

Prairie View

MAGAZINE

It's Not Just a College, It's a Texas Culture!

April 2015

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**PVAMU
Rec Center
Opens and
Invites Entire
Community
to Join** Page 6



WOOLFOLK, George R.
B.A., M.A., Ph.D.
Head, Dept. of History

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**Dr. Patricia
Smith** is
Honored as
Outstanding
Texas A&M
System Educator

Inside Page 9



**Coach
Herb Thomas**
Leads Campus
All-Stars to
Second
National
Championship

Inside Cover

**On the Centennial of
George R. Woolfolk's
Birth.....**

**We Remember Those Who
Helped Make Prairie View**

“The Hill”

Follow me on this editorial...I'm going somewhere.

When I moved back to Texas last summer I had been battling cancer for five years. While living in Missouri I had made up my mind that I would eat clean and healthy, and that I would have a fitness plan that would combat the ill effects of cancer treatments. Within four months of my new lifestyle, I had shed 30 lbs and began to feel great.

The key component to my disciplined regimen was that first I would walk two miles to the gym, (once when it was nine degrees below zero at 5:30a.m.) and then I would alternate days of weightlifting and cardio fitness. I would finish my workout in the pool, whirlpool, and thirty minutes in a massage chair.

(My typical diet) Once I got home I drank a glass full of whole oats and light vanilla soy milk with two Morningstar meat patties (soy). For lunch I'd have a large salad topped with taco meat made from soy (Morningstar). For dinner I would make fried chicken, battered normally and then baked on high heat in the oven (no frying). Throughout the day I snacked on soy-based products, peanuts, and sunflower seeds. This was my typical regimen. I lost eight inches from waistline and the heavy soy diet kept the Prostate Cancer in check. (Soy is not recommended for women with or at risk for Breast Cancer).

Between all of this activity, twice a day I'd walk to the public library where I would write from a private cubicle and it is there that I penned “The United States vs. Waller County, Then Me” (available on Amazon-shameless plug).

Fast forward....so I come back to Prairie View and my mom is also fighting cancer. Unfortunately hers is much more advanced than mine. Eventually her appetite diminishes, and I find myself trying to convince her to eat. Well, since we were raised to never throw food away, I kept eating her leftovers and pretty soon, my good eating habits had been erased. Not only that, but I joyed in constantly being with her during those difficult days (moments I wouldn't trade for anything). However, I had no time for going to the gym....and even if I had had the time, there would have been no gym to go to.

Combine all of that with Mexican restaurants, Tuesdays at Popeyes, and a freezer full of parent's food stock. (anyone whose been living on a budget and then comes home, knows what I'm talking about)...and walla – 25 pound gain and a return of my old waistline. I feel like Florida Evans, “Damn, Damn, Damn!”

God answers prayers. I can hear my mother now, “How you gonna follow up, ‘Damn, Damn, Damn!’, with ‘God answers prayers?’”

“Sorry mom.”

During the Spring Break at the university, I was given a tour of the new recreation and fitness facility. It is awesome! AND residents off campus will be able to obtain memberships for just under, or around forty dollars a month. How cool is that? I can get back to fitness at a great costs and ease of convenience.

I have used the full center spread of this edition to showcase yet another community asset provided by student dollars. Perhaps the only things missing in the facility are gigantic pictures of legendary the 1972 Munich, Germany Olympic track coach Hoover Wright and the legendary 1992 Barcelona, Spain Olympic track coach, Barbara Jacket. Both coached at Prairie View for many years. Alongside them should Fred Newhouse and Debra Sapenter, both Olympic stars in Montreal. You then gotta add Carol (Cummings) Kellum, a current Prairie View resident and university employee, who ran in four (4) consecutive Olympics. Oh yeah and Ken Houston, a 10 time pro bowler and NFL Hall of Fame inductee. Of course I'm sure they will at least name the field at the new stadium in his honor. Maybe even former student Lawrence Tero, aka Mr. T...he was after all, in the movie Rocky!

One last thing, the pool must definitely honor Coach Jacket, in that she taught every “ham” in Prairie View how to swim.

I'm hoping that community residents will follow me in getting a membership on campus, and that the City of Prairie View will find a way to financially support the student's initiative. The new facility is planning on having special hours/activities for families and seniors. Danke.

Remember our body is His temple....let's treat it well (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). Happy workouts!

by DeWayne Charleston, Publisher/Editor

Ad Council

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Join Prairie View Magazine

April 21, 2015 at 7:00p.m. City Hall

For a City of Prairie View Candidate Forum

Please submit questions for candidates to:

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WE GOT YOU KEITH!

**Help Send
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To Summer Baseball Camp**

Call Me, or Don't Be Surprised If I Call You!!! (DeWayne)

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Leave Text If Necessary

Deadline for Donation April 17, 2015



The Zeta Gamma Omega Chapter of **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.**

invites you to their upcoming events!

"Clear Our Minds, While Clearing Our Park!"

Prairie View City Park 502 Ellen Powell Dr. (next to PV Fire Station)

Date: April 11, 2015 12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Items to bring: gardening tools, flowers, gloves and trash bags.

"Teapots with Character" **Spring Tea and Silent Auction**

Memorial Student Center Ballroom

Guest Speaker: Katina M. Semien, Esq.

Date: April 18, 2015 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Cost: \$20

2nd Annual Family & Friends Crawfish Boil

(Co-Sponsored with the Epsilon Tau Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.)

