



Wishing you a very happy Christmas and exciting New Year.

BEATRICE BEAUTY SHOP
Mrs. James Wilson
Mrs. Frank Bowen
Eagle Lake



Christmas Peace

We wish to one and all a most joy-filled holiday.

From The DIRECTORS, STAFF AND RESIDENTS
HERITAGE HOUSE
EAGLE LAKE



To all our friends, the very best.

Scott's Snack Shack

Mrs. T. W. Scott and Employees
Eagle Lake

H-GAC Officials Report On Goals At Commr.'s Court Meet

Colorado County
Featured In Dec.
Issue, H-GAC Spectrum

Charles T. (Chuck) Doyle, commissioner for the city of Texas City and president of the Houston-Galveston Area Council, and Jack Steel, H-GAC executive director, met with the Colorado County Commissioners' Court, in special session on Dec. 5th to review the goals and functions of the Houston-Galveston Area Council. At the present, this county is a member of H-GAC and County Judge Lester J. Crane (he served as president of H-GAC in 1975) represents the county on the executive board and Commissioner Rafael Veselka is the general assembly.

Doyle noted that the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments is a voluntary association of cities, counties, school districts, and special districts located within the thirteen-county Texas Gulf Coast Region. It was established 13 years ago on September 6, 1966 as eight counties to assist local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit, and coordinating for sound regional development. Doyle said the H-GAC is the fifth largest such organization in the state and probably has the largest budget of any in the Nation, due primarily to the growth of Houston and the Gulf Coast area.

The Council of Governments is an organization of... and for local governments. Its purpose is to strengthen the individual and collective power of local governments to recognize regional opportunities to help local governments resolve regional problems and make joint decisions, and to develop the means to assist local governments in the implementation of those decisions," said the H-GAC president.

H-GAC has a General Membership composed of two voting representatives from each county; two voting representatives from each city over 100,000 population; one voting representative from each city with over 5,000 population; one voting representative from each city under 5,000 in population; one representative for each county for ISDs; and one representative for each county for HISDs; and one representative for each county for Conservation Districts.

The 13 counties of Waller, Montgomery, Liberty, Walker, Austin, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Wharton, Matagorda, Brazoria, Galveston, and Harris counties, 18,500 square miles with over 2.5 million people. There are approximately 1,500 new residents arriving each week with an estimated population of 5 million by the year 2000, said Doyle.

Through the years of its existence, H-GAC has established a strong record of regional cooperation and coordination among its member local governments. Our success has been due in a large measure to the close cooperation among units of local government and between the public and private sectors. Business working hand-in-hand with government through the free enterprise system. Growth brings with it new needs for our citizens involving transportation, schools, streets, sewers, hospitals, drainage, water supply, fire, police, housing, parks, libraries, recreation, environmental protection, etc. These are some of the many problems of growth, how do we handle it individually and collectively is what H-GAC is all about," said Doyle.

Financial Support
The H-GAC 1979 budget included from federal funds, \$11,473,737; state funds, \$1,310,525; local funds, \$1,124,914; or a total of \$13,909,176. Local dues, \$200/min. per person, \$304; and the State of Texas added \$253,000.



Mayor Victor G. Schmidtinsky, pastor of St. Mary's Church in Nada, was recognized recently for his "dedication to the people of Medina County" and also for his "support of the Texas Agricultural Program," with a plaque presented to him by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. "Father Victor" as he is usually called, served in the D'Hanis Holy Cross parish from 1967 to 1977 and during these ten years did a great deal of community service and work with youth programs in Medina county.

Making the presentation were (left, Tony Zerr, John F. Leach and Clarence Wurzbach, members of the Medina County Building Committee. Inscription on the plaque reads: "Father Victor," "In grateful appreciation for your dedication to the people of Medina County and your support of Texas Agricultural Extension Service Programs, 1967-1977." Hondo Anvil Herald photo by Terry Teague.

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Free Fiesta Dinner

Bobby Marsalis this is a ticket for a free Fiesta Dinner at the La Fiesta in Eagle Lake where you get the finest in authentic Mexican foods in a pleasant atmosphere. Clip this card and present at La Fiesta not later than Dec. 24, 1979.



Have yourself a grand and glorious holiday.
D & V Delgado & Sons
The David Delgado
Eagle Lake

H-GAC Goals Reported At Commr.'s Court Meeting

(Continued from page 2)

such as the operation of training programs and technical assistance to local governments. The Council of Governments is not now, and should never be, an operating agency delivering services or operating facilities at the expense of local government control.

In 1978, H-GAC reviewed 587 projects and projects costs were \$309,977,105. Federal Funds \$191,825,989; Government projects, 246 with costs \$187,267,417. Federal Funds \$107,950,191; and Private projects, 341 with costs \$122,709,688. Federal Funds \$53,869,736.

Voluntary Membership
The speaker stressed the importance of volunteer service which he described as the "backbone of government."

"H-GAC is an extension of and supplement to local governments of the Texas Gulf Coast Region working together" will achieve a stronger sense of community, and a better appreciation of the problems of growth and development before the local units of government in the region. We are helping to determine the future quality of life that will exist in the Gulf Coast Region," concluded Doyle.

"All local governments in the H-GAC, our private citizens, as well as State and Federal officials, are encouraged to support the continued operation of the H-GAC as the most effective mechanism for local government coordination in regional problem-solving," the speaker said.

Steel passed out to the commissioners and Judge Crane the December 1979 issue of "H-GAC Spectrum," monthly publication which contained five full pages with volunteer leaders from this county, a resume of the county and projects which were approved for entities in the county through H-GAC services. The full text of the section is published elsewhere in this issue.

