

Paw Print Press

Proudly Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since 1997

Itasca, Texas 76055

Vol. 2007 Issue #23

June 8, 2007

Museum Receives Smith Foundation Grant



Sporting a new coat of paint, roof and dock the Itasca Depot Heritage Education Center is in the final phases of renovation. The renovation could not have progressed this far without the repeated generosity of the George G. and Alva Hudson Smith Foundation. As in the past, the George G. and Alva Hudson Smith Foundation has once again generously bestowed a \$7,000 grant to help with finishing elements of the project. The grant will go to help pay for the cost of refinishing the floors in the depot and help with cost of site work and landscaping still to be completed.

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Construction Begins on Second Phase Veterans Memorial Park



Work began on the second phase of the Veterans Memorial Park at the corner of Main and Hill Streets in downtown Itasca in early May. The project to develop the second phase is a joint effort of the Itasca Economic Development Committee (EDC), Itasca Veterans Memorial Committee and Mr. Bill Wiginton.

Wiginton, owner of W.W. Tree Farm in Dallas, is overseeing the construction. Plans were submitted earlier this year for approval by Imagescape of Texas Inc. for both areas of the park.

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Class of 1947 Celebrate 60 Years



The graduating class of 1947 met exactly 60 years after they walked across the stage to reminisce about high school and all the years in between. Lt. Col Retired Bill Farrow was class vice president and he has kept the group together. The class president, Paul Coffin, was killed during the Korean War. The class will also return for Homecoming on September 21.

Bottom row (l to r) Patsy Wakefield Cockerham, Tomasene Sweeney Norton, Bobbie Stringer Sides, Angie Bourland Jones, Billie Joyce May Thomas, Charles Fox, Evelyn Purvis Kimbrell, Barbara Springer Kendrick, Dorothy Bruton Davis, Faye Marie Fox Copeland, Billie Barnes Warren, Ernest Henderson, Third row: Mack Ellison, Jack Holloway, Troyce Harlin, Jeff Burt, Bill Farrow and Jim Pat Elfers

Chevron Welcomed by Chamber



The Itasca Chamber of Commerce and community organizations joined with owners Bhayani Shookat and Ismail Nurudin to celebrate the reopening of the Itasca Foods and Chevron Station at 208 S. Hill St.

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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>	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

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

Itasca Church of Christ

We all start out holding the hand of God. But he made us free will; and desiring us to grow, he allows us to turn loose and wander off. Some have gone off so far that they have forgotten the way back to God.

Those of us who have stayed close to God, or found our way back to God, are seeking our missing siblings to return to God to experience the fullness of life, and not mere existence.

Itasca Church of Christ 200 N. Aquilla
Sunday: 9:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. 5 p.m. Wednesday: 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

None during June, July or August

Itasca Zoning Committee Meeting

2nd Monday of Month 5:30 p.m.

Municipal Court Building 136 N. Hill St.

Itasca City Council Meeting

Monday, June 18, 2007 6:00 p.m.

Municipal Court Building 136 N. Hill St.

Itasca ISD School Board Meeting

June 11, 2007 7:00 p.m.

IISD Administration Building - 123 N College St.

Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Tuesday, June 25, 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

June 7 - Rotary Luncheon - 12:00 Rotary Room

June 11 - Zoning Committee - Municipal Court Building 5:30 p.m.

June 11 - IVFD - Business meeting - 7⁰⁰ p.m.

June 11 - 15 - Vacation Bible School - Central Baptist Church - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 - Finished Pre-K - 6th grade

June 14 - Flag Day

June 14 - Rotary Luncheon - 12:00 Rotary Room

June 18 - Itasca City Council Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

June 18 - IVFD Meeting - Fire training 7:00 p.m.

June 29 & 30 - Chamber of Commerce BBQ Cook-off - Downtown Itasca

June 29 - 1st Youth BBQ Cook-off

May Police Report

5-9 - Welfare concern - 200 blk. S. Aquilla St.

5-9 - Assist citizen - Hooks & Adams Sts.

5-9 - Suspicious vehicle - FM 67 (near ballpark)

5-9 - Assisted citizen - 200 blk. N. Hill St.

5-10 - Assisted citizen w/directions - Wesley & Main Sts.

5-10 - Stranded motorist (Roadway blocked) - I-35W southbound mm 7

5-10 - Traffic accident (rollover)-I-35W southbound mm 9

5-10 - Criminal trespass report - 100 blk. W. Main St.

5-10 - Reckless driver report - I-35W southbound mm 11

5-10 - Assisted DPS w/DWI stop-I-35W southbound mm 6

5-10 - Traffic stop (bike) - Citation for public intoxication - (2 rocks of crack cocaine, pipe, cash & bicycle seized - 600 blk. S. Wall St.

