



# The City of Prairie View



## Quarterly

www.praireviewtexas.gov

January \* February \* March 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, PV City Hall**  
Alta Vista HOA, 1pm
- 3rd Thursday, PV 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
- Wednesdays, PV Fire Dept.**  
Volunteer Fire Fighters, 7pm
- 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, PV City Hall**  
Cub & Girl Scouts, 6pm  
Boy Scouts, 7pm

### Words from Mayor Frank D. Jackson



#### A Prayer for 2015

Most Gracious Heavenly Father, the Grand Architect of the Universe and our Lives, Your humble servant Gives you Thanks for Blessing those who read these words with seeing the start of a New Year. Thank you for Life; and we beseech you to endow us with the Wisdom, Strength and Beauty To Square our Actions, To be Level in our dealings and to be Upright along Life's Way. Help us to not Trespass against another and to Forgive those that Trespass against us. Bless the City of Prairie View to live out its true destiny and each Citizen to realize that We have more in common that Unites Us than to Divide Us. This we ask in the name of your precious Son Jesus ... Amen

Giving all praises and honor to God, I bring you greetings and share with you, this 2nd publication of The City of Prairie View Quarterly Newsletter. The Editor in Chief and team are to be highly commended once again for a Job Well Done!

It is with the spirit of an humble servant, firmly committed to a calling of service, that I thank the Citizens of this inspiring City for granting me the privilege to serve as your Mayor and to wish each and everyone that dwells in our fair City, A **very prosperous and Happy 2015**.

The City of Prairie View is 'At the Point on the Frontiers of Change.' Frontiers are constant, ever evolving and ever expanding in response to a consistent engagement of the unknown region, real or abstract, just beyond.

On the frontiers of Life, we find that the journey of a people can often be best chronicled in the history of their institutions, either public or private; be they Cities, Universities, Churches or Businesses. The span of years of an institution far out distance those of the average human being and better enables them to serve as the embodiment of the visions, hopes and struggles arising from the collective will of the people. The history of the City of Prairie View, Texas as a community of families or as an incorporated municipal institution is a reflection of influences that various political, social and economic power matrixes at the local, county, state, national and global levels have had in shaping its cultural environment and consequently its story.

The history of the City is inextricably linked to the history of Prairie View A&M University and the people that comprise the local communities, e.g., Wyatt Chapel, Family Farms, and subdivisions.

Prairie View is an old community; having been settled by the folks in the Wyatt Chapel area, as early as the mid 1860s, but at the same time it is middle age, having been incorporated only a mere 45 years ago in 1969. In addition, being the home to Prairie View A&M University, it will always have the vitality of youth; as students and families bring their dreams across our threshold to the door steps of the University. We are truly blessed to have as our primary industry, an institution dedicated to the education of future generations. Each of us has the opportunity to play a vital role in helping to make students ready for society and productive citizens.

A careful study of the history of a City and University will show in order for either to thrive and survive, both Community and University have to work together in a spirit of Communi-Versity. It is this destiny of mutual interest that is the frontier where the land grant University- the people's university- must through teaching, research and service, be innovative (*continued on pg 2*)

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### Prairie View Economic Development Strategic Plan Developed by Herb Thomas

In an effort to improve current economic conditions, to prepare for anticipated growth and to become more competitive within the region, Prairie View Economic Development Corporation 4B engaged Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) to evaluate the present conditions of the local economy and to recommend potential strategies for advancing the city's economic development efforts. TEEX, with key support from the City of Prairie View and several organizations throughout the community, conducted an extensive stakeholder engagement process to identify the key assets, challenges and opportunities that are found in the local and regional economy surrounding Prairie View. These activities included the focus groups, one-on-one interviews and a survey of area business.

During the course of our project, the project team spoke with many public and private sector leaders and community

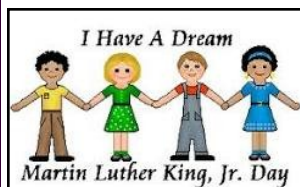
residents. The input provided by these individuals was invaluable to the project team in clearly understanding the most pressing challenges and the most exciting opportunities found in the City of Prairie View. This input also shaped the determination of which industries are most appropriate for Prairie View to pursue now and in the years to come.

