

## The Legend of Hairy Man Road

Yes, there is a road named Hairy Man Road. Located in Round Rock, the legend goes that a young boy in the 1800's became separated from a settlers' caravan during a dark and stormy night, while the group was trying to escape the rising waters of a nearby creek.

He managed to survive on his own and became a hermit in the area. Not being civilized, he avoided contact with people and terrorized anyone who dared entered his domain of the wooded area along what became known as Brushy Creek.



Frightening stagecoaches and solitary riders alike, his legend grew in the area until one day the horses leading a speeding stagecoach trampled him to death while he attempted his infamous intimidation.

Now the legend did not stop there. To this day, frightened travelers of the road swear that they have seen a large, very hairy man lurking in the bushes and overgrowth along side the road. Teenagers use the road for thrill seeking with young men hope that stopping on the road will encourage their date to seek safety in their arms.

Since 1994, in the Cat Hollow subdivision, an annual festival has been held in honor of the Hairy Man. Food, music, games and other activities are held in the park with the grand finale of the Hairiest Man Contest. Not just head hair is judged, but the hairier the back and chest, the better. This year's contest winner won a trip to Cozumel.

Sadly, Hairy Man Road is not what it used to be. Rapid growth of population in the area has prompted the city to start reconstruction of the road in order to widen it and facilitate better drainage. I don't know if sightings will continue after the new road is finished, but I will remember the eerie feeling I'd got while driving down the twisting, densely canopied road, whether it was during the day or night.