5-11 - Assisted motorist - I-35W northbound mm 7

5-11 - Water break - Citizen struck water line with mower - Mills St. & K Lane

5-11 - Phone harassment - 100 blk. Circle Dr.

5-11 - Civil dispute - I-35W rest area northbound mm 7

5-11 - Suspicious activity - 800 blk. Mill St.

5-11 - Civil matter - 100 blk. N. Hill St.

5-12 - Traffic stop (defective equipment) - Subject wanted on McLennan County outstanding warrants - Arrested - 100 blk. N. Hill St.

5-12 - Suspicious activity - Main & Front Sts.

Museum Receives Grant

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As one of two of the last depots in Hill County, the Itasca depot will function in a unique way. Next school year Itasca High School students will help design displays and prepare the depot for its opening. After it opens, the students will help operate the facility as a museum and will be docents for tours of younger students. It is hoped that students within the county and surrounding area will go through the depot and benefit from the living history and curriculum designed around the depot. The school district and citizens of Itasca thank the George G. and Alva Hudson Smith Foundation for its strong support for this project that not only saves the precious history of Hill County, but also will be a living classroom for the young people of the county.

Itasca Foods & Chevron

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Itasca Foods sells Chevron gas (cheapest in the Itasca area), a variety of grocery items, lotto tickets and prepared short order food items. The citizens that were on hand for the ribbon cutting were treated to a sampling of the grill items. Everyone agreed, especially the *Paw Print Press* staff, that the food was delicious.

On hand at the ribbon cutting were the owners and employees Ashley Dominguez, Tyasha McVea, Danisha Marshall, Angie Boone and Shannon McDaniel, Joining the Chevron crew were Jessica Grindele, Alecia Evans, Paul Reece, Bob Wilson, Nan Baker, Clay Dean Hamilton, Elnorane Atkinson, Betty Sumner, Viddy Reyes, Sarah Evans, Mary Lou Sepulveda, Megan Goff, Eva Mayberry, Mary Maddox, Ashley Durham, Devin Corbitt, Devin Bruton and GiGi Morgan.

Middle School - Perfect Attendance



Receiving "perfect Attendance" medals for 2006-2007 were 5th graders Destiny Brooks, Katie LaFountain and Joshua Lacy; 6th grader Michael Macias; 7th graders Shamonica Anderson and Kevin Cervantes and 8th grader Philip Thomas.

Local Exchange Students Honored By White House

Press Release



Local exchange students, Oksana Didukh, Konstantin Suspitsyn and Inesa Kachurivska (left to right), sponsored by Pacific Intercultural Exchange have been honored by the

United States Government with a Presidential Service Award for their community service work in their host communities during their ten months in America. Collectively, PIE in Texas have completed over 5,000 hours of service. The Presidential Service award was established to showcase young people and their commitment to helping others in their community.

The Presidential Service Award has three levels of accomplishment: Bronze level awards are awarded for completion of 100 to 175 hours of service in a calendar year; Silver level awards are awarded for completion of 176 to 250 hours of service in a calendar year; and a Gold level award is awarded for completion of over 250 hours of service in a calendar year.

Veterans Memorial Park

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The second phase is located on the northeast corner of Main and Hill Sts. and is on the site of the old First National Bank building. The preliminary work for the

beautiful rock wall and landscaping was a major undertaking. The foundation of the old bank building had been poured by Itasca's founding fathers with the intention that it remain strong and last forever. It took some big machines to remove the safe's base.

The Ricky Wiginton Fund for the Beautification of Itasca, the Itasca Veterans Memorial Fund and the EDC is funding the construction. Anyone wishing to donate to this community project can call Georgia Wiginton at 254-687-9212, Clay Dean Hamilton at 254-687-2811 or make a deposit at the Citizens State Bank in Itasca to the Ricky Wiginton Fund.

Prescott Named to 1st All-District Softball Team Eight Players Receive All-District Honors

Reporter Mary Maddox



Freshman Meagan Prescott (left) received 1st All-District Team honors for her outstanding shortstop skills. Her quickness and alertness were a great asset to the Lady Cats' team.

Earning spots on the 2nd All District Team were (pictured left to right) freshman pitcher Ashley Durham and freshman outfielder Mary Maddox and junior outfielder Ashley Villarreal.

Receiving honorable mention were senior Ashley Swilley and juniors Sydney Per-

kins, Valerie Farquhar and Lindsey Laird.

The Lady Cats had a great building season. With such a young team, fans can expect the next three seasons to be very interesting as the team's talent develops and the players' hone their skills.



