

Paw Print Press

Proudly Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since 1997

Itasca, Texas 76055

Vol. 2007 Issue #24

June 15, 2007

Texas Representative Patrick Presents Resolution Commending Freeman's IISD Tenure



Left – Texas House Representative Patrick proudly presents IISD Superintendent Dr. E. Ray Freeman the resolution honoring him for his work on behalf of and with the children of Texas. (Bottom right) Mrs. Marquita Lloyd, IISD School Board of Trustees President, presents Dr. and Mrs. Freeman with a token of the Board's appreciation for their dedication and hard work.

Itasca ISD employees, IISD Trustees, citizens of Itasca, daughter Julie Freeman and Representative Diane Patrick (District 94) joined to celebrate the retirement of Dr. E. Ray Freeman and Mrs. Roma Freeman. Rep Patrick presented Dr. Freeman with a resolution on behalf of the State, honoring him for his years of service to the schoolchildren of Texas and in particular those of IISD. The resolution read:

Whereas, Dr. E. Ray Freeman is stepping down from his position as superintendent of the Itasca Independent District in 2007, bringing to a close a distinguished career in education that has spanned more than three decades; and (remainder of resolution on page 3)

Dr. Patrick has a strong background in education - she not only taught school, she served as a board member of Arlington ISD for 11 years. (including board president). She was also on the State Board of Education for 4 years. Until becoming an elected official for the state last year, she taught graduate education courses at The University of Texas at Arlington for many years. The courses she taught provided training for graduate education students seeking to become administrators. Her dedication to public education is evident and she takes great pride in serving on both the House Committees on Public Education and Higher Education. She helped pass several bills this session to improve school safety and ensure that unfunded mandates were not passed down to the school districts. Public Education is a priority of Representative Patrick and she is proud to help honor others who dedicate their lives to this common goal.

The Freemans received a number of gifts from the faculty including two yard loungers and a gift card to spend on their trip to England this summer. The Board of Trustees presented Dr. and Mrs. Freeman with an engraved clock praising and thanking them for their hard work and dedication to the district.

Under Freeman's leadership, the district has seen many educational and physical improvements. During the last ten years, the district and its campuses have earned and maintained the ratings of either "exemplary" or "recognized." This was accomplished while having to meet all criteria (no exemptions for low percentage) of the worksheets. He also secured or helped to secure funding for the Special Events Center, the Wilson Education and Technology Center and the Itasca Depot Heritage Education Center. After passing a bond the first phase of the Middle School was built but the second phase was built without incurring any additional debt.

"I am honored to finish my education career at Itasca," Freeman said. "The formula for Itasca's success was simple. Hire and keep the best staff possible and then allow them to do their job. I must say, thank you staff, for always making me look good."

Many citizens and employees wrote letters and verbally thanked the Freemans for their work at Itasca.

"Itasca parents can be proud," Revitalization President Betty Sumner said, "that their school measures up to and in most cases surpasses any district in the state, regardless of their financial situation. It has been Dr. Freeman's dedication to this community that is responsible for many improvements including the establishment of a newspaper."



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

9:00 - 9:30 Praise & Worship (Sanctuary) Cross Roads Band

9:15 - 9:45 Fellowship Time in Barton Hall

9:45 - 10:30 Sunday School all Ages (Nursery - Seniors)

10:50 - Praise and Worship - 11:00 - Worship Service

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

July 9, 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 11- June 29 - Pick up report cards - All campuses - 8:00 a.m. - 12:00

June 14 - Flag Day

June 14 - Rotary Luncheon - 12:00 Rotary Room

June 25-29 - Vacation Bible School - Pre-K - 6th grade - First Presbyterian Church - 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. 254-687-2243

July 9-13 - First United Methodist Church Bible School - 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

May Police Report

5-12 - Assist motorist - 1200 blk. S. Files St.

5-13 - Reckless driver - I-35W northbound mm 6

5-13 - Traffic stop (racing) - I-35W southbound

5-13 - Verbal disturbance - 400 blk. S. Hill St.

