Serving the Waller County African-American Community

Prairie View

July 2022
Magazine

A Juneteenth to Remember

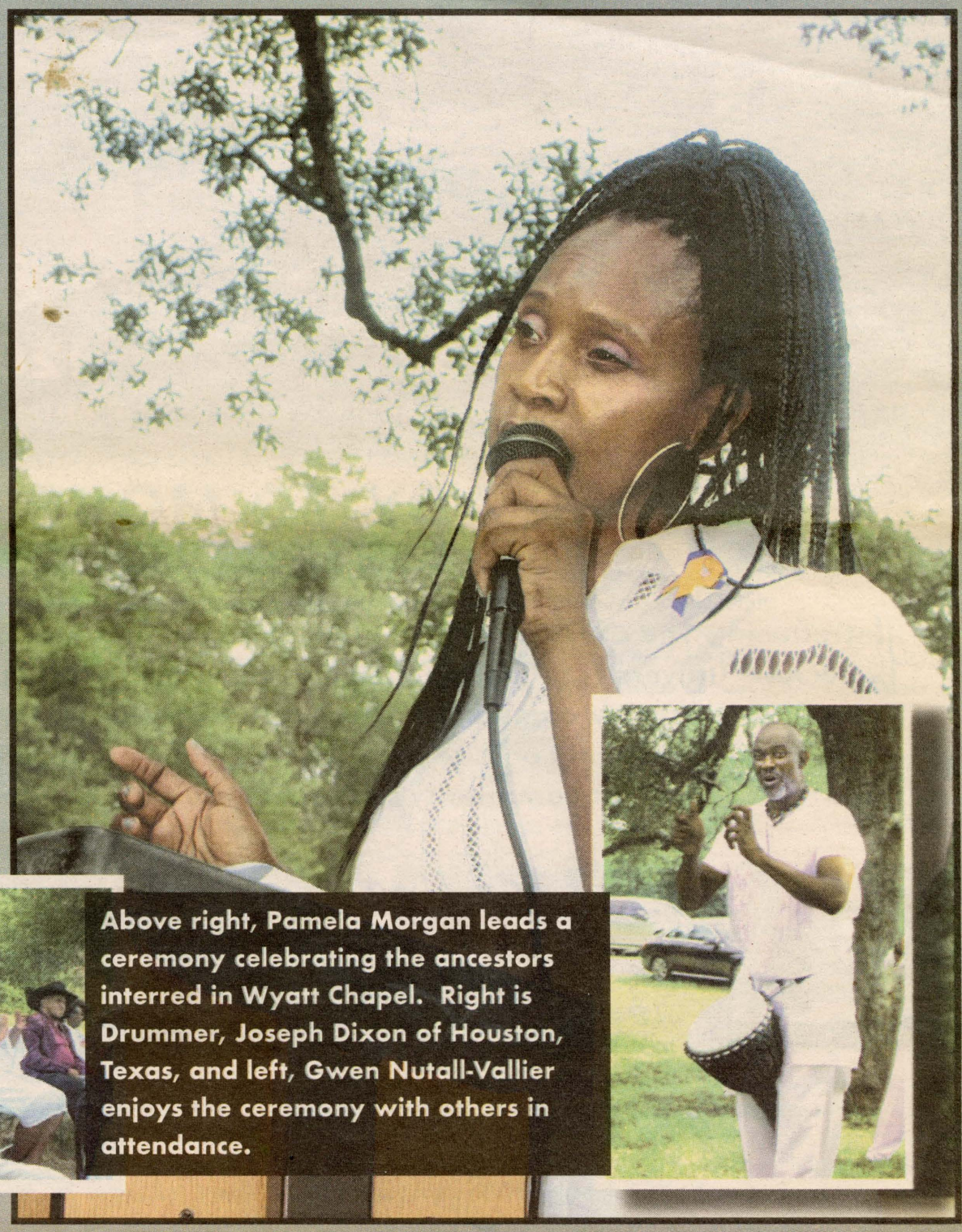
The Wyatt Chapel Cemetery Descendants Association celebrated its first Homecoming on June 15, 2022. in Prairie View, Texas. It was an occasion to remember. With participants from all areas of the community, Descendants paid homage and respect to those who came before them in the Waller County community.

On a day of pleasant weather in June nearly 100 members of the community joined with one another and speacial guests.

The ancestors were honored with music, drumming, libations, poetry, song, and their guest speaker, Dr. Marco Robinson of PVAMU.