Hempstead City Park- Hempstead, TX

Date: May 2, 2015 12:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

(Crawfish will be served until 4:30)

Cost: \$25 presale/ \$30 Day of event

*Concession stand available for non-crawfish eaters.

*For more information or to purchase tickets,
please contact zetagammaomega@yahoo.com or (281) 658-6687

Elect Lola Lockett **City of Prairie View** **Councilwoman for Place**

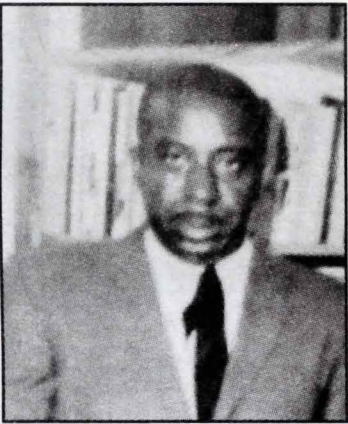
For a Clearer Vision

A More Civil Discourse

And a Cleaner City



Political Ad Paid for by Lola Lockett, Treasurer



Dr. George Woolfolk and 20 Others

It Takes a Village to Raise a Child....We Were That Village

I have enjoyed writing over the past few months about my memories of Prairie View. Last week I got a letter in the mail from Dr. Lee McGriggs, a distinguished professor of Political Science at Prairie View. Inside was a simple, short note which said, "Mr. Charleston, you may want to consider Dr. George Woolfolk at 100. Dr. George Ruble Woolfolk: The Centennial."

Are you kidding me? I knew Dr. Woolfolk. My brothers, Ray Black, Marcus Higgs, Gary Davis, Fransoir Fontenot, Bruce Davis, Conard Hargest, Reginald Lloyd, and them "Bowdre boys" and I, use to cut through his yard on our way to campus. He'd occasionally hire us to pick weeds from his seemingly mile long home, and Douglas, his wife (which I assumed was his real name – go figure) would allow us to go inside and see his library, which at the time was more impressive than the one on campus.

I remember reading a copy of his book, *Prairie View: A Study in Public Conscience, 1878-1946*, and becoming angry at the Texas A&M System for how they treated Negroes. I started writing against the "system" largely because of that work. An argument could be made that Woolfolk was "before" and "after" his time, as this community of African-Americans still grapples with issues the great Black historian first highlighted in 1962.

Woolfolk was one of the first historians to pen that Abraham Lincoln never in-

tended to free slaves prior to the Civil War. At the time such teachings were heretical. I sat and slept two rows behind Dr. and Mrs. Woolfolk every single Sunday at Mt. Corinth Missionary Baptist Church. I think I knew him well.

As a tribute to Dr. Woolfolk, over the next few months, Mr. Frederick Roberts, Esq. and I will recognize Prairie View residents that helped make Prairie View. What is most difficult about writing this series is that for every person we write about, I can think of five others who did as much for the community. Though I must admit none paid more than three dollars for us pulling weeds from their yards. OMG, I could tell you guys some stories....focus Dewayne!

I remember coming home and enrolling in Mrs. Arnold's class. Since I couldn't pass the English at North Texas State University, I figured she'd be a breeze. As soon as we got into class, she dropped the hammer! She'd be a YouTube sensation if she were teaching today. She dropped the hammer and I dropped the class. I went on to spend the entire summer feeling like the "Trifling" Negro she implied I was.

Ms. Arnold started her legendary teaching career in the English Department in 1967. For those students who passed through the doors of her classroom for the next 20 years, they could expect a tough, but caring, no non-sense professor, who insisted on academic excellence. If you were late, the door was locked--tardiness

was not tolerated. Now I ask you Dr. Wright: Could she have been fired for that? Don't answer that Doc.

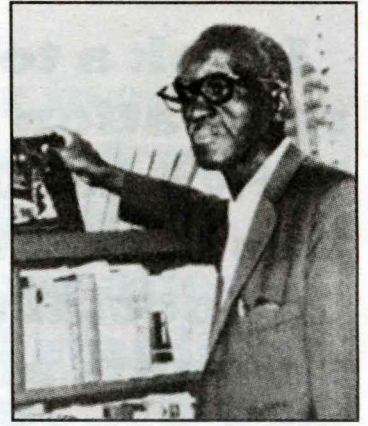
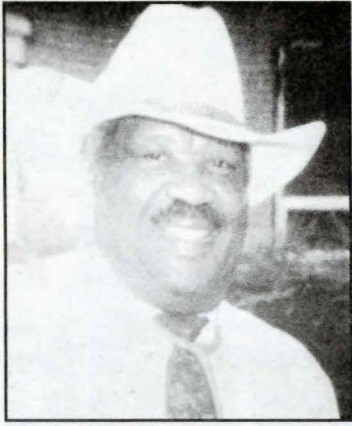
Living just across University Drive from Mrs. Arnold was Mrs. Olivette Higgs. We didn't just cut across Mrs. Higgs yard, we tracked mud all throughout her house...and she did not have hardwood floors. Nevertheless, she was always gracious and tolerant of her son Marcus' friends. Now I couldn't even pass Mr. Arnold's English class, so it goes without saying that I never attempted Ms. Higgs' French classes.

She was (I'm told) an excellent foreign language teacher and (I know) soloist at Mt. Corinth. However, she was a great mom to Cherie and Marcus **and** DeWayne and Keith **and** Craig **and** Carlen **and** Bruce....

Her house was the bus stop, the basketball court, the air-conditioned summer room, and the place we went when there was little food in our own homes. Truth...Behind every great man, is a great woman...ain't that right George Higgs!