5-14 - Burglary of a residence - 300 blk. S. Aquilla St.

5-14 - Burglary of a habitation - 300 blk. S. Aquilla St.

5-14 - Criminal mischief - 100 blk. Grayson Drive

5-15 - Arrest for aggravated assault w/weapon - 300 blk. E. Adams St.

5-15 - Burglary of a building - 700 blk. Mill St.

5-15 - Suspicious persons - 1200 blk. S. Files St.

5-15 - Criminal trespass warning issued (juvenile) - 100 blk. S. Aquilla St.

5-16 - Motor vehicle accident (minor) - I-35W southbound mm 1

5-16 - Traffic stop - Arrest for DWLI (driving while license invalid) - citation & tow -no insurance - Martin & Wesley Sts.

5-16 - Minor accident - Lamar & E. Main Sts.

5-16 - Dispute complaint - 800 blk. Loom St.

5-17 - Report of drunk driver - I-35W southbound

5-17 - Animal complaint (loose dogs) - 800 blk. Mill St.

5-17 - Two 18-wheelers accident (minor) - Mile marker 368 at I-35 split

5-17 - Accident (minor) - 1200 blk. E. Main St.

Continue on page 4

Texas House Resolution Marks Freeman's Retirement

Continue from page 1

Whereas, During his 11-year tenure as head of Itasca ISD, Dr. Freeman has secured funding for a special events center, a technology center, and the Itasca Depot Heritage and Education Center; his efforts were also integral in sending the Wampus Cat Band to New York City, where its members performed a concert at Carnegie Hall; and

Whereas, Dr. Freeman has been supported throughout his career by his loving wife, Roma Freeman, who recently retired after teaching elementary school for a quarter-century; all three of his siblings are also educators, and the family's commitment to their chosen field is further evidenced through the establishment of a scholarship fund in honor of their parents, the late Elton and Claudie Freeman; this important endowment has helped many Itasca ISD graduates to pursue careers in education; and

Whereas, Passionate in his belief that all children are deserving of equal opportunities to learn, Dr. Freeman serves as regional director of the board of the Equity Center and was chair of the Alvarado Plaintiffs, a group of school districts, parents, and students championing the cause of equitable school finance; he also helped to establish the Texas Association of Rural Schools and has served as the organization's president; and

Whereas, Young people are the Lone Star State's most precious resource, and those Texans who devote themselves to their education are truly deserving of our profound gratitude and admiration; Dr. Freeman has served Itasca ISD with integrity and dedication, earning the lasting respect of his staff and students, and it is a pleasure to commend him for his outstanding career; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Dr. E. Ray Freeman be congratulated on his retirement as superintendent of the Itasca Independent School District and that he be extended sincere best wishes for the future.

Diane Patrick, District 94

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.

Honor Our Nation This Flag Day

A column by Congressman Chet Edwards

"A thoughtful mind, when it sees a nation's flag, sees not the flag only, but the nation itself..."

-Henry Ward Beecher, The National Flag, 1861

On June 14, 1777, in order to establish an official flag for a new nation, the Continental Congress passed the Flag Act stating: "Resolved that the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation." Flag Day, on June 14, the anniversary of that Flag Resolution of 1777, was officially established by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30, 1916. And on August 3, 1949, President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14 of each year as National Flag Day.

In my view, it is appropriate that the House of Representatives amend the Constitution of the United States to prohibit the desecration of the American flag. In this session of Congress, I am proud to have co-sponsored legislation, House Joint Resolution 12, which would achieve this goal. A constitutional amendment must be passed by two thirds of both Houses of Congress and then be ratified by three quarters of the states.

My reverence for the First Amendment to the Constitution and the freedom of speech that it guarantees is second to none and I believe very strongly in a citizen's right to express his or her beliefs and opinions, no matter how unpopular. This right sets America apart from most other countries on earth. However, I do not believe that burning or otherwise desecrating our national symbol is a legitimate expression of free speech. I think individuals must consider the adverse impact of their actions on their fellow citizens and society as a whole.

