Paw Print Press

Proudly Serving Itasca "The Big Little Town" since 1997
Itasca, Texas 76055 Vol. 2006 Issue #48 December 1, 2006

City Holds Reception for New Mayor, Incumbent Councilmen

December Council Meeting Date Changed to December 11

Council members, city employees and visitors welcomed Mayor Matt Fehnel and reelected Councilmen John "Skipper" Laird and Harvey Wilson at a small reception following the November 20, council meeting and swearing in of the officials.

Following the swearing in of Mayor Matt Fehnel by City Manager Mark Gropp, Fehnel took his place at the head of the Council table and began his mayoral duties.

Outgoing Mayor Dave Heald thanked the Council, employees and citizens for their cooperation during his time as council member, mayor pro-tem and mayor. Heald did not seek re-election.

Council members Laird and Wilson ran unopposed in the November election.

City employees CinDee Garrett, Felicia Mayberry, Sue Comer and City Secretary Cindy Lewis provided finger sandwiches, cookies, tea and goodies for their new boss's welcome. Mayor Fehnel thanked everyone for the nice welcome.

"I look forward to the opportunity of serving the citizens of Itasca," Fehnel said, "I will work hard to continue the progress of the City in the positive path the Council and previous mayors have put into action."

December City Council Meeting

December 11 6:00 p.m.

Municipal Court Building

136 N. Hill St.

Gonzalez Serving in Iraq

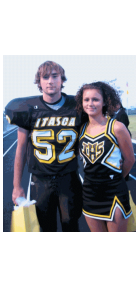
'05 Senior Class President Deployed

Twenty-year-old Eddie Gonzalez was deployed to Iraq in mid-September of 2006. Eddie graduated from I.H.S. in 2005. He joined the military while still in high school and completed his basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina shortly after graduating.

Gonzalez then attended AIT school in Maryland and Airborne School in Ft. Benning, Georgia. Prior to deployment Eddie was stationed at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina.

2006 Football

Sweetheart, Beau



Amanda Upchurch, daughter of Homer and Nita Upchurch, was crowned Football Sweetheart during the senior/parents night festivities at the Hico game on October 27. Amanda is a senior varsity cheerleader, member of IHS Honor Society, the Wampus Cat Band and the Mowana staff.

Kyle Baker, son of Jerry and Karen Baker was voted the 2006 Football Beau. He wears #52 and plays offensive and defensive line for the Mighty Cats. Kyle is a member of the IHS Honor Society and the Wampus Cat Band.

Community News

Churches of Itasca

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist W. Spurgeon 687-2800

Central Baptist Church 401 E. Monroe 687-2343

Church of Christ 200 N. Aquilla 687-2774

First Baptist Church 107 S. Lamar 687-2783

First Presbyterian Church 106 N. Lamar 687-2243

First United Methodist Main & King St. 687-2475

Loveview Baptist Church FM 2959 East of I-35

Second Baptist Church 20 W. Marrion 687-2224

Shiloh Community Church 254-582-0487

St. John Missionary Baptist 506 S. Weaver 687-2821

3rd Day Worship Center 107 E. Adams 214 564-2185

Itasca Nursing Home Sunday - 10:00 a.m.

Everyone Welcome Monday Evening 6:00 p.m.

Central Baptist Church

Come pray with us. A prayer box is available for your request. If you can't stay, we'll pray for you.

Prayer Service Every Wednesday – 12:05 -1:00 p.m.

Anyone who would like to see God move in our community!

Itasca United Methodist Church

Guaranteed no-nap Preaching, or double your doubt back.

Where Worship Is Joyous

Experience the energy of God's promise in a beautiful, historic sanctuary. Rev. Tom Wood, Pastor

Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 10:50 a.m. 254-687-2475

What Does Your

Heavenly Account Look Like?

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth . . ."

"But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven . . . "

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Matthew 6: 19, 20, 21

God does not mail you a monthly statement, you must keep up with it yourself. Accounting classes now being offered at the Church of Christ in Itasca, Sundays 9:45, 10:45, 6:30 p.m.

Itasca Ministerial Alliance Meeting

Dec. 2 – 9:00 a.m. Bethlehem Baptist Church

Presbyterian Church

***Women's Bible Study - 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. 2nd Monday

***Women's Bible Study - 7:00 p.m. 2nd Thursday

***Call for information 687-2243 or 687-2963

***Exercise Classes for Senior Citizens

Tuesday & Thursday - 10:00 - Fellowship Hall.

Itasca Zoning Committee Meeting

2nd Monday of Month 6 p.m.

Municipal Court Building 136 N. Hill St.

Itasca City Council Meeting

December 11 6:00 p.m.

Municipal Court Building 136 N. Hill St.

All interested persons are welcomed!

Itasca ISD School Board Meeting

2nd Monday of Month 7:00 p.m.

IISD Superintendent's Office 123 N College St.

All interested persons are welcomed!

Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Last Monday of Month 5:30 p.m.

Citizens State Bank E. Main St.

All interested persons are welcomed!

Itasca 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

All interested persons are welcomed!

Community Holiday Events

Community Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 3, 2006 6:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Garden Club & Chamber Brunch

Monday, December 4, 2006 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Farrow Room @ HILCO

Christmas Parade & Downtown Celebration

Saturday, December 9, 2006 5:30 p.m.

Line up front of elementary school 5:00 p.m.

City Hall Open House

Monday, December 11, 2006 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Itasca City Offices 126 N. Files St.

Chamber of Commerce Christmas Lighting Contest - Deadline for applying is Wed., December 13. Judging will take place on Mon., Dec. 18, between 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.

Central Baptist Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 17, 2006 7:30 p.m.