Attendees came from throughout the county and state. They were joined with many PVAMU students who volunteered their time in assisting the program and helping their elders.

The program was held under the cover of majestic oak trees on the sacred grounds of the cemetery. It is the first of many annual events to come.





Above right, Pamela Morgan leads a ceremony celebrating the ancestors interred in Wyatt Chapel. Right is Drummer, Joseph Dixon of Houston, Texas, and left, Gwen Nutall-Vallier enjoys the ceremony with others in attendance.

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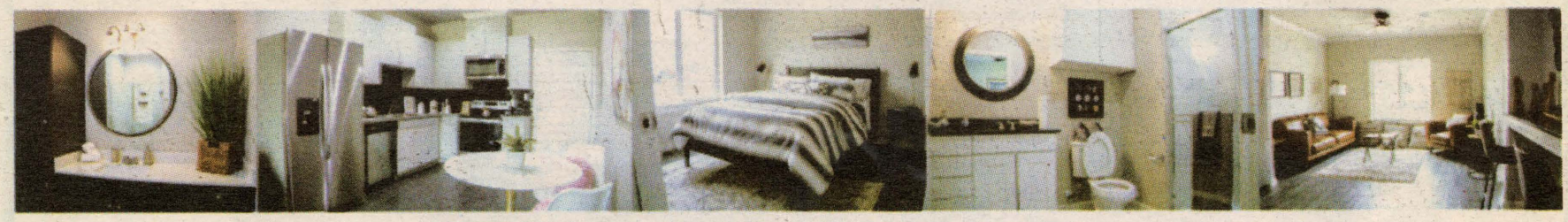
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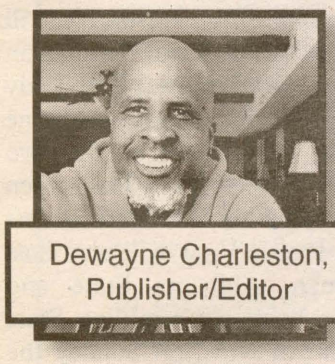
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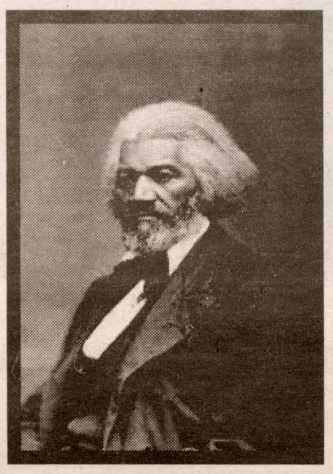
What to the Slave is the Fourth of July? By Frederick Douglas, 1852

Fellow-citizens, pardon me, allow me to ask, why am I called upon to speak here to-day? What have I, or those I represent, to do with your national independence? Are the great principles of political freedom and of natural justice, embodied in that Declaration of Independence, extended to us? and am I, therefore, called upon to bring our humble offering to the national altar, and to confess the benefits and express devout gratitude for the blessings resulting from your independence to us?

But such is not the state of the case. I say it with a sad sense of the disparity between us. I am not included within the pale of glorious anniversary! Your high independence only reveals the immeasurable distance between us. The blessings in which you, this day, rejoice, are not enjoyed in common. The rich inheritance of justice, liberty, prosperity and independence, bequeathed by your fathers, is shared by you, not by me. The sunlight that brought light and healing to you, has brought stripes and death to me. This Fourth July is yours, not mine. You may rejoice, I must mourn.



Dewayne Charleston,
Publisher/Editor



"By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down. Yea! we wept when we remembered Zion. How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth."

My subject, then, fellow-citizens, is American slavery. I shall see this day and its popular characteristics from the slave's point of view. Standing there identified with the American bondman, making his wrongs mine, I do not hesitate to declare, with all my soul, that the character and conduct of this nation never looked blacker to me than on this 4th of July! Whether we turn to the declarations of the past, or to the professions of the present, the conduct of the nation seems equally hideous and revolting. America is false to the past, false to the present, and solemnly binds herself to be false to the future. Standing with God and the crushed and bleeding slave on this occasion, I will, in the name of humanity which is outraged, in the name of liberty which is fettered, in the name of the constitution and the Bible which are disregarded and trampled upon, dare to call in question and to denounce, with all the emphasis I can command, everything that serves to perpetuate slavery the great sin and shame of America! "I will not equivocate; I will not excuse"; I will use the severest language I can command; and yet not one word shall escape me that any man, whose judgment is not blinded by prejudice, or who is not at heart a slaveholder, shall not confess to be right and just.

