308 S. Aquilla
 Needs some work - 254-687-9197
 or 254-854-2344 for details.

House for Rent

2½ Bedrooms – 1 bath
 No Pets
 \$425 month - 606 E. Adams St.

For Sale

Washer & Dryer
 Good condition
 \$200 for both
 Call Melissa Wilson
 817-648-2993

Garage Sale

April 5, 6 & 7, 2007
 Thursday, Friday & Saturday
 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 100 Beard Dr. Itasca

Garage Sale

April 6 & 7, 2007
 Friday & Saturday
 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
 405 N. King St. – Itasca
 lots of ladies scrubs

Paw Print Press
123 N. College
Itasca, Texas 76055

Wampus Cats of the Week

City Hall & City Employees

Many people may not remember but in the latter part of 2006, Itasca received many thunderstorms and drenching rains. After the hot dry summer we had experienced in 2006, the streets began to develop many large potholes.

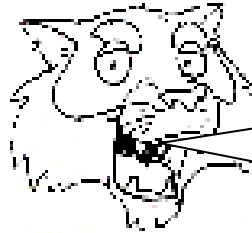
The City was quick to try to fix the problem as soon as the weather permitted. Most of the holes have been patched or graded. A few of the streets in Itasca are concrete and they cannot be repaired in the same way as the asphalt streets. The City does its best on those repairs but they are never permanent.

The City water and sewer system is very old and in need of replacement but the city employees have maintained the infrastructure with only minimal disruption of service.

Itascans very seldom think of the employees who keep their services operating daily, but in actuality, that is how it should be. Turn on the water and out it comes; flush and the "Tidy Bowl Man" does his job.

The community would like to take this opportunity to say, "Thank you, City employees, for all you do to keep our City running smoothly."

Special of the Week



"Itasca is a great place to live & to raise lots of little Wampus Cats. We are proud of our community."

HURRY!

Truck Month is almost over!



Big Rebates or 0% APR
Now through April 2!

Lloyd Ford – Proud Supporter of the Wampus Cats