Central Baptist Church

Public Notice

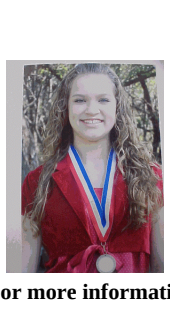
Committee Openings

Notice is hereby given that the City of Itasca will be accepting applications to fill two (2) vacant positions on the Planning & Zoning Committee. All interested persons can receive an application at Itasca City Hall, 126 North Hill. The closing date for accepting applications will be Thursday, December 14, 2006. For more information, please call 687-2201.

Felicia Mayberry, Office of Code Enforcement

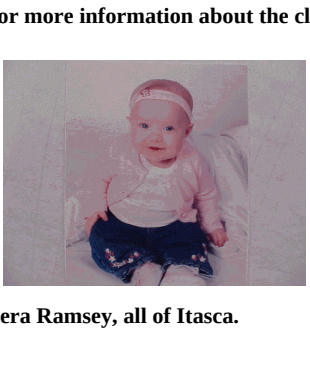
First Place in Speech

Press Release



Courtney Barton, 13, of Osceola, won first place in the Open Interpretation Division of the Weatherford Fall Speech and Debate Tournament November 3-4. She presented an original speech about true love at the tournament, which is affiliated with the home school organization NCFCA, National Christian Forensics and Communication Association. She meets and practices weekly with I Speak, a home school speech club in Itasca.

For more information about the club, call 254-687-2344.



Welcome Home

Press Release

Bradley and Angela Finley of Navasota are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Kylee Renee. Kylee was born June 30, weighing 8 lbs.

Proud grandparents and great-grandparents are Bruce and Becky Finley and Wayland and Vera Ramsey, all of Itasca.

We Need a Couple of Good Books

Press Release

The Hill County Genealogical Society is in need of copies of the books. A HISTORY OF HILL COUNTY, TEXAS 1838-1965 by Ellis Bailey, and A HISTORY OF HILL COUNTY, TEXAS 1853-1980 by the Hill County Historical Commission for the Genealogical Library in the Hillsboro City Library. If you would like to donate your copy to the Genealogical Society please send to:

Peggy Barnes Fox, Hill County Genealogical Society

66 Delmore Drive, Hillsboro, TX 76645-2357

Or take your copy to the main desk of the Hillsboro City Library, 118 South Waco Street, Hillsboro, TX.

Additional copies received will be placed in the vault in the library

Look Who's Two!

Press Release

De'Reyon Mayberry turned 2 years old on Friday, November 17. He celebrated his 2nd birthday with a Sponge Bob theme party with his buddies at Mimi's Playhouse. He then celebrated his birthday with his family on Thanksgiving Day.

De'Reyon is the youngest brother of She'Nerra, De'Veon, Da'Jae and LadyBug.

Hill County

Genealogical Society

Press Release

Andy "Ace" Collins, Hillsboro author, will review his latest book, *Stories Behind the Great Traditions of Christmas*, at the Hill County Genealogical Society meeting on Monday, December 4. The group will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Hill County Courthouse Annex meeting room, 126 South Covington in Hillsboro. Refreshments will be served during the social hour following the program.

Stories Behind the Great Traditions of Christmas is the third Christmas book that Mr. Collins has written. This should be an interesting program and everyone is invited to attend.

Membership dues for 2007 for Hill County Genealogical Society are due in January. Cost for individual membership is $18.00 and family membership is $25.00.

Please bring your check to the December meeting or mail it to Hill County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 636, Hillsboro, TX 76645. The winter issue of the quarterly will be distributed at the meeting.

The Hill County Genealogical Society has completed cataloging its holdings located in the Hillsboro City Library in Hillsboro, Texas, and that data is now on CD. CDs are available to members for a donation of $10, and non-members for a $15 donation. Please mail payments to the Hill County Genealogical Society, P.O.Box 636, Hillsboro, TX 76645.

Thanks to Peggy Fox and Dora Nolan for compiling the information on the genealogical section. The Genealogical section is on the 2nd floor mezzanine, next to the elevator. The library is located at 118 So. Waco St., Hillsboro, TX, 76645.

Senior Spotlight

Colleen O'Hearn

Reporter Devin Corbitt

Caricature by Gabby Rivera

Colleen Christian O'Hearn is the 17-year-old daughter of Patsy and Vernon Abbott and Terry and Kathy O'Hearn. "My mom is my role model – she's so silly!" Colleen said.

"Silly, fun-loving, and beautiful," is how her friend Jessica describes Colleen. Colleen enjoys back-roading and riding 4-wheelers, along with watching football and basketball.

"I love recording videos on my celly, too!" Colleen said. She is an office aide at Itasca High and works at Smart Stop.

"I love being an office aide and I used to love working at SmartStop, but now I work at David's." Her favorite teacher would have to be Coach Wolfe. "I've had him all four years!" Colleen said, "Who else could it be?"

Colleen has many fond memories of her days in Itasca.

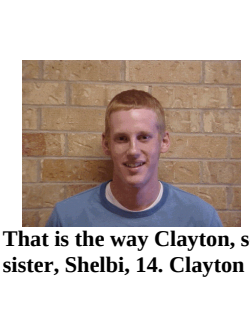
"I will always remember acting like a tough kid with my old friend Ragan." Colleen recalls. Some of those memories are of ISS in past years. "Mrs. Droll could make some of the kids cry just by saying hello. I'll never forget it."

Colleen hopes to attend Sam Houston or Southwest Texas State University. Before she graduates, Colleen wants to leave the underclassmen with this bit of advice: "Do whatever you want, and if it's something you'll regret in the morning… sleep late!" Although this may not be the best advice, but that is the way Colleen sees it.

Senior Spotlight - Clayton Beatty

Photographer & Reporter Sarah Evans

Caricature by Gabby Rivera



Ring-ring! The 3:30 bell rings for another school day to end and 17-year-old Clayton Beatty rushes out to his 2001 Chevy Silverado. He jumps in, heads to Dairy Queen and there he ties on his apron, walks behind the counter and says, "Welcome to Dairy Queen, May I take your order?"

