

## Pleasanton Express Article

Weldon P. Cude – June 7, 2023

Greetings amigos! I hope you are all having an enjoyable start to the Summer. As Summer activities and travel increase, please remember to be safe and look out for one another. I also want to send all new graduates throughout Atascosa my best wishes as they embark on their new chapters outside High School. May you all stay safe and remember that hard work will always pay off no matter what you do or where you go. In today's article, I want to highlight the work of the Atascosa Veterans Service Office. The Veterans Service Officer (VSO) and staff have dedicated their time and efforts to planning events for Veterans in the County. The first event is on June 12, celebrating Women's Veterans Day. On June 12, 1948, President Harry Truman signed the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, which allowed women to serve in the Military. It was in May of 2017 when Texas House Representative Victoria Neave filed House Bill 2698, which was later incorporated into Texas Senate Bill 805 and signed into Law by Governor Greg Abbott, designating June 12 as Women's Veterans Day. On Monday, June 12, at 11:30 am, the Veterans Service Office is hosting a Women Veterans Day Luncheon to honor and recognize women veterans in Atascosa County who have served. The luncheon will occur at the Veterans Service Office at 818 Main Street in Jourdanton. We kindly ask that you RSVP at (830) 769 - 3251 if you want to attend.

To continue efforts that provide services and outreach to all Veterans, the VSO is also hosting a Veterans Outreach and Resource Fair on Saturday, June 17, from 10 am to 1 pm. There, you can find informational booths, food, and resources on medical, financial, and social services for Veterans and their families. The resource fair will occur at the American Legion Post 436 at 1404 Zanderson Avenue in Jourdanton. Light refreshments will be available to Veterans in attendance. I want to thank the Veterans Service Office for the time and dedication to providing these events for the Veteran Community. Thank you to the American Legion Post 436 and the Military Veterans Peer Network for their support and involvement with this effort. The Veterans in Atascosa must feel valued, listened to, and supported in any capacity our community can provide. If you are an organization that wants to partner in any way with the Veterans Service Office, please reach out and lend your hand in strengthening their network. If you are a Veteran in need, the Veterans Service Office is open Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm, and is a good starting point for finding assistance. Follow their Facebook page, 'Atascosa County Veterans Service Office,' or visit them to learn about opportunities to get involved. Together we are Atascosa Proud!