I have the honor and responsibility to represent tens of thousands of veterans, service men and women and their families who have devoted themselves to serving our nation during peacetime and wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Vietnam, Korea, and World War II. When America's liberty, national security or national interests have been threatened, I have seen these brave men and women leave their homes and families to fight in foreign lands. And, I have seen them come home, some in coffins draped with our flag. Having seen this, I cannot condone any behavior that shows disrespect to our flag and all it represents. The U.S. Supreme Court may equate flag desecration with free speech. I respectfully disagree. The American flag is a symbol of what we are and who we are. It deserves to be honored and protected from desecration.

If you would like to sign the American Legion's petition supporting the constitutional amendment banning desecration of the American flag, you can download it at this web page address: <http://www.legion.org/pdf/cfapetition.pdf>

May Police Blotter Continued

5-17 – Warrant arrest (non-payment child support) – 1200 blk. E. Main St.
 5-17 – Animal complaint (chained ill dog) – 800 blk. E. Adams St.
 5-17 – Suspicious activity – Itasca water tower
 5-17 – Vehicle w/open door – 300 blk. S. Aquilla St.
 5-18 – Open door/public building – 100 blk. N. College St.
 5-18 – Juvenile complaint – 600 blk. E. Main St.
 5-18 – Assisted citizens – Wilkerson & Files St.
 5-18 – Civil matter – 1200 blk. S. Files St.
 5-18 – Assisted DPS w/stranded motorist call – Hill & Johnson County line
 5-18 – Traffic stop (speeding) – Arrest for tampering with evidence (attempting to eat marijuana) & possession of < 2 oz. of marijuana – I-35W northbound mm 7
 5-19 – Fight in progress – (2 subjects hit w/tazor) 100 blk. N. Hill St.
 5-19 – Welfare update – 100 blk. N. Hill St.
 5-19 – Assisted citizen w/directions
 5-19 – Domestic disagreement – 100 blk. E. Main St.
 5-19 - Assisted citizen w/directions
 5-19 – Reckless driver report – 100 blk. E. Main St.
 5-20 – Traffic stop – Warrant arrest for possession of a controlled substance & hindering secured creditor warrant
 5-20 – Assist other agency – Traffic stop (reckless driver) I-35W northbound mm 8
 5-21 – Report of speeding & reckless 18-wheeler – US 81 northbound
 5-21 – Traffic stop (speeding) – Citation for speeding – arrested for DWLI (driving while license invalid), passenger cited for possession of drug paraphernalia
 5-22 – Assisted DPS (minor accident) 5200 blk. FM 934
 5-22 – Report of theft (>\$50) – 500 blk. N. Files St.
 5-23 – Animal complaint (large snake) – 500 blk. S. King St.
 5-23 – Juvenile complaint – 100 blk. S. Aquilla St.
 5-24 – Traffic stop – Citation for no DL – Vehicle towed – Main St. & Wampus Cat Dr.
 5-24 – Debris in roadway – I-35W southbound mm 7
 5-24 – Criminal mischief – 100 blk. E. Marrion St.
 5-24 – Animal complaint (loose cattle) – FM 67 & HCR 4138
 5-25 – Open door/public building- 100 blk. N. College St.
 5-25 – Open door/business – 200 blk. S. Hill St.
 5-25 – Open door/business – 1200 blk. E. Main St.
 5-25 – Assisted DPS – Minor accident – I-35W northbound mm 13½
 5-25 – Assisted citizen – Itasca PD
 5-25 – Assisted HCSO (stranded motorist) – I35W southbound mm 3
 5-25 - Open door/public building- 800 blk. E. Wilkerson St.
 5-26 – Suspicious vehicle – 300 blk. N. Aquilla St.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED 2007-2008 BUDGET

Press Release

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

Plumlee Retirement

David Plumlee will retire from the United States Postal Service after more than thirty years of service. In honor of his dedicated service, a reception is to be held on Friday, June 22, 2007 from 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. in the main lobby of the Itasca Post Office. An invitation is extended to everyone. Please come to wish David well as he embarks on this new adventure of retirement.