But I fancy I hear some one of my audience say, "It is just in this circumstance that you and your brother abolitionists fail to make a favorable impression on the public mind. Would you argue more, and denounce less; would you persuade more, and rebuke less; your cause would be much more likely to succeed." But, I submit, where all is plain there is nothing to be argued. What point in the anti-slavery creed would you have me argue? On what branch of the subject do the people of this country need light? Must I undertake to prove that the slave is a man? That point is conceded already. Nobody doubts it. The slaveholders themselves acknowledge it in the enactment of laws for their government. They acknowledge it when they punish disobedience on the part of the slave. There are seventy-two crimes in the State of Virginia which, if committed by a black man (no matter how ignorant he be), subject him to the punishment of death; while only two of the same crimes will subject a white man to the like punishment. What is this but the acknowledgment that the slave is a moral, intellectual, and responsible being? The manhood of the slave is conceded. It is admitted in the fact that Southern statute books are covered with enactments forbidding, under severe fines and penalties, the teaching of the slave to read or to write.

For the present, it is enough to affirm the equal manhood of the Negro race. Is it not astonishing that, while we are ploughing, planting, and reaping, using all kinds of mechanical tools, erecting houses, constructing bridges, building ships, working in metals of brass, iron, copper, silver and gold; that, while we are reading, writing and ciphering, acting as clerks, merchants and secretaries, having among us lawyers, doctors, ministers, poets, authors, editors, orators and teachers; that, while we are engaged in all manner of enterprises common to other men, digging gold in California, capturing the whale in the Pacific, feeding sheep and cattle on the hill-side, living, moving, acting, thinking, planning, living in families as husbands, wives and children, and, above all, confessing and worshipping the Christian's God, and looking hopefully for life and immortality beyond the grave, we are called upon to prove that we are men!

What, am I to argue that it is wrong to make men brutes, to rob them of their liberty, to work them without wages, to keep them ignorant of their relations to their fellow men, to beat them with sticks, to flay their flesh with the lash, to load their limbs with irons, to hunt them with dogs, to sell them at auction, to sunder their families, to knock out their teeth, to burn their flesh, to starve them into obedience and submission to their masters? Must I argue that a system thus marked with blood, and stained with pollution, is wrong? No! I will not. I have better employment for my time and strength than such arguments would imply.

At a time like this, scorching irony, not convincing argument, is needed. O! had I the ability, and could reach the nation's ear, I would, to-day, pour out a fiery stream of biting ridicule, blasting reproach, withering sarcasm, and stern rebuke. For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder. We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake. The feeling of the nation must be quickened; the conscience of the nation must be roused; the propriety of the nation must be startled; the hypocrisy of the nation must be exposed; and its crimes against God and man must be proclaimed and denounced.

What, to the American slave, is your 4th of July? I answer; a day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim. To him, your celebration is a sham; your boasted liberty, an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity; your sounds of rejoicing are empty and heartless; your denunciation of tyrants, brass fronted impudence; your shouts of liberty and equality, hollow mockery; your prayers and hymns, your sermons and thanksgivings, with all your religious parade and solemnity, are, to Him, mere bombast, fraud, deception, impiety, and hypocrisy—a thin veil to cover up crimes which would disgrace a nation of savages. There is not a nation on the earth guilty of practices more shocking and bloody than are the people of the United States, at this very hour.

Coach TaCho Tyler and PVAMU Volleyball Readies for 33 Match Schedule

PRAIRIE VIEW – The Prairie View A&M eighth year veteran head volleyball coach TaCho Tyler announces the 2022 schedule. The team will play in four tournaments and host three non-conference teams prior to conference play that will be a challenging and exciting test for the Lady Panthers young 2022 squad.

PVAMU will face 14 non-conference teams in all (some teams twice or more). The 33 – match schedule will open with the Cardinals Invite hosted by Lamar University to open the 2022 season Aug. 26-27.



The Lady Panthers will open at home on Tuesday, Aug, 30 with a non-conference match-up with McNeese State at the William J. Nicks Building.

Prairie View A&M will open the month of September at the Tarleton Invite 2-3 in Stephenville, Texas, where they will face Tennessee State, Southeastern Louisiana and host team Tarleton State, before returning home to host Texas A&M-Commerce on Tuesday, the 6th.

