

# Cowboy Country News

Published each Wednesday in the county seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas

Volume V111, Issue2 September 12, 2001



## A Message From James Haynes, Superintendent, Plains ISD

On September 29, Plains ISD will be holding a tax rollback election. The election is taking place because Plains ISD has levied a tax rate higher than the rollback rate as determined by the state. The rate set by the district is \$1.35 per \$100 valuation. The tax rate for last year was \$1.42 per \$100 valuation. The tax rate is actually going down by seven cents. A person not associated with the school district might ask, "If the tax rate is going down, why must the district have a rollback election?"

The answer is because the tax values of minerals has gone up, the district does not have to tax at as high a rate to raise the same amount of money that was raised last year. By law, however, we are a Chapter 41 district ( Districts Operating Under the Robin Hood Finance Plan) and are affected differently than the districts considered poor. Some needs that will require a rate of \$1.35 for Plains ISD are the need to replace our running track, extensive repairs to our building roofs, teacher pay and benefits, and Recapture.

By far our greatest problem is the huge increase in the money sent to the state ( Recapture) because we are considered rich. To give you an example of the increase in Recapture, Plains

ISD sent \$300,000 to the state during the 2000-2001 school year. This year, Plains ISD will have to send about \$810,000 to the state. Next year the projection is \$2,950,000 in locally raised tax money will be sent to the state in the form of Recapture. This is money that must be raised ABOVE the cost of our normal operating budget. This is where the need for the higher tax rate arises.

If the rate is not left at the \$1.35 level, next year will require huge cutbacks at Plains ISD. A large number of staff positions, possibly around 20 certified teachers, coaches or administrators would have to be eliminated. Major cuts would be required in every program, in every area and grade level of the school. Plains ISD would look totally different for the 2002-2003 school year. We have an excellent school system. Cuts like I have mentioned could change the quality of education at Plains ISD in a very negative way. For that reason, it is extremely important you vote to keep the tax rate set by the board at \$1.35 per \$100 valuation!

To cast a vote to support Plains ISD you will need to mark the box "FOR" on your ballot. It will help Plains ISD maintain the level of excellence it enjoys today.

## K-9 Patrol Officer Joins Sheriff Department If 'Famka' growls, you'd better behave yourself

The Yoakum County Sheriff Department ranks were bolstered last week when Famka, a three year old female German Shepherd formally became a working member of the department, the patrol partner of Deputy Curtis Coffman.

Coffman spent three arduous weeks of assisting in the training of the K-9 at the Hill Country Dog Center at San Antonio. The deputy said training days were long, often lasting 12 to 14 hours. One of the first pre-requisites in a working law enforcement dog is to establish rapport, or a bond between the dog and its handler. Famka will ride patrol duty with Coffman, and is already a working member of the department.

Sheriff Don Corzine said he was elated to have the dog working here in the county. "We pushed to start this K-9 unit, for we knew there was a real need for the help the unit would provide the people of the county. We are very fortunate the City Councils of Plains and Denver City, and a number of individuals and area business firms also saw the need for the dog, and their generous donation of funds allowed us to purchase and train Famka. Both the Sheriff and Deputy are convinced the price of the dog, including the three weeks of training, some \$7,000, is a bargain. The Sheriff added, "When all the equipment for the K-9 unit has been acquired, we will have an investment of 10 to 12 thousand dollars. That is cheap compared to adding another officer to the department. Famka was born in the Netherlands and received training there before coming to the San Antonio training facility.



Deputy Curtis Coffman, Famka, Sheriff Don Corzine

Famka's main duties will be narcotics detection, and patrol duties, which could involve tracking, searching buildings, houses, vehicles, and as protection. The officers said the dog will also be available to assist other law enforcement agencies.

Coffman had experience as an K-9 officer in Littlefield prior to joining the department here. He will keep Famka at his home. "She's a very good natured dog, but none of us consider her a pet, and the public shouldn't either. I think it would be very poor judgement for a stranger to come up and attempt to pet her. She is trained to work as a member of a law enforcement agency, not as a pet."

Famka was certified at the training center for detecting illicit drugs, including marijuana, methamphetamine, heroin and cocaine. Sheriff Corzine said when Famka sniffs an illegal drug, she reacts in a passive

manner, sitting still and staring at the source, unlike the aggressive reaction of some drug detecting dogs, who whine, scratch or bark. She must pass a drug detecting certification test every six months, and re-certification in patrol duties every year.

The Sheriff said he hoped to be able to introduce and demonstrate the dogs capabilities to a number of county civic groups and possibly at Denver City and Plains schools in the near future. "I think everyone in the county should be aware we have a very valuable asset serving all the folks of this county."

Both officers agreed the public should be aware the mistreatment, harassment, injury or cause of death to the dog are serious felonies.

## Cowboys lose 34-27 to Abernathy in heartbreaking overtime



Off to a great start - Moises Gonzales takes quick pitch from Jared Bell and goes 72 yards for touchdown. Note blocking on right corner by linemen.

The 2001 Cowboys probably surprised many local followers, and certainly threw a big scare into the visiting Antelopes last Friday night. The very first play from scrimmage featured Jared Bell making a quick pitch to tailback Moises Gonzales who turned the right corner, and outraced the defenders for an electrifying 72 yard touchdown scamper, and Joseph Rodriguez' kick put the Cowboys up 7-0.

The Antelopes may have been stunned, but took the kickoff at their 31, and in 11 plays, pushed the ball steadily down field to the 3 yardline, then into the end zone, and the PAT made it a 7-7 contest.

Late in the first period, the Lopes would score again to go ahead 13-7. Thirty seconds later, with the ball on the 20, Cowboy linemen punched a hole in the big Antelope defensive front, and Joseph Rodriguez burst through the middle and sailed 80 yards for a 13-13 score when the PAT

kick was blocked.

With 4 minutes left in the second quarter, Bell found Moises Gonzales open and hit him with a pass that went for a 12 yard score, and Rodriguez' kick put the Cowboys up 20-13 at halftime.