Through the strategy development process, Prairie View identified core values that will drive the community's economic development efforts.

All goals, objectives and activities undertaken as part of Prairie View Economic Development should support one or more of these values, namely:

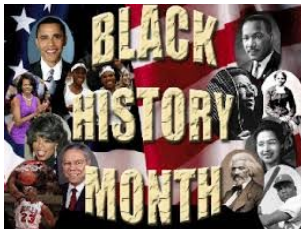
- Maintain & enhance our small town experience
- Sustainable & pedestrian friendly development
- Pride in Heritage: Preservation and celebration of African American heritage

(*continued on pg 3*)



**Monday,  
January 19, 2015**

**February, 2015**



**February 14, 2015  
Happy Valentine's Day!**

**Spring Break Schedules  
Waller & Hempstead ISDs  
March 9—13, 2015**

**PVAMU  
March 16—21, 2015**

**National Night Out 2015  
PV Subdivision Leaders'  
Mtg., January 29, 2015  
@City Hall, 6pm**

**Neighborhood  
Watch Training is  
coming Soon!**

**PV City Budget  
You can find a detailed  
report  
@www.prairieview  
texas.gov**

***Prairie View Yard  
of the Quarter***

**Nominations are due  
by March 18, 2015!**

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

## **Security & Safety**

As we embark on a new year, I am excited about the progress we have made in the Prairie View Police Department. With the support of Mayor Jackson and City Council, we purchased new uniforms for the officers. While this may seem like a minor thing to some, it is part of our plan, to position the police department as the premiere law enforcement agency in Waller County. To quote Mr. Dave Zimmerman of The Men's Warehouse "When you look good, you feel good." Our Officers have received several compliments on their new look which lifts their spirits.

In addition to the new uniforms, City Council supported an increase in the pay for our officers. Once again, moving further towards a goal of excellence.

I want to thank the City Council for their support in helping bring the vision for the police department closer to its reality. I also want to thank the dedicated men and women who work every day to serve the citizens of the City of Prairie View. Our mission is to work hard to ensure Prairie View is a great place to live, work and play.

### **Safety Tips In Your Residence. International Assoc. of Chief's of Police (IACP).....Pt. 2**

- Make certain your door is locked whenever you leave, even if only for a short time. When practical, lock your home and/or office door behind you, or lock your desk. Never leave your purse or valuables visibly unattended.
- Have peace of mind when you're away. Inform a trusted neighbor of travel plans. Have him or her collect mail and other deliveries. Don't share your plans with strangers. Leave shades in their normal positions. Put 2 or more lights on a timer. Use them daily, not just when you're away.

### **WORDS from Mayor Jackson, cont'd Pg. 1**

in serving the community at the points of its greatest needs, to bring about positive productive change to continually improve the quality of life for the people in the community. And like tides, there is an ebb and flow; the students, faculty and staff are likewise blessed from their service.

The work of building community takes hard work and a strong commitment from those who would lead: to rise above all adversity and through the use of knowledge and with rational decision making, to find a way to recognize opportunities for positive productive growth and development. In other words, to keep moving forward when negative factors within the cultural environment are aggressively aligned to divert the course of self determination. This is natural, for it takes resistance to move; adverse pressure to unite; fire to purify and the threat of defeat to rise to Victory!

I sincerely believe that by working together as a Community, 2015 will prove to be a banner year for the City of Prairie View with the accomplishment of the following objectives:

1. Continue to improve the City's Water, Waste Water System, Streets and Drainage.
2. Attract Housing and Retail Development to Prairie View.

## **Chief Larry Johnson**

Over the past year, I have had the opportunity to meet and get acquainted with many of the residents of this great city. I look forward to the opportunity to continue building the relationships with the citizens in our communities. Thank you for welcoming me, offering your support and encouragement.

As we move forward in this New Year, your continued support and input are needed to ensure we are providing the highest level of service that our citizens expect and deserve. As we bring new staff members aboard, we will begin to implement community policing strategies.

Furthermore, a major component of our plan is to engage and interact with our citizens in order to create the necessary level of understanding and trust that is vital to successfully police the Prairie View Community. As many of you have often heard me say, we are YOUR police department and it is critical that we establish an environment of trust and understanding.