Next up, is Doc Poindexter. He is perhaps one man who's done more goodwill among the academic and agricultural communities, as well as Black and White communities than any other. Now I know everyone has a good story about Doc, but this one reminds me of his hospitality and compassion.

NEXT PAGE



Who Made the City of Prairie View!!!

The Real Village People

I called myself raising Doberman Pinschers when I was in high school. I thought their ears "came" cropped. So when it came time to make that dog look like the breed, I almost passed out when he told me it would be forty-five dollars. He knew I had no money, and just told me, "Son tell Cube I need some rubber stamps and we'll call it even."

I had no idea my dad's rubber stamps were so valuable. And of course they weren't. In essence, Doc did my dog's ears for \$2.00. Actually, that is how I got into the rubber stamp business, but I never got a gig as good as that one!

Ms. Ruby Fuller was born in Athens Texas in 1912 and worked at Waller ISD 46 years teaching Home Economics at the Prairie View Training School and at Waller High School. She and her husband were among the first Black businesspersons in Waller County as they opened Super Save Grocery Store in 1958. Ms. Fuller ran the store after loss of her husband until 1969.

As well known as she was, she was better known as Annette Gordon's grandmother. Because she had the longest driveway in the community, it is where neighborhood kids held their daily four-square tournaments, before heading over to Ms. Henry's until dark.

Now who gets to live in a small country town and see a Coach Hoover Wright every day? This man was such a good coach, none of the boys in the community

could even be his baby girl Shawn running...no, really, I'm serious. I always played like I was too tired to race. Lol

Coach was perhaps the greatest Track and Field coach of the 20th century, and that's not a stretch. He was the Men's Olympic Track coach at the Munich Olympics and also served as a head football coach at Prairie View. What I remember most however, is the fact that he was never too busy to coach us too.

You see Fred Carter, Michael Sowell, John Bell, Carlos Scott, and Augustus Manuel and I went to Waller High School. There we had a great coach, Richie Robertson. He knew we had potential, but he couldn't get it out of us.

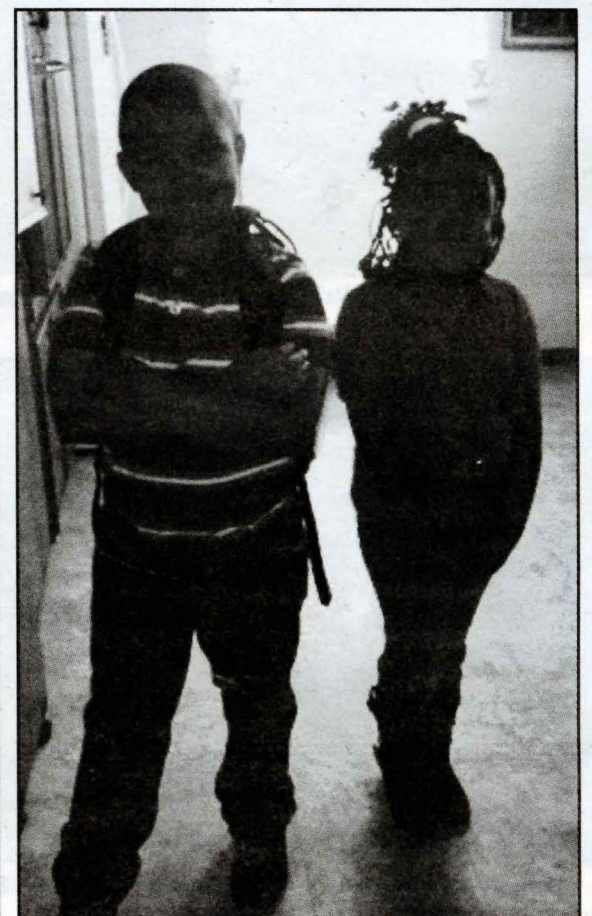
We'd often leave the high school track and come over to Blackshear Field. Invariably Coach Wright would put his stop watch away and make his way over to us. He'd give us tips on how to stretch, run, and warm-up. Stuff people just don't know, but should. Of course I'd be in awe as Evans White who was always on ABC Wide World of Sports looked on.

By the time we finished high school, the four of us had made appearances at the "State Meet" in four different events. Where you at now Shawn? Okay I probably still can't beat you.

Wow, sorry, I've run out of time...but have I got more stories to tell. Until next issue...The Real Village People!

**Tell me your
favorite stories
about future
citizen profiles.**

Welcome Home
Caleb and Caylyn
These too will be
writing a column about
PV kids,
soon,
I guess,
I hope!



I took a tour of the new recreation center at Prairie View A&M University and this is what I found?

