

Paw Print Press

Proudly Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since 1997

Itasca, Texas 76055

Vol. 2007 Issue #19

May 11, 2007

Mayor Proclaims May "Click It or Ticket" Safety Belt Enforcement Month



Mayor Matt Fehnel joined mayors across the state in signing a proclamation declaring May as "Click It or Ticket" month. Fehnel urged the Itasca PD to rigorously enforce the seat belt laws in Itasca and the surrounding area year round, but especially during this

statewide program.

Federal statistics report that one in five American motorists still fail to regularly wear their seat belts while driving or riding in a motor vehicle. The proclamation states and is backed up by data that "regular safety belt use is the single most effective way to protect people and to reduce fatalities in motor vehicles crashes."

Storm Hammers Itasca with High Winds, Rain, Possible Twister

Special thanks to Pam Willman for taking the pictures.



Wednesday evening, May 2, just as many Itascans were sitting down to their evening meal, eighty plus mile an hour winds, pouring rains and what many describe as a tornado hit Itasca.

The official word from the weather service said that it was only straight-line winds, but many

officials of Itasca and of Hill County believe otherwise. Many of the trees that were uprooted or split were also twisted to give credibility to the tornado theory.

See page 7 for more pictures.

Royalty Crowned as Large Crowd Enjoys Cinco de Mayo Celebration



The 2007-2008 Cinco de Mayo Queen Jessika Rodriguez and Duchess Brianna Medina proudly display their trophies.

See page 3 for Cinco De Mayo story and pages 4 & 5 for the celebration in pictures.

Junior High, Elementary Receive Title 1, Part-A TEA Distinguished School Award

The Itasca Elementary and Junior High were recently recognized by the Division of NCLB Program Coordination at the Texas Education Agency for outstanding academic performance. Both the elementary and junior high are as classified as Title 1, Part-A schools.

Title I, Part-A schools are defined as having a high concentration of students from low-income families.

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>	120 W. Marrion	687-9134
<u>Shiloh Community Church</u>		254-582-0487
<u>St. John Missionary Baptist</u>	506 S. Weaver	687-2821
<u>3rd Day Worship Center</u>	107 E. Adams	214 564-2185
<u>Itasca Nursing Home</u>	Sunday - 10:00 a.m.	
Everyone Welcome	Monday Evening 6:00 p.m.	

Central Baptist Church

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

May 12 - 9:00 a.m. Methodist Church

Itasca Zoning Committee Meeting

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

Itasca City Council Meeting

Monday, May 19, 2007 6:00 p.m.
 Municipal Court Building 136 N. Hill St.

Itasca ISD School Board Meeting

May 12, 2007 7:00 p.m.
 IISD Administration Building - 123 N College St.

Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Tuesday, May 29, 2007 5:30 p.m.

HILCO Operations Building 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

May 11 - Muffins for Moms - Elementary School

May 12 - Ministerial Alliance Meeting - 9:00 a.m.

May 13 - Happy Mother's Day

May 14 - IISD Board of Trustees' Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

May 14 - Zoning Committee Meeting - 5:30 p.m.

May 18-19 - Relay For Life - Patton Field

May 19 - Junior/Senior Prom - 8:00 p.m. - 12:00

May 21 - Itasca City Council Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

May 21 - High School Academic & Senior Awards

Everyone Invited to Hear Organist at First Presbyterian Church

Press Release

The First Presbyterian Church of Itasca is happy to announce that we have hired an organist to join our church staff. David R. Anavitarte is the Chairman of the Fine Arts Department, Associate Professor of Music, and Director of Choirs at Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas. He is Music Director and Conductor of the Brazos Chamber Orchestra.

He has studied conducting with American greats Paul Salamunovich, Ray Robinson, Jon Robertson, Daryl One, Jim Dearing and Harold Lickey, in addition to his academic work at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Andrews University, and Columbia Union College.

Mr. Anavitarte and his wife, Katherine, have given sacred concerts throughout the United States and the Philippines. They have two children, Donielle and Devin.

"We are very excited about Mr. Anavitarte joining us. It will be good to hear the beautiful pipe organ again - it hasn't been played during worship services for a few years. We are very blessed to have someone with Mr. Anavitarte's talent and qualifications," said Elder Leader Diane Barnes.

"We invite everyone to join us on Sunday mornings for worship, which starts at 10:50 a.m.," she added. "From 10:50 - 11:00 Josh Renfroe, cottage parent at the Presbyterian Childrens Home, plays the guitar and the young people lead Praise and Worship songs. So, when it comes to music, we have something for everyone to enjoy and to add to their worship experience."