That is the way Clayton, son of Shain and Nanci Beatty, finishes most school days. Clayton has one sister, Shelbi, 14. Clayton has attended Itasca since August of 2006 when he moved from Colorado.

His classmates describe him as "nice, friendly and optimistic."

"I will always remember" Beatty said, "how everybody has welcomed me even though I am from another state."

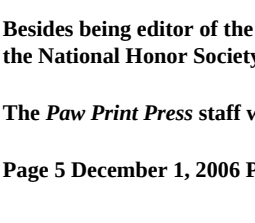
When Beatty is not working hard at DQ or at school, you will most likely find him hanging out with his senior buds, Justin, Cameron, Mark, his girlfriend Nicole Kelley or doing one of the many other jobs that interest him such as welding, watching football on T.V. or eating cheeseburgers.

"My favorite memory from school" Beatty said "was having sword fights with yard sticks in middle school math class. After graduating I plan to start working as a welder and I hope to have my own welding business later."

Clayton is excited about graduating. His words of advice to the underclassmen should be heeded, "Don't slack! Do all your hard classes before you're a senior, then you can slack and have fun."

Meet the Press – Gabby Rivera

Reporter & Photographer Mary Maddox



"I really enjoy working with the staff this year." Gabby said. "I love my fishies!" Gabrielle Rivera is topping off her third year on the *Paw Print Press* as its chief editor. She has been the cartoonist for three years and has worked as a feature writer.

Gabby is the daughter of Martin and Gloria Rodriguez and big sister to sophomore Sal Cardenas and sixth-grader Celeste Rodriguez. She was recently crowned 2006 Homecoming Queen.

Besides being editor of the *Paw Print Press*, Gabby is on the yearbook staff (working on designing this year's cover), a member of the National Honor Society, Science Club and a Cinco de Mayo dancer.

The *Paw Print Press* staff will miss Gabby and her artistic ability, since the rest of the staff only draws stick figures.

Wampus Cats' Playoff Trip Halted by Holliday Eagles

The Wampus Cats met the Holliday Eagles in the Area Play-off game Friday night at Pennington Field in Bedford. They knew that the game would be a tough one, pitting a small, young Wampus Cat team against a larger, more experienced Eagle team. The Cats' roster listed only five seniors while the Eagles had the experience of eleven upperclassmen. The Eagle team also listed 13 players over six feet tall with the muscle mass to match.

These differences did not deter the Cats as they hit the field determined to play their game. Although the Cats' defense stopped the Eagles drive a number of times the Eagles were able to find the holes to make scoring plays. While the Cats offense had 18 first downs to the Eagles 13, they could not make the key plays that would put the points on the board.

At half time, the Cats went into the locker room down 28-0. In the third quarter, the Cats continued to fight hard. On a 13 yard run by Sophomore Quarterback Mikey Marshall the Cats made their first and only touchdown. A completed 2-point conversion pass to Kendale Mayberry gave the Cats their 8 points. The final score for the record books was Holliday 49-Itasca 8, but the real story for Itasca fans was the heart and determination that the Wampus Cats showed all during the season and through the playoffs.

The Cats entered the season picked to finish at the bottom of the district. The team and coaches continued to work hard all season, even when it looked as if Itasca was out of the play off race after two district loses. It was this never quit approach that made many fans say after the Holliday game.

"Those boys have nothing to be ashamed of; they gave 100% until the final buzzer."

Event Center Reserve Seating Available

Reserve seating in the Itasca Special Event Center is on sale. Each pass is $50. It is good for all regularly scheduled basketball games, band concerts, Spring Festival, UIL One Act Play Performance and other school-sponsored event except Graduation Ceremony 2007 or an event that is being used as a fundraiser.

There are 126 seats (9 rows of 14 seats each) available for reservations, all located in the center section. Mail in your check or bring it to the high school office with the attached form. Seats are first come, first serve. Indicate where you want your seats and # of seats. Come to the high school office to see a schematic.

Reserve Seating Passes

Name: ____________________________

Number of seats _________ @ $50 each _________

Location (Circle preference)

Lower Middle Upper section

Total enclosed $___________

Make checks payable to Itasca ISD & mail to Itasca High School. 123 N College, Itasca, TX 76055.

2006 Varsity Basketball

November

30 – Dec. 2 @ Dublin Tournament VB TBA

December

5 Blum JVB, VB 6:30

8 @ Avalon JVB, VB 6:30

15 Life JVB, VB 5:00

19 * @ Maypearl JVB, VB 5:00

28 - 30@ Scurry-Rosser Tournament VB TBA

January

2 Bruceville - Eddy JVB, VB 5:00

5 * Keene JVB, VB 5:00

9 * @ Rio Vista JVB, VB 4:00

12 * Dublin JVB, VB 4:00

16 * Grandview JVB, VB 4:00

19 * @ Hico JVB, VB 4:00

23 * Maypearl JVB, VB 2:30

30 * @ Keene JVB, VB 4:00

February

2 * Rio vista JVB, VB 4:00

6 * @ Dublin JVB, VB 4:00

9 * @ Grandview JVB, VB 6:00

15 * Hico JVB, VB 6:00

Head Boys Basketball Coach: Greg Cranfill

Assistants: Kirby Basham & Jeff Mayberry

Phone Number: (254) 687 – 2922 ext. 160

2006-07 Lady Cats Basketball

Nov. 30 Abbott Tournament V TBA

Dec. 5 Meridian JV, V 4:00 p.m.

Dec. 7 Frost Tournament V TBA

Dec. 12 *Grandview JV, V 5:00 p.m.

Dec. 15 *Hico Home JV, V 4:00 p.m.

Dec. 19 *Maypearl JV, V 4:00 p.m.