Late in the third quarter, the Cowboy defense stalled the Lopes drive at the 38 yardline, and their punt was downed at the Cowboys one. Bell's pass attempt to Jeffrey Lollar went awry, and the Lopes picked it off for a 15 yard return and TD. The PAT failed, and the Cowboys maintained a slim 20-19 lead. The Cowboys quickly retaliated when Jared Bell picked up some good blocks and zig zagged his way around the right side and sped 59 yards for the Cowboys fourth touchdown, and Rodriguez' kick put them back on top 27-19.

Abernathy did not roll over and play dead. A ten play drive moved the Lopes 68

yards for a touchdown, and the two point conversion produced a 27-27 deadlock at the end of the final period, forcing an overtime period.

Abernathy would score the final TD on a pass, and the kick produced the 34-27 win. Their were many standout performances by the Cowboys. The offense racked up 339 yards in 47 plays, 297 yards on the ground.

Rodriguez punted three times for a 30 yard average, and made three of four point after kicks. Bell rushed for 112 yards, Rodriguez had 99, and Gonzales 86. Rodriguez, Gonzales, Kevin Bartley and Tanner Hamm were top receivers. Bell, Bartley, Chris Hansen and Mario Bonilla led in defensive tackles. The Cowboy offensive and defensive linemen, greatly overmatched by the size of their Antelope opponents, made great efforts through out the contest. The 2001 Cowboys appear to be a team future opponents will have to beat - they are not going to give up.

## Lea County Electric Studies Merchant Power Opportunity

Lovington, NM - The landmark power plant of Lea County Electric Cooperative, quiet since September, 1983, may soon be the site of power production again.

The board of directors of the Lovington based electric cooperative signed a letter of intent with Dallas energy marketer Energy Transfer Group (ETG) last April to investigate the possibility of utilizing the quieted facility as the location for a gas-fired combustion turbine. Since signing the agreement, both parties have been working to conduct due diligence to determine the feasibility of the proposed Lea County Generating Plant.

"All investigations so far -

transmission grid analysis, legal opinions, state and federal permitting requirements, discussions with Southwestern Public Service, etc... reveal no serious obstacles to the development of the plant," according to Co-op General Manager Michael Dreyspring.

The proposed generator, a GE LM6000, will be capable of producing 47 megawatts of power to be used primarily for peaking demand in the SPS wholesale area. The unit has an extremely efficient heat rate of 9,800 BTUs per kilowatt-hour, and low water requirements. Fuel for the turbine will be sales-quality natural gas from an existing natural gas supply

pipeline. The turbine will drive an electric generator, and the resulting power will be transformed to the required voltage at one of the Cooperative's existing stations. The proposed facility will include one natural gas-fired combustion turbine, a gas compressor, a 115kV switchyard, a mobile water treatment system, and control room.

"This is a win-win venture for both the Cooperative and ETG. Locating the proposed generating package on our old power plant site has the potential to allow ETG to use the Cooperative's existing grid in-

Turn to Page Two,  
"LCEC"



## Court OK's Western Peanut Growers hangar for Sandy Land farm tour slated for September 21

In the September 4 meeting of Commissioners Court, Sandy Land UWD requested approval of a severance agreement to allow the water district to construct a second airplane hangar at the County Airport. The building would be used primarily for maintenance work on the district's precipitation enhancement aircraft, and other local planes. The court approved the agreement.

Dianne Brunson's resignation from the Sheriff Department was approved, and the court approved the hiring of Rhonda Trent as Sheriff Department Dispatcher.

A request from Tax Assessor/Collector Betty Rivas for the purchase of a new computer from 2001 budget funds was approved.

### From Page One, "LCEC"

interconnects, gas pipelines, water and other on site support facilities. This results in significant avoided costs for ETG, and creates a business opportunity for Lea County Electric to generate revenue from lease agreements, transmission interconnection fees, and perhaps even maintenance service for the plant," said Dreyspring.

Lea County Electric ceased power production in 1983 after negotiating a long term power contract with SPS, allowing the Cooperative to purchase power cheaper than it could produce. "The success of this joint venture with ETG will not affect our present long term contract with SPS," said Dreyspring. "ETG would sell power from the facility into the wholesale market, while we continue to purchase all of our power from SPS in accordance with our contract, which runs through 2015. The reason we so actively opposed the SPS divestiture plan earlier this year was because such a long term contract is, and will continue to be, a significant economic benefit to our members; nothing in our relationship with ETG will change that."

According to Dreyspring, Lea County Electric took a leadership role in the legislative efforts in both New Mexico and Texas earlier this year. "While we've helped to avoid a California-like disaster by delaying restructuring in our area until 2007, that's not the end of the story. For the past five years our board's strategic planning identified this type of venture as critically important toward ensuring that sufficient generating capacity exists to ensure a competitive market for energy. In short, we've anticipated an opportunity like this would come along sooner rather than later."

The next phase will involve compliance issues with various state and federal regulatory requirements for air quality emissions and water use. The Cooperative's board could approve a formal agreement with ETG for the project at their October meeting. A public meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, September 13 at 7 p.m. at the Lea County Electric Community Room, 18 W. Washington in Lovington. Persons interested in learning more about the project are encouraged to attend.

Seminole - At the beginning of 2000, Western Peanut Growers Association (WPGA) began operation of a 320 acre research farm located some 10 miles west of Seagraves. As the farm's second crop is reaching maturity, WPGA will hold a peanut research farm tour September 21, beginning at 8:30 AM.

Funded by WPGA, the peanut research farm is the first of its kind, forming a unique research alliance consisting of USDA-ARS, Texas Tech University, Texas Ag Experiment Station and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. The research farm provides a consistent site to conduct tests otherwise virtually impossible to perform on a single producers farm year after year. Water needs and irrigation research are a large focus of the farm, along with soil fertility, crop rotation, cultivation, plant population, improved genetics, and economic analysis of production systems.