Answers from the Chief's Desk

Citizens make many calls to police departments that should be made to other departments or should be taken care of in a different manner. In this column, Itasca's Police John Griscavage will answer some of those phone calls in an effort to steer everyone to the correct solution.

The Chief - "We get calls about youngsters not minding."

My answer: "If your child won't do his or her homework or do their chores, 911 is not the answer. I sometimes have the same problem with my own children."

April

Police Activity Report

Arrests

1 Felony
 3 Misdemeanor
 3 Class "C"

Cases Files

1 District Attorney
 3 County Attorney
 3 Justice of the Peace

Total Calls for Service 103

Traffic Citations

261-Moving 64-Non-Moving 65-Warnings

Class "C" Citations

1-Theft <\$50 2-Disorderly Conduct
 1-Minor in Possession/Alcohol 2-Assault
 1-Minor in Possession/Tobacco
 2-Assault 5-Open Container
 4-Possession of Drug Paraphernalia

City Ordinance Violations

2-Littering

2007 Relay For Life

Information from *The Reporter* - Collage by Mrs. McClure's Desktop Publishing Class

The 7th Annual Hill County Relay For Life was held May 18 and 19 on Itasca's Patton Field. The tradition of lining the track with lighted luminarias and using them to spell out the word, HOPE, in the football stands was very moving. The luminarias honor those living with cancer and are in recognition of those who lost their battle to the disease. They also remind everyone that no one is immune to this dreaded killer.

Over \$40,000 was raised during the event. These funds will help the American Cancer Society's research, education, advocacy and service programs. Co-chairpersons Lea Sanders and Frieda Grigsby headed up this year's event.



2007 Graduation

On June 1, 2007, forty two students meet together for the last time as a class, as they received their diplomas and were declared officially alumni of Itasca High. Rachel Anderson gave the welcoming prayer, Paige Bailey the salutatorian speech, Candice Kowalski the valedictorian address and Stephanie Campbell the closing prayer. For those who were unable to attend they graciously allowed their prayers and speeches be printed.



“Father, Thank You for the blessings of life. Thank You for protecting us and guiding us to this point in our lives. As we look forward to the future, we trust that Your hand will continue to protect and guide. In Jeremiah, You tell us that You know the plans You have for us; plans to prosper and You will not harm us; plans to give us a hope and a future. As we stand at the crossroads of life, we lean on the verse and look to the future with hope because we know that You will be with us. Thank You again for the blessings You have given us all. In Jesus’ name, I ask it, Amen.

Rachel Anderson, 3rd in Class of 2007



I know I haven't been going to school in Itasca for very long, but this is the kind of community you feel a part of almost immediately. And it was especially poignant for me to graduate from IHS, because it's where practically all of my family has graduated from: my father and his sister; my mom, Jolynn, and my Aunt Jan; my cousin Carla, who teaches at the elementary school, my cousin Pam, who works at the high school; and many other cousins, more than we have time to name.

Itasca may be small, but the feeling it fosters is truly special and impossible to find anywhere else. We may complain about not having a Wal-Mart or a movie theater in town, but the closeness of the community more than makes up for it. The teachers and townspeople go the extra mile to take care of us kids, and make sure that we have every opportunity possible. How many other small-school bands have played on stage at Carnegie Hall? Or how many other Science Clubs are able to spend an entire week in Galveston, at very little personal cost to themselves?

This town seems more like a family than anything else does, and it has been a pleasure to attend school here. This fall, we will be continuing on with our lives, some attending college -- even in other states; some joining the military, and some stepping out and beginning life on their own. But we'll always keep a piece of Itasca in our hearts, and I know I, for one, will always feel like I have people who care about me here. Thank you -- all of you -- for everything you've given us and given me, and everything that you've helped us accomplish for ourselves. The Itasca graduating class of 2007 has great things ahead of it!