Dec. 28 Godley Tournament V TBA

Jan.. 5 *Keene Home JV, V 4:00 p.m.

Jan. 9 *Rio Vista JV, V 5:00 p.m.

Jan. 12 *Dublin Home JV, V 4:00 p.m.

Jan. 16 *Grandview Home JV, V 4:00 p.m.

Jan. 19 *Hico JV, V 4:00 p.m.

Jan. 23 *Maypearl Home JV, V 4:00 p.m.

Jan. 30 *Keene JV, V 4:00 p.m.

Feb. 2 *Rio Vista Home JV, V 4:00 p.m.

Feb. 5 *Dublin V, V 4:00 p.m.

*District Games

Junior High Basketball

December

4 Hico 7G,7B,8G,8B 5:00 p.m.

11 at Maypearl 7G, 7B, 8G, 8B 5:00 p.m.

January

4 Maypearl 7G, 7B, 8G, 8B 5:00 p.m.

11 OPEN

Itasca Elementary

2nd Six Weeks "A"-Honor Roll

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

Grade 2 – Jimmy Arellano, Louis Arellano, Taylor Campbell, Lainey Cavazos, Marissa Champers, Kierra Clayborn, Marshal Couldron, Karla Cruz, Jessica Edgar, Anthony Fowler, Donavan Garcia, Courtnee Gore, Robert Kirkpatrick, Jacob Lacy, Darius Lara, Daniel Montes, Augustin Pacheco, Callie Pittman, Aliegha Rodriguez, Gracie Rugh, Christian Runyon, Chandley Sargent, Jacob Schronk, Autum Throckmorton, Karon Webb, Cameron Wells, Elizabeth Wood

Grade 3 – Fathe Altum, Missy Barron, Madison Bassett, Devin Crawford, Cesar Diaz, Brandi Fehnel, Adrain Flores, Harley Germer, Leticia Gonzales, Jesus Gutierrez, Allena Heath, Bradley Martinez, James Melson, Lizbeth Ramirez, Amanda Rodriguez, Amber Schronk, Chelsea Searcy, Crisol Zavala

Grade 4 – Peyton Cordell, Brandon Farquhar, Bryanna Flores, Tristan Sulak

2nd Six Weeks

"A-B"-Honor Roll

Grade 1 – Rebecca Arellano, Nicky Butler, Heidi Delgado, DeAjane Diggs, Dustin Feazel, Kyra Henderson, Cody Hundley, Damerya Jarrett, Matthew Lara, Andrew Martinez, Katie Nalley, Alexcia Rodriguez, Lucas Sayers, BayLee Smith, Sydney Williams, Rogelio Zavala

Grade 2 – Jose Delgado, Kenneth Fails, Kaleb McGill, Marcus Parkerson, Jeremiah Perkins, Brandy Prosser, Esmeralda Rivera, Paul Sais, Anna Salazar, Jessica Sanchez, Ricky Sanders, Jesse Savala, Lacy Stoker, Macey Terrell

Grade 3 – Tommy Ashley, Caitlin Bruton, Shaun Castro, Tristan Davis, Kassandra Gabino, Tanner Graig, Brenda Hernandez, Andrea Hightower, Tyler Kittoe, Lydon Lain, Kambria Lusk, Keith Mitchell, Wesley Neese, Abraham Ortega, Luis Ortiz Jimenez, Tiffany Ramos, Haley Rodriguez, Angel Stephens, Michael Terrell, Bailey Vaughan, Bryant Wilson

Grade 4 – Autumn Beaty, Garrett Bruton, Skylar Campbell, Mason Farquhar, Khilah Frederick, Rachel Freeman, Hunter Germer, Juan Gonzalez, Hannah Hundley, Gabriel Macias, Kristian Mangum, Tre Martinez, Beau Ray, Emilee Ross, Megan Terrell, Alexis Whitlock, Kathie Wilkins, Johnathon Young

Middle School "A" Honor Roll

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

6th Grade - Brittany Bourland, David Corbitt, Rebecca Durham, Michelle Ignacz, Michael Macias, Jordan Sizemore, Jessica Zint

7th Grade - Kenneth Clary, Rebecca Maul, Erin Rinehart

8th Grade - Keyre Ortiz

2nd 6-Weeks "A-B" Honor Roll

5th Grade - Cade Biggs, Destiny Brooks, CJ Bruton, Shelbee Coleman, Dezhane' Davis, Darion Diggs, Jessica Farquhar, Noah Karr, Kameron Mayberry, Marisela Ochoa, Emma Orr, Tristen Prescott, Daniel Rasco, Ednita Rivera, Charmayne Waller

6th Grade - Christian Avila, Cole Coleman, Trinton Crawford, Christian Cruz, James Hanes, Emilee Nalley, Tyler Odom, Brittany Reid, Ashley Wilkins

7th Grade - Monica Anderson, Andrew Clarke, Courtney Conway, Stephanie Ignacz, Hannah Johnson, Jessica Johnston, Kenneth Kowalski, Amanda Landsdell, Martin Martinez, Opie Mayberry, Daniel Odom, Emily Offutt, Taylor Patton, Reyna Ramirez, Jakara Terry, Robert White, Daniel Whitlock, Cory Wright, Maria Zuniga

8th Grade – Hali Carranza, Rebecca Cisneros, Jasmine Guy, BJ Jackson, Diamond Jackson, Alicia Massey, Jack Panting, Cody Read, Nancy Reyes, Bob Slotvig, Colton Sullins, Philip Thomas

I H S - "A" Honor Roll

9th Grade - Devin Corbitt, Ashley Durham, Megan Goff, Eva Mayberry

10th Grade - Maria Worth

11th Grade - Oksana Didukh, Nick Worth

12th Grade – Rachel Anderson, Candice Kowalski, Michael Whitfield

"A-B" Honor Roll 2nd six weeks

9th Grade – Connally Baskett, Eddie Coronado, Ryan Crouch, Michael Garcia, Desmond Guy, Marsha Guy, Cherri Lloyd, Mary Maddox, Corey Martinez, Brandy Massey, Cody Reece, Abby Saldierna, Katelyn Seaman, Cierra Thompson