The Lady Panthers will follow up with a visit at Hutson-Tillotson on Wednesday, Sept. 7 in Austin, Texas before heading to Edinburg, Texas for a tri match between the host team UTRGV and Montana Sept. 9-10. PVAMU will head down 290 to match-up against Houston Baptist on Tuesday, Sept. 13, prior to returning home to host Lamar on Wednesday, Sept. 14 for their final non-conference home schedule.

PVAMU will close out their non-conference tournament slate after attending the UTA Invite fairing against Lamar for a second time, New Orleans and host team UT – Arlington Sept. 16-17. The Lady Panthers will then travel to Commerce, Texas for a return home and home game against the Lions of Texas A&M Commerce.

The end of September will mark the opening of Southwestern Athletic Conference play with a bout with rival SWAC school Texas Southern on Thursday, the 29th on the campus of Prairie View A&M. The Lady Panthers will then move into to October spending the first of on the road beginning with a contest at Grambling State on Sunday the 2nd following up with a match-up at UAPB on Monday the 3rd.

PVAMU will travel to Huntsville, Ala. for the first of two SWAC roundups. This is where the east meets the west at a neutral location. Prairie View A&M will open play against host team Alabama A&M on Sunday, Oct. 9, followed by a match with Mississippi Valley for an afternoon meeting. On Monday, PV will face Florida A&M, before heading to Baton Rouge, La. to face Southern, Oct. the 16th the following weekend. Prairie View A&M will head over to Lorman, Miss for a bout with Alcorn State on the 17th.

In their final road game of the season PV will face Texas Southern for a second round in Houston on Monday, October 24. The Lady Panthers will close out its season at home starting with hosting the second of the two SWAC roundups Oct. 30-31 for a Halloween treat along with the Dig Pink Weekend (Breast Cancer Awareness). Prairie View will play host to Bethune Cookman, Alabama State and Jackson State, before hosting Grambling State to open up the month of Nov., on Sunday the 6th.

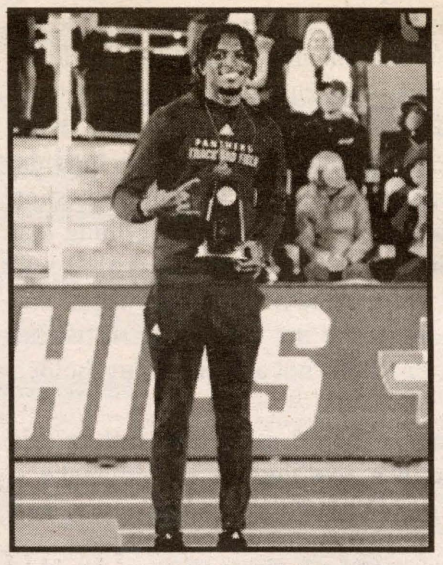
PVAMU will follow up with a visit from UAPB on Monday, the 7th, Southern (Sunday 14th) and Alcorn State (Monday, 15th) for Senior Night to close out the regular season, prior to heading to the 2022 SWAC Tournament Nov. 18-20.

Crawford-Wallis Leaps into the History Books

EUGENE, Org, - 2022 Southwestern Athletic Conference Men's Field Performer of the Year Nathan Crawford-Wallis excelled as he made history at the NCAA Championships on Friday.

Crawford-Wallis earned a top 10 (8th) spot in the triple jump after leaping 16.10 meters (52-10 ft.) for a personal best mark of the season as well as a first for the Prairie View A&M Panthers. This marked the first time in the PVAMU history book that a triple jumper has made it to the NCAA podium ranking as one of the best in the Nation.

"Although just a sophomore Nathan has shown true leadership on and off the field," said head men's track and field coach Chris Clay. "He has won some big meets and set a couple of school records this year. Nathan has committed himself to being the best jumper possible, and he put in the work to achieve that goal. He is a pleasure to work with and he is well deserving of this honor."



Crawford-Wallis has had a remarkable year as he finished first in the triple jump (15.38 meters) earning a gold medal in the SWAC indoor championship. As he continued to pave the way earning a back-to-back gold medal during the outdoor championship. Crawford-Wallis continued to leave his mark as he leaped out to a distance of 16.08 meters (52-10.25 ft.) in the NCAA College Station Regionals to secure a spot to Eugene.

Keep up with all the latest news and information for PVAMU athletics by following pvpanthers.com as well as through Twitter via the PVAMU general sports account (@PVAMUPanthers). You can also follow along on Instagram.com/pvamupanthers.