Education Last Forever

Written by Paige Bailey (Class of 2007)

I go to school in a very small town in Texas, and, not too long ago, my speech teacher took a group of debaters to a practice meet in another, slightly larger town nearby called Corsicana. I can remember very little about the contest itself, except for how long it took, and that we were all extraordinarily tired by the end of the day; but I do remember my teacher's insistence that we take a mysterious side trip on the way back home, to a town called Tehuacana.

Scattered across Texas are many little towns which had been densely populated back in the days of the west, but over the years for various reasons turned into literal 'ghost towns'. A few families may still live on the cities' outskirts, but the larger buildings are abandoned and most of the businesses dried up ages ago.

So you can imagine the excitement of all of us high school students, as we took a detour off onto a dirt road that looked like it led to nowhere. We passed by many buildings in various stages of deterioration, many covered with graffiti, or with windows which had been smashed and then recovered with sheets of cardboard and duct tape. It was almost sunset and I was beginning to think that my teacher must have gotten lost. There couldn't possibly be anything out here worth seeing.

And then, suddenly, off to the side of the road, there was an enormous limestone building, looking almost like a castle in a storybook. There was nothing around it except for a few trees, and the remnants of a clock tower that had once graced its roof; the building itself was still impressive, and in the fading sunlight, for a moment it felt almost like we had been transported back in time.

"This," my teacher said, "is one of the very first colleges in Texas: Trinity College of Tehuacana. Others may claim that they were the first, but I want you all to remember that this old building – this beautiful building, in this town – was where the entire collegiate educational system of Central Texas started in 1869." Trinity University later moved to Waxahachie in 1902, and is now thriving in San Antonio. Baylor University, another college in Texas, was founded in Independence in 1845, but did not move to Waco until 1880. Trinity really was the first college in Central Texas to train academically after the conclusion of the Civil War.

We turned the van back around, and started back out on our journey home. But that trip made me realize something that I could have never learned from just a debate trip or a day at school. Time may take its toll on everything else: businesses, towns, people – but the foundations of a good education last forever. The people of Tehuacana have moved on, for the most part disappearing without a trace. But the college they started is still here, and probably will be there for generations to come, a testimony that the foundations of a good education last for more than a lifetime.

And it also made me think. Small towns really can inspire big ideas. It doesn't matter that I'm graduating from a class of forty rather than four thousand. The characters in this town are just as strong – if not stronger – than those of larger cities around us. The most important things in life often have the most humble beginnings.

2006 - 2007 Elementary “A” Honor Roll

Grade 1 – Jocelyn Ali, Alexis Arellano, Amanda Arellano, Chalo Cavazos, Daniel Coronado, Heidi Delgado, Alesandra Diaz, Brenna Durham, Dustin Feazel, Erik Gonzalez, Kyra Henderson, Brayden Hennig, Cody Hundley, Jennipher Ignacz, Matt Lara, Treylan Lewis, Melissa Maya, Emili Sarli, Halie Sarli, Tito Savala

Grade 2 – Jimmy Arellano, Louis Arellano, Taylor Campbell, Lainey Cavazos, Marissa Chambers, Karla Cruz, Kenneth Fails, Donovan Garcia, Courtney 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, Autum Throckmorton, Cameron Wells, Elizabeth Wood

Grade 3 – Fathe Altum, Missy Barron, Madison Bassett, Shaun Castro, Devin Crawford, Brandi Fehnel, Leticia Gonzales, Jesus Gutierrez, Allena Heath, Bradley Martinez, James Melson, Wesley Neese, Lizbeth Ramirez, Amanda Rodriguez, Amber Schronk, Chelsea Searcy, Crisol Zavala

Grade 4 – Payton Cordell, Brandon Farquhar, Mason Farquhar, Rachel Freeman, Hunter Germer, Tristan Sulak

A-B Honor Roll

Grade 1 – Rebecca Arellano, Kahleil Barlow, Angelina Botello, DeAjanae Diggs, Jessica Ellis, Layton English, Destiny Fennell, Ethan La Fountain, Landon Lain, Andrew Martinez, Katie Nalley, Rick Ortego, Alexcia Rodriguez, Lucas Sayers, BayLee Smith, Monay Synder, P.J. Stephens, Syndey Williams, Rogelio Zavala

Grade 2 – Isabella Botello, Marshal Couldron, Jose Delgado, Anthony Fowler, Daniel Montes, Augustin Pacheco, Marcus Parkerson, Jeremiah Perkins, Esmerald Rivera, Paul Sais, Anna Salazar, Jessica Sanchez, Ricky Sanders, Au'Breana Simmons, Karon Webb, Andrew Wisnosky