2007 Cinco de Mayo Celebration

See Queen & Duchesse picture on page 1 & other Cinco de Mayo pictures on pages 4 & 5.

With the weather threatening to drop more rain on the revelers at any moment, the 17th Annual Cinco de Mayo celebration began with the traditional parade.

The 2007 Parade Marshal was native Itasca and entrepreneur Oscar Castillo. Castillo returned to Itasca a few years ago. He has built a home in Itasca and started a new business based in Itasca, JSCM Property Builders. JSCM's primary goal is to put homebuyers, especially Itascans into a home that meets their needs and is financially feasible. Castillo was one of the Cinco de Mayo motivational speakers at the 2006 celebration.

Speaking at this year's celebration was Sergeant First Class Jose Manuel Orozco. Orozco was born in a small village in Mexico. He attended elementary and middle school in Mexico. When he was twenty years old, he came to the United States and earned his GED in Florida. Orozco joined the US Army in 1990 and served a tour of duty in Germany before moving to Hillsboro in 1996. He joined the Texas National Guard and served a tour of duty in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III. He has been a volunteer with the Hillsboro Fire Department and is currently on the Hillsboro Police Department. He is also a platoon sergeant in an infantry unit of the Texas Army National Guard based in Arlington, Texas.

The second speaker at the festival was Luis Rey Benavides. M. D. of Whitney Medical Associates of Whitney, Texas. Benavides and his associates in Whitney are dedicated to providing Whitney and Hill County with comprehensive medical care, specializing in family medicine. He attended UT at San Antonio, Boston University of Medicine, UTMB Galveston and UT Medical Branch Galveston. Benavides has served as the medical director at Canterbury Villa Nursing Home in Hillsboro and as the Health Authority for the Texas Department of Health in Hill County. He has also done research at NASA Kennedy Space Center in Florida and NASA Ames Research Center in California. He has done extensive research and has published numerous papers on promoting diabetic care and improving A1C levels.

As always there were many food vendors on hand, from the delicious IVFD Barbeque to the ever popular funnel cake to the must have tamales and gorditos, there was something to please everyone's taste.

The baby contest was one of the largest ever with over thirty beauties vying for the coveted trophies. The youngest was 3 weeks old and the oldest were two young ladies that were almost 36 months old. The baby contest was also a fashion show as well as a personality shoot, with many contestants throwing kisses and modeling their authentic Mexican costumes.

The Folklorico Dancers performed many native dances including some from the Ancient Incas. The performances ended with tears as Rosemary Flores, Gabby Rivera and Karla Ochoa are leaving the group to go to attend college. Rosemary has been dancing for four years and Gabby and Karla have both been performing since they were four years old.

IJH, IES Earn Distinguished School Award

Continued from page 1.

Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies (LEA) track these schools to insure that students are provided a high-quality education that enables all children to meet the state's student performance standards.

There were only 129 distinguished performance schools statewide that met all of the standards and the Itasca Junior High was the only middle school in Region 12 to receive the award.

Important IISD Dates

May 18 – Relay For Life – Patton Field
 May 19 – Junior/Senior Prom
 May 21 – High School Awards
 May 22 – Elementary Awards Ceremony
 June 1 – Graduation
 September 21 – 2007 Homecoming

March VFD Activity Report

Fire Call	City	County
Assist EMS	1	1
Grass/Brush	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accident		2
Residence		1
Other	1 (weather)	2
Total	3	9
Total Calls YTD	25	
Total Man Hours	58 hrs. 22 mins	
6 a.m. - 6 p.m. - 6	6 p.m. - 6 a.m. - 6	
Total mileage	115	Total members 17

March

Police Activity Report

<u>Arrests</u>	<u>Cases Files</u>
3 Felony	3 District Attorney
5 Misdemeanor	5 County Attorney
Total Calls for Service 92	
<u>Traffic Citations</u>	
189–Moving	58–Non-Moving
66–Warnings	Class “C” Citations
2–Public Intoxication	1–Disorderly Conduct
3 – Minor in Possession/Alcohol	
1 – Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	
<u>City Ordinance Violations</u>	
1 – Loud Music	
<u>Open Container</u>	
8 – City	1 - Interstate

Cinco de Mayo Committee 17th Annual Celebration

Collage by Mrs. Crouch's Multimedia Class



Cinco de Mayo in Itasca



Mary's IMS Focus – Colton Sullins

Reporter Mary Maddox



Colton Sullins moved to Itasca in the third grade and has been a faithful Wampus Cat ever since. Colton participates in football and track. His favorite sport, although is tennis.