A special thanks to the students at Prairie View who pay some pretty hefty semester fees to make this possible. *Preciate it!*



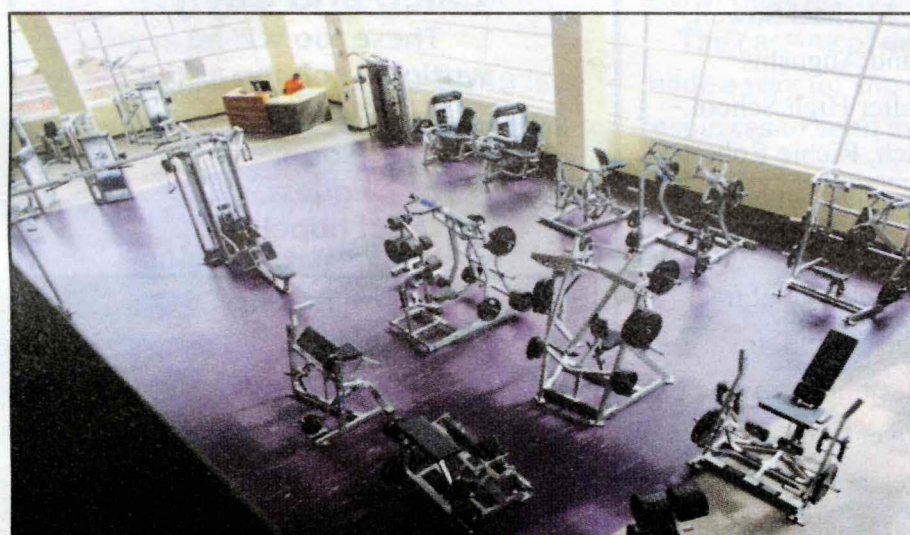
The Wright-Jacket Prairie View Training and Fitness Center?



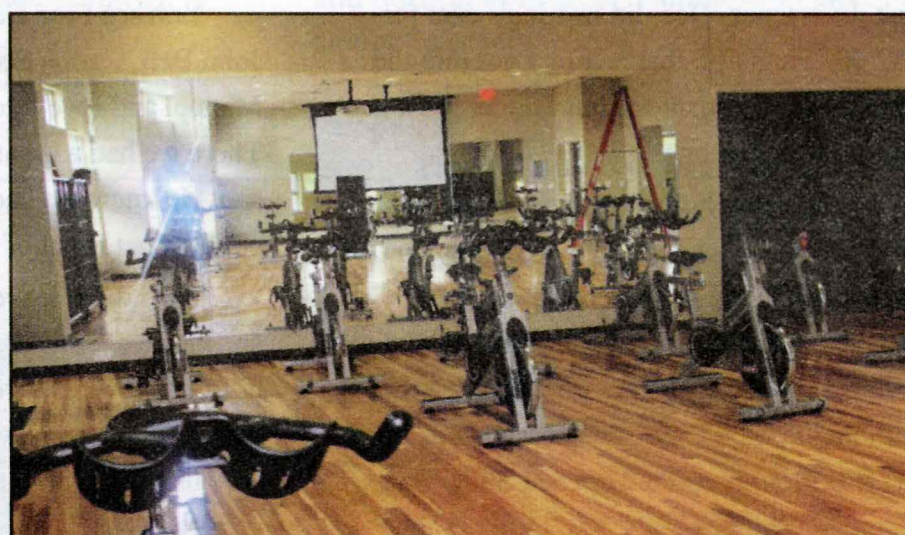
State of the Art Electronic Cardio Machines "with Cable TV"



First Class Facility - Top to Bottom



Free Weights—Best Weight Room for 30 Miles



Cycling Classes for the Ultimate Weight Loss of the Semester



Don't come in here dressed like Mr. Brown!



A Real Indoor Walking/Jogging Track...With a Slow Lane for We Seniors



A Peek Inside the "Remodeled" Swimming Pool—From Upstairs

At about \$40 per month, this is a great asset for the entire community. Next comes the bowling alley and new football stadium.. Okay A&M system...*what yall up to?*



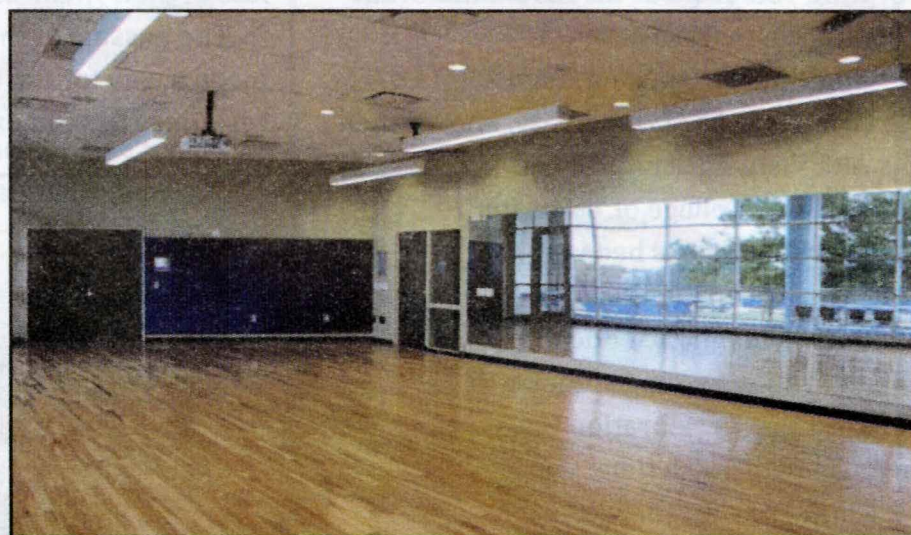
Who Grew Up in Prairie View before 1990 and Didn't Learn to Swim Here!