Grade 3 – Tommy Ashley, Caity Bruton, Trey Cole, Esteban Cruz, Triston Davis, Cesar Diaz, Devin Donawho, Kassandra Gabino, Harley Germer, Tanner Graig, Brenda Hernandez, Andrea Hightower, Tyler Kittoe, Lydon Lain, Abraham Ortega, Luis Ortiz, Tiffany Ramos, Haley Rodriguez, Angel Stephens, Bailey Vaughan, Bryant Wilson,

Grade 4 – Macy Arellano, Autumn Beaty, Skylar Campbell, Khilah Frederick, Juan Gonzalez, William Gunn, Devin Hernandez, Hannah Hundley, Gabriel Macias, Kristian Mangum, Tre Martinez, Shannon Rodriguez, Emilee Ross, Reagan Rugh, Megan Scoggins, Alexis Whitlock, Kathie Wilkins, Johnathon Young

Middle School 2007 Awards

Grade 5 – Outstanding English - Amanda Anderson, Most Improved English - Katie LaFountain, Outstanding Reading - Samuel Orr, Most Improved Reading - Johnny Castro, Outstanding Math - Ednita Rivera, Most Improved Math - Davion Diggs, Outstanding Science - Samuel Orr and Ashlie Rodriguez, Most Improved Science - Victoria Silva, Outstanding Social Studies - Carter Reid and Katie LaFountain, Most Improved Social Studies - Brandy Webb, Outstanding Technology - Chelsae Faries and Kaleigh Lightsey, Most Improved Technology - Nathaniel Portlock, Outstanding in Mr. Droll's Class - Jazmine Rockuemore, Most Improved in Mr. Droll's Class - Melissa Prosser

Grade 6 – Outstanding English - Jessica Zint, Most Improved English - Beruke Namaga, Outstanding Math - Gavin Donawho, Most Improved Math - Christian Avila, Outstanding Reading - David Corbitt, Most Improved Reading - Beruke Namaga, Outstanding Science - Michelle Ignacz, Most Improved Science - Brittany Reid and Christian Cruz, Outstanding Social Studies - Jordan Sizemore, Most Improved Social Studies - Gavin Donawho and Brittany Reid, Outstanding Technology - Michael Macias, Most Improved Technology - Emilee Nalley, Outstanding in Mr. Droll's Class - Samantha Wills, Most Improved in Mr. Droll's Class - Megan Curtis

Grade 7 – Outstanding English - Rebecca Maul, Most Improved English - Daniel Odom, Top Reader - Daniel Whitlock, Outstanding Math - Reyna Ramirez, Most Improved Math - Monica Anderson, Outstanding Pre-Algebra - Rebecca Maul, Outstanding Science - Emily Offutt, Most Improved Science - Raul Librado-Acosta, Outstanding Social Studies - Kenneth Clary, Most Improved Social Studies - Ben Nickens, Outstanding Technology - Hannah Johnson, Most Improved Technology - Kevin Cervantes, Most Improved Mr. Droll's class - Cecil Forcey

Grade 8 – Outstanding Algebra I - Bob Slotvig, Most Improved Algebra I - Chris Carlson, Outstanding Careers - Sergio Rivera, Most Improved Careers - Diamond Jackson, Outstanding English - Nancy Reyes, Most Improved English - Sergio Rivera, Outstanding Pre-Algebra - Ivan Gomez, Most Improved Pre Algebra - Sergio Rivera, Top Reader - Colton Sullins, Outstanding Science - BJ Jackson, Most Improved Science - Tanner Hughes, Outstanding Social Studies - Philip Thomas, Most Improved Social Studies - Diamond Jackson, Outstanding Technology - Nancy Reyes, Most Improved Technology - Jacob Rice, Outstanding in Mr. Droll's class - Jacob Rice, Most Improved in Mr. Droll's class - Catherine Olivas

Willie Nelson Launches Paw Pals' \$40k Fund Raising Drive to Match Offer from Cheryl and Sam Wyly

Press Release

The community of Hill County has been offered a generous gift from Cheryl and Sam Wyly, notable philanthropists from Dallas, who have offered to match up to \$40,000 of funds raised by Hill County Paw Pals within this year! The funds will be directed to the building costs of a needed county animal shelter. Willie Nelson, whose roots are placed in Abbott, has launched Paw Pals' fund raising campaign with the accompanied letter to this article.

