## **Elder Abuse Awareness Month Proclamation**

- WHEREAS, older adults and people with disabilities of diverse backgrounds contribute to the wellbeing of this city by working, caregiving, volunteering and actively preserving customs, rituals, and traditions; and
- WHEREAS, as we age, we build momentum by accumulating knowledge, experience, insight, and wisdom that can be shared to enrich our community; and
- WHEREAS, abuse of older adults and people with disabilities is a community concern, affecting thousands of people across Texas; and
- WHEREAS, there were 120,069 reports of abuse older adults and people with disabilities in Texas in 2023; and
- WHEREAS, abuse against older adults and people with disabilities is grossly underreported because of social stigma, embarrassment, and fear; and
- WHEREAS, adult abuse effects men and women of all income and ability levels, all cultural and ethnic backgrounds, in all communities; and
- WHEREAS, elder abuse is everyone's business, it's important to strengthen our efforts to prevent, report and address elder abuse.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I <u>Cindy Vanlandingham</u>, Judge of Bosque County in recognition thereof, do hereby proclaim the month of June 2024 to be:

## "Elder Abuse Awareness Month"

In Bosque County, Texas and urge all residents to work together to reduce abuse and neglect of older adults and people with disabilities.

WITNESS OUR SIGNATURES and SEAL OF OFFICE this 20th day of May 2024.

Cindy Vanlandingham, County Judge