



THE CITY OF PRAIRIE VIEW QUARTERLY 2015



www.praireviewtexas.gov

July * August * September 2015

Monthly Events

2nd Monday, Waller ISD Admin Bldg., Waller ISD School Board Mtgs., 5pm

3rd Monday, Hempstead ISD Admin Bldg., Hempstead ISD School Board Mtgs., 5pm

3rd Wednesday, City Hall
Alta Vista HOA, 1pm

3rd Thursday, City Hall
Apt. Owners, 12noon
4B Eco. Develop., 6pm

3rd Saturday, St. Francis Episcopal, Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8:30am

4th Tuesday, PV City Hall
Prairie View City Council, 6pm

4th Wednesday, St. Francis Episcopal
PV Retired Teachers, 1pm

4th Thursday, PV Alumni
Chamber of Commerce, 6pm

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Prairie View, Now is our Time by Mayor Frank D. Jackson



Greetings Fellow Citizens:

I pray that this latest edition of the Prairie View Quarterly Newsletter finds you and yours well.

Flood Control:

Since we are now in hurricane season here in North America and on the Gulf Coast of Texas, it is appropriate to start off by thanking the members of the Prairie View City Council for voting to allocate funds to help mitigate the damages done to many parts of our fair City by flood waters.

The City has contracted with King Construction & Materials and Curtis Materials to clean ditches throughout the City. During the first two phases of the ditch cleaning operation, the contractors concentrated in areas most flood prone and where the greatest damage occurred as a result of heavy rains and flooding. This included the ditches in Prairie Hills Subdivision along Ruby, Emerald, Opal, East & West Amaryarilis, Pearl, Alleda, Holly Hock, and Marigold streets. Workers then moved to Concord Village, Hillcrest, and Prairie Gables Subdivisions. Work was done on Ellen Powell, Prospect, Prairie, Magnolia, Hill, Smith and Alonzo Streets. The Prairie View Estates Subdivision includes

Lilly, Ezekiel Smith, Sharon, Fernwood, Azalea and Johnson streets. Additionally, work is being done in Clark Subdivision on Thompson Street. Specifically, initial mitigation efforts focused on cleaning around culverts; repairing, replacing culvert and removing obstructions from the ditches. City Council will be asked at its next regular meeting to discuss and take action on doing more extensive work in Subdivisions and include the Villa Capri, Prairie View Courts, Ferguson Heights and Pine Island Subdivisions.

The City has sandbags for distribution to our residents if needed. We ask that when you get sandbags to keep them for future use.

Emergency Management:

The Mayor of the City is the Emergency Management Coordinator. The City's Emergency Team will be comprised of City Council, Department Heads and organizations such as Prairie View Volunteer Fire Fighting Association, The American Red Cross and Citizen Volunteers.

Chief Johnson brings over 30 years of experience in Policing and Emergency Operations to us and is doing an outstanding job. All elected and appointed officials are working to become NIMS (National Incident Management) Certified.

Dr. Seab Smith and Dr. Ed

Schauer have stepped forward to serve as Volunteer Emergency Service Providers for our City. Their duties will include but not be limited to Shelter Management, Red Cross Liaison and Crisis Counseling. If citizens wish to work with the City in any of these areas, contact City Hall at (936) 857-3711.

A resounding Thank You is earned by the members of St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church for their volunteer work.

New City Council Member:

We ask all Citizens to welcome our newest City Council Member; Mr. Jonathan Miller. While Mr. Miller received the highest votes during the May Election, he was not able to take the seat because he was not a registered voter. His registration did not go into effect until May 29th. The majority of City Council voted to appoint Mr. Miller on May 30th to a one year term. To Mr. Miller's credit, he has hit the ground running and has demonstrated potential to make positive contributions to the City's governance.

University Drive Beautification:

The City of Prairie View, The Texas Department of Transportation and Prairie View A&M University are collaborating on beautification of University Drive from US 290 to the entrance of the Campus. A Town Hall Meeting will be scheduled to receive input from the citizens of Prairie



Waller Freedom Fest 2015

July 3 6pm—Dusk
July 4 3pm—Dusk
Admission is FREE
Waller ISD Football Stadium



Saturday, September 19, 2015.
Contact PV City Hall for more information!