A county animal shelter with a public adoption center will offer humane alternatives for our unwanted companion animal friends. Currently, every animal shelter outside of Hill County has closed their doors for inputs from our community because of their own pet overpopulation issues. It is estimated that up to 2,000 dogs (cats are not documented but their numbers are greater) each year are systematically euthanized or unceremoniously abandoned where nearly all die horrific deaths—senseless because nearly all were healthy and adoptable—they were simply not given a chance to life because an adoption center does not exist in Hill County. Without an animal shelter, irresponsible people have resorted to giving their problems to innocent others by “dumping” their pets in rural areas—a cruel and senseless act that is punishable by law. The desperate act of “dumping” only fuels our pet overpopulation issue because of the exponential breeding rates of dogs and cats. Pet overpopulation bears our community with grave health, economic, legal, and safety liabilities (H.E.L.S.) “Stray” dogs and cats are usually not vaccinated against the rabies virus (the most deadly diseases transmitted from animals to humans), they kill or damage livestock, may be responsible for potential lawsuits and dogs running wild in packs are simply dangerous.

An animal shelter will provide the nucleus for a county animal control program—a necessary core service expected by tax paying citizens. When making your tax-deductible decisions, please consider donating to Hill County Paw Pals whose goal is to facilitate the installation of a county animal control program. Send checks to Hill County Paw Pals, P.O. Box 1533, Hillsboro, Texas 76645 or use a credit card on the website at hcpawpals.org. For more information about Paw Pals, please call (254) 580-0679 or email hcpawpals@yahoo.com. For information about this fundraiser, please call Lana Crow at (254) 582-8902.

Heat and Cars: Look Before You Leave

PSA

It's hard to imagine having to warn parents or caregivers about leaving children alone in cars, especially during the heat of the summer. But many caring and responsible people can forget the silent or sleeping child in the backseat. Others do not realize the risks involved in the backseat. Others do not realize the risks involved in leaving their children in the car and what begins as a quick errand can turn to tragedy in a matter of minutes.

If children are trapped inside cars, especially during seriously hot weather, it can result in heat exhaustion or heat stroke, also known as hyperthermia, can cause shock, seizures, irregular heartbeat, heart attack and damage to the brain, liver and kidneys.

How Long Does It Take a Car To Get Hot?

Outside Temperature	Temperature in Car	Time it Takes to Reach
75	100	10min
75	120	30min
85	90	5min
85	100	7-10min
85	120	30min
100	140	15min

*Complied by TDFPS from various national sources

How to Prevent Tragedy

- Never leave your car keys where children can get them.
- Keep car doors and trunks locked at all times, even in the garage or driveway.
- Teach children not to play in or around cars.
- Never leave your child unattended in a car, even if the windows are down and a windshield shade is in place or even just to run a quick errand.
- Make sure all children leave the vehicle when you reach your destination.
- Don't overlook sleeping infants!
- Make sure that the seat belt and seat surface are not too hot before buckling up your child.
- When you and your children exit the car, place a windshield shade in front and back windows to help cut down on the heat.
- Make sure that kids' arms, legs, fingers and toes are safely inside before closing doors.
- Keep the rear fold-down seats closed to prevent kids from getting into the trunk from inside the car.
- Contact your auto dealership about getting your vehicle retrofitted with a trunk release mechanism.
- Be wary of child-resistant locks—make sure they function.
- If your child does get locked inside a car, get him or her out as soon as possible. If you can't get him or her out yourself, call 911 or your local emergency number immediately.
- Information adapted from Kids In Cars (www.kidsincars.org) and National Safe Kids Campaign (www.safekids.org)

April City Council Meeting

The Itasca City Council met in a regular session on April 16, 2007. Mayor Pro-Tem Susie Davis called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Present were council members Steve Solis, James Bouldin, John Laird and Harvey Wilson, City Administrator Mark Gropp and City Attorney Stephanie Johnson. Mayor Matthew Fehnel was absent. Rev. Johnny Bates gave the invocation.

Motions were passed to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2007 meeting and to approve payment of bills.

Fire Chief Chris Shuffield explained the monthly IVFD Activity Report. Todd Williams reported on the Water and Sewer Operations. Officer Alberto Sanchez reported on the IPD activities during the month of March. Felicia Mayberry reported on violation letters that were sent out and that there were no citations issued in March. CinDee Garrett of the Economic Development Committee reported that they met and approved the bylaws written by the City Attorney. The committee is in the process of taking bids for the building of the rock wall and planters for the old bank building lot. They also discussed purchasing the lot next to the flower shop owned by Cynthia Lee and the lot on Hill St. owned by Mr. Savala.

The Council discussed the safety issues concerning a house at 507 E. Adams. The Council voted to schedule a workshop meeting on Monday, April 23, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. to meet with Mr. Malone and Mr. Webb to discuss terms of an agreement about the repair of the building.

Fire Chief Chris Shuffield presented a proposal of repairing or purchasing the Jaws of Life equipment. It was reported that the cost to repair the equipment was estimated at \$2500 to \$3000. Shuffield presented a list of bids for a new rescue tool. They volunteers wanted to get a loan and repay the note from fundraisers at \$2000 a year. The Council approved the purchase of a Hurst ML-16S Maverick combination tool and the financing of the loan with Citizens State Bank for \$13,340.67.

