

WELCOME LETTER

Dear Visitor,

Welcome to our City of Vernon website. Vernon, Texas is a beautiful West Texas community full of friendly people. Whether you're visiting here for business, vacation, or have lived here for years, we welcome you and hope you find your visit to this website a pleasant one. We encourage you to use this website to assist you in finding information about the City of Vernon and this area.

Vernon has something for everyone. We have lots of local dining and shopping here. Choose from a combination of gift stores, antique stores, clothing and traditional shops. You will have no problem finding what you need here including a great meal— our restaurants in Vernon are the best around!

As for recreation, Vernon offers a variety of options. There are multiple parks and tennis courts, a golf course, walking path, and a state-of-the-art Aquatic center, which includes a zero entry pool, water slide, and lazy river. We have some of the best hunting in the state. There have been numerous records set here. We have two great museums including the Red River Valley Museum on Vernon College campus and the Wilbarger Historical Museum downtown. Both showcase Vernon's interesting history and are a must see. We also host a variety of events throughout the year including the PRCA Santa Rosa Rodeo, Summers Last Blast and Cruise, Vernon Burn'in Bike Ride, and many other great events.

We are extremely proud of Vernon College our community college and our Vernon Independent School District. Our schools are staffed with some of the best teachers in the nation. Our proud sports traditions, keep us competitive and moving forward. We are also home to North Texas State Hospital a state of the art forensic facility. We are home to the famed Santa Rosa Palomino Club, Texas's Ambassadors on Horseback. They have represented us and the Santa Rosa Rodeo throughout the nation.

We are an agricultural based community with a rich history. The first settlers to the area were the Doan's family who set up a trading post to trade with the Indians and the cattle drovers that drove cattle up the Great Western Trail, also known as the western branch of the Chisolm Trail that went right through downtown Vernon. We are also home to the WT Waggoner estate and the famous Waggoner Ranch, the biggest ranch under one fence in the United States.

Stay and look around. Enjoy our beautiful sunsets and blue sky. We have many pleasant surprises served up by some of the friendliest folks you will find on the planet.

Sincerely,

Joe Rogers, Mayor