PV City Budget
 You can find a detailed report @www.prairieviewtexas.gov



Nominations for the next quarter are due by September 19, 2015. Pick up nomination form @ City Hall or print out from City website. The form may be emailed to cityofpvquarterly@gmail.com or dropped off at City Hall.

Heavy Trash pickup day, the 3rd Monday of each month & scheduled by calling **979-277-1160** or online @www.prairieviewtexas.gov



Security & Safety

Chief Larry Johnson & Staff

The Prairie View Police Department continues to work towards improving many of its processes that will allow us to better serve the citizens of our community. We have been meeting with business owners to establish partnerships and seek input on ways we can work together to alleviate criminal activity in high crime areas. Thanks to PV City Council for providing additional resources that have allowed us to be more visible in the community, which is a proven deterrent to criminal activity.

As we approach the summer months, historically, leads to increase in crime due to more outside activities, we remind citizens to be vigilant regarding suspicious activity. We encourage citizens to immediately call to report any activity they believe is out of the ordinary. Citizens are reminded to call the Waller County Sherriff's dispatch center at (979) 826-8033 to report suspicious activity, as well as, request police response. This allows the calls to be properly logged and ensures the appropriate law enforcement response.

There are simple things that you can do to reduce your risk of becoming a crime victim. An easy way to accomplish this is to remember "LOCK TAKE and HIDE". **Lock** your vehicle or home when you leave. **Take** the keys out of vehicle when you are not in it. **Hide** any valuables so they are not visible to anyone who might be inclined to steal them. By following these simple tips, you can significantly reduce your chances of being a victim.

Larry J. Johnson, Chief of Police



2015 Subdivision Participation

- Alta Vista
- Clark
- Concord Village
- Ferguson Heights/Wyatt Chapel
- Hillcrest/Vicksburg Terrace
- Owens Road
- Pine Meadows
- Prairie Gables
- Prairie Hills
- Prairie View Courts
- Prairie View Estates

**** Other Subdivisions may still register!!**

Keeping PV Clean & Beautiful....

Veronica C. Hargest Sharp, Ed.D.



YARD of The Quarter!
Congratulations
 to
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Sowell
Concord Village

Prairie View, Now is our Time

Cont'd from Pg 1

View, especially for the property owners in the beautification zone, Communi-Versity (Community & University) on this and other projects. When notices are announced about Town Hall Meetings, please come out and participate in the decision making process.

Commissioner James Muse Parkway Project:

The City Council voted to submit a Grant Application to the Economic Development Administration for a \$1.5 million grant to install sewage and water lines along Muse

Parkway. Thanks in part to Mr. Roy Perry and his efforts to establish Single Family Housing, Retail Businesses, a Hotel, Conference Center and Research Innovation Facility on his property located on the southwest section of Muse Parkway. The utility lines needed will extend from Old Houston Highway to Owens Road, thus providing economic development opportunities to land owners on the northern section of Muse Parkway. We will keep you informed on the outcome of the grant application.

City Charter:

The citizens of Prairie View have taken a major step in controlling its destiny by approving the City Charter. This is a living document that can be amended like the U.S. and Texas Constitutions by a majority vote of registered voters in the City.

The City of Prairie View is "A the Point on the Frontiers of Change" and its Quality of Life here will be a Whole Lot Better, if we just Do It Together.

From Where I Stand

Frederick Roberts

From where I stand, life in Prairie View has been one of tremendous growth, development and progress, when you include the largest employer in the county – Prairie View A&M University. However, we find ourselves at a crossroad with that tremendous and dynamic change taking place at the university as usual, and not much in the city. The City of Prairie View is on the frontier of change, as Mayor Frank D. Jackson usually says. Well, on May 9 the voters approved the home rule initiative, the most dynamic change in the city since its chartering forty-six years ago in April 1969. The voter turn-out was low but nevertheless, the city now has a new charter which allows the council to pass regulations or laws it deems necessary unless the state law prohibits it. The change from general law to home rule brings challenges of its own. The change is necessary for the growth and development not afforded under general laws for municipalities. We are hopeful that the city officials will implement policies to grow the city. I remember some thirty-two years ago, the city officials had the greatest opportunity to expand beyond its borders and create several accesses to the city prior to the new construction of US Highway 290. Nothing happened! Now we are facing the same opportunities with growth to the south and east of our town and the need for the residents and university alumni to invest in this growth. Will we embrace change this time? As quiet as it is kept, the city and the university are inexplicably joined at the heart, so whatever success or failure is mentioned, the city gets the label. It is with this thought that we say congratulations to the Prairie View A&M University Honda Campus All Star Challenge on winning the 2015 National Championship for the 2nd time in five years. Kudos to Councilman Herbert R. Thomas, coach and the team Joseph Dowell, Captain, Brannon Billings, Eric Johnston and Chayse Lavalais and Shahryar Syed, Institutional Representative.