Tentative tour schedule and

speakers:

8:30 AM- Register for 2 CEU's, WPGA Research Farm 1 mile west of intersection of County Roads 226 and 211, Gaines County.

9 AM- Drip irrigation, Ron Sorenson. Cotton variety-insect research, Scott Armstrong. Peanut pythium pod rot, Terry Wheeler.

Cotton root knot nematode variety test, Terry Wheeler. Weed control, Pete Dotray.

Peanut Rhizobium, nitrogen, Calvin Trostle. Spatial soil nutrient status, Kevin Bronson. Precision Ag research, Mike Shubert. Peanut breeding, Charles Simpson, Mark Burrow. Receive CEU's.

WPGA is a non profit organization funded and governed by peanut producers primarily on the South Plains, and the only voice dedicated to the West Texas peanut industry. To learn more about WPGA or the research farm, contact the WPGA office in Seminole at 915-758-2050.



Plains ISD's Jim Haynes used a video presentation to explain to Plains Lions the vital need for approval of the district's proposed tax rate.

### Farm Tour Set

The Yoakum County Farm Tour/Educational Meeting will be held Friday, September 14, meeting at the Tokio Coop Gin at 9 a.m., according to Arlon Gentry, County Extension Agent. Items on the agenda include; harvest aid products; alternative crops summary; Boll Weevil Eradication update; and an insect update. Speakers include Dr. Randy Boman, TAEX, Dr. Calvin Trostle, TAEX, Darrell Dusek, TBWEP, and Scott Russell, TAEX. Participants will tour a large cotton variety test on the Rickey Bearden farm north of the gin, where Dr. Boman and his research team will lead discussions.

**Happy Birthday To US!!**  
Starting our eighth year this issue. We appreciate your support!

*Gary, Holly & Dolores*

## PUBLIC NOTICE

BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENTS OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS  
Special Election  
NOVEMBER 6, 2001

### PROPOSITION 1 (HJR 52)

Proposition 1 would amend the constitution to relinquish the state's claim to certain disputed land in Bastrop County. The amendment would confirm legal title to that land, excluding any mineral interests, to the individuals who hold a disputed title to the land. The amendment would prevent a loss of title by people who bought and paid for property that was never transferred by the state because of faulty surveys.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing municipalities to donate outdated or surplus firefighting equipment or supplies to underdeveloped countries."

### PROPOSITION 2 (SJR 37)

Proposition 2 would amend the constitution to establish the process for issuing up to \$175 million of state general obligation bonds and notes to provide aid to counties for access road projects to serve border colonias. Generally, a colonia is an economically distressed geographic area with inadequate public services (such as water supplies, sewer services, or paved roads) in a county without adequate resources to provide such services. These projects could include the construction of access roads, the acquisition of materials used in maintaining those roads, and projects related to the construction of those roads, such as road drainage. The Texas Transportation Commission, in consultation with the Governor, would be authorized to determine what constitutes a border colonia for purposes of selecting the counties and projects that would receive assistance.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of state general obligation bonds and notes to provide financial assistance to counties for roadway projects to serve border colonias."

### PROPOSITION 3 (SJR 47)

Proposition 3 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to exempt green coffee and raw cocoa held in Harris County from property taxes in order to qualify Harris County as an exchange port for coffee by the New York Board of Trade. The authorization of exemption would not apply to any other county.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation raw cocoa and green coffee that is held in Harris County."

### PROPOSITION 4 (HJR 1)

Proposition 4 would amend the constitution by setting the term of the fire fighters' pension commissioner at four years. The constitution currently provides that the duration of all offices not otherwise fixed by the constitution may not exceed two years.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for a four-year term of office for the fire fighters' pension commissioner."

### PROPOSITION 5 (SJR 32)

Proposition 5 would amend the constitution to allow a municipality to donate outdated or surplus equipment, supplies, or other materials used in fighting fires to an underdeveloped country. Current state law does not allow anything of value belonging to the state or its political subdivisions to be donated to another nation.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing municipalities to donate outdated or surplus firefighting equipment or supplies to underdeveloped countries."

### PROPOSITION 6 (HJR 45)

Proposition 6 would amend the constitution to require the governor to call a special session of the legislature so that the legislature can appoint presidential electors when the governor determines that it is reasonably likely that the outcome of the election for a presidential candidate's electors will not be clearly determined in time for the appropriate electors to meet before the federal deadline to cast their votes. Under current law, when the people vote for a particular candidate for president, in reality they are voting for that candidate's electors who will meet to cast their votes for president. If the electors are not determined by the certification date, no electoral votes may be cast for the state. The proposed amendment ensures that the state's electoral votes will be cast.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment requiring the governor to call a special session for the appointment of presidential electors under certain circumstances."

### PROPOSITION 7 (HJR 82)

Proposition 7 would amend the constitution to authorize the Veterans' Land Board to issue and sell up to \$500 million of additional general obligation bonds to finance additional home mortgage loans to veterans. Additionally, the proposed amendment would authorize the Veterans' Land Board to use assets from the land and housing assistance funds to create, operate, and improve veterans' cemeteries.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the Veterans' Land Board to issue up to \$500 million in general obligation bonds payable from the general revenues of the state for veterans' housing assistance and to use assets in certain veterans' land and veterans' housing assistance funds to provide for veterans cemeteries."

### PROPOSITION 8 (HJR 97)

Proposition 8 would amend the constitution to allow the legislature to authorize the Texas Public Finance Authority to issue and sell up to \$850 million of general obligation bonds. The proceeds of the sale of the bonds would pay for construction and repair projects or for the purchase of needed equipment by the General Services Commission, the Texas Youth Commission, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the

Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Parks and Wildlife Department, the adjutant general's department, the Texas School for the Deaf, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Public Safety, the State Preservation Board, the Texas Department of Health, the Texas Historical Commission, or the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of up to \$850 million in bonds payable from the general revenues of the state for construction and repair projects and for the purchase of needed equipment."

