

## **ATASCOSA COUNTY JUDGES REPORT**

Merry on Main in Pleasanton and Christmas Village at the Strawberry Festival Grounds are now in the books for 2021. I worked at both and am very happy to see the goodness of the people's hearts involved. These times are so messed up with what seems to be a deterioration of civilization that it is nice to see these good people giving back to the community the fruits of their goodwill.

The many Merry on Main workers are truly extraordinary with their great attitudes and work ethic. I have attended their meetings and was involved with the Christmas Story play production. The support level of all involved assisting each other was terrific. The workers of the City of Pleasanton were phenomenal in helping the citizen volunteers.

As they have for many years, the folks putting on Christmas Village do a fantastic job. The setup for the village is a considerable amount of work. The large cast and functions of the performance have many moving parts that work well together.

As we move closer to Christmas, I hope all of Atascosa County can develop and maintain that attitude of "Peace on Earth by humans of goodwill" through the holidays and beyond.

I made a public announcement last week as you may already have been aware. I am not running for another term as your Judge, but will be in office until my time is completed on Dec. 31, 2022. A new county judge will be sworn in on Jan. 1, 2023. Sign-up for the county offices was closed at 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 13. We have 13 candidates for county judge and justice of the peace offices. I wish to remind them that they are subject to the "Texas Code of Judicial Conduct" even while a candidate. That means they cannot endorse or support any other candidate. They can only support their candidacy while maintaining the civility and decorum defined in the "Code." That "Code" is designed to prevent anyone, whether a candidate or in office, from "staining" the image of the judiciary in Texas. Judges are held to a higher standard than other officeholders and must act like it. Would you please target your vote for Judges that will meet that standard?

Thank you for listening. Have a Merry Christmas!