Congratulations also to the 2015 SWAC Bowling Championship team of Prairie View A&M University, its 3rd win in five years. Kudos to Coach Glenn White and team members Alexis Borman, Brittney Wehmeier, Shelby Hart, Brittany Kinney, Ashle Reid, Jessica Rodriguez, Lysie Rodriguez, Renee Sampilo, Sharita Turner and Destiny Velez. What is so noteworthy of the bowling team is the fact the team does not have a resident bowling alley and travels at least 20 miles to outside alleys for practice. This team is the manifestation of the quote "when life gives you lemon, make lemonade." June 19 marked the sesquicentennial of the celebration of Juneteenth in Texas when General Gordon Granger read the emancipation in Galveston on June 19, 1865 which ended slavery in the US Territory. Several programs were held in the county. Constable Herschel Smith and wife Sharon hosted their annual Juneteenth Cook Out at their home. The Prairie View National Alumni Convention (Family Reunion) is set for July 13, 2015 in Los Angeles. Call 936-857-5817 for information. Prairie View A&M University will host its Summer Commencement on August 15 at 10:00 a.m. The Prairie View Fireman's Ball is on August 29. For information, contact: Belinda Lewis at lewisbelinda@hotmail.com.

Thanks to Constable Herschel Smith & His Family for hosting the Annual Juneteenth 2015 Celebration at their Home! We appreciate your willingness to Serve Our Community....



*Happy Labor Day!
Monday
September 7, 2015*

Open For Business

Herb Thomas

We are proud to call Prairie View home; and we'll gladly tell you why. While we are located adjacent to all the amenities of the larger Houston metro region, Prairie View retains its small-town appeal of friendliness, fun, and family. Our business-friendly environment, beautiful natural spaces, and exceptional city services offer a desirable community to live, work, play, and grow your business. In these parts, one would say about an extremely bright child born to intelligent parents, "Well, they come by it naturally." Well, according to a recent book by Erica Grieder, our community comes by it naturally.

In Grieder's book, *Big, Hot, Cheap and Right – What America Can Learn From The Strange Genius of Texas*, she offers a compelling story of the Lone Star State as not necessarily pro-business, but "pro-Texas business," drawing on the state's beginnings as the northern frontier of Mexico, through establishment of the state constitution and to today's still weak government, low taxes and minimal regulations approach to job and wealth creation.

Noting that both people and the companies that hire them have migrated in large numbers to Texas even since the beginning of this century, Grieder demonstrates how the unique Texas approach to small government and self-reliance continues to be an attractive combination. And while Texas never seems to be lacking in detractors, the growing demographics suggest that there is certainly substantial appeal to this "strange genius."

We see evidence in our own Prairie View community, from investment in industrial expansion to small-business entrepreneurs discovering the benefits of the rural values, high standards for education and close proximity to the fourth largest city in the nation that Prairie View offers.

Former Governor Rick Perry once boasted in a political ad, "Texas is open for business." This is true, and we're proud to say that this statement is never truer than in Prairie View, Texas. During the month of April, as we celebrate our 48th year as an incorporated City, we invite you to explore our fair city, support our local businesses, and learn more about the place we proudly call home. YES!, the City of Prairie View is Open for Business.

Be Good To You!

**Be yourself, truthfully.
Accept yourself, gratefully.
Value yourself, joyfully.
Forgive yourself, completely.
Treat yourself, generously.
Balance yourself, harmoniously.
Bless yourself, abundantly.
Trust yourself, confidently.
Love yourself, wholeheartedly.
Empower yourself, immediately.
Give yourself, enthusiastically.
Express yourself, radiantly.**

1st Aid for the Soul!