### PROPOSITION 9 (HJR 47)

Proposition 9 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to provide for filling vacancies in the legislature without an election if only one person is a qualified candidate in the election to fill the vacancy. Under current law, a special election must be held to fill a vacancy in the legislature even if there is only one qualified candidate.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the filling of a vacancy in the legislature without an election if a candidate is running unopposed in an election to fill a vacancy."

### PROPOSITION 10 (SJR 6)

Proposition 10 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to exempt certain items of personal property from property taxation by political subdivisions of the state if the property is warehoused temporarily in a location in Texas to be assembled, stored, manufactured, processed, fabricated, or repaired and then forwarded to another location inside or outside Texas. The proposed amendment would authorize a political subdivision that imposes ad valorem taxes, at its option, to tax this type of property after a local public hearing on the matter.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to promote equal tax treatment for products produced, acquired, and distributed in the State of Texas by authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation tangible personal property held at certain locations only temporarily for assembling, manufacturing, processing, or other commercial purposes."

### PROPOSITION 11 (HJR 85)

Proposition 11 would amend the constitution to allow a schoolteacher, a retired schoolteacher, or a retired school administrator who serves as a member of a governing body of a school district, city, town, or other local governmental district, including a water district, to receive compensation for serving on such a governing body. Currently, state employees or other individuals who are compensated directly or indirectly from state funds are barred from receiving a salary for such service.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to allow current and retired public school teachers and retired public school administrators to receive compensation for serving on the governing bodies of school districts, cities, towns, or other local governmental districts, including water districts."

### PROPOSITION 12 (HJR 75)

Proposition 12 would amend, repeal, or relocate several sections of the current

constitution to improve the clarity, organization, and consistency of the constitution.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to eliminate obsolete, archaic, redundant, and unnecessary provisions and to clarify, update, and harmonize certain provisions of the Texas Constitution."

### PROPOSITION 13 (SJR 2)

Proposition 13 would amend the constitution to allow the legislature to authorize a board of trustees of an independent school district to donate real property and improvements formerly used as a school campus in order to preserve that property. The board may make the donation if the board determines that the property has historical significance, that the donation will help to preserve the property, and that the school district no longer needs the property for educational purposes.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to authorize the board of trustees of an independent school district to donate certain surplus district property of historical significance in order to preserve the property."

### PROPOSITION 14 (HJR 44)

Proposition 14 would amend the constitution to allow the legislature to authorize a taxing unit, other than a school district, to exempt travel trailers from property taxation as long as the travel trailers are lawfully registered with the state and are not held or used for the production of income.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to authorize taxing units other than school districts to exempt from ad valorem taxation travel trailers that are not held or used for the production of income."

### PROPOSITION 15 (SJR 16)

Proposition 15 would amend the constitution to create the Texas Mobility Fund, which would be administered by the Texas Transportation Commission. The Fund would finance the construction, acquisition, and expansion of state highways and would pay a portion of the costs of public toll roads and other public transportation projects. The legislature may reserve specific sources of state revenue for the Fund and may authorize the Commission to guarantee the payment of any obligations or credit agreements with the full faith and credit of the state. The attorney general shall determine the legality of any such obligations or credit agreements.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment creating the Texas Mobility Fund and authorizing grants and loans of money and issuance of obligations for financing the construction, reconstruction, acquisition, operation, and expansion of state highways, turnpikes, toll roads, toll bridges, and other mobility projects."

### PROPOSITION 16 (HJR 5)

Proposition 16 would amend the constitution to reduce the waiting period required for a valid home improvement lien on a homestead from 12 days to 5 days. Currently, a lien may not attach to a homestead for a home improvement loan if the homeowner executed a contract for the improvements less than 12 days after applying for the loan. In addition, the proposed amendment would

authorize the conversion and refinancing of a personal property lien secured by a manufactured home to a lien on a homestead.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment prescribing requirements for imposing a lien for work and material used in the construction, repair, or renovation of improvements on residential homestead property and including the conversion and refinancing of a personal property lien secured by a manufactured home to a lien on real property as a debt on homestead property protected from a forced sale."

### PROPOSITION 17 (HJR 53)

Proposition 17 would amend the constitution to allow the state to relinquish claim to certain state land and to clear title defects for persons who claim title to those lands. The proposed amendment would apply to land whose owners have disputed title to the land, but for which no patent from the state, giving clear title to the land, was ever issued. Among other requirements, all of the taxes due on the land must have been paid. Under current law, there is no procedure allowing the state to settle title disputes without a constitutional amendment for each piece of land in dispute.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to settle land title disputes between the state and a private party."

### PROPOSITION 18 (SJR 49)

Proposition 18 would amend the constitution to authorize the legislature to create a program to consolidate and standardize the collection, deposit, reporting, and payment of criminal and civil court fees. If the legislature creates such a program, any new fees imposed by the legislature may not take effect before January 1 of the following year, unless an earlier effective date is approved by a vote of two-thirds of the members of each house of the legislature.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to promote uniformity in the collection, deposit, reporting, and remitting of civil and criminal fees."

### PROPOSITION 19 (HJR 81)

Proposition 19 would amend the constitution to allow the Texas Water Development Board to issue up to \$2 billion of additional general obligation bonds. The Board issues bonds to pay for water supply projects, water quality enhancement projects, flood control projects, state participation in water and wastewater facilities, and projects for economically distressed areas. Current law limits the amount of bonds that the Board can issue.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of additional general obligation bonds by the Texas Water Development Board in an amount not to exceed \$2 billion."

Estos son los informes explicatorios sobre las enmiendas propuestas a la constitución que aparecerán en la boleta el 6 de noviembre de 2001. Si usted no ha recibido una copia de los informes en español, podrá obtener una gratis por llama al 1/800/252/8683 or por escribir al Secretario de Estado, P.O. Box 12060, Austin, TX 78711.

PUBLISHED BY SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY CUELLAR, Ph.D.