Cooking Classes Anyone? No "Frying" Allowed



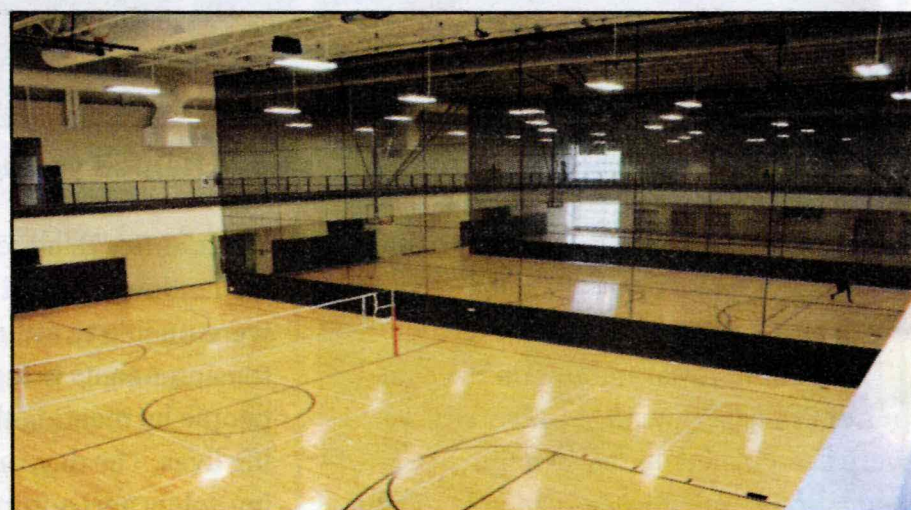
Hope the bathrooms are closer than before. Not confessing, just saying!



Aerobics, Yoga, Flash Dance, Vanity



A patio by the pool...Where the Wing-A-Ritas at?



More basketball, slash, racquetball, badminton, pickleball courts

From Field of 78 HBCU's, PVAMU Campus All-Stars Win It All

"We Are the Champions Again" is the rallying cry for the Prairie View A&M University Honda Campus All Star Challenge (HCASC) Team. The team captured the National Championship title by defeating the team from Cheney State University of Pennsylvania in the final round of competition on March 23 on the campus of American Honda Motor Co., Inc., in Torrance, California. The team previously won the championship in 2010.

Along with the championship trophy and bragging rights, the team won the \$50,000 cash grant to enhance programs at the university. Members of the winning team are Joseph Dowell, Captain, a senior from Killeen, Brannon Billings, a senior from Austin, Eric Johnston, a sophomore from Boerne, and Chayse Lavallais, a freshman from Houston, with Herbert Thomas, Placement Coordinator as the coach and Shahryar Syed, an Institutional

Representative.

This is the country's answer to March Madness where academic excellence and quick intellectual wit is on display. The road to this final four began in the fall from a field of 78 and narrowed down to the Great 48 of America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Regional tournaments are held throughout the year with qualifying teams advancing. The PVAMU team is a charter member of the program which began in 1989 with Frederick V. Roberts, then Director of Student Activities at the university as the founding coach 1989-1996.

According to Honda officials, "We support the HBCUs because of the unique and critical role they play in higher education, and because they have helped literally millions of students achieve their dreams through the years." Since 1989, more than \$7.5 million in grants from Honda

have provided support for book and tuition scholarships, facilities upgrades, and other investments to improve the student experience.

The more than 10,000 HCASC alumni include individuals in various career paths to include doctors, teachers, lawyers, community-builders, scientists, professors, architects, researchers, writers, journalists, military and government officials, business leaders and entrepreneurs, artists, engineers, economists, musicians, and more. These alumni share an enthusiasm for learning and are making significant contributions to their communities.

Next stop for the Championship team is a hopeful appearance at the White House with President Barak Obama and staff.

For game play and photos, go to www.hcasc.com

PVAMU Celebrates 125 Years of Community Outreach

Prairie View A&M University will be celebrating 125 years as an 1890 Land Grant Institution in April.

Since its founding on August 14, 1876, Prairie View A&M University, known then as Alta Vista Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas for Colored Youth, has been uplifting the African-American community through the education of determined young students in Texas. Our celebration will be a journey through time; you can see how we started, where we are now and what we have planned for the future. Everything we do impacts our community locally, nationally and on a global scale. We invite you to view pictures, explore our demo table and speak to our representatives to understand the type of meaningful impact we are making to society near and far.

Academics is paramount on the campus of Prairie View A&M University. We were established on the strength of the 2nd Morrill Act which provided land and funding to properly train and educate Af-

rican-American students in Texas, regardless of their finances or social status.

The passing of the 2nd Morrill Act also made a way for the university to use its resources to send extension agent out into

the community in the areas of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family and Consumer Science, 4-H and Youth Development, and Community and Economic Development.



1890's have helped young and old farmers alike.

the counties to educate those hard working landowners and sharecroppers who were unable to attend the school. Our Extension Agents bring the University to the people by meeting their need and changing lives. The days of extension agent being solely agriculture agents are gone and have expanded to provide assistance to

The future of our great university is being spearheaded by first class research being conducted by quality researchers. Not only do our researchers push the envelope and explore unanswered questions, they don't lose sight of the community around them. Much of the research done on campus has a practical application. It is important that the work we do impact the scientific community but it is equally as important for the research we do here, impact our community. Prairie View A&M

University strives to be the best on all fronts, and that includes being the best resource for the community we serve.

The university's celebration will culminate with a Zydeco concert featuring Ruben Moreno and The Zydeco Re-Evolution and a Ag Field Day celebration at the Piondexter Center and Agricultural Farms (Goat Center).

Whitlowe Green Prof Receives System-Wide Recognition

Texas A&M System Chancellor John Sharp recently honored the 2015 inductees for the Chancellor's Academy of Teacher Educators. The Academy recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the field of teacher education and highlights the role of the A&M System in producing K-12 teachers for the state of Texas.