COMMUNITY LEADER OF THE MONTH PAMELA MORGAN

Pamela Morgan and this writer were born five months and five miles apart in the same county. I had never had the pleasure of meeting her. Fortunately, one day our paths did cross.

There are few people as native to this community as Ms. Morgan. Her roots span from east in Hockley to westward of Waller and Hempstead, and from south of Monaville to north of Prairie View.

Our first informal conversation was of her reaching out for information on a local cemetery. Since that time, I have had absolutely no closer friend, confidant or counselor!



Pamela Morgan

Pamela is our ***Community Leader of the Month*** for her work in helping to organize the Wyatt Chapel Descendants Association. She has helped forge rare friendships and partnerships with Prairie View A&M University faculty and administrators to members of the entire Waller County community. A monumental task indeed.

As the president of the association she spearheaded the "Homecoming Service" held on June 15, 2022 at the Wyatt Chapel Cemetery in Prairie View. That program paid homage to the ancestors, while acknowledging the descendants of those interred there. This past Juneteenth in Waller County was perhaps the most cross-culturally unifying event of the year.

Ms. Morgan is the daughter of Alenne Adams, of Hempstead, Texas. Her Great, Great, Great, Great (4th) Uncle, Milo Wilson, is interred in the Wyatt Chapel Cemetery.

Her Great, Great, Great, Great, Great (5th) Grandparents, Tom and Alice Anderson, migrated to Waller County in the eartly 1800's.



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Above left: Dr. Marco Robinson poses with PVAMU students who served as event volunteers. Below: The Honorable Marie Herndon a Prairie View native takes a snapshot of program activities.



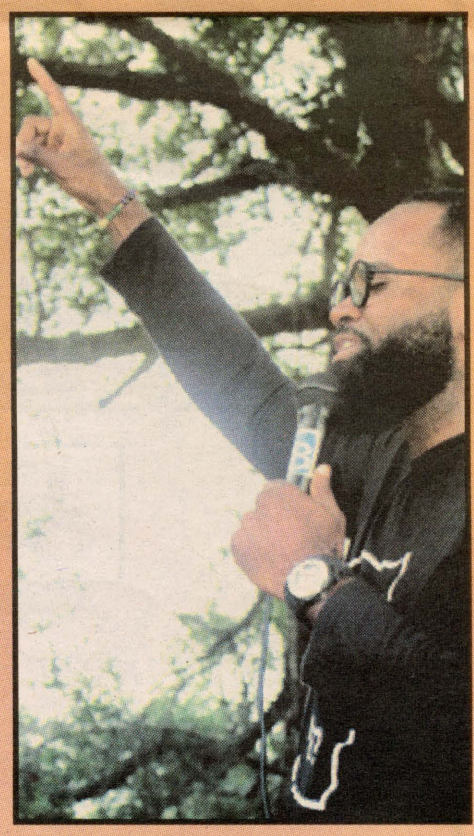
Above right: Program Chair Pam Morgan and Guest Honoree, Honorable Dorothy Anderson-Carter. Below right: Vocalist, Charles Tompkins, Jr. opens with a melody of gospel songs.





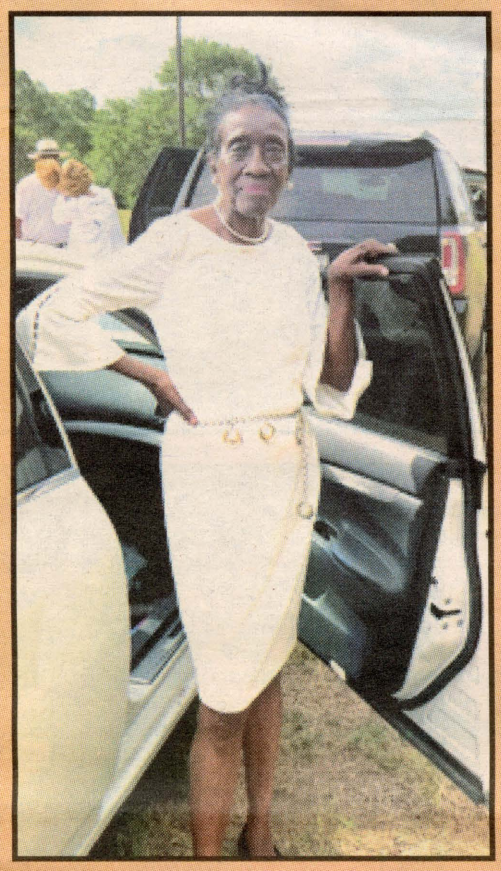
Above: The Manual siblings, Booker T., Barbara, and Faye, celebrate their ancestors together. Right: Dr. Marco Robinson has a walk with Guest Honoree, Maurice Owens, a longtime resident and descendent of many interred in Wyatt Chapel.