By Mayo Angelou



The City of Prairie View 2015 Objectives

- Continue to improve the City's Water, Waste Water System, Streets and Drainage
- Attract Housing and Retail Development to Prairie View
- Increase the number of Prairie View Entrepreneurs
- Form more Neighborhood Organizations
- Global Alliance of Sister Cities
- Increase the number of Recreation / Wellness Venues
- Institute a City Charter

united we stand divided we fall

Fourteen (14) Original Farm Families in PV



According to sources, the federal administration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt initiated several programs to assist farmers in general and Black farmers in particular. Black farmers had to not only deal with the ravages of the boll weevil but also the legacies of the reconstruction period in the south that kept them in patterns of tenant farming, share cropping and day laborers.

Furthermore, the Prairie View Farms Project and Sabine Farms Project were under the direction of Mr. John H. Williams Sr. Mr. Williams, former district agent for the Prairie View N&I College's 1890 Agriculture Extension Service, had an excellent working knowledge of the talents and production records of many Black farmers in Texas. Fourteen of the best African American farming families in Texas were selected and were provided the opportunity to develop farms ranging in sizes from 140 to 240 acres on lands acquired primarily from the C. A. Menke estate. These families included:

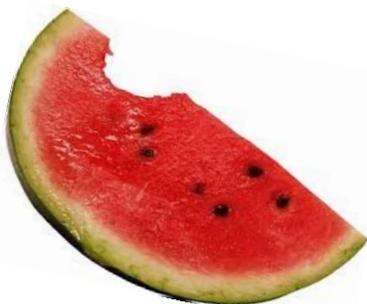
Robert L. Williams
Dave Walker
Osborne Clark
Ed Scott
Frank Scott
Ernest Santee
(Cagle Sams)/Eristus Sams
James Muse
Hilliard Muse
Eddie Busby
Ezekiel Anderson
(Otto McClay)/Mr. E Stewart
Mansard Knowles (Knolls)
Garby Robinson

Many of these farmers had perfected their production skills on the lands along the Brazos River and most had large families when they moved onto their new homesteads.

The children of the fourteen Farm Families made a tremendous difference in the business operations of these farm enterprises and had a great impact on demographics of the community, especially the local schools. These off-springs also would at times marry among the other farm families which helped to firmly establish the base of the new population in the Prairie View Community.

26th Annual 2015 Hempstead Watermelon Festival July 16 —18, 2015 Downtown Hempstead

Thursday, July 16, 2015
Carnival opens 5:00 pm



Friday, July 17, 2015
BBQ Cook-off
all day

July 18, 2015
Watermelon
Festival Parade
9:00 am

National Night Out 2015 Planning Meeting

Please mark your calendar for the next City-wide National Night Out Meeting scheduled for Monday, July 13, 2015, 5:30 pm. The meeting will be held at the old Amistad Bookstore off University Drive.

Please make plans to discuss your Subdivision Activities/Events for Tuesday, August 4, 2015.

If you cannot attend, please make sure someone from your Subdivision attends.



shared by Pastor
Thaddeus Singleton

WORDS of Inspiration!

With all the attention on the meaning of the southern flag, every believer ought to be reminded of the meaning of the cross. John Piper said that "Life is wasted if we do not grasp the glory of the cross, cherish it for the treasure that it is, and cleave to it as the highest price of every pleasure and the deepest comfort in every pain. What was once foolishness to us—a crucified God—must become our wisdom and our power and our only boast in this world."

**Annual National Night Out
Tuesday, August 4, 2015,
6:00pm—8:00pm**

Our goal this year is 100% subdivision participation.
We can do This!



The Prairie View Volunteer Fire Fighters and Scouts

Marian Elaine Jackson

Fire News!

A Call to Duty— Looking For Service Opportunities? Join the Prairie View Volunteer Fire Fighting Association, Inc. & Auxiliary Staff. Meetings every Wednesday, 7PM; 502 Ellen Powell @ Business 290 (across from Tapscott Family Park).

Meet our volunteer fire fighters, coming to your neighborhood soon. Look for the signs in your neighborhood.