10th Grade – Pilar Baskett, Elizabeth Bennett, Journey Douangsouphonh, Timothy Earhart, Sarah Evans, Chelsea Rodriguez

11th Grade - Tim Baker, Isai Coronado, Jamie Hanes, Trayln Harden, Josh Huff, Zach Johnson, Inesa Kachurivska, Jeremy Patterson, Kristin Rivera, James Rosas, Ebonie Scott, Konstantin Suspitsyn, Chris Turner, Eva Willis, Colton Yarbro

12th Grade – Stephanie Campbell, Alecia Evans, Lauryn Laskowski, Kandis McVea, Chelsea Minyard, Juan Carlos Nolasco, Ashley Swilley

August

City Council Meeting

The Itasca City Council met in a regular session on August 21, 2006 in the Council Chambers. Mayor David Heald called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All council members were present. Rev. Johnny Bates gave the invocation.

Motions were made to approve the minutes of the July meeting and to approve payment of bills.

The Council heard reports from the Itasca Fire Department, Water & Sewer Operations, Zoning Committee, Police Department and from the Code Enforcement Officer.

Tom Miller, representing the Senior Citizens, thanked the city for their appreciation regarding contributions donated each year to the Senior Citizens.

The Council discussed the tearing down of a house at 712 Mill Street. A motion was passed to approve Dawson Geophysical Company request to conduct a seismic survey across city property described as J Fisher A-301 TR 8. Ordinance #082106 Establishing a Records Management Program was read by the City Secretary and adopted. The Council passed on a resolution authorizing submission of a Community Development Block Grant application to the Office of Rural Community Affairs. Gandolf Burris explained the application is for grant funding under the 2007 Texas Community Development Program for sewer system improvement. The amount of the grant application is $250,000.00, which is a 10% city matching fund of $25,000.

The Council discussed a proposal to establish an Ad Valorem Tax Rate for the tax year 2006. The Tax Collector recommended adopting the proposed tax rate of .50 cent per $100 of valuation, which would allow the city to collect an estimate of $2300.00 more in revenues and publish a notice in the newspaper for the proposed tax rate to be adopted at the next council meeting.

The Council accepted the Re-rate Notice and Benefit Verification Form for the Interlocal Agreement with TML Intergovernmental Employee Benefit Pool. Mayor David Heald ordered an election to be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2006 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. to elect Mayor and two (2) Council Members. The Council agreed that November 1 and 2, 2006 are the two weekdays to be open for 12 hours during the regular early voting period from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The City Administrator advised that the elected officials are required by law to watch a video for training on the Open Meetings Act and Public Information Act. The DVD can be checked out to watch on their time.

The Council was informed that the city had received Contract #726281 under the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TxCDBG) for the sewer line project located on Aquilla Street. The Council asked the Mayor to sign Contract #72681 between the City of Itasca and the Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA). The meeting adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

September

City Council Meeting

The Itasca City Council met in a regular session on September 18, 2006. Mayor David Heald called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All council members were present. Rev. Johnny Bates gave invocation.

Motions were made to approve the minutes of the August meeting and for payment of bills. The Council heard reports from all City departments.

The Council adopted the proposed tax rate Ordinance #091806-1 Fixing and Levying City Ad Valorem Taxes for the City of Itasca for the Year 2006 at the tax rate of 0.50. A request was made for a sewage hook-up for the SJYAP (St. John's Youth Alternative Program) office building.

The Council set a committee to establish fees for Specific Use Permit and Schedule of Fees, Charges, and Expense sections in the Zoning Ordinance to cover the costs, charges, fees, or expenses for permits, certificates, special exception, or variance.

It was recommended that the Council pass an ordinance to charge street vendors a permit fee and allow them to set-up on a centralized location (corner of Main and Hill Street). The Council passed a permit fee of $10.00 per weekday or $10.00 for the weekend

The Council entered executive session at 6:35 p.m. to take place pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code. Pending litigation regarding Alexander Joel Jacinto, et al v. City of Itasca, et al Cause No. 44674, in the 66th District Court, Hill County, Texas and Civil Action No. 6:06-cv-0235, in the U.S. District Court, Western District, Waco Div. – Consultation with City Attorney.

Open session resumed at 6:44 p.m. and reconvened at Council Chambers, 136 N. Hill, Itasca, Texas. Pending litigation regarding Alexander Joel Jacinto, et al v. City of Itasca, et al Cause No. 44674, in the 66th District Court, Hill County, Texas and Civil Action No. 6:06-cv-0235, in the U.S. District Court, Western District, Waco Div. No action taken.

The meeting was open for Mayor, Council and City Administrator general discussion and reports. Council Member Harvey Wilson thanked the Police Department for a job well done. City Administrator Mark Gropp informed the Council that the City of Itasca received the Total Coliform Rule Program Award for 2005 from TCEQ for the water system. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Recent Deaths

Fanning, LaVona – LaVona Elizabeth Fanning, 88 of Forestburg died October 27, 2006. She was born May 19, 1918 in Itasca, Texas to James Emory Wilson and Cora Bodine Wilson. She graduated from Itasca High School in 1935, Hill Country Junior College in Hillsboro in 1937, and Texas State College for Women, now TWU in 1939.