It is a privilege and an honor to serve as your Chief of Police.



**Waller County Fair Participants  
Sept 26-28, 2014**

**Jones Elementary - Travis Denton, Jamary Jeffery;  
Waller HS - Jasmine Matthews-Barnett,  
Tristian Lampkin**

3. Increase the number of Prairie View Entrepreneurs
4. Form more Neighborhood Organizations
5. Foster Global Alliance of Sister Cities
6. Increase the number of Recreation / Wellness Venues
7. Institute a City Charter

It is with a great sense of appreciation that I wish to thank those of you in our community that have been and continue to be proponents for positive change here on the Frontier and are actually doing the work to uplift our Community. We all realize "that, regardless of the phenomenon that is encountered, it will be a whole lot better if we just do it together."

### **Prairie View A & M University by Denise Armstrong**

- Jan. 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
- Jan. 20 Spring Semester begins
- Feb. 3—4 Annual Minister's Conference
- Feb. 10 Bipolar/Schizophrenia Seminar  
SPIT Knowledge-Herschel Walker, 6:30pm
- Feb. 18 Spring Career Fair, 10am—3pm
- Feb. 24 Annual Education Job Fair, 1pm—5pm
- Mar. 25 Founders Day/Honor Convocation
- Mar. 31 THE BONE COLLECTOR, 11:30am-2pm

## From Where I Stand by Frederick V. Roberts

As we close out the old year and ring in the New Year, I am reminded of the achievements, happenings and rewards of 2014 in and around the City of Prairie View. We saw the reelection of Mayor Frank D. Jackson, Council Members Marie Herndon and Herbert Thomas and the election of Paulette Matthews Barnett to the Council. The Council confirmed the appointment of Larry Johnson as Police Chief. We also saw changes in the City Ordinances to affect progress in the community both for the environment and the economy. The council hired a new attorney, public works director and police officers, and appointed members to the various boards. There were major land purchases, property demolitions, improvements in the utility, creation of neighborhood organizations and construction of facilities for public use, i.e., the university new bowling alley, shopping center and recreational center. Citizens increased participation and attendance at City Council meetings. Expanding its reach beyond borders, the city signed new sister-city agreements and council members participated in several development conferences, all for the improvement and enhancement of the city. The city saw the closing of Brubakers and Papa John's popular eateries and the opening of the A&M Food Mart on University Drive.

From where I stand, I would say the city enjoyed an interesting year despite a few tragic moments and the loss of several pillars of the community including Esel Bell, the first Postmistress in the City, Ernest Norris, Jr., Thetis Edmond, William H. Chapman, Ella Weaver, Nellie Charleston, Marie Hill, Irene Reed, Life Coaches and Teachers and Allan Keith Bowdre, to name a few . . .

Looking ahead for 2015, expect major changes and much success as we plan many events and activities to include the City Celebration, Legends Ball and Taste of Prairie View Festivals . . . Take note, the Johnson Phillip All Faiths Chapel and the Ministers' Executive Committee at Prairie View A&M University will host the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Ministers Conference on February 3-4, 2015. For information, contact Reverend Charles Lewter, IV at 936-261-3591 or Marie Lewis at 936-261-3592. Prairie View A&M University will commemorate its 139<sup>th</sup> Founder's Day Anniversary with a special program on March 26. The university was chartered on August 15, 1876 but formally opened its doors on March 11, 1878. Lastly, I wish to extend a sincere Happy Birthday to Mrs. Ernestine T. Carreathers who will celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 8. Happy New Year!

## SPORTS/OBN NEWS by Dr. Michael W. Prince - *OpenMic Broadcast Network* "Serving the Community through Faith and Athletics"

Enjoy the games of Waller and Hempstead ISDs, as well as Prairie View A & M University... and now, enjoy the ALL Gospel Channel. Local Ministers are encouraged to submit messages.