Motions were passed to accept Resolution No. 041607 approving the Bylaws of the Itasca Economic Development Corporation, to approve the appointment of Lisa Chavez and Maurice Williams to fill the vacancies of the EDC Board of Directors and to approve CinDee Garrett and Rochelle Hardin as officers elected by the EDC Board of Directors.

Motions were passed to accept a bid in the of \$3700 for the mobile home located on Maple Street that was entrusted to the City of Itasca due to default of property taxes and to approve advertising for the Submission of Water and Wastewater Operation Bids and Proposals.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

City Council Workshop - April 23, 2007

The Itasca City Council met in a workshop session on April 23, 2007. Mayor Matthew Fehnel called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Present were council members Susie Davis, James Bouldin, Steve Solis, John Laird and Harvey Wilson, City Administrator Mark Gropp and City Attorney Stephanie Johnson.

The Mayor opened the meeting to discuss, consider and possibly take action to rectify safety issues concerning the home located at 507 E. Adams. Mr. Michael Malone and Mr. Craig Webb were present for the discussion. Mr. Webb advised the City that he intended to buy the property from Michael and Shermaine Malone. That he would like to come to an agreement with the city to have the condemnation notice removed in exchanged for repairs and having the property secured by a specific period.

A motion was passed to approve removing the condemnation notice contingent on closing the sell of the property by June 1, 2007 and the repair of porches, repair roof and secure property by August 1, 2007

Applications Being Accepted

Itasca ISD is taking applications for a full time transportation/maintenance position. Diesel experience is a plus. Pay negotiable with experience. Applications may be picked up and returned to the administration office. Office hours are 8 a.m. – noon.

Tennis Court Open

*Open dawn to dusk *Tennis only
No bicycling, skateboarding, roller-blades, skates or ball playing.

School is out Drive Carefully

We Love our Children!

Child Care Available for Summer

Burleson ISD employee, mother of two off for the summer is looking for children to care for in my home.

Meals provided – 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Clean Christian home, no animals, CPR first aid certified, references available – 817-966-8390

Recent Deaths

Ball, Bobby - Mr. Bobby Ball, 71, of Whitney died April 26, 2007, at his residence. He was born January 15, 1936, in Hill County, son of the late George and Clara Bell Ball. On November 30, 1985, he married Dianne Pierce in Whitney. He was of the Baptist faith. He was also preceded in death by one daughter, Mary Kathleen Ball; one sister, Mary Jeanett Eppler; one brother, Doyle Glenn Ball; and two grandsons, Dewayne Ball and Canaan Ball.

Survivors include: his wife, Dianne Ball of Whitney; nine children, Hank Ball and wife, Sherri, of Houston, Randy Ball and wife, Ann, of Itasca, Tom Ball and wife, Janie, and Andy Ball and wife, Elizabeth, all of Whitney, Becky Henderson and husband, Waylon, of Clifton, Eric Ball and wife, Elaine, of Argyle, Doreen Jessup of North Carolina, Kevin Chupik and wife, Phillis, of West and Jason Chupik of Laguna Park; two brothers, T. J. Ball and wife, Bettie, of Waxahachie and George Ball and wife, Lynda, of College Station; 19 grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter. Funeral services were held April 29, 2007, at Marshall and Marshall Funeral Directors Chapel in Hillsboro. Burial was at Ridge Park Cemetery in Hillsboro.

Sisk, Margie - Mrs. Margie D. Sisk, 85, of Fort Worth died May 4, 2007. She was born June 12, 1921, in Osceola, daughter of Seab and Etta Mae Jean Perkins. She grew up in the Osceola area and attended Itasca schools. In 1942, she moved to Fort Worth and was employed by Williamson and Dickie Clothing Company for 42 years. She was a loving mother, very devoted to her children and grandchildren and enjoyed working in her yard. She was of the Church of Christ faith. She was preceded in death by one brother, Pete Perkins; and one sister, Vernet Hamilton. Survivors include: one son, Danny Sisk and wife, Judy, of Hewitt; one daughter, Danna Halcomb and husband, Samuel, of Fort Worth; one brother, Page Perkins of Irene; one sister, Tressie Hilton of Hillsboro; three grandchildren, Vance Sisk and wife, Doris, of Wichita Falls and Devon Ardrey and wife, November, and Kimberley Ardrey, all of Fort Worth; one step granddaughter, Laurie Yeager of Bruceville-Eddy; eight great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Graveside services were held May 7, 2007, at Hillcrest Garden of Memory near Hillsboro.