She started teaching in New Home, Texas where she met her husband, Tolbert Fanning. They married four months later on December 30, 1939. They moved to Fort Worth during WWII where Tolbert worked in a defense plant. They had many family and friends visitors as the soldiers would travel through Ft. Worth by train and so LaVona's and Tolbert's was an easy and fun place to stay over. They moved to Abilene in the late 1940's where Tolbert went back to teaching. She went back to teaching as a substitute teacher. They worked in real estate appraising. They were known as the husband and wife real estate appraisers who were the honest appraisers. They retired to Forestburg in the late 1970's where they built a home on the Fanning family farm they called Stony Point. They continued to do real estate appraising until the late 1980's when their son, Steve and daughter-in-law, Diane started working with them and eventually built up their own business. Their house with them in it blew away in a tornado in 1995. They were members of the Forestburg Church of Christ.

She is survived by a son, Stephen Fanning of Denton; daughter, Sally Fanning of Danbury, CT; daughters-in-law, Diane Fanning of Denton and Lynda Fanning of Charlottesville, VA; son-in-law, Mark Walpert of CT; 5 grandchildren, Chris Fanning of Houston, Jason Fanning of Denton, Rebekah Fanning Camu of Rolla MO, Breck Fanning of Baltimore MD, Leah Fanning Mebane of Boulder CO; 3 great grandchildren, sisters, Jimmie Schmoldt of Bartlesville OK, Pattie Matthews of Ft. Worth and 30 nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband and son, Michael Fanning.

Belmares, Daniel – Daniel Belmares, 35 of Itasca, passed away at his residence on November 7, 2006. He was born on September 26, 1971 in Fort Worth, Texas.

Daniel was a CADD operator for Quality Iron Works in Dallas. Everyone always wanted to be around Daniel, loving his smile that always brightened up every room. He was a born leader and would always put others first, while helping anyone he possibly could. Daniel was loyal, compassionate and was a very talented welder and fence builder. He loved spending time with his family and especially loved his children. Daniel will be missed by so many friends and everyone who knew and loved him.

He is survived by his loving wife, Natalie Belmares of Itasca; daughter, Sarah Belmares of Haltom City; step daughter, Hannah Hundley of Itasca; stepson, Cody Hundley of Itasca; mother & father, Beatrice & Arnulfo Belmares of Osceola; grandmother, Trinidad Gonzales of Osceola.

He is preceded in death by his grandfather, Eugenio Gonzales, cousin, Bubba Gonzales and an uncle, Willy Belmares. Funeral service was held November 10, 2006 at Clayton Kay-Vaughan Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Alberto Bueno, T.O. R. officiating. Interment followed at the Itasca Cemetery.

Lloyd, Opal - Opal Lee Jenkins Lloyd was born on August 18, 1919 in Mt. Pleasant, Texas to Curtis L. Jenkins and Lily Florence Jenkins. She gently passed into the arms of the Lord on November 14, 2006 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Opal was the third of 11 children and spent her childhood days in Files Valley, Texas and graduated from Itasca High School. She moved to Fort Worth where she spent most of her adult life, and worked for Dickson Jenkins Manufacturing Company until retirement. Opal loved the game of tennis and spent many hours on the tennis courts of Fort Worth and surrounding areas and had many trophies to show for her success. With failing health, she moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma in November, 2005.

Opal, who was known as "Mimi" to her grandchildren, is survived by her daughter, Linda L. McDuff and husband J. R. Sparky McDuff, one grandson, Michael McDuff, his wife Heather McDuff and great-granddaughter, Maggie Elizabeth McDuff, all of Tulsa, Oklahoma, one granddaughter, Julie Elizabeth Slack and husband Kip Slack and two great-grandsons, Jacob Thomas Neal and Justin Alan Slack of Park Hill, Oklahoma. She is also survived by her sisters Katherine Eloise Hudgins of Hurst, Texas and Louise Courtney of Dickinson, Texas, sisters-in-law Bernice Jenkins of Orange, Texas and Margaret Townsend, of Katy, Texas; cousin M.D. "Sonny" Jenkins of Itasca and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her mother and father, brothers, Curtis Jenkins, George Jenkins, Haskel Jenkins, S. E. Jenkins and James Jenkins and sisters Ruth Hardesty, Tommie Weldon and Frances Fournier. A private service was held for immediate family.

"Miscellaneous News Items from Yesteryear"

Columnist Carl Sweeney

Let's continue our local happenings from yesteryear through old newspapers articles and other sources. Most have appeared in local papers over the country. 1880s from *The Hillsboro Mirror*; Hillsboro is to have a Roller Mill for the manufacture of fine flour. The Treasury Dept. purchased 465,000 ounces of fine silver for delivery to the Philadelphia and New Orleans mints. A gray team ran away last week with a barrel of water; damage was about five dollars. Mr. Sanderson captured a large wolf with poison on Whiterock Creek last Friday night. Thirteen thousand bales of cotton have been ginned in Hill County to date, however it is still early in the ginning season. It seems that the wild turkey and prairie chickens are disappearing from this area now, hardly any can be seen are heard. Time was when we could kill a turkey any time and we gathered prairie chicken eggs for breakfast. A Colonel Warren went to a fair, and saw some cream colored or gray looking cattle. He brought some home and that was the start of Jersey cattle in this area. They persisted from some years; now we hardly ever see them. They were good milkers. The commissioners' court passed an order this week that no more than $1,250.00 could be sent as a burial experience for any pauper.

Blum, Texas had a newspaper called the "*Blum Times.*" It stated that Blum was officially started in the 1880's of course, people were living in the area before then.