“I hope to be able to play tennis when I go to college,” Colton said. “I really enjoy playing.”

When not in school, Colton likes to ride his bike and hang out with his friends. His school activities include being a member of the National Junior Honor Society, staying on the A and/or A/B Honor Roll and “entertaining” his teachers.

“Colton is a very bright student,” English teacher Larry Maddox said. “He is a voracious reader, and funny with out trying to be.”

Prom Tips from Miss Prissy

Columnist Miss Prissy Pampered Princess

Most people go out to eat before prom. It's always fun to go with a group of friends, but keep in mind that if you do, you need to make reservations at least two to four days in advance. It is probably not a good idea to dine out expensively unless you are willing to spend the money. Also, keep in mind that there will be finger foods and snacks available at prom. Don't eat too much or get too full, because once at the prom, there is no leaving. Finally, eat carefully, and don't get your outfit dirty.

PROM TIP #8: Make Reservations

PROM TIP #9: Don't Get Too Full

PROM TIP #10: Don't Be Messy!

Granny Snave's Things to Ponder

Granny Snave

This week, I decided not to give you the usual tips for around the house, but rather a few ideas I found to be interesting. Therefore, here are a few thoughts to ponder, perhaps while grandpa is watching Lawrence Welk:

****Why do banks charge a fee on “insufficient funds” when they know there is already not enough money?**

****Why will someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars in the sky, but check when you say the paint is wet?**

****Why do they use sterilized needles for death by lethal injection?**

****Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?**

****Why do Kamikaze pilots wear helmets?**

****Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?**

****Why do we press harder on the buttons of a remote control when we know the batteries are going dead?**

****Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized?**

****Why is it that no plastic bag will open from the end on your first try?**

Tornado Safety for Texans

PSA

Tornadoes can occur at any time of the year in Texas, including December, but they happen most often in spring and summer. Spokesmen 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.**

HERITAGE OF HILL COUNTY, TEXAS Book on Sale

There are less than 200 copies of the first volume of The Heritage of Hill County Texas book left. The books are \$60 at the Covington City Hall, 402 Gathings Ave., 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mon. - Fri. (254) 854-2373; Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce, 115 N Covington Street, Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (254) 582-2481; Will Lowrance, Hill County Historical Commission, Harris Education Center, 200 Line Street in Hillsboro. Cell (254) 580-5379 office (254) 580-0191. Hill County Cell Block Museum on Saturdays. For more information, call Richard Greenhill @ (254) 582-8912.

Cinco de Mayo in Itasca

By Gabby Zuniga

The Cinco de Mayo celebration is an important holiday for residents of the United States, especially those of Mexican heritage. There are many celebrations throughout the country in big cities like Dallas, Chicago and Los Angeles. The largest celebration in the United States takes place in San Antonio, Texas. On this day people have a lot of fun and in some cities, they celebrate with a parade, while others have a big party, but they all have lots of Mexican food to sample and at night there is usually a dance.

Everyone has a good time celebrating Cinco de Mayo but most do not all know what it represents. Some people think it is like the Fourth of July in the United States but that is not right. It is not Mexican independence day. Cinco de Mayo is the celebration of the Mexican victory over the French at the Battle of Puebla or, in Spanish, la Batalla de Puebla. This was the first time that the Mexicans had defeated the French.

In Texas, there is a small town named Itasca that also celebrates Cinco de Mayo. Even though the town is small in population, they celebrate in a big way. The day begins with a parade with great community participation. The parade is followed by a day of food and fun for all ages. There are vendors selling delicious homemade Mexican delights like tamales, burritos and churros. Music, games and contests keep everyone entertained.

One of the contests is a baby contest. They judge which is the best baby and which baby is most traditionally dressed for the occasion. There is also a singing contest and a dance contest. Besides the contests, there is an exhibition of Mexican folk dancing done by local girls in beautiful, colorful dresses with their hair braided in the traditional hairstyles.

This grand celebration reaches its culmination with the exciting Cinco de Mayo dance. Not only the citizens of Itasca, but also people from surrounding towns and communities, join together for this grand event. There is great music, laughter and friendship to be enjoyed by everyone. During the dance comes the big moment when they announce who is to be crowned queen and duchess for the coming year.