Among this year's inductees are PVAMU's own, Dr.

Patricia A. Smith, Assistant Professor, Whitlowe R. Green College of Education. Also included in this year's cohort are: Dr. David W. Allard, Texas A&M University-Texarkana; Dr. Gary E. Briers, Texas A&M University; Dr. Joe Gillespie,

Tarleton State University; Dr. Rohitha Goonatillake, Texas A&M International University;

Dr. Sandra K. Kimbrough, Texas A&M University-Commerce; Dr. Karen A. McCaleb, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi; Connie McKee, West Texas A&M University; Dr.

Allen H Redmon, Texas A&M University-Central Texas; Dr. Greta L. Schuster, Texas A&M

University-Kingsville; and Dr. Debbie J. Vera, Texas A&M University-San Antonio.



"The Texas A&M System is known for producing some of the best teachers in the country," said Sharp. "But it takes exceptional teachers at the college level to help prepare those teachers

for the classroom. The Academy is a way for us to recognize those teachers who go above

and beyond the call of duty to ensure their students are getting the best education possible, so that they in turn can share that experience and knowledge with their own students."

Inductees are selected by past Academy members. University faculty, staff and students are able to nominate any full-time faculty member who has had a significant impact in the preparation of teachers.

Academy members each receive a \$1,000 stipend, commemorative medallion, certificate, and recognition at the Chancellor's Century Council annual meeting in Austin.

Join Prairie View Magazine

April 21, 2015 at 7:00p.m. City Hall
For a City of Prairie View Candidate Forum

Please submit questions for candidates to: candidateforum@prairieviewmagazine.com



©Black Youth Project

DO YOU KNOW A YOUNG PERSON THAT RACIALLY IDENTIFIES AS

BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN?

Black/African American young people, between 12-22⁺ years of age, are needed for an important research study!

The project aims to understand youth perspectives of social justice, hope, and community practices in rural areas around the United States.

If you or a young person you know decides to participate, you/they will be interviewed by researchers from Texas A&M University, two different times, at a place that is most convenient for you/them. The interviews should take about 60 minutes to complete.

As a thank you for your involvement, you will receive a \$15 gift card. Participation is completely voluntary.

If you are interested, call Brandy N. Kelly Pryor at (979) 845-5983 or email her at bnkelly@tamu.edu ASAP.

Interested youth between 12-17 years old should have a parent/  the researcher.

City of Prairie View

Ask the Candidates

Email your
questions for
The April 21, 2015
Candidate Forum

**candidateforum
@prairieview
magazine.com**

Will Ferrell and Kevin Hart Co-Star in Unlikely Buddies Comedy

Film Review by Kam Williams

Thanks to a flourishing career as a hedge fund manager, James King (Will Ferrell) is living in the lap of luxury in a sprawling, Bel Air mansion. Furthermore, the pampered multimillionaire's stock seems about to skyrocket, given his promotion to partner and his impending marriage to the boss' (Craig T. Nelson) daughter, Alissa (Alison Brie).

By contrast, working man Darnell Lewis (Kevin Hart) is stuck on the other side of the proverbial tracks in South Central L.A. where he has to worry on a daily basis about the welfare of his wife (Edwina Findley) and young daughter (Ariana Neal). He's eager to move them out of the 'hood, but first needs to save \$30,000 to secure the mortgage on their dream house.

As a regular patron of a valet car washing service, James has regularly crossed-paths with Darnell. Nevertheless, he mistakes him for a mugger the day he's surprised to see a black man approach him in the office parking lot.

To add insult to injury, instead of apologizing for the hurtful faux pas, tone deaf James insensitively claims "I would've reacted the same, if you were white." Then, he rubs salt in cash

-strapped Darnell's wounds by suggesting that, "I got to where I am by hard work," before smugly adding, "Success is a mindset."

However, the two's roles are reversed when James is convicted of securities fraud, and sentenced to ten years in San Quentin. With just a month before he has to report to

the social satire yields a cinematic experience as silly as it is thought-provoking.

So, one moment, we might witness goofy, gratuitous nudity courtesy of exhibitionistic Ferrell who has never been shy about prancing around in his birthday suit, his Rubenesque physique notwithstanding. The next,

we're treated to relatively-sophisticated humor such as the musings of a spoiled rich kid boasting about how he built his company with his own two hands, before also admitting that he had actually relied upon an \$8,000,000 loan from his father as seed money.

Provided you're

open to politically-incorrect fare ranging from racist to misogynistic to homophobic, you're likely to enjoy this inspired pairing of the relentlessly absurd Ferrell and the motor-mouthed Hart at the top of their games.

Very Good (3 stars)

Rated R for full-frontal male nudity, drug use, ethnic slurs, and pervasive profanity, sexuality and crude humor

Running time:

100 minutes

Distributor:

Warner Brothers Pictures



prison, he asks Darnell to prepare him for life behind bars, based on another unfounded assumption, namely, that he's an ex-con.

Darnell agrees, charging precisely the \$30,000 he needs as a down payment on his ticket out of the ghetto. However, the jokes are all on James, since the supposed "incarceration expert" he's just hired has never even seen the inside of a jail.

Thus unfolds Get Hard, an unlikely-buddies comedy co-starring Kevin Hart and Will Ferrell. The movie marks the noteworthy directorial debut of Etan Cohen, whose successful mix of over-the-top slapstick and sub-

Chat with Attorney Ben Crump

Ben Crump is the attorney of record in many high-profile, civil rights cases, most notably representing the families of Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown and Tamir Rice, and the 12 year-old boy shot by a Cleveland, Ohio police officer a mere second after he got out of his patrol car.