From the *Itasca Item* - The Osceola public school ran for seven months at an actual cost for expenditures of $1.19 cents per pupil. In March 1881 Thomas and William C. Sames were murdered when they arrived at their farm on the mountain. They had been away to purchase a wagon load of lumber and came back as the people were burglarizing their place. We have a doctor in Itasca now, he is Dr. McClain. He says he will make his home in Itasca. A little later Bob Miller got his arm caught in his gin machinery. They carried him to the home of Jasper Pruitt, put him on a dining table, and Dr. McClain removed what was left up to his shoulder, they said in a little over a week, Bob was back down town. On March 11, 1886 the entire business block on the south side of Main Street burned. The buildings were made of wood. The fire caught in T.J. Eatman's Drug Store and six buildings were destroyed. Besides Eatman's there was the J.P. Thomason Grocery, Mrs. S.P. Stone Millnery Store and Pardee & Sons Implements. The buildings were replaced with bricks and still stand today. In 1917 on March 24, services were held in the New Methodist Church. P.E. Riley was the Pastor. 1925, Itasca wolf hunters have been having some good races lately. Last week they caught two big Timber wolves beside the "*Item*." The account was published in the Cleburne "*Review.*"

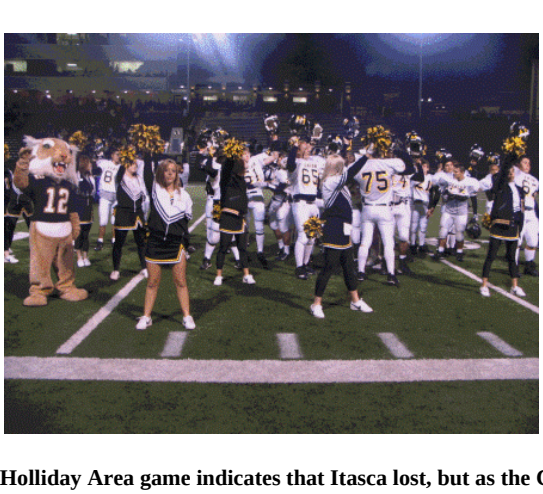
1928, The Itasca Schools have completed arrangements for the loan of the worlds master pieces in painting. The people of the community are invited to view the paintings. Jan. 1925, The Ford Motor Co. announced that Itascans bought 500 automobiles, trucks, and tractors during 1924, names of all 500 individual who bought Ford products were listed in the half page ad purchased by The Cretcher Robison Motor Co. of Itasca. 1925, Thirty-five Hill County Confederate Veterans went to Dallas Monday on the Interurban for the National Reunion. Transportation Courtesy of the Texas Electronic Railway Company. Many who have been attending in the past were too feeble to go. Showing at the Pastime Theater in Itasca this week are: Jack Hoxie in "Sign of the Cactus." also, Rudolph Valentino in "Sainted Devil" and Gloria Swanson in "The Humming Bird." 1925, March 3, Some malicious person cut Mr. Frank Files fence again, the other night on College Hill after it had been replaced from the last time. The J.C. Burkhalter Cotton Gin near Irene burned last Saturday Dec. 21. Next Sunday the J.R. Payne Music Company will perform at Martin's Park.

1925, The City Council set new water rates at $1.25 per month flat rate. First 10,000 gals. 75 cents per thousand and over 25,000 gals 25cents per thousand. 1930's, Earl Farrow and others, attended the National Convention in Buffalo, N. Y. Earl is president of the Brazos River Transmission and Electric Company. A new side walk was poured in front of the post office and Woods Pharmacy.

This week 1946 March 8, several ladies from Itasca were in Fort Worth, Tuesday for. "The Goofiest Hat Contest" Pauline Farrow, Gina Sanford and Margaret Sanford. The Contest was staged by the "Tom Brenenan Breakfast in Hollywood Show." The Home Demonstration Club met Tuesday in the home of Mrs. R. E. Turner. Eight members were present, they modeled hats and discussed seeding lawns, and a lovely lunch was served. The Ruskin Club met this week. No details were available at press time. 1953, Hill County has always been one of the leading cotton producing counties in the U.S. The following are some statistics from 1903 to 1953. In 1903 Hill County ginned 73, 302 bales. In 1953 99, 580 bales were ginned. Leading years were; 1906- 139, 719, - 1908- 107, 976- 1911-120, 550. 1912-134, 798 1916- 103, 879- 1920- 100, 362 - 1928-107, 278, 1931-106, 720- Yearly average of bales ginned in Hill County over the 50 years was 74, 169. The lowest producing year was 35, 372 in 1941. If the readers would like more old news items let me know.

Wampus Cats of the Week

Itasca Wampus Cat Bi-District Champions



From the first kick off to the final notes of the school song, the 2006 Wampus Cat Varsity Football Team represented Itasca with pride and dignity. They gave 110% on both sides of the football and they never gave up.

The score of the Itasca vs. Holliday Area game indicates that Itasca lost, but as the Cats walked off the field for the last time this season, the fans saw only winners. The entire team, players and coaches, gave their all to the final whistle.

Playing in their last game as Wampus Cats were seniors #3 Kendale Mayberry, #44 Lamar Crawford, #52 Kyle Baker, #75 Justin Shelton and #80 Jesus Soto.

Your fans say thank you to the team and coaches for a great season.

Special of the Week

New '06 Focus ZX4 SE

Loaded, Automatic, 12K Miles

3yr./36K Bumper-to-Bumper Warranty

5yr./100K Powertrain Warranty

Compare Anywhere! $11,985

Lloyd Ford – Proud Supporter of the Wampus Cats

2006 Bi-District Football Champs

Itasca Wampus Cats vs. Holliday Eagles (Area Match-Up)

Coach Cranfill got into the pre-game warm-up. Wampus Cats that suited out for play-off games. One last time in the line, headed up by Scratches. Fans, fans & lots of fans. #9 looking for the pass. Team Captains #3 Kendale Mayberry, #80 Jesus Soto, #44 Lamar Crawford and #75 Justin Shelton. Pep talk. Cheerleaders kept the crowd pumped. #33 De'Veon Mayberry heads for the goal line. It takes teamwork to bring those big boys down. #5 Mikey Marshall took a "lickin' & kept on tickin.'"

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32" Sanyo TV 2 years old

$175 Call 687-2442

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Call in or Come by

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Open Daily 5:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Breakfast – Lunch- Dinner

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Come meet the sisters Chrissy & Laura

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Owned & Operated by Arturo & Rosa Loredo

Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

5 p.m.-8 p.m.