Media	Sports	Gospel & Talk Shows
via radio	NA	87.9FM
via phone	213.401.0037	712.832.8117
via website	www.obnradio.com	www.ktorradio.com
via <b>TUNEIN.com</b>	OpenMic Broadcast Network	OpenMic Broadcast Network Gospel Channel

## Economic Development cont'd Pg.1 (a copy of the Plan is on PV's Website)

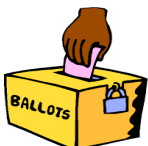
- Collaboration between city and university

### Strategic Goals

- Become a community whose small town experience and abundant economic opportunity are magnets for businesses and individuals wanting to make Prairie View their home
- Celebrate our African-American heritage through preservation, education & tourism development
- Actively pursue collaboration with Prairie View A&M University in order to create high quality jobs and encourage innovation
- Be a distinctive and attractive communities with a strong sense of place
- Create affordable housing opportunities and choices for a range of household types, family size and incomes
- Encourage citizen and stakeholder participation in development decisions

### Objectives

1. Attract housing and retail developments to Prairie View and enhance community infrastructure
2. Advance the science, technology, engineering and math education of the region's minority and underprivileged children
3. Encourage entrepreneurship in Prairie View; support existing businesses and attract new ones
4. Become the state's hub for African American heritage preservation and cultural tourism
5. Promote Prairie View



## City of Prairie View's General Elections - May 9, 2015

January 28, 2015— First Day to file an application for a place on the ballot

February 27, 2015— Last Day to file an application for a place on the ballot

## Scouts & Fire News

### by Marian Jackson

On Sunday December 7, 2014, members of the Prairie View Cub Scouts Pack 338, Girl Scouts Troop 14472 and Boy Scouts Troop 1906 went caroling to residents in Prairie Gables neighborhood. Troop 1906 completed their day by presenting the colors at the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Founders' Day Program at All Faiths Chapel on the campus of Prairie View A&M University.

Mark your calendars for the Annual Scouting Food Drive! The Door Hanger Distribution Day on January 24, 2015 and Collection Day on January 31, 2015. The food collected will be distributed to local families in the City of Prairie View. Scouts will participate in the Annual 10 Commandment Hike on February 21, 2015, Houston, Texas.



On Thursday, November 27, 2014, the Prairie View Vol. Fire Fighting Association, Inc. hosted their 8th Annual Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Dinner at the Fire Station and delivered to those who were unable to get out.

During the months of November & December, the fire fighters and Red Cross teamed up to install free smoke detectors to residents of Prairie View.

The Fire Department provided families with food & toys during the Annual Toy Drive. Toys were picked up & delivered Christmas Eve; 30 families were assisted. The Department participated in the Hempstead Annual Parade of Lights and will participate in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade Celebration.



## CITY COUNCIL

### MAYOR

Frank D. Jackson

**Position #1** Brian E. Rowland

**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.

Denise Armstrong

Jacqueline S. Sadberry

### Welcome to The City of Prairie View Quarterly

The City of Prairie View Quarterly newsletter can be obtained by picking up a copy from our local businesses or from the City of PV website @[www.prairieviewtexas.gov](http://www.prairieviewtexas.gov). Please email comments or suggestions to [cityofpvquarterly@gmail.com](mailto:cityofpvquarterly@gmail.com).

### Important Numbers

**PV City Hall** 936-857-3711

**PV Police** 936-857-3521

**PV Fire** 936-857-9522

**Nonemergency #** 979-826-8033

**Waller City 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

### Can organic foods really improve your health?

**Cont'd** from December, 2014 issue...

Consumption of organically grown food is a great way to reduce your exposure to contaminants commonly found in foods grown using conventional agricultural practices. These contaminants may include not only pesticides but heavy metals such as lead and mercury, and solvents like benzene and toluene. Minimizing exposure to these potential toxins is an important benefit for your health. Heavy metals can damage nerve function, contributing to diseases such as multiple sclerosis, and interfere with hemoglobin production in a way that increases risk of anemia. Solvents can damage white blood cell function and lower the immune system's ability to resist infections.

Let's take the contamination aspect first. One of the largest scale studies conducted by the U.S.

Department of Agriculture on more than 94,000 food samples, found at least one pesticide residue on approximately 75% of conventionally grown fruits and vegetables, in comparison to approximately 25% of organically grown vegetables.

As we look at the nutrient content, organically grown fruits and vegetables appear to contain about 15% higher levels of nutrients than conventionally grown fruits and vegetables. Additionally, they found higher levels of vitamin C in about half of all studies; and 5-20% higher mineral levels for a majority of minerals.