Kam Williams: Hi Ben, I appreciate the time. I know how busy you are.

Ben Crump: You're very, very welcome, Kam.

KW: What do you make of Attorney General Holder's recently declining to indict Officer Darren Wilson for the shooting of Michael Brown?

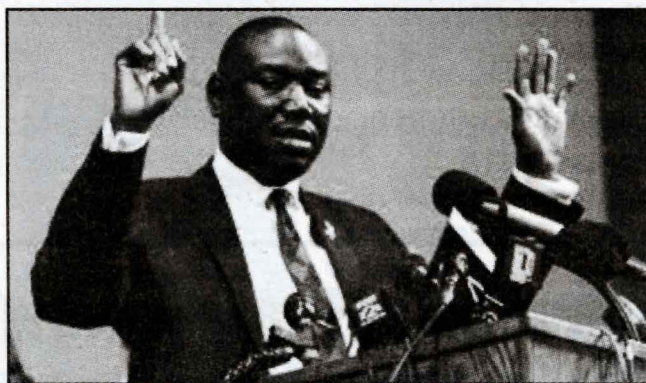
BC: I just think that the Department of Justice has to stop sanitizing all these killings of unarmed people of color. When you look at the Justice Department's report talking about the Ferguson Police Department's rampant pattern of discrimination and its excessive use of force against African-American citizens, it's hard to try to rationalize how this cesspool of racism doesn't spill over onto the individual officers. For instance, Sergeant Mudd, the first officer on the scene after Darren Wilson killed Michael Brown. He was Wilson's mentor and supervisor. He was one of the primary witnesses and main advocates for Darren Wilson in front of the grand jury. We now know that this was the individual who sent the racist email that was repeatedly forwarded around the Ferguson Police Department saying that Crimestoppers paid a black woman \$3,000 to get an abortion. So you have this cesspool of racism, yet they're trying to suggest that it's not going to affect individual officers. The Attorney General says that you have this high standard that you have to show that at the time of the shooting the individual was thinking hateful or racist thoughts. That's an almost impossible standard. It should be enough to show implicit bias, given all the attendant circumstances. If there's a pattern and practice of discrimination and excessive force, you should be able to hold these officers accountable for killing unarmed citizens. The reason I say that, Kam, is because, if there are no real consequences for their actions, we won't get any different results. We need real consequences to get real results. There's no deterrent to these officers' behavior when they continue to see the local and federal governments under the Obama Administration sanitizing the killings of unarmed black and brown people.

KW: Holder's also just announced that there will be no arrest of George Zimmer-

man for violating the civil rights of Trayvon Martin. That shocked me because everyone heard the recording of the 911 operator ordering Zimmerman to stay in his car and to wait for the police to arrive. But he ignored the instructions and killed an innocent teen innocently walking down the street, just yards from home. And even that's not considered a violation of the child's rights? How insane is that?

BC: Absolutely! We keep seeing a reoccurrence of their sanitizing these killings. It almost encourages people to conclude that they did nothing wrong, since the government didn't press any charges. We've got to somehow send a message to deter this conduct. Otherwise, we're going to see it over and over and over again. It's becoming almost like an epidemic.

KW: No kidding. Just since you and I last spoke, we've had police shootings of Jerome Reid getting out of a car with his hands up in New Jersey, a homeless man in Los Angeles, 19 year-old Tony Robinson in Madison, Wisconsin, and Antonio Zambrano-Montes in Spokane, Washington.



BC: We're representing Antonio Zambrano-Montes' family.

KW: Great! And there's also Sureshbhai Patel, an elderly tourist from India who was left paralyzed by a cop in Alabama who thought he was a black man prowling around a white neighborhood. These incidents are happening about once a week now. What about the Tamir Rice case? The chief of police in Cleveland is a black man, so I was stunned when the city said the boy's death was directly caused by his own acts, not by police officer Timothy Loehmann. How did you react to that conclusion?

BC: It was literally shocking that, based on what we see in that surveillance video, this 12 year-old child could be called responsible for his own death because he wasn't being careful, versus what we see and know happened there; how these officers violated all their procedures, training

Kam Williams Interview

and department regulations, and drove up to the scene recklessly in a way which escalated the situation. Tamir Rice was killed in less than one second which was totally disrespectful. And the pattern of disrespect continued when his 14 year-old sister ran up crying, "You killed my baby brother!" Instead of showing her any compassion, they tackled her, handcuffed her, manhandled her, dragged her through the snow and threw her into the back of the police car where she had to sit helplessly 4 to 5 feet away from where her brother lay kicking as he died. As if that wasn't bad enough, the pattern of disrespect continued with how they treated their mother when she arrived. They told her she could either get in the police car with her daughter to go to the station or get in the ambulance to go to the hospital with her son. And now the pattern of disrespect to the Rice family continues with blaming Tamir for his own death in the answer to the complaint of wrongful death we filed. That was shocking and sends a loud message not only to the people of Cleveland but to people all over America.

KW: I'd also like to know how you feel about the video that surfaced of that Oklahoma fraternity singing that racist song on the bus.

