

# The Bandera PROPHECY

January 25, 2024

John Schuetze announces for Republican Party Precinct Chair #407

My name is John Schuetze and I am honored to have been asked to run for the Republican Party Precinct Chair #407 in Bandera County. I am a Native Texan, born and raised in Corpus Christi. While my retail career took my wife, my four children and me to six states, 12 cities and a Navajo Indian Reservation, my heart always stayed in Texas. This travel helped me develop skills to be able to work with and supervise people from different income levels, backgrounds and cultures.

During my career I was a pharmacy tech, a night stocker, and I managed the Depts. of liquor, hardware, paint, sporting goods and toys in Big Box Stores. I advanced to Store Manager and was a District Manager in the Catalog Showroom business and supervised stores in two states. I spent the balance of my career managing High-End Jewelry Stores. After 20-plus years in San Antonio, upon retirement 14 years ago, we chose Bandera for its Conservative Values, Natural Beauty and Country Life. My Texas roots go back five generations to Gonzales, where my third great-grandfather is credited with firing the canon, which was mounted on his wagon wheels, under the "Come and Take It Flag." His sister-in-law is credited with helping make the Flag out of a wedding dress. Mitchell County and Mitchell Lake in Texas are named in honor of my ancestors.

I am a supporter of law enforcement, our military, the Constitution and am an NRA member. For the past eight years, I have been serving on my Homeowners Association. I volunteer at Frontier Times Museum, I am a former Meals on Wheels Driver, a Former Cub Scout/Webelos Leader and Former Explorer Post Leader. As a teenager I was member of the Texas National Guard.

In school, my peers elected me as President of the Future Teachers Club and President of the Latin Club.

My primary duty when elected is to register new Republican voters. I did the 2020 U.S. Census for Bandera County, so I have a general idea of the layout of my precinct in order to recruit new voters. I was referred for the Census job by a Bandera Business Executive, who is a registered Democrat. I found the outlying areas of Bandera County sparsely populated with a lot of gated fences. As a result, some people probably won't have a lot of enthusiasm about leaving their farm or ranch duties and travel the distance to go vote on election day.

The Republican Party has a serious fault in getting people out to vote once they are registered. Nationally, the Democrats beat us all to heck on this. We are going to have find new and better ways of reaching out to voters. Historically, it looks like Bandera County averages about a 55% voter turn out of registered voters and has about 85% of the County registered. That's an excellent job on registering voters in my opinion. I realize a lot of us oppose mail in voting and ballot harvesting, but we need to take advantage of all legal means to get people to vote Republican once they are registered and to vote early.

Texas was Blue a lot longer than it has been Red. Basically, from Reconstruction until the 1990s, Texas was blue. Please don't think that it can't be Blue again. We will help Texas turn Blue in the future if we are not transparent and open. The very first sentence of the Republican Party Preamble states. "Be it resolved, the Republican party is the party of the open door."

I am hoping to help change the attitude of those who do not understand that message, or, if necessary, help change the leadership.

After almost 61 years of marriage, my wife just recently passed away, but I know she is supporting me in this endeavor. I would greatly appreciate your vote and I Thank You for your support. I promise to do the best with my abilities and to serve all in my precinct with an open and transparent manner.

Early Voting starts Tues, Feb. 20.