Salutatorian Paige Bailey – Class of 2007



Good evening family, friends, teachers and students. The class of 2007 has taken a journey through Itasca High School unlike any other. We have all given our blood, sweat and tears to our high school careers, and we are finally being recognized for many years of excruciating work in one single ceremony. The halls of the high school have seen their moments of both excitement and disappointment; however, as Alexander Hamilton stated, “We must make the best of those ills which cannot be avoided.” All in all, the insanity I have come to know is something I would not trade for anything in the world.

Our beloved band director, Mr. David Hernandez, once said during a classroom lecture that he knows what to expect in the students’ speeches every year at graduation, but for once, he would like to hear what is really going through their minds. I took it upon myself to grant him that request. Currently, I am experiencing three major emotions: Relief – I am relieved that I am finally able to leave this madness behind, only to discover more where I am headed. Excitement – excited that I am being given the opportunity to start anew. And last but certainly not least, Fear – I am scared half to death. I am afraid to leave my little brother and father behind. After all, I have always been Daddy’s Little Girl. Sadly, I feel like a young kindergarten student when I say, “Daddy, I want you to come with me.” All I can hope for is that what I have learned these eighteen years of my life will guide me toward a better tomorrow.

I would like to take a moment to thank those who deserve great amounts of my gratitude. First and foremost, I have to thank God. Without him, I would not be standing here. My life has been a very bumpy ride, but I have always had my faith. I would like to thank my teachers for pushing me to my limit with their countless amounts of painstaking essays, angering projects, and so on.

Continuing on page 8

May Police Blotter Continued

5-26 – Roadway blocked w/disabled 18-wheeler – Main St. @ I-35W overpass
 5-26 – Possible theft (<\$50) – 200 blk. S. Hill St.
 5-26 – Animal complaint (cattle) – FM 67 & HCR 4138
 5-26 – Suspicious vehicle – I-35W roadside park mm 7
 5-26 – Welfare check – FM 67
 5-27 – Assisted DPS (accident) FM 67 & HCR 4141
 5-27 – Verbal abuse – 200 blk. S. Hill St.
 5-27 – Verbal dispute – 100 blk. S. Aquilla St.
 5-27 – Suspicious vehicle - 900 blk. Mill St.
 5-27 – Verbal dispute – 200 blk. W. Adams St.
 5-27 – Criminal trespass – 200 blk. S. Hill St.
 5-27 – Suspicious person – I-35W southbound mm 10
 5-28 – Warrant arrest (Bastrop County) – 100 blk. W. North St.
 5-28 – Traffic stop (headlight out – Vehicle towed (no insurance) – 100 blk. W. North St.
 5-28 – Arrest for possession of a controlled substance (<1 gram) – 100 blk. W. North St.
 5-29 – Assist other agency – 100 blk. E. Spurgeon St.
 5-29 – Suspicious vehicle – 100 blk. N. College St.
 5-29 – Open door at business – 200 blk. S. Hill St.
 5-30 – Arrest for converting item for criminal intent – I-35W southbound mm 8
 5-30 – Animal complaint (dogs) – 500 blk. N. Files St.
 5-30 – Juvenile runaway
 5-30 – Suspicious – 200 blk, S. Lamar St.
 5-30 – Assisted DPS (vehicle stop–speeding) – I-35W northbound mm 4
 5-31 – Identity theft report – 500 blk. S. Wesley St.
 5-31 – Animal complaint (cattle) – US 81 & HCR 4255
 5-31 – Traffic stop (speeding) - Warrant arrest (Cooke County) – I-35W northbound mm 11
 5-31 – Loud music complaint – 300 blk. Lamar St.

