The BanderaPROPHET

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Leanne Beauxbeannes announces for Bandera County Commissioners Precinct 3

My name is Leanne Beauxbeannes and I am throwing my hat in the ring to become your next Precinct 3 Bandera County Commissioner. I have been a public servant in Bandera County for 23 years and I would like to continue that service as an elected official if the people in my precinct vote for me in the Republican Primary on March 3.

A little background

I was at born Fort Sam in San Antonio. I am a fifth generation Texan. My father was an Air Force pilot and we traveled with him to many places and always tried to visit my grandmother in San Antonio during bluebonnet season. My mom said that was a part of being a True Texan. After graduating from college at the University of Colorado I took a job in the big city of Houston with a very large property management company, as the business manager for a nice 300-unit apartment complex. I became skilled in hiring and supervising eight to 10 employees as well as the numerous outside contractors needed to keep that many apartments rented or ready to move in. The daily financial and occupancy reports I did was without the aid of computers. I won the "Rookie of the Year" award and later, the coveted "100% Occupancy" award. This took a lot of get 'er done attitude and action. These skills I bring to you.

Coming to Bandera

I moved here from Matagorda County where I had been employed by Exxon Co USA as a maintenance specialist in the oil field which happen to be on a large ranch. That was hard hats, steel-toed boots, shovels, wrenches and being the driver and operator of the big wench truck. The first women were being hired to fill a quota for equal opportunity and the pay was twice as much as I had been earning. I was ready willing and able to step up to the challenge. I got along well by watching, listening and learning all new skills, in an all-man gang. These skills I bring to you.

During this time I began visiting Bandera as often as I could and riding horses at the Dixie Dude Ranch where I met the staff which are still my friends. I bought my first horse at age 46 and began saving and searching for my little piece of Heaven here in the Hill Country. I got here in 1993, and never looked back.

I answered an ad to be a school bus driver at Medina ISD. That year I met my first rural kids and families and awesome teachers, hit my first deer, chopped my first cedar tree and learned to love the values and way-of-life in my new home.

Being a public servant and volunteer

My first job for Bandera County was with Rural Addressing, a two person office. We drove every caliche road and highway and then calculated a physical address for every life structure using a factor of measurement. We coordinated with the post offices, the telephone companies and the appraisal district. We then created a data base and digital map that is still used by dispatchers today. We then notified each resident that they were receiving a new address that would have meaning to the first responders. My main job was to help the people of Bandera County deal with the changes a new address made in their lives. During this time I rode with the Cowboy Capital Trail Riders on short rides and the long ride to the San Antonio Stock Show. For five years I headed up the Toys for Kids Trail Ride donating the proceeds to the Spirits of Christmas and then donned a Santa suit and delivered the gifts. I organized the first ever Cowgirl Round-up on the last day of the last century, then gathered again for the Bandera Sesquicentennial celebration. These panoramic photos can be seen in the Frontier Times Museum.

Because of the beauty I saw at home and on the trail and my deep interest in native plants, I studied to become a Texas Master Naturalist which is a core of volunteers dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas through service and outreach. I have since become an instructor at the state-wide conventions and many TPWD workshops.

After 10 years with Bandera County Rural Addressing my status was change to part-time, so I got a second part-time job out at the Hill County State Natural Area. By then I had studied to be a Texas Master Naturalist and had earned a degree in Education many years before. These helped qualify me for a full-time position, Park Specialist Ranger and Volunteer Coordinator for Texas Parks and Wildlife. During my ten years as a Park Ranger I produced the annual Cowgirl Round-up and developed the Show-deo. I continued to produce the annual Ranch Heritage Days with the support of the friends group SNAP. Every year I conducted field days and nature walks for BISD fifth graders and a weekly nature program for Boys and Girls Club called Walk on the Wild Side. I welcomed Eagle Scout projects and taught little cub scouts how to identify baby cedar trees and snip them out safely. I blazed a nature trail with accompanying signage and built a nature viewing blind. All of this was done with the help of Volunteers as no staff was assigned to me. I plan to recruit volunteers to help beautify Bandera and Mansfield beyond its small budget.

During this time I helped sponsor the Junior Rangers Mounted Drill Team. I have ridden with them in parades or driven the support truck. I volunteered for the Junior Livestock Horse Show yearly as the official photographer, ribbon presenter and secret judge. I also became involved with 4-H as a co-leader of the Plant ID and Rangeland program. I've work or volunteered at local rodeos and love the sport. Frontier Times Museum called on me to help with the Little Wrangler Program as part of the Day of the American Cowboy. Bandera can be so much fun if you just step up to help.

Almost three years ago I came back to work for the County, one month after I retired from the State. I am working in the Rural Addressing to

assign address to our booming population. I am also assigned to the Emergency Management office with the title of Volunteer Coordinator. I have had the pleasure of working in the Justice Center and have seen the dedication of the 911 dispatchers, the long hard work of lawenforcement, firefighters and EMS staff. I know I will always support them in Commissioner's Court.

I have attended a wide variety of classes in emergency preparedness. I am a member of CERT the community emergency response team and have recruited others. I am Red Cross shelter trained and taken many FEMA classes. I attend the Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District meetings and am vitally interested in the early flood warning system being developed. This knowledge and experience will help me be a good Commissioner.

During this time I continued producing Cowgirl Round-up Panoramic photo and am now on the Board of Directors and treasurer for SNAP the Hill Country State Natural Area. I am a member of Texas Equestrian Trail Ride Association, the Cowboy Capital Trail Riders and occasional volunteer at Boys and Girls Club. I work on my own land restoring native grasses, preventing erosion and counting the birds and deer.

I'm asking for your vote

I hope these years as a public servant and volunteer here in Bandera County and the knowledge skills and abilities that I bring to the table will enable me to rise to the challenges I will face as a new commissioner. I will do the job with a love for the people and the land and the spirit of Bandera County. I would be so honored to have y'all choose me as your County Commissioner Pct. 3. Please visit my webpage Leanneforcommissioner.com.

Also visit BanderaCounty.org to see the duties of a County Commissioner. Thank you.

P.S. Campaigning is like bragging, but after all I am a True Texan.