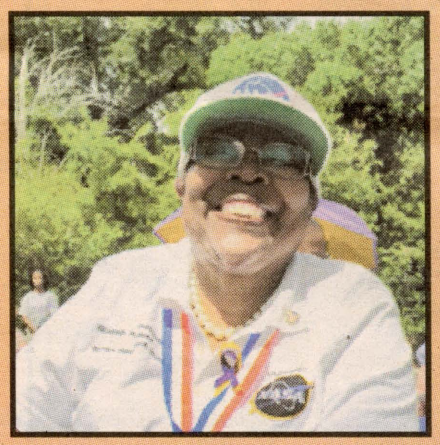






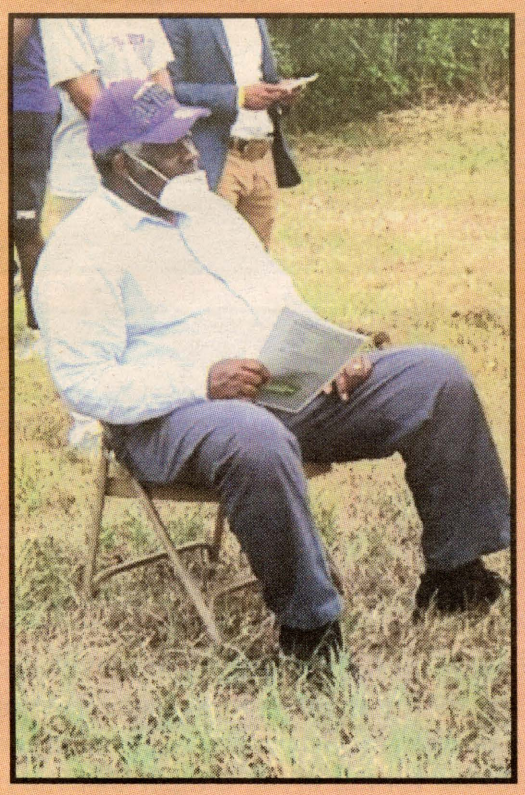
Above: Pamela Morgan officiates the Wyatt Chapel Descendents Association Juneteenth program. Bottom right: Sharon Tisdell reads a Proclamation from the City of Prairie View's Mayor, Ronald Leverett. Bottom center: Dr. Alice Pendleton enjoys the ceremony with a beautiful smile. Bottom Left: Allene Adams arrives for the celebration service.