BC: They may kick the fraternity off campus, but the thing that's so unfortunate is that, no matter what they do, those students still felt it was okay to say what they said. So, you can't help but wonder whether that's how they really feel in their hearts. It reminded me of my personal hero, Thurgood Marshall. I'm reading Gilbert King's Pulitzer Prize-winning book about the Groveland, Florida rape cases called "Devil in the Grove." In it, he talks about Marshall, saying he had two fears. First, how big a celebration there was going to be the day racists lynched him and hung him from a tree. But his second and worst fear, after seeing so many young children in pictures of lynchings, was knowing that one day they would grow up to be running society. And that's what I thought about watching the video on that bus. That in 20 years or so, those fraternity and sorority members will be running corporations, city governments and other institutions. And I wondered, what will their mentality be like? How does this bode for the future?

KW: I agree. It's very scary. Thanks again, Ben, and keep fighting the good fight.

BC: Thanks so much Kam. Call anytime.

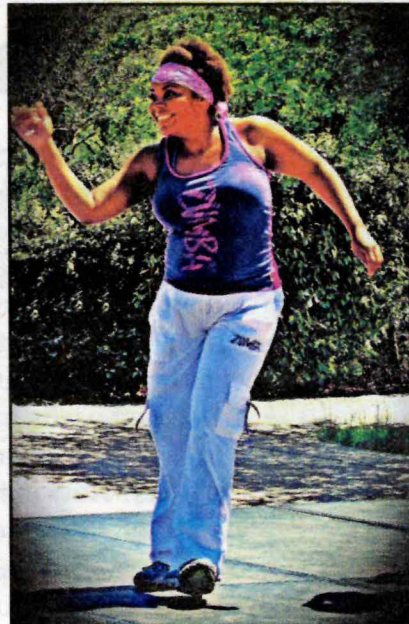
Celebrating PV



Dr. and Mrs., James and Katie Johnson recently celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary. They have been residents of Prairie View since 1969.



Christiana Charleston turns 21 this month. This publisher's daughter, she is also a graduate of Waller H.S. and Ms. Reeds afterschool program.



Fitness Trainer, Victoria Davenport (Rosiland's girl), Recently celebrated her birthday..Go Tori, Go Tori!



Our community celebrates the life of Theodore Gilbert Archer aka "Meatball". A wonderful friend whose smile and personality shall never be forgotten 1963-2015

Nominations For Humanitarian Award Now Being Accepted

The PVAMU Humanitarian Award is awarded annually to a PVAMU student and general member of the greater community, whose lives exemplify a spirit of love and helpfulness to others.

One of PVAMU's most prestigious awards given to a student or individual, the award honors individuals who are making outstanding contributions to the Uni-

versity, the state of Texas and the nation. Recipients of the annual award are considered PVAMU's measure of excellence in character and service to humanity.

The Humanitarian Award winners will both be announced and presented in full regalia during the Prairie View A&M University spring commencement exercises May 2015.

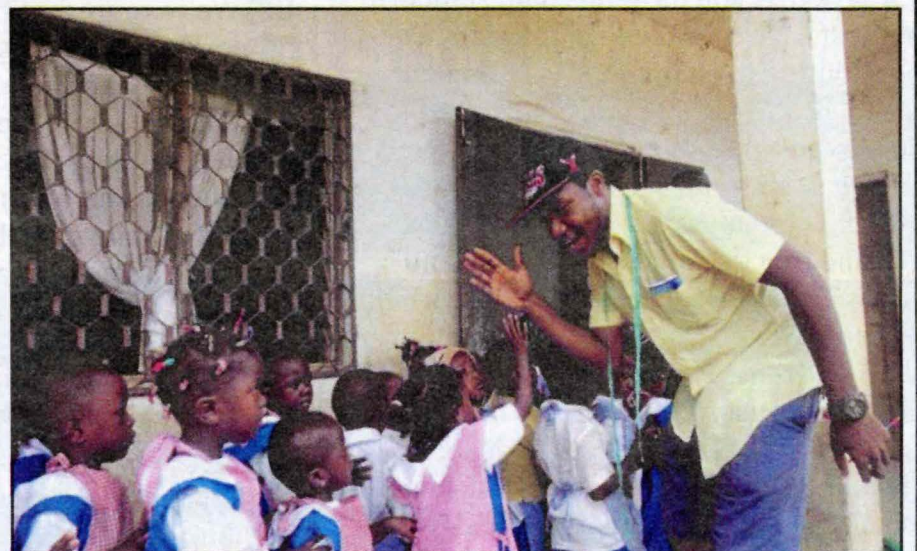
In recognition that service is one of the highest ideals to which one can aspire and consistent with the centuries-old tradition of universities recognizing outstanding service, Prairie View A&M University established the Humanitarian Award in 2005. For more information on the PVAMU Humanitarian Award call (936) 261-2130. The application deadline is April 3rd.

Maronie - Another Example of Prairie View's World Outreach Former Student Serving in Africa Through U.S. Peace Corp

FROM A RECENT FACEBOOK POST

Today was worth it. This is a picture taken after I completed a nutrition assessment of the Government Nursery School here in my village of Kembong, back in February. Since the opening of the school in 2006, they were never given a school structure of their own. The building that is in the picture is one that was meant for temporary use only. I am happy to say that today because of the [#ETAYA](#) NGO, led by a dynamic director in Felix Ashu Tanyi and friends of ETAYA the children finally have a safe place to call home. In addition, ETAYA handed over 3 classrooms in the neighboring village of Ogomoko. Today was a beautiful day.

-Blessings Kyle Thalamus Maronie



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And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God; for those who are the called according to His purpose. **Romans 8:28**