Carl Seaholm III Cited By Austin P.D.



Carl W. Seaholm, III, member of the Austin Police Department, is shown receiving a Police Commendation Bar from Austin Chief of Police Frank Hyman. The Police Commendation Bar is one of the highest commendations awarded by the Austin Police Department.

Seaholm Commended By Austin PD

Local Boy Making Good!

Carl W. Seaholm, III, a member of the Austin Police Department, recently was awarded a Police Commendation Bar, one of the highest awards made by the Austin Police Dept. for meritorious service with the department.

Seaholm, a former resident of Eagle Lake, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Seaholm, Jr. and grandson of Mrs. C. W. Seaholm, all of this city.

The Police Commendation Bar was awarded to Seaholm for "exceptionally meritorious service and outstanding contribution to the police profession, without regard for personal welfare or safety, of such magnitude as to bring honor and recognition to himself and the Austin Police Department."

A letter from Austin Police Chief Frank Hyman to Seaholm read as follows: "On March 18, 1979 at approximately 2:08 a.m. you were a back-up for Officer Ralph De La Fuente, who was answering a light call. Upon arrival you witnessed a subject shooting at Officer De La Fuente.

been injured. "During a foot pursuit the suspect threw a grocery cart at you and you fell over it and broke your left wrist, tore a ligament in your left arm, and ruptured a blood vessel in your right leg. Although injured, you continued in pursuit for four city blocks and apprehended the suspect. "It is my pleasure to present you with the Police Commendation Bar."

Seaholm has been with the Austin Police Department for three years. He has a brother, Jeff, who is also with the Austin Police Department.

Citizens of the community join in offering congratulations to Carl for this award for meritorious service.

"Twas the Law!
"Whoever shall be found observing any such day as Christmas and the like, either by forbearing labor, feasting, or any other way upon such account as aforesaid, every such person so offending shall pay for each offense five shillings as a fine to the country."

Law passed by the Pilgrims in 1659.

Music Enhances Christmas Season

What would Christmas be like without music? It's hard to imagine celebrating the holiday season without the strains of "Silent Night" or "Joy to the World" expressing the wonder and hope we feel at Christ's birth.

Fortunately, we have music to enhance the holidays, and it's been present since that very first Christmas, when the heavenly host performed their extraordinary "Christmas Concert" for some awestruck shepherds in the hills near Bethlehem.

Since that night, there have been countless carols written; cantatas composed, and popular songs written about Christmas.

Everyone has a holiday preference and chances are, you'll be hearing your own particular musical favorite sometime this season, whether it's piped into your local department store or performed by the church choir.

Some Christmas carols have famous composers such as Adolphe Adam (*O Holy Night*) and Felix Mendelssohn (*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*). Still others are attributed to a traditional melody, such as *Deck the Halls*, which was inspired by an old Welsh tune, and *Coventry Carol*, based on a traditional English melody.

The anonymous and the famous, the privileged and the poor — all manner of composers have endeavored to share their joy in the holiday season with a musical offering of some kind. Christmas music can be reverent and uplifting, or merry and rollicking... either way, it reflects the magic of this time of the year, in a very special way that both young and old can appreciate.

Warm Wishes



A wish that your Christmas blooms with happiness, love and caring.

Duncan & Son

R. L. Duncan
Martha and Joe Duncan
& Employees
Eagle Lake

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Volunteers Needed For Dist. Court Probation Program

A volunteer program for probationers was started in this area by District Judges E. W. Patterson and R. B. Schraab. The program involves getting the citizens of the counties to invest their time to working with probationers. We are starting the program in Colorado County and will be moving to Lavaca, Gonzales and Guadalupe Counties by the first of the year. It is the law-abiding citizen's responsibility to see that the peace and harmony of their town is maintained. One way you can do this is to become involved with the probationers and work with them to become useful citizens.

"Our challenge is to restore and maintain the vitality of our local institutions. Local government provides the basic services that give people a sense that their government is effective and responsive. In the beginning, States created our National Government and Local Governments. States were the fountain source of all government powers, but money modified that legal concept. States today seem less 'sovereign' with so much revenue flowing from the Federal Government," he commented.

In 1975, Federal assistance to States and Local Governments was greater than all the expenditures of the 50 States in the year 1966. Government spending totaled 18% of the GNP in 1974 and 22% of the GNP in 1974. The question is: "How much can free people expect the Government to accomplish in its name and still remain free?"

Operational Activities
Doyle added: "It is the intent of the Executive Board that H-GAC not seek operational authority which is in conflict with the operational authority of any local government. When called upon by local officials as the most appropriate mechanism, H-GAC will deliver services."

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May all men share in the joy that Christmas brings.
AMERICAN RICE GROWERS ASSN.
EAGLE LAKE DIVISION



Rejoice, gentle hearts, for Christ is born!
FROM ALL OF US AT
Lake Motors, Inc.
323 S. McCarty • Eagle Lake • Phone 234-2513



Yuletide candles burn brightly, symbolizing the renewal of warmth and openness among men. May you partake of all the rich joys of this wonderful season.
Happy Holidays
BETTER BEVERAGES, INC.
R. J. CAMPBELL, Pres.
HALLETTSVILLE, TEXAS



Christmas brings hope eternal to all mankind.
D & V Town & Country Store
The David Delgado
Eagle Lake



Our Wish for the Christmas Season is Peace and Goodwill to everyone. That is the spirit and the meaning of Christmas which celebrates the birth of the Prince of Peace. Have a Happy and Holy Holiday.

Lake Lumber Co., Inc.

Walter, Mary Ann Gold & Family
Eagle Lake