June Police Blotter

6-1 – Request for close patrol – 300 blk. N. Aquilla St.
 6-1 – Civil dispute – 800 blk. Mill St.
 6-1 – Assisted Johnson County (reckless driver) – I-35W
 6-1 – Suspicious activity – 1200 blk. E. Main St.
 6-2 – Hit & run report – 100 blk. N. Front St.
 6-2 – Telephone threats – 1200 blk. E. Main St.
 6-2 – Criminal mischief – 300 blk. N. Aquilla St.
 6-2 – Assist citizen – FM 66
 6-2 – Animal complaint (loose dog) – 500 blk. E. Spurgeon St.
 6-3 – Assisted DPS (traffic stop) – I-35W northbound mm 5
 6-3 – Civil dispute – E. Adams & S. Hill Sts.
 6-3 – Missing person report – 100 blk. E. North St.
 6-3 – Assisted citizen – 200 blk. W. Adams St.

Call for Entries for Ellis County Master Gardener Photography Contest

Press Release

The Ellis County Master Gardeners challenge photographers from all levels of experience to capture their ideal horticultural image in the inaugural Master Gardener photography contest sponsored by the Ellis County Master Gardeners and The Waxahachie Daily Light.

The deadline for entries is September 30, 2007. Winners will be announced on October 15, 2007. Winners will be recognized on the contest's website www.ecmga.com, in their E-Gardening newsletter, and in the Waxahachie Daily Light newspaper. Images are to be submitted in a digital format as per guidelines found on the contest's website.

The three categories for 2007 are:

****Single specimen:** i.e., a single tulip, field of bluebonnets, etc.

****In The Garden:** i.e., water gardens, butterfly gardens, rooftop gardens, full backyards, flower boxes, fairy gardens, container gardens, etc.

****Garden Bounty:** i.e., herbs, fruits, veggies, bundle of tomatoes, peas fresh on vine, a spectacular gourd, etc.

Images will be judged by a panel of judges based on technical quality (sharpness & correct exposure), composition, creativity and originality. No identifiable people in the photographs, please.

The official rules and entry form are available online at <http://www.ecmga.com>. For more information on the Ellis County Master Gardeners, visit their website at www.ecmga.com

For Sale

2-wheel trailer steel bed Good to put smoker on. \$135

Skill Saw \$20 Rotor Tiller \$35

Waterbed complete with mattress and frame \$40

Complete Chevrolet distributor - V-8 motor \$5

Round point shovel \$ 5 - 20 - 1/2 inch bolts \$3

Steel frame for license plate \$2

Large lift for a motorized Motor Scooter

(must have 2-inch receiver hitch.) – Make Offer

Shasta 4-wheel travel trailer \$150

105 Beard, Itasca Texas

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

First Presbyterian Church Invites Children to Avalanche Ranch: A Wild Ride through God's Word!

Press Release

"This year our church is a stampede of excitement as we visit Avalanche Ranch" says Diane Barnes, lay pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Itasca. "Our Avalanche Ranch program will provide fun, memorable Bible-learning activities for kids from Pre-K through 6th grade. Each day kids will sing catchy songs, play team-work-building games, nibble Chuck Wagon Chow, take on a Daily Challenge to let God's love grow into their homes, experience electrifying Bible adventures, and create Bible Point Crafts they'll take home and play with all summer long."

"Avalanche Ranch is an exciting way for kids to learn more about God's love," says Mrs. Barnes. "We hope Avalanche Ranch will get everyone wild about God in our community."

Avalanche Ranch begins on June 25 and continues through June 29. Meet at First Presbyterian Church, 106 N. Lamar St., each day from 9:30 until 11:30. For information, call 254-687-2243.

Granny Snave's Things to Ponder

Granny Snave

"I have some very interesting thoughts that were sent to me this week on my computer. It is amazing what comes out of that contraption sometimes."