## Chief Economist of Federal Reserve Bank to headline CSW series

College of the Southwest will present Dr. W. Michael Cox, senior vice president and chief economist of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, on September 25, 26 and 27, in Artesia, Carlsbad and Hobbs, respectively. Co-author of *Myths of Rich and Poor: Why we are better off than we think*, Cox is extremely popular as a presenter. A frequent guest on national radio and television, the media consistently rely on Cox's ability to make plain sense out of difficult economic issues. He has appeared on Voice of America, National Public Radio, CNN, and recently on John Stossel's ABC program, "Is America #1?" Cox has received extensive attention for his positive views

of the economy. In his book *Myths of Rich and Poor*, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, he battles economic doomsayers by proving the American economy is much better off than imagined, and most importantly, real wealth has actually skyrocketed. Considered a lively and engaging speaker, Cox will speak on "Miracles and Myths of the New Economy" at the three lectures, held from 6 to 9 p.m. nightly. The September 27 lecture will be held at the College of the Southwest campus in Hobbs. Dinner is included. Because of limited space, reservations are requested by Friday, September 21, and will be on a first come basis. For ticket information, please call Judy

Walton at CSW, 505-392-6561, ext. 1029. CSW's annual Hatton W. Sumners speaker series is presented through the support of the Hatton W. Sumners Foundation. Sumners, a Texas Congressman from 1912 until 1947, was respected as the greatest constitutional lawyer in Congress, and is still revered as a man of great moral courage. He believed in the vigorous participation by individual citizens in their government, and recognized a strong and independent judiciary and legal system are necessary to the survival of the American system of Constitutional government.

Vicki Blundell  
Christy O'Bunk  
Maryanne Diaz  
Jon Roster  
Bruce Otto  
Daryl Bann  
J.G. Miller  
Soni Jones



Mark Lewis  
Pam Rowe  
Dellie Ruppberg  
Bill Butler Jr.  
Gary Dyer

H A Richardson  
Pete W. Ruman  
Ch. Cobison  
Lisa Lewis  
Kathy Jones  
Linda Jones Wall  
Saundra Stephens  
James Dyer

**Plains Lions urge you to vote *FOR* on the Tax Rollback Election ballot September 29. Help us keep the high standards of our School District, which recently earned another Exemplary rating by the TEA!!**



### COLLEGE OF THE SOUTHWEST HOBBS AND CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO

#### THE HATTON W. SUMNERS SPEAKER SERIES

proudly presents

### Dr. W. Michael Cox

Chief Economist & Senior Vice President  
Federal Reserve Bank, Dallas, Texas

Co-Author of *Myths of Rich and Poor: Why We Are Better Off Than We Think*

*Lecture Topic: Miracles & Myths of the New Economy*

#### Dinner / Lecture Sites:

##### Artesia, New Mexico

Date: Tuesday, September 25  
Time: 6:00-9:00 p.m.  
Place: Artesia Country Club  
2701 West Richey Street  
(No student forum)

##### Carlsbad, New Mexico

Date: Wednesday, September 26  
Time: 6:00-9:00 p.m.  
Place: Pecos River Village  
Conference Center  
Carousel House  
711 Muscatel  
(Student forum 4-5 p.m.,  
CSW-Carlsbad campus)

##### Hobbs, New Mexico

Date: Thursday, September 27  
Time: 6:00-9:00 p.m.  
Place: College of the Southwest  
Scarborough Memorial  
Library Atrium  
6610 Lovington Highway  
(Student forum 4-5 p.m.,  
Mabee Heritage Center)

Cost: \$25 per person for dinner and lecture

*Because of limited space, reservations are requested by September 21, and will be accepted on a first-come basis.*

#### College Credit Opportunity:

Students desiring college credit may enroll in the seminar entitled *Leadership Strategies in Today's Economy*: BUA 4721, EDU 4721, or EDU 5721.

#### Requirements include:

- Attendance at a 1-hour session
- Attendance at dinner / lecture
- 1500-word essay

For more information concerning credit opportunity for the seminar, please call Cindy Robertson at (505) 392-6561, ext. 1004, or Kim Parsons at (505) 887-3500.

*Tuition will be waived if registered by September 18. A fee of \$35 includes book, dinner, and seminar.*

#### Tickets may be purchased at:

College of the Southwest  
6610 Lovington Highway  
Hobbs, New Mexico 88240  
or by calling (505) 392-6561  
or (800) 530-4400

or  
College of the Southwest-Carlsbad  
500 West Church  
(505) 887-3500

Please call for more information  
or to make reservations.

#### NOTICE OF ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECTION)

To the Registered Voters of Plains, Texas:  
(A los votantes registrados del Plains, Texas:)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on September 29, 2001 for voting in a rollback election to determine the tax rate for Plains ISD.

(Notifíquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales sitados abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 29 de septiembre de 2001 para votar en la Elección para aprobar o no aprobar una proporción de impuesto más que el impuesto máximo que se puede cobrar sin tener elección.)

#### LOCATION(S) OF THE POLLING PLACES (DIRECCION(ES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES)

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at  
(La votación adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en)

Plains ISD High School Auditorium, 1000 10<sup>th</sup> street, Plains, Texas  
(location) (sitio)

Between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. beginning on September 13, 2001  
(date)

(entre las 7:00 de la mañana y las 7:00 de la tarde empezando el 13 de septiembre)  
(fecha)

and ending on September 25, 2001. (y terminando el 25 de septiembre, 2001).  
(date) (fecha)

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(Name of Early Voting Clerk)  
(Nombre del Secretario(a) de la Votacion Adelantada)

