## The BanderaPROPHET

October 27, 2023

Bandera County hires new Veterans Service Officer

By Gary L. Noller The Bandera Prophet

Bandera County recently hired Mike Lauricella, U.S. Navy veteran, as its Veterans County Service Officer. He is located at 403 12th Street and can be reached at 830-460-1643. He takes appointments from Monday through Thursday.

Service officers are not employees of the VA. They are employees of state or county veterans services offices or veterans service organizations. They assess veterans needs, provide answers to questions, and complete and submit benefit application forms for veterans.

Veterans are eligible for a variety of benefits and services provided by the federal and state governments. But veterans often do not know of this eligibility or where to get useful information on what they may receive. The Kerrville VA Medical Center is one component of the South Texas Veterans Health Care system headquartered in San Antonio.

Veterans who are not enrolled in the VA health care system can learn about their eligibility.

The VA provides a wealth of information at its website at va.gov.