For this little town, Cinco de Mayo has become so important that there is a committee that handles all the preparation and details. They begin several months ahead of time looking for young people who want to run for queen and duchess of Cinco de Mayo. These contestants raise money and gather votes to win the honor of representing the city in this celebration and throughout the year. The committee sells spots on the main street of Itasca for vendors to set up their stalls. These stalls sell food or merchandise or have games to play.

The school helps by making posters to advertise the coming event. Some of the posters will be hung in businesses before hand while others will be put on the sides of cars and trailers during the parade. Some students make decorations for the holiday. The school also participates with the band playing in the parade.

The citizens of Itasca help in everything and everyone gets together for the big celebration to make it the best. Money is raised for scholarships and community unity is built through this celebration. Every year more and more people participate to the benefit of our community and our school. Viva Itasca! and Cinco de Mayo!

High Winds Hit Itasca

Continued from page 1.



As the high winds and rain pounded Itasca, the city workers were already on the job. The city trucks were making the rounds checking for downed power lines and blocked streets. The city employees are to be commended for their rapid response. A tree was partially blocking Hill and Martin Sts. and by 8:30 a.m. on Thursday morning, it had been removed.



IISD March Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees of the Itasca Independent School District met in regular session on Monday, March 5, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. Present were President Marquita Lloyd, Vice President Rex Jean, Secretary Claude Garrett and members Donny Faries and Susan Bason. Board members Kevin Lightsey and Nancy Bowman were absent.

Administration present were Superintendent Dr. E. Ray Freeman, High School Principal Glenn Pittman, Assistant Middle School Principal Larry Mynarcik, Elementary School Principal Karon Farquhar, Special Populations Director Barry Durham and Secretary Norma Merkel.

Motions were made and passed to approve the minutes from the previous board meeting and to approve the bills and financial report.

The board entered executive session at 7:02 p.m. Upon coming out of executive session at 7:04 p.m., a motion was made and passed to expel a student to JJAEP for the remainder of the semester.

The consideration of the third 2006-07 budget amendment was tabled until the April board meeting.

Motions were made and passed to (1) address the repeal of the Board Policy Manual and Adoption of (Local) Policies as prepared by TASB at the May 14 board meeting (2) to approve the 2007-08 district calendar and (3) to approve Cameren Hight as a transfer student for the remainder this school year.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:26 p.m. Upon coming out of Executive Session at 7:34 p.m., the board reconvened to executive session at 7:35 p.m. Upon coming out of Executive Session at 7:54 p.m. a motion was made and passed to approve teacher contracts as presented by the principals

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Arellano's Odds & Ends

Roofing, plumbing, yard work, remodeling, trash hauling - Call anytime

Prices vary depending on job.

254-205-0474 - 254-205-0718

Bake Sale

Sponsored by First United Methodist Church
Friday, May 11 9 a.m. – sold out
Citizen State Bank

Call your favorite Methodist baker to order your favorite cake for Mother's Day or come to the sale & get a variety of goodies

March City Council Meeting

The Itasca City Council met in a regular session on March 19. Mayor Matthew Fehnel called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Present were council members Steve Solis, Susie Davis, James Bouldin, John Laird, and Harvey Wilson, City Administrator Mark Gropp and City Attorney Stephanie Johnson. Maurice Williams gave the invocation.

Motions were made and passed to approve the minutes for the February 20, 2007 and to approve the bills for payment.

Fire Chief Chris Shuffield explained the Itasca Fire Department Monthly Activity Report for the month of February 2007. The Water and Sewer Operations Report was given by an employee of Todd Williams. He reported that the water well at the Mill Block is down but will be back in operation by the end of the week and the sewer plant is operating well. Barbara Petrash gave the Planning and Zoning Committee report and presented one permit application that was approved for an addition at 507 N. Hill. In addition, the committee recommended that the council appoint Becky Billingsley as a member for the Planning and Zoning Committee to fill one of two vacant seats. Chief of Police John Griscavage presented the state mandated Racial Profiling Report for the time period of 1/1/06 – 12/31/06 and the February 2007 Monthly Report regarding activities of the Itasca Police Department. Felicia Mayberry gave the monthly report of the Office of Code Enforcement. She explained what code violation notices were sent to property owners in the city and the status of each violation.

The Council voted to accept the Planning and Zoning Committee recommendation to approve and appoint Becky Billingsley to the committee.