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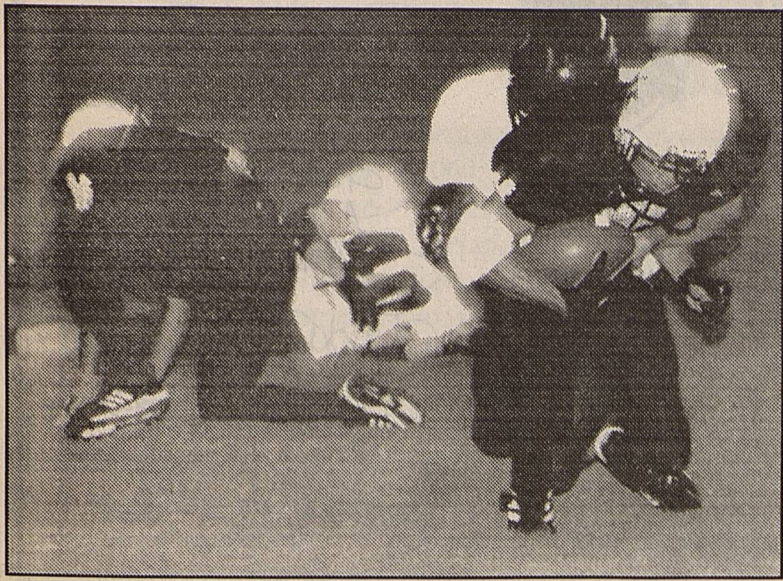
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## Cowboy Action Scenes



Joseph Rodriguez about to go down after good gain



Tanner Hamm grabs a Jared Bell pass



Hamm and Bell converge on Antelope runner

## JV Cowboys down Abernathy 18-6

The JV Cowboys won their season opener at Abernathy September 7 with a come from behind strong effort, Trailing 6-0 at halftime, the Cowboys forced a safety and got on the board 6-2. Next, Arnold Cordova scored on a 47 yard dash. Evan Cain then hit Armando Ramirez for a two point conversion to put them up 10-6. In the final period, Armando Ramirez sacked the Lopes quarterback and stripped the ball from him. This led to a good throw from Cain to Zach Broome who moved the ball to the one yardline, where Cain sneaked the ball over for the TD, and Ramirez caught another Cain pass to make the final score 18-6. Coaches Davis and Johnson credited the young Cowboys with a great effort and win.

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Cowboy Country  
News

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## Volleyball Update

### Junior High:

7th Lady Wranglers- In the Denver City Tournament, the 7th girls first defeated Brownfield 15-10, 15-12, but fell to Jal 4-15, 11-15. They also lost to Seminole 13-15, 4-15. The girls travel to Brownfield to compete in the tournament there Saturday, September 15.

8th Lady Wranglers- The 8th girls had a good outing against Levelland August 27, winning 15-5 and 15-3. In competition at the Denver City Tournament September 8, the girls placed third, defeating Denver City 16-14, 15-9. They then fell to Seminole 6-15, 6-15, but bounced back to down Levelland 15-8, 15-13.

JV Cowgirls- The younger Cowgirls recently downed Midland Trinity 15-10, 15-6. They then took on Kermit, and won 11-15, 15-12, 15-13. They next downed Shallowater 15-4, 15-1. In the second game, Kristian Morales served 12 consecutive points. In the Lamesa Tournament, they found tough going, and were stopped by Greenwood 4-15, 4-15. They also lost to Lubbock Christian, 15-10, 11-15, 12-15. Denver City won 9-15, 3-15.

Varsity Cowgirls- The varsity crew met Midland Trinity August 28 and fell 11-15, 13-15. The next conquered Kermit 15-9, 15-6. On September 4, the Cowgirls were downed by Lubbock High 7-15, 3-15. One September 8, in the Lubbock trinity Christian Tourney, they were dropped by Trinity Christian 5-15, 7-15. They felled San Jacinto Christian Academy 15-10, 15-8, then defeated Amarillo Trinity 15-9, 15-11 to win second place in the tournament.

## PISD

### Cross Country

Plains cross country teams saw their first action at the September 1 meet in Brownfield, and faced some tough competition. The Varsity Cowgirls ran against five teams ranked in the pre-season top ten, and finished in 8th place in the meet. Individual performances included: Varsity Cowboys- Armando Ramirez 17th, 17:37 Jonathan DeLaRosa 18th,

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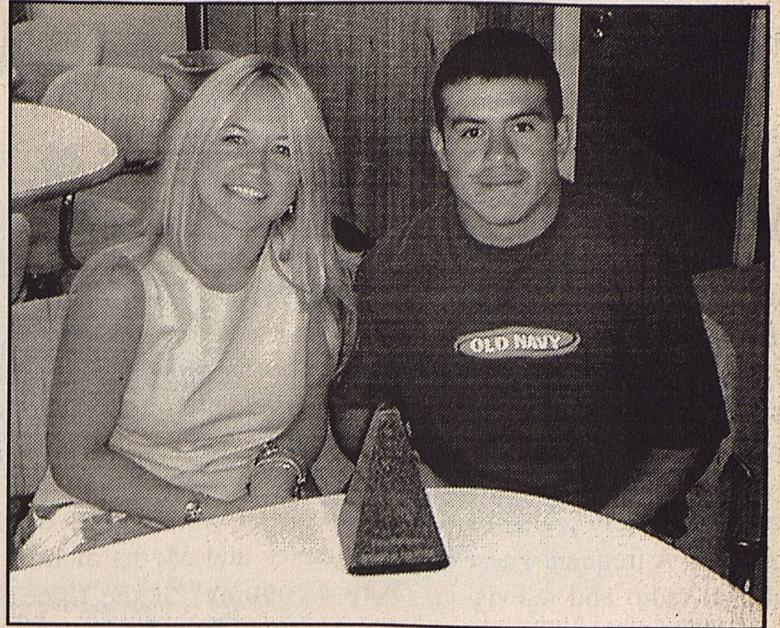
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or 891-0450  
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Jeff Lowery, Sales Assoc.  
Mobile 806-891-3133  
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## PHS Students of the Week

First Student of the Week is Moises Gonzales, a senior and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Valdemar Gonzales. He was nominated by Coach McMinn, who said, "At Plains High, it's important to recognize students who excel in academics and extracurricular activities. Over four weeks ago, in 100 degree heat, two-a-days began. A young man came in with the attitude he was going to be the best he could be. He has worked extremely hard, going full speed through workouts, drills, scrimmages. The work ethic displayed on the field not only helps him in the game of football, but will help him in the game of life."