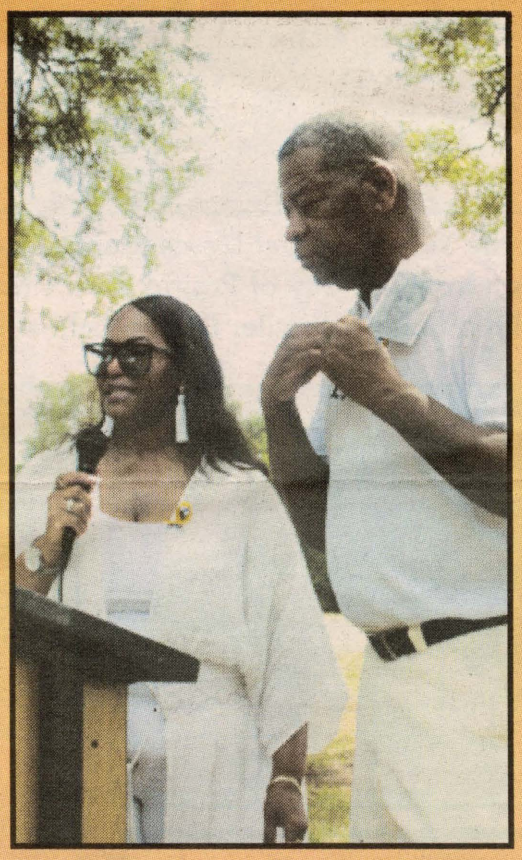


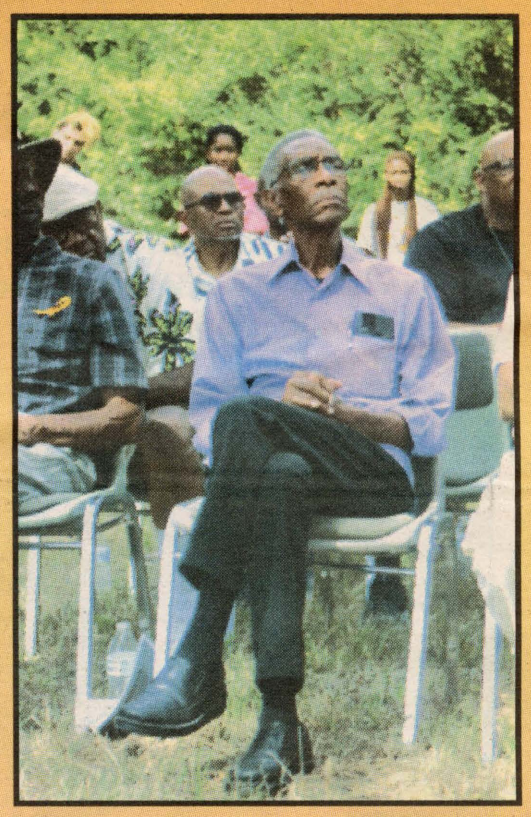




Above: Prairie View A&M University students serve up water to attendees and volunteered throughout the day with program activities. Left: PVAMU History Professor Lee McGriggs, flanked by many of his students, enjoys the days activities.



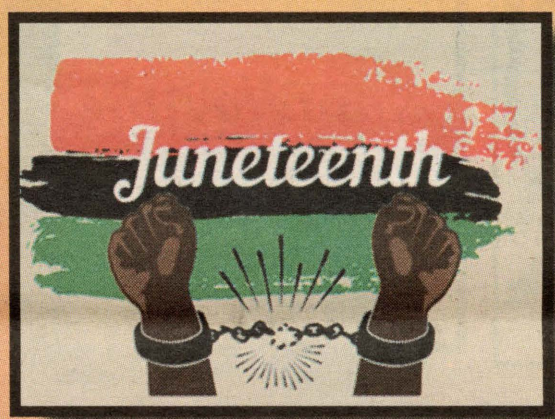


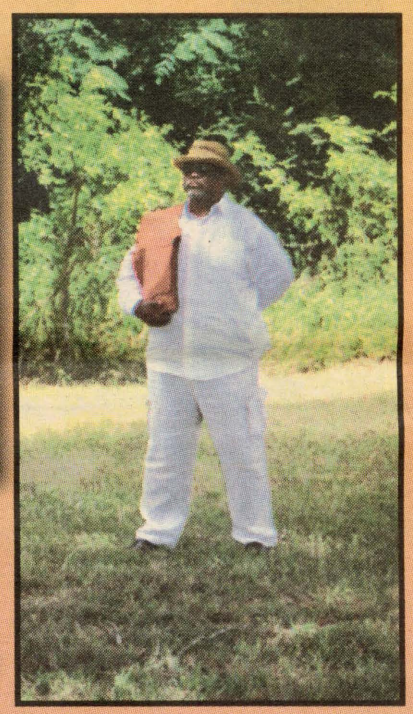


Above: Dean Charles Lewter (PVAMU) opened the program up in prayer and enjoys a moment of observance. Middle top: Descendents Dr. Eve Wallace and Booker T. Manuel lead attendants in offering libations to the ancestors.









Above left: Waller County Democratic Party head Dr. Denise Mattox pays tribute to the ancestors along with Ms. Linda Durham, City of Prairie View. Above center: Tanya DeBose with the Historic Black Towns Settlement Alliance speaks on cemeteries in the south and shares a brief history of Wyatt Chapel Cemetery. Below left: Carl J. Wilson of Waller sits with clergy. Pastor Poole of Wyatt Chapel Baptist Church; Dwayne Thompson, Pastor of Hempstead's Bethleham UMC and Prairie View's First UMC. Far right middle: Dr. Ronald Goodwin (PVAMU History Prof) stands in solemn respect.





Above top: Prairie View Mayor, Ronald Leverett provided a proclamation from the city for the event. Above: Students from the classes of Dr. Robinson and Dr. McGriggs pose in front of the State of Texas hisotrical Marker for the Wyatt Chapel Cemetery.



