

## **Pleasanton Express**

### **Judge Cude April 25 Article**

Hola Amigos! It's time to vote! Local elections often occur every year, and because turnout is usually lower, your vote can make more of a difference. Our local elections allow us to decide on the people who make decisions that impact our daily lives. I want to encourage young voters to engage in local government and elections. When young voters do not participate, impactful decisions are left to older voters, leading to outcomes that might be less representative of the overall population. Voting is one of your most powerful tools, so use it! Early voting for City, School, the Municipal Utility District (MUD), and the Evergreen Underground Water Conservation District (EUWCD) elections began this past Monday and will continue for the remainder of the week until Friday, **April 28**, and again on Monday and Tuesday, May 1 and 2. Election Day is Saturday, May 6.

Some of you may be curious about the Municipal Utility District #1 on the ballot. The purpose of a MUD is to provide developers with an alternative financing tool for infrastructure development. Only people living in the MUD district's confined area may vote on this item. The MUD District #1 pertains to voters living in the new subdivision to the left of Granzin's Meat Market only. If you do not live in that area, you are not eligible to vote in the MUD District #1; therefore, it will not affect your taxes. Eligible voters must live in the Pleasanton City limits on one of these streets: Cowboy Ridge, Horseshoe Trails, Lasso Ridge, Maverick Cove, Rawhide Ridge, Blacksmith Way, Campfire Court, Wrangler Court, or Bronc Ridge. For additional information on the local elections, please reference the Atascosa County Elections Office at [atascosacounty.texas.gov](http://atascosacounty.texas.gov)

Lastly, I want to mention the passing of my dear friend and mentor, Sheriff Tommy Williams. He was a great man, a servant leader, and a friend to everyone he met. I will genuinely miss him; I already do. I have many stories and memories that will last me a lifetime, and I will always be grateful for that. His dedication to Atascosa County has created such an impact on me. We can all learn from his example to give back to our community, care for one another, and always do the right thing. Together we are Atascosa Proud!