Greer Yeldell of Witherspoon, Yeldell & Wilson accounting firm presented, reviewed and explained the FY 2005-2006 Annual Financial Report. Yeldell advised that the city needs to increase property taxes and go up on water bills at least once a year to bring in more revenue. The city should have at least enough funds for one to two months of operation ahead. The Council approved and accepted the report with a unanimous vote.

The Council discussed and considered awarding Engagement Letter for FY 2006-2007 Audit. A motion for approval to retain the auditors of Witherspoon, Yeldell & Wilson was passed with a unanimous vote.

A motion was made and approved to accept Resolution No. 031907 approving the Articles of Incorporation of the Itasca Economic Development Corporation.

During the open meeting for Mayor, Council and City Administrator discussion and reports, the method and time for delivering council members packets was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.,

Do You Remember . . . ? – “The Soda Fountain”

Columnist Carl Sweeney



In recent years, we have seen the decline of another of our old American institutions, the soda fountain and ice cream parlor. The Confectionery and ice cream parlor and soda fountain started appearing in the 1800s. At first, they were in other stores, then drug stores, and then some were simply a soda fountain business. The typical one has a long marble counter top and the old gooseneck spigots. They, as well as the ice cream cans, and other equipment were kept polished and clean. This was usually the soda jerks job, if there was one employed.

The places we remember most were the ones with the small round wrought iron tables and chairs with a glass top on the little tables. These were unique to drug stores and soda fountains. These places were usually the coolest place in town, with the old Emerson or Hunter Ceiling fans. Some called it a Fairy Tale atmosphere of the soda fountain.

Another feature of the real soda fountains was the soda jerk who was more or less hired for the that particular part of the operation. He most always wore white trouser and shirt with a little white military style cap. In the earlier days, he made the simple syrup used in the sodas and the phosphates. This was usually done when they were closed.

Being a soda jerk in those days was a premiere job. One of the more famous soda jerks was Harry S. Truman. He worked in Jim Clinton's drug store in his home town of Independence, Missouri. He earned three dollars a week plus free ice cream and drinks. A few jerks made a lifetime profession of the work. In a few places young people were given free ice cream or soda who made all A's on their report cards.

The soda fountain became a place to take your date, especially before 1900 when there were no movies, radio or TV. Besides the young people, others of all ages met there. If funds were low a couple might buy what was called a two-straw drink, they both sipped from the same glass.

The term “drugstore cowboy” originated from the drugstore soda fountains. It was said that Lana Turner was discovered in a soda fountain. In the very early days of the fountains, a fruit drink could be purchased for one cent and a seltzer for two cents.

Once the city of Evanston, Illinois passed an ordinance forbidding the sale of ice cream and sodas on Sunday. They said it was a disappointing influence. In answer to that, the fountain started walking a soda-less drink and called it a Sunday. The pious town fathers objected to that so they changed the name of the drinks to sundae. It was to become one of Americans most famous concoctions.

The first sodas were called phosphate. These fizzy drinks at first were root beer, ginger ale and sarsaparilla. Some of the older medicine recipes used horseradish, ginger, lemons, and dandelion, sorrel and burdock. Later coca cola came into existence in 1886, also Dr. Pepper, Pepsi in 1898, Hires Root beer and Canada Dry Ginger ale in 1904 and 7Up in 1933.

In the 1950s, some places such as Dairy Queen and Kings X started curb service. The young lady with the starched white uniform and jaunty little white cap was the server. They severed root beer in frosty mugs and cokes and other drinks. Maybe a forerunner to “Hooters.”

A man named Jacob Fussell is credited with establishing the first commercial ice cream factory in 1851. In 1843, Nancy M. Johnson was issued a patent for the hand cranked ice cream freezer. The first ever reference to ice cream was when Thomas Bladen in 1744 served a dessert at a party, called ice cream made with milk and strawberries. Ice cream was a favorite with George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison to name a few.

I think it was a lady named Fran R. Shumer who made the statement, “what really distinguishes ice cream parlors is their atmospheres, and therein lays the difference between a sundae that satisfies the palate and one that satisfies the soul.”

Perhaps some of the old terms for drinks might be remembered, a zoo was a small chocolate milk, shoot one wild was a cherry coke, shoot one muddy was a chocolate coke, shoot one sour was a lime coke and anything walking was “to go.” Whacko in Dixie was a Dr. Pepper in a paper cup.

