

## **Pleasanton Express**

### **County Judge Weldon Cude Article 8-9-23**

As County Judge of Atascosa, there are several compelling reasons why I absolutely love this region. Atascosa County will always hold a special place in my heart primarily due to the generations of my family history. Still, there are also many reasons why it can be considered an excellent place for anyone to live. The County encompasses opportunities, growth, rich history, and many future possibilities. Our County is home to some of the tightest-knit communities where people genuinely care for one another. This sense of togetherness is evident in how our neighbors support each other during celebrations and hardship. It's an honor to witness how our community rallies around various initiatives and events that unite us.

I also appreciate Atascosa for its rural beauty. Our region offers a tranquil escape from the bustle of San Antonio's city life. While we generally offer a more affordable cost of living compared to our neighbors in Bexar County, the cost of living is undoubtedly an attractive option for people and families. Since we are just a short drive from San Antonio, our proximity provides our residents with nearby access to urban amenities, job opportunities, and events while allowing for a quiet and rural environment to live in. Preserving Atascosa's natural beauty and promoting responsible land management is my priority. I take pride in working toward sustainable development that allows our landscapes to flourish for future generations. The agricultural heritage here continues to shape our way of life. Our farmers and ranchers are vital in providing food and resources to our community and the nation. Supporting and nurturing our agricultural heritage is not only a passion of mine, but it also sustains our economy and our unique traditions. While we cherish our traditions, Atascosa County embraces progress, opportunity, and growth. I am committed to supporting initiatives that bring positive changes. Whether by improving infrastructure, enhancing healthcare, or increasing economic opportunities, it's a delicate balance between preserving our heritage and pursuing innovative development that brings a rewarding challenge to my role as County Judge. There are many wonders around the unique opportunities of being a resident in Atascosa County. I will always recognize the efforts and achievements of our past generations, for they have laid the foundation for our future and remind us that we must consistently reflect on our history to navigate the path ahead. I want everyone to know that serving as County Judge in this remarkable County is an honor, and I'm dedicated to contributing to its preservation, success, and prosperity. Together we are Atascosa Proud!