

# MAYOR'S WELCOME

Dear Visitor,

Welcome to Vernon, a beautiful northwest Texas community full of friendly people. Whether you're here for business, vacation, or have lived here for years, we welcome you and hope you find your stay in Vernon a pleasant one. We encourage you to use this community guide to assist you during your stay.

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, Summer's Last Blast and Cruise, Vernon Burnin' Bike Ride, and many other great events.

We are extremely proud of our community college, Vernon 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' Official 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 was the Doan family who set up a trading post to trade with the Indians and the cattle drivers that drove cattle up the Great Western Trail, also known as the western pathway of the Chisolm Trail that went right through downtown Vernon.

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



Photo by Payton McCormick