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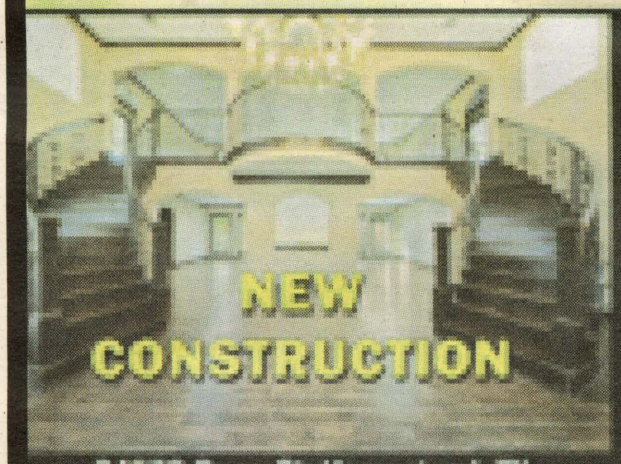
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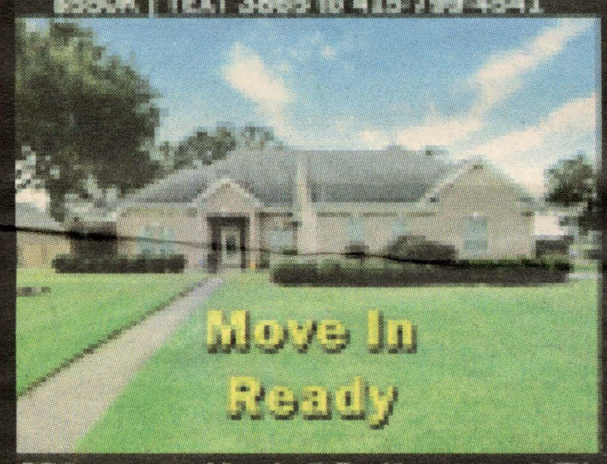
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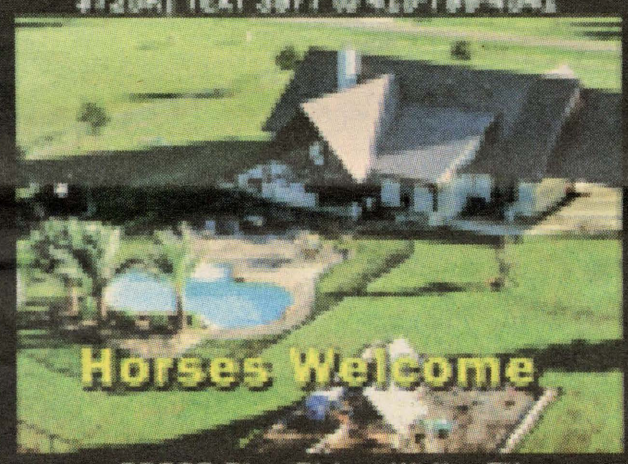
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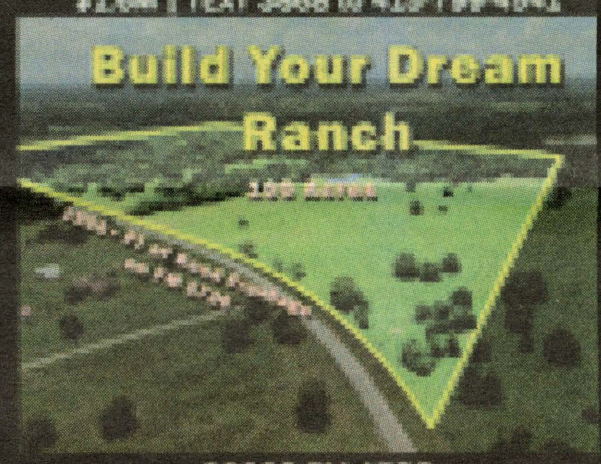
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PVAMU

2022 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Vs Texas Southern Sept. 3, 2022	At Abilene Christian Sept. 10, 2022	Vs Incarnate Word Sept. 17, 2022
At Alabama State Sept. 24, 2022	At Grambling Oct. 1, 2022	Vs Southern Oct. 8, 2022
At Lamar Oct. 22, 2022	Vs Bethune-Cookman Oct. 29, 2022	Vs Alcorn State Nov. 5, 2022
At Arkansas-Pine Bluff Nov. 12, 2022	At Mississippi Valley State Nov. 19, 2022	SWAC Championship Dec. 3, 2022

- Home - Away