Before 1900 in Itasca, some businesses listed a confectionary. No mention of fountain drinks. In 1924, Gem's Confectionary could have had a fountain. I remember the 1930s when “Uncle Hez Pruitt” had what he called The Candy Kitchen. He had sodas, ice cream, tobacco and other merchandise. He also had a nickel box that paid off. The forerunner to the so-called “one armed bandit.”

I guess the last old time soda fountain was in Bobby Adams' Drug Store. Bobby had other merchandise, also and magazines and newspapers. This was in the 1950s and 60s. Then there 72 businesses in Itasca, and the people working in the stores ate lunch in town. Bobby had sandwiches, etc. His store was also the coffee drinkers place just as Jimmy's is today. Around the 1960s, the soda fountains started to decline; now they are hard to find. Another one of our old institutions gone by the wayside.

Paw Print Press
123 N. College
Itasca, Texas 76055

Wampus Cats of the Week

Itasca Volunteer Fire Department

Last week the dedication of the members of the Itasca Volunteer Fire Department was truly tested. On Wednesday and Thursday evenings Itasca was hit with severe weather. The IVFD answered the call each day by having weather spotters out, sounding the siren in plenty of time for residents to find shelter and having some of the



members drive through the city to give verbal warnings to citizens who were outdoors and unaware of the impending danger.

If that was not enough for these 17 hard working volunteers, the weekend brought the Cinco de Mayo Celebration and one of the biggest fundraisers for the department. Each year the department operates a booth to sell the yummiest barbeque sandwiches to the hundreds of festival attendees. The fundraiser was especially important this year as the department needs to replace a number of expensive pieces of equipment.

True to their calling, they helped lead the parade and then they began selling their wares.

Special of the Week



"My fire department looks out for my citizens. I urge you to support them. Send a check today – the house you save may be yours."

2006 Town Car Beautiful Pearl White



Just 14K Miles!
ONLY \$25, 985

Lloyd Ford – Proud Supporter of the Wampus Cats

Luminaria Ceremony Honors, Remembers

A special luminaria ceremony during the American Cancer Society Relay for Life for Hill County will remember those lost to cancer and honor those who have survived the disease. The ceremony honoring these individuals will be held Friday, May 18, at 9 p.m. at Patton Field in Itasca.

A luminaria may be purchased for a minimum donation of \$5.00. The honoree and/or purchaser do not have to be present at the event. Anyone desiring to purchase a luminaria may do so by using the order form accompanying this article and mailing it to the address listed. All proceeds raised through these sales support the programs and services of the American Cancer Society.

This year's Relay For Life will begin at 6 p.m. Friday, May 18 and conclude at 6 a.m. Saturday, May 19. Hill County cancer survivors will kick off the Relay for Life with the official survivors' lap; then the rest of the participants will join the fun.

The fun-filled, overnight event unites friends, families, businesses, hospitals, schools and churches—people from all walks of life. Teams of eight to 15 members gather with tents and sleeping bags to participate in the largest fund-raising walk in the nation. Teams seek sponsorships prior to the event with the goal of supporting a cure for cancer. In addition to the teams walking around the track, a festival-like atmosphere develops with food, entertainment, games, live music and around-the-clock fun for the whole family.

Jill Huggins and Peggy Young are luminaria co-chairpersons. Mrs. Huggins said, "It will be beautiful when all the bags with candles are illuminated around the track." Mrs. Young added, "We hope to sell enough to light the entire perimeter of the track."

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy and service.

For information on cancer, call the American Cancer Society's 24-hour help line at 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit www.cancer.org.

<p>LUMINARIA Order Form <i>Relay for Life of Hill County</i> May 18-19 - Patton Field - Itasca</p> <p>Your Name: _____</p> <p>Phone #: _____</p> <p>In Memory of _____ <i>(someone who has lost their battle to cancer)</i></p> <p>Or</p> <p>In Honor of _____ <i>(someone who is a cancer survivor)</i></p> <p>Total Contribution Enclosed: \$ _____ <i>\$5.00 Minimum Donation Per Name</i></p> <p>CASH OR CHECK <i>(Circle One)</i></p> <p>Checks should be made payable to: The American Cancer Society <i>(Your donation is tax deductible)</i></p> <p>Please mail completed order forms and donations to: Jill Huggins 310 South Circle * Grandview, TX 76050 (817) 866-2547</p>



Garage Sale
407 N. Files St.
One day only
Friday, May 11
8:00 a.m. - ?