Save The Date:

**Prairie View Volunteer Fire Fighting Association, Inc.
9th Annual Red & White Ball
August 29, 2015**

"Saluting Local Law Enforcement": The distinguished event is open to the entire Prairie View Family, including all residents of the City, University faculty, staff, students, and friends of the City of Prairie View. Tickets are \$35 each; tables are \$350, \$500, and \$1000 for a table of 10. Monetary donations are welcome, as well as, items for the silent auction. Proceeds from this event will provide our department with necessary items needed to serve and protect our community. Each year 50% of proceeds go back to the community for children and senior events.

Our fire fighters will attend Texas Annual Fire Training School in College Station, July 19 - 24, 2015. Need your smoke detector checked? Please leave a message at 936-857-9522 or call Wednesdays 7PM - 9PM. Our Volunteer Fire Fighters participated in the Juneteeth Parade and will participate in the Annual Watermelon Festival Parade.

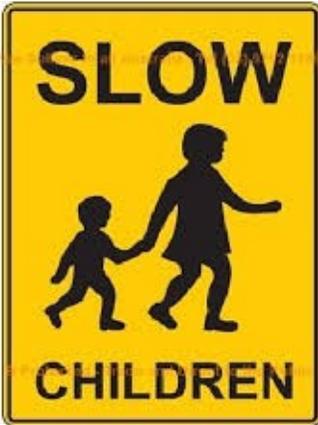
Join Scouting Today!



**Boy & Girl
Scouts
News!!**



Meetings will Resume in August, 2015



United States Postal Service

SAFETY ALERT

Summer—Traffic Safety

Tips for Motorists

- Slow down and obey all traffic laws, speed limits and traffic signals
- Keep an eye out for children walking or bicycling in the street, especially where there are no sidewalks
- Be alert for children playing and for those who may dart into the street without looking for traffic

- When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch for children walking, biking, skating or skateboarding

Tips for Parents

- Be a good role model. Always buckle up in the car, always wear a helmet when biking and always follow pedestrian safety rules
- Supervise young children as they are walking, biking or skating
- Provide your children with bright clothing so motorists can easily see them
- Make sure that your child is properly buckled up in the appropriate child safety seat and in the back seat. Safety experts advise that all children under the age of 12 should ride in the back seat
- Learn and practice the safety rules for pedestrians. It's extremely important for you to use the sidewalk when available, look left-right-left when crossing the road, and always walk facing traffic
- Always cross at crosswalks: obey all traffic signs and traffic lights

Prairie View A & M Football Schedule 2015

Sat	9/5/2015	Texas Southern University	Labor Day Classic	Houston, Texas/BBVA Compass	TBA
Sat	9/12/2015	Texas State		San Marcos, Texas/Bobcat	6 pm
Sat	9/19/2015	Alabama A & M		Waller, Texas/Waller ISD Stadium	6 pm
Sat	9/26/2015	Grambling State	State Fair Classic	Dallas, Texas /Cotton Bowl	4 pm
Sat	10/3/2015	University of Faith		Waller, Texas/Waller ISD Stadium	1 pm
Sat	10/10/2015	Mississippi Valley State	Homecoming	Waller, Texas/Waller ISD Stadium	2 pm
Sat	10/17/2015	Southern		Baton Rouge, LA/A. W. Mumford	TBA
Sat	10/31/2015	Arkansas—Pine Bluff		Waller, Texas/Waller ISD Stadium	1 pm
Sat	11/7/2015	Alcorn State		Lorman, Miss/Spinks-Casem	2 pm
Sat	11/14/2015	Alabama State		Montgomery, Ala/New ASU	2 pm
Sat	11/21/2015	Jackson State	Senior Day	Waller, Texas/Waller ISD Stadium	1 pm

Clayton Library Orientation (Genealogy)/Houston, Texas

7/18/2015 10:30 AM Learn about the vast resources and how to efficiently utilize genealogical research materials housed at the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research. No reservations needed, meet at the Information Desk in the library. Adults/Teens.