If you are interested in gardening, two master gardeners in our community that can be of assistance are Dr. A. Johnson of Alta Vista and Mr. LaVaughn Mosley of Clark Subdivision.

For more information, email [cityofpvquarterly@gmail.com](mailto:cityofpvquarterly@gmail.com).  
.....by Emory Davis

### What Does Sony Corporation Hacking Have To Do With You (and Identity Theft)?

Sony Corporation is our newest example of the far reaching impact Identity Thieves have on our lives even from halfway around the world, even controlling what we are able to see in movie theatres!

FBI confirmed N. Korea was involved in the recent Sony theft of employees and others Personally Identifiable Information (PII), emails, destruction and more.

Sony, one of the largest corporations in the world with financial and technical resources to combat hackers from stealing information, could not stop crooks from getting in. What does that say about where you went to school? Every place where you have worked or applied? Forms you completed for your children's activities? Applications for cars, homes, apartments or medical visits?

Where is ALL of your information now? Can you remember ALL of the paperwork you have done over the years? If you can, you are better than I am.

Companies can't protect information from criminals, so we are destined to be victims.

Last year I attended the National Homeland Security Conference in Los

Angeles, where they informed us that "No One Country or Company Can Stop Them"; terrorists are now using Identity Theft to fund terrorism. (Just what I didn't need to know.)

National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) tell us that the Identity Theft epidemic has created the need for a new type of insurance. You get information from banks, credit card companies and TV commercials on what to buy, how they can stop it, etc. Obviously, no one can stop them, but like a car accident where you can drive carefully but when someone hits you, your insurance will repair or replace your car, we now have to view Identity Theft in that same manner according to the insurance industry.

If you have something in place now, you are ahead of the game; but who you have does matter. How old is the company? Can they do what they promise when you need them? Have clients complained of services?

Until next time, be as vigilant as you can. Just remember, thieves no longer have to get information from you, it seems the companies we have given our information to and the ones they sold or gave it to, are much easier targets than we are.

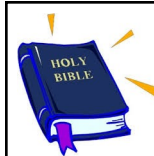
Are you prepared for your Identity Theft accident? It is coming, if not already here and you don't know it.

David Allen, MBA, CITRMS (Certified Identity Theft Risk Management Specialist)

[www.legalshieldassociate.com/davidallen55](http://www.legalshieldassociate.com/davidallen55) 323-646-9818

### For YOUR Information!

The City of Prairie View Warrant Round-Up is March 7-14. Call the Municipal Court @ 936-857-5327 to clear your outstanding cases to avoid being arrested.



### Spreading Light Throughout Your World..

Excerpts from a devotion by Dr. Charles Stanley

...It's a great honor to reflect Jesus to the world. Don't allow negligence or wrongdoing to dim your flame. Someone in your sphere of influence needs your "lantern" to guide him or her toward the true Light of the World.

Read—Matthew 5:14-16

### PV Real Estate Agent

**Listings by Marie Herndon**

\* 210 Clark Street (Clark Subdivision); 5 Units (2 bdrms/2.5 bath ea.

\$510,000; Waller City Land;

Marie Herndon, Listing Agent; 281-202-2110 /cell

\* 412 Prospect Avenue

Single Family Residence

3 bdrms./ 2 ba.; \$162,500

Peak Realty and Mortgage Services

**Yolanda Fusilier, Listing Agent;** 713-417-7567/cell

\* 24687 Richards Road (5

units); 6 units (Multi-

Family); Peak Realty and

Mortgage Services; Yolanda

Fusilier, Listing Agent

713-417-7567/cell

- Recently Sold from HAR -

\* 100 Oak Street—1.848 sq.

ft.; \$115,000

\* 133 Pecan Street—1,723

sq. ft.; \$80,000

**Scouts are gearing up for Summer Camp !!**  
**Fire Fighters will attend Fireman's training school**  
**at Texas A & M in July.**

### Prairie View Senior Citizens' Corner

By Emory Davis

#### Weekly Exercise Classes

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:30 am—1:30 pm

@ First United Methodist Church

Waller Cty. Citizens Assistance Coalition

(WCCAC) Senior Activities,

2nd Wednesdays Times & Locations TBA