Brumbalow, Gene - Mr. Gene Brumbalow, 63, of Milford died May 13, 2007, at Plaza Medical Center in Fort Worth. He was born August 21, 1943, in Hamilton, son of Joe Edward Brumbalow and Barbara L. Bingham Mazzola. He grew up in Hillsboro and moved to Oklahoma in 1997. In 2003, he moved back to Hillsboro, where he was a general contractor for many years. He was a member of Full Gospel Tabernacle Church of Alvarado. He was preceded in death by his father; and one brother, Michael Brumbalow. Survivors include: his mother, Barbara Mazzola and husband, Ronald, of Milford; five children, Ricky Brumbalow of Peoria, Edgar Brumbalow of Grandview, Curtis Brumbalow and Renae Grissom, both of Fort Worth and Jeanette Armstrong of Granbury; two sisters, Joyce Gosdin of Cleburne and Glenda Adkins and husband, Neil, of Itasca; 14 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held May 17, 2007, at Marshall and Marshall Funeral Directors Chapel in Hillsboro. Burial was at Ridge Park Cemetery.

Cockerham, J. T. - Mr. J. T. Cockerham, 86, of Fort Worth passed away May 17, 2007. He was born October 3, 1920, in Ellis County. He was a logistic project engineer when he retired from General Dynamics in 1984 after 38 years of employment. He started his aircraft career at North American Aircraft in 1941 and spent his entire life in aircraft work. He was a member and past master of River Oaks Masonic Lodge #1311, Castleberry Order of the Eastern Star Chapter #1028 and served in the Castleberry Independent School District for 21 years. He served as mayor of River Oaks for one term, was on the Tarrant County Republican Executive Committee for 29 years and served as an elected official for 50 continuous years.

He was preceded in death by his parents Lee and Luda Cockerham. Survivors include: his wife of 66 years, Doris Cockerham; three children, Linda Anderson and husband, Jim, of Burleson, Phyllis Cromwell and husband, Dub, of Bedford and John Trent Cockerham and wife, Vicki, of Colleyville; nine grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; five siblings, Hettie Grantham of Austin, Arduis Cockerham and wife, Hortensia, of Milford, Herman Cockerham and wife, Patsy, and Leon Cockerham, all of Itasca and Truman Cockerham and wife, Theresa, of Fort Worth; and two sisters-in-law, Maxine Murchison and husband, Bill, of Bridge City and Winnie Fred Nuckols of Cleburne.

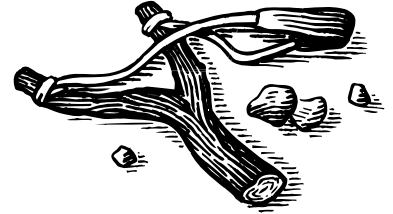
Funeral services were May 19, 2007, at Birchman Baptist Church in Fort Worth. Burial was at Greenwood Memorial Park in Fort Worth. Pallbearers were David Quayle, Taylor Cockerham, Trent Cockerham, Larry Hurtt, Barry Murchison and John Allen Cockerham. Honorary pallbearers were Roger Kilgore, Jeff Quayle, Tom Day, Frank Ivers and members of his Sunday school class.

Do You Remember . . . ? – “The Slingshot”

Columnist Carl Sweeney



The slingshot in one form or another has been around since Biblical times. The first mention of it we found was when David slew Goliath with one. It was different from what we think of as a slingshot today. It consisted of a rawhide string with a loop at one end held by three fingers. There was a pouch in the center and the other end had a knot held between the thumb and forefinger. The thing was swung around to get momentum, then the end that was between the



thumb and forefinger was released. There was a rock in the pouch that became the projectile. It was a powerful weapon at close range.

The slingshots we used when we were young were quite different although we used the same type of projectile. Besides stones we used ball bearings, steel slag, acorns, and even peach seeds. My favorite was the round brown stones we found in the fields. They had small nodules, and people said they had fallen from outer space. Our slingshots were two styles. One was cut from the fork of a tree limb, the lower part being the handle. Two rubber bands about a half inch in diameter were cut from an old inner tube that was used on our old model “T’s” or model “A’s”. A tube was selected so that the bands had the proper amount of elasticity. Many a boy has gotten in trouble for using one of dad’s good inner tubes. The rubber bands were fastened to the upper prongs with string. The other ends were tied to a leather pouch usually made from old shoe tongues; these were soft and pliable and nested the projectile well. Sometimes the bark was stripped off and others preferred to leave it on for a better grip.

My favorite way to make a slingshot was to cut it out from the end of an apple box. Apples back then came in wooden boxes and the solid ends were from soft white pine and easy to cut and smooth. I carried two of these, one in each hip pocket. I painted them silver to simulate the pearl handle pistols some cowboys wore. A boy could become an expert with these weapons. We took rabbits, birds, squirrels, and other small game. We learned early not to kill the mocking bird, which was and is protected, because it is our Texas state bird. We often got into trouble shooting the domestic animals around the farm.