Second student of the week is Allison Butler, a senior and the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Bill Butler. She was nominated by Michele Jones and Jill Rotunno. Ms. Jones said, "Allison has a happy, upbeat



spirit. Her friendly, energetic attitude is maintained in all the activities she is involved in. She is willing to assist her peers and teachers whenever a job arises and will put forth a full effort with lots of creativity." Ms. Rotunno said, "She never stopped working for the school all summer. She constantly displays dedication, organiza-

tion, and a positive attitude toward whatever task she is asked to do. Even while taking a full load of advanced classes, she finds time to encourage and increase the spirit of her classmates. Such a can-do attitude, combined with energy and integrity, will make this student a successful adult, regardless of the endeavors she undertakes."

17:39

Arnold Cordova 36th, 18:52  
Brandon Davis 27th, 19:41  
Nathan Hays 40th, 19:41  
JV Cowboys-

Peyton Bean 25th, Chase Howell 32nd, Daniel Estrada 61st.

Jr. High-

Competing against teams from much larger schools, the Wranglers did well, finishing in second place behind Brownfield. Individual effort included Jose Villegas 4th, Abel Ramos 18th, Ben Hays 28th, Spencer Ortega

35th, Michael Therwhanger 36th.

The lone junior high girls competing, Desiraye Broome had a mix up on the course, causing her to slip from 7th place to 28th place, then she recovered to finish 23rd.

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## Texas Senate Bill No. 582: Business and Commerce Code Chap. 27

27.02. Certain insurance claims for exclusive charges (a) A person who sells goods or services commits an offense if; (1) The person advertises or promises to provide the good or service and to pay: (A) All or part of any applicable insurance deductible; or, (B) A rebate in an equal to all or part of any applicable insurance deductible amount.



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## Obituary

### Services held for Lottie Mae Carey

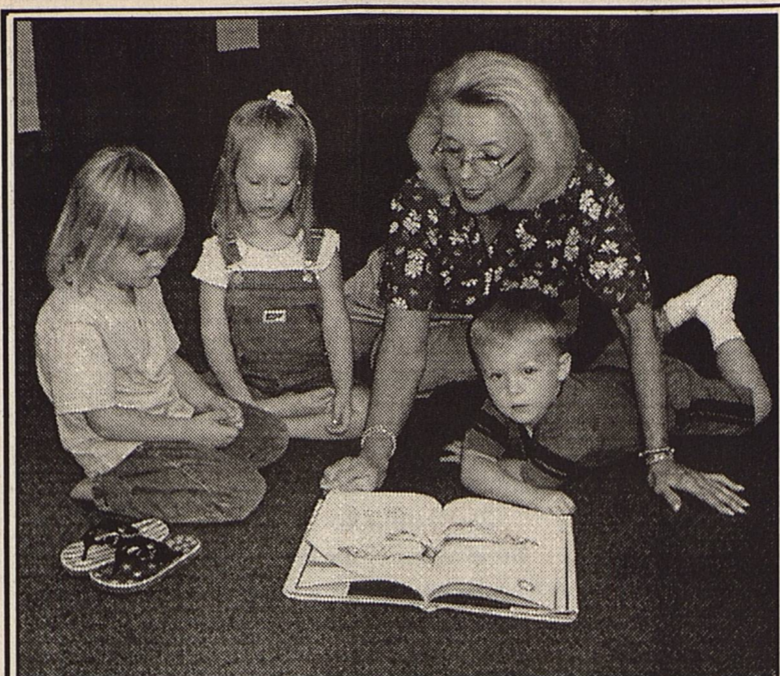
Funeral services were held for Lottie Mae Carey, 88, in the First Baptist Church of Plains, with Rev. Cecil Van Hoose, minister of First Assembly of God officiating, and Rev. Bill Wright, Past of First Baptist assisting. Burial was in Plains Cemetery under direction of Ratliff Funeral Home. She was born October 19, 1912, in McClennan County. She married Earnest Carey October 22, 1931 in Rotan. She was a prior resident of Sweetwater and moved to Plains in 1990. She was a

homemaker. Survivors include her husband; a son, Loyd Carey, Leesburg, Florida; three daughters, Ruby Sellers, Plains, Georgia White, Sweetwater, and Gladys Lamb, Amarillo; a sister, Mary McElyea, Norman, Oklahoma; 9 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and four great, great grandchildren. Pallbearers were Eddie Bilbrey, Scotty Rains, Rickey Lamb, Richard Jones and David Bunch. Honorary pallbearer was David Lamb.

### Services held for Calvin Wade Neal

Services for Calvin Wade Neal, 81, of Smyer were held Tuesday, September 11 at the First Baptist Church of Smyer with Rev. E.G. Lambright, Rev. Bill Oliver and Rev. Billy Capps officiating. Burial followed at Smyer Community Cemetery under direction of Resthaven Funeral Home. He died Saturday, September 8 at Covenant Medical Center. He was born Feb. 25, 1920, in Ada, Oklahoma to Carry and Ada Neal. He married Juanita Bible December 7, 1941 in Canyon, Texas. He was a lifelong farmer and operated a seed dealership. He farmed in

Altus, Oklahoma, and in 1958 moved to Smyer. He was a longtime member of Shallowater Coop Gin, and was a member of the Smyer First Baptist Church. He is survived by his wife Juanita; three sons, Lynn, Ronnie and Ricky, all of Smyer; a daughter, Cecilia Knight of Plains, a sister, Ila Mae Johnson of Okmulgee, Oklahoma, ten grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. The family suggest memorial to First Baptist Church of Smyer Building Fund, Box 438, Smyer TX 79367.



The first Storytime of the new school year was held at the library Wednesday, September 5. Dolores Davis is shown above with Madison Davis, Mesa Davis and Peyton McWhirter, reading one of the library books. Jentry Wall also attended Storytime, which included songs, a video, and discussions of their summer vacations and the recent rains. Pre-school children are invited to attend the Wednesday Storytime sessions at 10 a.m. each Wednesday.