Saturday – 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Sunday & Monday Closed

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To Go Orders Welcome!

All U Can Eat Catfish - Friday

5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. - $8.95

Karen's Breakfast Burritos

Open Monday – Saturday

4:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Call in orders welcome! 254-687-9076

Breakfast Burritos $1.25 - $2.40

Tax included in price

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

Fajita Plate - $6.25 (w/rice & beans)

Hamburger - $2.40 Cheeseburger - $2.65

Wampus Cat Double meat - $3.25

w/cheese - $3.50

Notice of Public Meeting

The Itasca Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 7:00 p.m., December 11, 2006 during the regular board meeting in the Administration office at 123 N College to present the Itasca Independent School District's 2005-06 AEIS (Academic Excellence Indicator System) report.

Cheerleaders Raffle Handmade Quilt

The IHS Varsity Cheerleaders will raffle a quilt, made and donated by Carol Upchurch, on December 15. The quilt will be on display at Citizen's State Bank in Itasca beginning November 28. All monies earned will go towards the National Competition. Tickets are now available for $1.00 each or 6 for $5.00. To purchase tickets, you may call Kelly Tinklenberg at 817-240-2903 or Susan Bason 817-240-3553. Thank you for your support.

For Sale - 1980 Chevy Pickup

Runs good - new plugs & distributor.

Lawn Mower Trailer with tool box.

See at 105 Beard Itasca

Tel: 254-687-2345

Guitar Lessons

Ages 10 yrs. & Up - $15.00 an hour

Call 687-2581 - Clayton Wienecke

Chamber of Commerce Christmas Lighting Contest

If you live within a five (5) mile radius of Itasca and wish to enter the Christmas Lighting Contest, you must fill out a form and send it to:

Itasca Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 205

Itasca, TX 76055

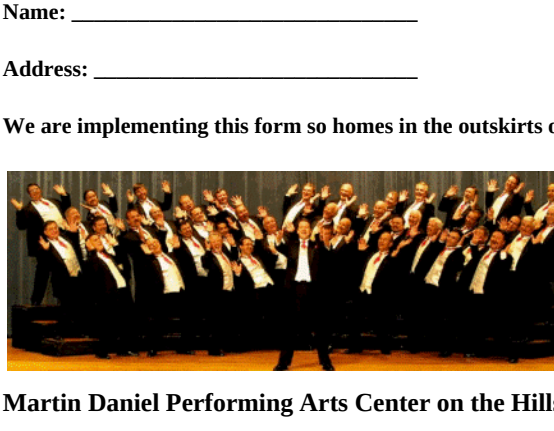
or take the completed form to Citizens State Bank in Itasca and drop in the box by Wednesday, December 13. Judging will take place on Monday, December 18, between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Christmas Lighting Contest Entry

Name: ______________________________

Address: ____________________________

We are implementing this form so homes in the outskirts of Itasca may be included and so that no home will be overlooked.



The Texas Millionaires To Perform at Hill College

The Hill College Performing Arts Series will present the Texas Millionaires Chorus in a holiday "Songs of the Season" concert on Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the Vara Martin Daniel Performing Arts Center on the Hillsboro Campus.

In March, 1951, Barney Morris ran ads in the Fort Worth Press seeking men to form a new barbershop chapter. By July, the Fort Worth chapter - 48 men strong - was issued a provisional charter by the Barbershop Harmony Society. The permanent charter arrived one year later.

Known as the Cowtown Chorus, the new chapter met at the central YMCA for a year, then moved to a room in a Fort Worth radio station. During its 55-year existence, the chapter has met in 16 different locations and currently meets at Calvary Lutheran Church, 7620 Baker Blvd., Richland Hills, Tex.

The chapter's highest membership year to date came in 1960, when there were 104 men on the roster (there are now about 80). The Cowtown Chorus was honored in 1962 by being featured on the cover of the Harmonizer, the official magazine of the Barbershop Harmony Society for participating in the Casa Mañana production of "The Music Man."

In 1997, the chapter changed the name of the chorus to The Texas Millionaires. In October 2004, the chorus won an invitation to compete in the International Chorus Competition of the Barbershop Harmony Society, which was held in Salt Lake City on July 7 and 9, 2005. The Texas Millionaires chorus finished in 17th place out of 30 choruses in the contest.

To raise operating funds, the chorus produces three concerts per year, delivers "Singing Valentines" to lucky women in the area, and hires itself out for special events. The chorus now sings a variety of music, including jazz, gospel, patriotic, Beach Boys and musicals, in addition to barbershop.

Admission to the Hillsboro concert is free. A reception following the program will be provided by the Hillsboro Lions Club. Please come join us for this entertaining holiday evening! For more information, please call Phillip Lowe at 254-582-2555, ext. 270 or Shirley Erickson at ext. 261, or check the Hill College Performing Arts Series website at www.hillcollege.edu/performingarts. For senior citizen transportation information call 582-5851.

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All you can eat with all the fixins

Burgers and Baskets

Hamburger Basket - $3.49 Bacon Burger Basket - $4.75

Cheeseburger Basket - $3.89 Bacon Cheeseburger Basket - $5.39

Double burger Basket - $4.99 Beef Corndog Basket - $3.75

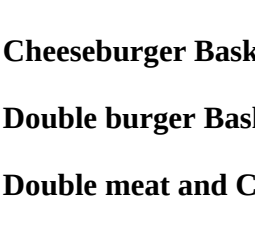
Double meat and Cheese Bacon Double Cheeseburger Basket -$6.49

Burger Basket - $5.69 Nick’s Ultimate Cheeseburger basket -$6.75

Grilled Chicken Breast (double meat and chz, chili, bacon, lettuce,

Basket - $5.29 tomato, pickle, onion and mustard)

Cheerleaders Raffle Handmade Quilt



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