I remember once we had an old sow that was very aggressive. I hated her and shot her rump quite often. When we killed hogs in the fall, my dad wondered why there were bruise spots on the hams. Boys have gotten into trouble lots of times by not using discretion with their slingshots. There was a saying that my mother used when things like that happened. She said, “I was a good boy, but trouble seemed to find me.”

There were times during the depression when the slingshot was of some value. When we occasionally brought home a rabbit or a squirrel to supplement our diet. One of my favorite meals was fried young squirrel, fresh black eyed-peas, cream gravy, whipped potatoes, and hot home-made biscuits.

I have seen some boys get into play wars with slingshots which were extremely dangerous. There were some injuries as a result and then came the punishment. Another fight we engaged in was with corn cobs. These were not as lethal as rocks, unless one got hit “upside” the head with an old cob covered with mud and stuff from the barnyard that had hardened in the sun. Another thing we still remember along these lines was on a cold morning while milking the cow; she switched us on the ear with a tail full of cackleburs. There then were other activities we engaged in on the farm, such as fighting bumblebees with a paddle or a broom weed, or twisting a rabbit from his burrow with a piece of barbed wire. A favorite pastime for Alex Compton and me, when we were in high school was hunting rattlesnakes on the mountain where we both lived. I still have most of the rattlers today. There are other things we engaged in back then that perhaps we can tell about in a future article.

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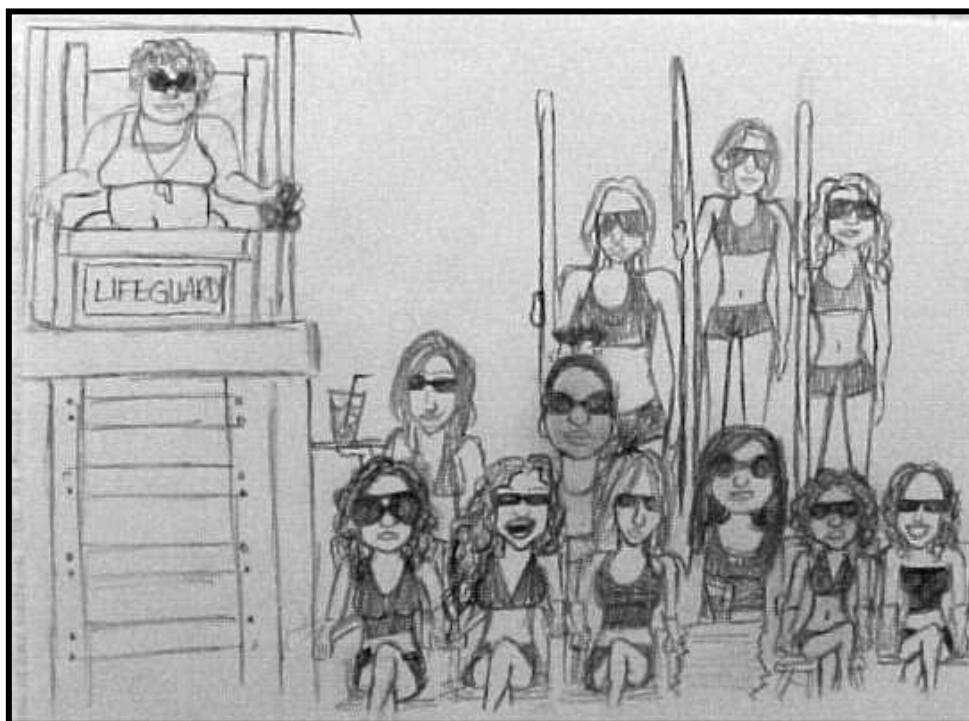
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If anyone would like to put an article or an ad in the paper during the summer, you must to get it to Mrs. Petrash the week before you want it published. The outgoing and incoming *PPP* staff will work on the newspaper during the summer months folding, stapling, and delivering to all subscribers.

The *PPP*'s address is 123 N. College St. Itasca, TX 76055 or send it to Mrs. Petrash @ 405 N/ King St., Itasca, TX 76055 or e-mail it to bpetrash@itasca.k12.tx.us or bpetrash@htcomp.net.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED 2007-2008 BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that the City of Itasca will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed FY 2007-2008 Operating Budget on Monday, June 18, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Itasca Municipal Court at 136 N. Hill Street, Itasca, Texas in the Council Chambers.

Mayor Matthew Fehnel

Democrats of Hill County

Potluck Dinner

June 11, 2007

6:00 p.m.

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