- **Is there another word for synonym?
- **Isn't it a bit unnerving that doctors call what they do "practice?"
- **Why isn't there mouse-flavored cat food?
- **If a parsley farmer is sued, can they garnish his wages?
- **Would a fly without wings be called a walk?
- **If a stealth bomber crashes in a forest, will it make a sound?
- **If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?
- **Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?
- **If a deaf person swears, does his mother wash his hands with soap?
- **What was the best thing before sliced bread?
- **Where do forest rangers go to "get away from it all?"
- **When sign makers go on strike, is anything written on their signs?

This last one is for my husband and all those fellows that he sits around with at Jimmy's and drinks coffee with until it is time to eat lunch.

**If a man is standing in the middle of the forest speaking and there is no woman around to hear him – Is he still wrong?

Class of 2007 Speeches

Continued from page 6

At this point, I must mention Mrs. Swilley just because I plan on her remembering this speech. She is my mom away from home, and she always knows what she is doing. I was petrified of her as a freshman, but I have come to love and respect her as an educator. Other special thank yous go out to Ms. Gordon, Mrs. Watson, Mr. Scott, and, of course, Mr. Band and Dr. Freeman.

My true friends have always been there for me, and for that, I am truly thankful. I would even like to thank my rivals for showing me how to stand up for myself. My Uncle Edward and Aunt Barbara have taught me how to be myself, and they showed me the importance of remaining an individual, for the world would be boring if everyone were the same.

My brother, Parker, has been a pebble in my shoe at times, but I could not ask for a better sibling. We've been through so much pain and devastation together that we really are the true Elric Brothers.

Dad, it has been an interesting adventure, but you have been my superhero. You saved our small and broken family from falling into the cracks during our many tragedies, and thank you for always allowing me to be myself, no matter what. I also appreciate every ounce of support you ever offered. I also admire your patriotism for our country. God bless America.

Finally, I want to thank my mother. I know you are not here to chase the monsters out from underneath the bed anymore, but those fourteen years I had you were the best years of my life. You had a heart of pure gold, and you were my best friend. You were the best mother any daughter could ask for. Although I desperately need you now at this very moment, you taught me that I could handle anything the world could ever throw at me. I love you, I miss you, and I thank you.

On that note, we are the graduating class of 2007. We are about to embark on yet another journey. I wish safe and happy travels to each one of you, wherever life may lead you. Congratulations!

Valedictorian Candice Kowalski – Class of 2007



Thank You for allowing us to gather here tonight to celebrate this step in life that is upon us. Thank You for guiding my fellow classmates and me to this point. Please guide and protect us as we go out into this world on our own and be with everyone as they leave here tonight. Keep them

safe in their journeys, Amen.

Stephanie Campbell, 4th in the Class of 2007

Recent Deaths

Medford, Rachel Marie - Rachel Marie Medford, 58, died May 14, 2007. The funeral was May 18 at Rosser Funeral Home. Burial was at the Rio Vista Cemetery.

Survivors are daughters, Lori Medford and Darla Peacock; four brothers; one sister; and three grandchildren. Rachel Marie Melson Medford graduated from Itasca High.

Daniel, James A. - James A. Daniel died May 24, 2007. He was born September 25, 1935 in Milford Texas to Clarence David and Ollie Edith (Moore) Daniel. He grew up in Itasca and was a graduate of Itasca High School. He attended East Texas State University where he received his Master's Degree in Agricultural Education in 1959. He married Phyllis Kerr on January 29, 1964 in Marlin, Texas. He taught in Turnersville, Moody, Orangefield and Salado. He retired in 1991 after teaching for 31 years. He was active in the Bell County Youth Fair, serving 2 terms on their board of directors, one as president. He was an active member of the Salado Youth Fair Booster Club for the past 15 years. A renowned hog breeder, he was instrumental in getting the Swine Type Conference brought to Bell county several years ago and the genetics of his swine program are the foundation of many of the local breeders today. In February of this year he was honored by having his name added to the Plaza of Honor at the Bell County Expo. Center.