### Senior Citizens Corner

Another week has gone by. This one has really been messed up for me. We were closed Monday for Labor Day, then Layne and I spent all day at the Cardiologist office in Lubbock. We were two tired humans when we got back, but I got a lot better report than I was expecting.

Our condolences, love and prayers to Ed Hicks and his brothers and sisters on the loss of Minnie, a sister.

That was terrible what happened to Keith Minsch and Officer Ballard. Hope both of you will be soon fully recovered and back on the job.

Remember September birthdays - if your birthday is this month come by - we put those names on the Birthday Board. And if your anniversary is in September we want you there also.

September 20 will be Pot Luck supper at 6:30 p.m., with Bo Boggs and his band. Come join us - we always have a good time and lots of food.

Elaine is back home and we are proud to have her out of the hospital. That's it, till next week.

Wanda B.

### Art Association Meets

The Yoakum County Art Association held their monthly meeting September 4. Member Eileen Phillip has obtained tickets to the June 18 Vatican Exhibit in Lubbock and members of the club will attend the exhibit.

The club enjoyed a flower arranging demonstration by Lanelle's Floral Arrangements of Denver City. The arrangements were then donated to the club for door prizes, won by Tina Coffman, Lori Vantine and Marlene Gibson. Refreshments were served by Inetta Teaff, Tina Coffman and Lori Vantine.

The club invites anyone interested in the arts to come to meetings held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the clubroom of the old courthouse.

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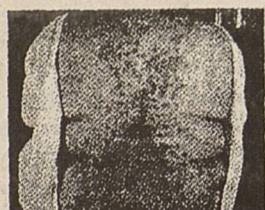
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Food & Fellowship - 5:30-6:30 pm  
Bible Study - 6:30-7:30 pm

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### Fine Arts Club Meets

The Plains Fine Arts Club first meeting of the club year was held September 6 in the home of Carolyn Culwell. Martha Palmer and Frankie Walker served as co-hostesses. Ray Portillo and Georganne Weisberger, directors of the Plains school bands, were special guests. Miss Weisberger played 'Concertino', by Henry Sinae, on the trumpet, and the two directors shared plans and progress of all the bands. Members and guests enjoyed

an outdoor meal of grilled hamburgers and all the trimmings. Those attending included Judi Addison, Sue Banfield, Cynthia Blair, Dolores Davis, Sandra Ellison, Donna Friesen, Teri Hansen, Kathy Haynes, Janie Ramos, Melissa Roper, Sonya Young, Leann Lewis, Judy Fitzgerald and Lois Miller. The next meeting will be held in the home of Cynthia Blair, and the program will be presented by Susie Powell.



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# From The Hack

I had a rather bizarre golfing experience Saturday last. Actually, it was a second bizarre experience of the event. I played in Lea County Electric's annual company tournament, this year held at the Hobbs Country Club, my second LCEC invite. I have decided to forgive them for failure of prior invites.

It was a four person scramble format, where team members choose the best shot on each hole, and play that and then other best shots, and I was assigned to a team consisting of one of the Cooperative's board members, one gentleman who confessed he was an almost complete stranger to the game, another young man who had only recently (and foolishly) decided to take up the game.

The board member I will testify to as a Class A golfer. I say that in all honesty, and hope it will influence him greatly if the question ever arises in a board meeting to curtail all advertising in Texas media.

Our admittedly scruffy crew actually finished first in the tournament! I will be the first of the team to apologize to Mr. Robert Caudle, the board guy, for we rode his back so severely I expect his wife will be tending whip and spur wounds for months. The young guy made a great birdie putt, the other guy

also scored a birdie putt. I managed to help with a few shots, but certainly didn't draw a gallery of admirers for my play.

I was playing under very unusual, actually weird circumstances, you see. I was in a group which did not curse me, dishonor my ancestry, take wagers leaving me in financial difficulties with scurrilous bets, nor tempt me with strong spirals. It was a completely different environment, probably resulting in my lower than normal performance.

Following the very long-winded tournament, I enjoyed a buffet lunch, and stayed for the awards ceremony. Thank God Allan Brown wasn't in charge to give his long-winded spiel. My #1 winning team received \$75 credit each in the Country Club's Pro Shop, and I was elated! Think of it - a free round on the course, complimentary golf ball and dozen tees, a strong mule to ride to our victory, good (free) lunch, \$75 buck credit to spend in the Pro Shop,

Guess what? The \$75 credit furnished me ONE shirt, and six golf balls. Hobbs golf pros are even higher on their stuff than our robber baron pro at YCGC!

I did enjoy it very much, appreciate the invite - and Mike Dreyspring, Allan Brown, please pay attention to my playing partner board member who promised me to push for more advertising!!!

.....

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From the Car Show Committee

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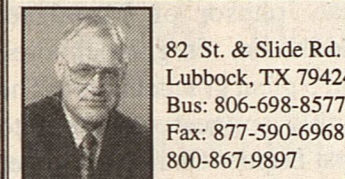
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Unless a differing penalty is expressly provided for within the Code, every person convicted of a general violation of any provision of the Code or any rule, ordinance, or police regulation of the City shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$2000.00 for violations of all such rules, ordinances and police regulations that govern fire safety, zoning, or public health and sanitation, including dumping of refuse, and not exceeding \$500.00 for all other violations. Each act of violation and each day upon which any such violation shall occur shall constitute a separate offense. The penalty provided by this section, unless another penalty is expressly provided, shall apply to the amendment of any Code section, whether or not such penalty is reenacted in the amendatory ordinance. In addition to the penalty prescribed above, the City may pursue other remedies such as abatement of nuisances, injunctive relief and revocation of licenses or permits. This ordinance and the Code adopted hereby shall become effective on this 10th day of September, 2001.

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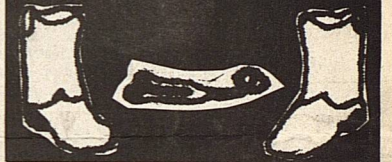
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