The African American Library/Houston, Texas

The African American Library at the Gregory School officially opened its doors on Saturday, November 14, 2009. Located in the historic Freeman's Town at 1300 Victor St., Houston, TX 77019, the library is housed in the Edgar M. Gregory School, which served as the first public school for African Americans in Houston. The first library of its kind in Houston and one of the few African American libraries in the country, the Gregory School serves as a resource to preserve, promote, and celebrate the rich history and culture of African Americans in Houston, the surrounding region, and the African Diaspora. (Source from the African American Library website)

CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR

Frank D. Jackson
 Position #1 Jonathan Miller
 Position #2 Jonathon Randle
 Position #3 Marie Herndon
 Position #4 Herb Thomas
 Position #5
 Paulette Matthews Barnett

4B Economic Development President Herb Thomas

Vice President Dr. Michael Prince
 Treasurer Trissa Dilliard
 Secretary Frederick Roberts
 Director Denise Armstrong
 Director Redessa Coleman
 Director Marie Herndon

The mission of the Prairie View 4B Economic Development Corporation (PV4BEDC), a public nonprofit, is to facilitate, lead, and promote organized economic growth to improve the quality of life and protect and create jobs through innovative and conventional programs. Developed and written by: Tyra Metoyer.

The City of PV Quarterly Newsletter Editors

Veronica C. Hargest Sharp, Ed.D.,
 Editor in Chief

Denise Armstrong, Editor

Jacqueline Sadberry, Editor

Welcome to The City of Prairie View Quarterly

The City of Prairie View is in the process of initiating an electronic quarterly newsletter as another way to keep you informed about City-sponsored events, projects and other special announcements. Email to cityofpvquarterly@gmail.com to receive it, electronically.

Important Numbers

PV City Hall 936-857-3711
 PV Police 936-857-3521
 PV Fire 936-857-9522
 Nonemergency # 979-826-8033
 Waller Cty Sheriff 979-826-8282
 PV A & M Univ. 936-261-3311
 San Bernard Elec. 936-372-9176
 City of PV Water 936-857-3711
 City of Waller Gas 936-372-3880
 Republic Services 979-277-1160
 Municipal Court 936-857-5327
 Juvenile Court 979-826-7691
 Waller ISD 936-931-3685
 Hempstead ISD 979-826-3304

City of Prairie View
 44480 U. S. Bus. Hwy 290
 P. O. Box 817
 Prairie View, TX. 77446-0817

Waller ISD Sports News

Dr. Michael Prince

Tune into the OpenMic Broadcast Network on local channels are AM 1690 and FM 87.9 or on livestream or re-broadcast at www.ktorradio.com. This community based radio station is dedicated to a gospel/talk format and provides local high school coverage of athletic events. The coverage is provided through a weekly talk show "Coaches Corner" which produces a new show on Wednesdays.



The OpenMic Broadcast Network provides live game coverage for all of the Waller High School football games and broadcasts Waller High School home basketball and baseball games.

HEMPSTEAD ISD

Aug 12—13	Staff Development
Aug 17—20	Staff Development
Aug 24	First Day of School/Begins 6 Weeks
Sept 7	School Holiday—Labor Day

Waller ISD

is closed the week of
 Mon. June 29 - Fri. July 3
 in observance of the
 July 4th holiday.

All offices and
 schools will reopen
 on Mon. July 6, 2015.

WALLER ISD NEWS

August 2015

August 14	Staff Development
August 17 -21	Staff Development
August 24	First Day of School/Begin 6 Weeks

September 2015

September 7	Student/Staff Holiday— Labor Day
September 23	Student Early Release/Staff Development

Prairie View A&M University Calendar of Events Denise Armstrong

Jun 30 - Jul 03	Regular Registration for Summer Session 2
Jul 06	Summer Session 2 — Instruction Begins
Aug 05	Second Summer Session Ends
Aug 06	Final Exams
Aug 08	Commencement
Aug 17 - Aug 21	Panther Camp
Aug 24	Fall Semester 2015— Instruction Begins
Sept 07	Labor Day Holiday (University Closed)

Prairie View Senior Citizens' Corner

Weekly Exercise Classes

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:30 am—11:30 pm
 @ First United Methodist Church

Waller Cty. Citizens Assistance Coalition
 (WCCAC) Senior Activities
 2nd Wednesdays
 Times & Locations TBA