Survivors include his wife, Phyllis Daniel of Salado, 3 sons, Clarence Daniel of Austin, Clayton Daniel and wife Monica of Youngsport, Marion Daniel and wife Laura of Salado, one brother, William Daniel of Hillsboro, seven sisters, Jessie Dial of Lone Oak, Vera Mae Woodley of Alvarado, Sylvia Wallace of Cleburne, Patricia McLendon of Midlothian, Edith Minor of Burleson, Inez Kerby of Cleburne, and Mildred Watson of Iowa Park, two grandchildren Jessica Daniel and David Daniel.

In lieu of flowers you may donate to the James A. Daniel's Agricultural Scholarship. Send your donation to Norma Merkle, Itasca High School Scholarships, 300 North Files, Itasca, TX 76055 or donate to the Lung Cancer Society of your area.

McDonald, Margaret Katherine - Margaret Katherine McDonald, 88, passed away May 22, 2007 at a local nursing home. She was born July 28, 1918, in Beaumont, Texas, to Nead and Mary Sims Kindley. Margaret married Donald McDonald, Jr. December 12, 1942 in New York. They made their home in Itasca where, along with his brother and sister-in-law, Gordon and Mary McDonald, they owned and published the "Itasca Item" newspaper for many, many years.

Margaret was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Donald. Survivors are son, Donald "Buz" McDonald and wife, Carla of Hillsboro; daughter, Donna "Donnie" Margaret McDonald of Austin; granddaughters, Lisa McDonald and Caprice Bynum; and 2 great grandchildren.

Services were held May 25, 2007 at Clayton Kay-Vaughan Funeral Home in Itasca. Burial was in the Itasca Cemetery.

Ramsey, Maudie W. - Maudie Ramsey, 88, of Wichita Falls passed away May 29, 2007, in Wichita Falls. She was born July 7, 1918, into a large family of 15 children and was raised in Hill County. She was known for being the prankster in her family. She was a loving wife for over 49 years and a terrific mother. She was a sweet lady who will be missed by all who knew her.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Glen Ramsey of Covington; parents, Will and Jennie Alverson; and nine brothers and sisters. Surviving family members include one daughter, Connie Ramsey of Wichita Falls; four sisters, Nell Gibson, Mary Catherine Daniel and Dorothy Curry, all of Itasca and Wanda Marshall of Waxahachie; one brother, Jimmie Alverson of Millbrook, Alabama; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were June 2, 2007, at Clayton Kay-Vaughan Funeral Home Chapel in Itasca with Rev. Diane Barnes officiating. Burial was at Itasca Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Wichita Falls.

Trade For Down Payment

9 1/2 acres, Itasca, TX: \$20K down,
Balance Financed @\$404/month by owner.
Mobile ready including 22' x 22'
garage & stock tank. Trade down payment for Motor Home, RV, 4-Wheeler, house, etc
817-714-6410.

House for Sale by Owner

405 E. Main St. \$93,000
5-2-2 carport, storage building, above ground pool
large front porch, laundry room
approximately 2,000 sq. feet
CA/H, formal dining room, lots of updates
254-687-9229 or 254-498-3068

Paw Print Press
123 N. College
Itasca, Texas 76055

Itasca Garden Club

Press Release from Garden Club Member Judy Crumpacker



The Itasca Garden Club's last meeting for the season was held at El Conquistador Restaurant in Hillsboro.

Susan Mann from the Hillsboro Library installed the new officers for the club. Ms. Mann did a wonderful presentation with a variety of flowers. She explained that each flower is different and may have different functions. However, when each is placed in an arrangement they have a beautiful harmony. She related this to each position the officers held and how that working together makes for a unified club.

Pictured with Ms. Mann are the 2007-2008 Garden Club Officers.

Bottom row (l to r) Pat Gibbins-Historian/Librarian; Martha Strona-

Secretary/Reporter; Cathye Miller-1st Vice President and Maria Wood-President

Back row (l to r) Karen Buckner-Treasurer; Charlene Wiginton-3rd Vice President; Dianne Taylor-2nd Vice President and Susan Mann, guest.