




MSC Camera Committee
presents
PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY
by Bill McIntosh
Monday, Nov. 3 at 7:00 pm
Rudder (Check video display
for room number!)
New Members Welcome!

DANCE ARTS SOCIETY
General Meeting
Tues., Nov. 4 6:15 pm
G. Rollie #268
Talk About Pizza Party, Fundraiser, etc.
If you can't attend or have questions, go by D.A.S. cubicle at the Pavillion, 2nd floor, for an outline of what is being discussed.


Wholesale Diamonds
The largest inventory in the area on loose diamonds with a 30-day money back guarantee!



Shop & compare! We never have a sale! Because we are wholesale!

TEXAS COIN EXCHANGE
404 University Dr.-3202A Texas Ave.
College Station 846-8905 Bryan 779-7662
Lay-away now for Christmas

TAMU SNOW SKI CLUB
Breckenridge '87 Meeting



November 3, 7:00pm
Room 601 Rudder Tower
We will be discussing trip details and payments will be accepted.

Proposed branch banking law stirs up opposing views

Officials argue over effects on consumers

By Rodney Rather
Staff Writer

Proponents of Proposition 4, a state branch banking proposal, contend it will expand customer services, while opponents of the proposition think it will hurt consumers through higher service charges and an eventual drain on smaller communities.

Proposition 4, if passed, will allow banks to open branch offices that offer a full range of banking services — such as cashing and depositing checks — at more than one location within the same county in which their main facility is located.

If a city is in more than one county, a bank may place branches in both counties.

The proposed amendment also would authorize banks to acquire failing banks in any part of the state.

Texas Banking Commissioner Jim Sexton said a bank may build no more than three new branch offices, but it may acquire an unlimited number of banks that have been in existence as of July 15 and use them as branches.

A state constitutional provision has prohibited branch banking since 1904, making Texas the only state to constitutionally ban branch banking.

Currently, a bank-holding company, which is a corporation that owns the majority of stock in one or more banks, must get a separate charter for each subsidiary it wishes to control.

Because each bank must have its own charter, it also must operate under a separate administrative board.

Mervin Peters, president of First National Bank in Bryan, said branch banking will provide more convenience to the consumer because it offers full banking services at multiple locations, and it will preserve capital in the financial community.

"Right now, if we want to have a second location somewhere, we would have to get a charter for a new bank, and that takes about \$2 million worth of capital," Peters said.

A branch facility wouldn't cost as much to create because only service-oriented space is needed, he said, eliminating most administrative and operations offices.

Also, no capital requirement is needed to open a branch since it is tied directly to the main institution, he said.

"Without exception, the public is going to be better served by the law, because it's going to allow financial institutions to provide a greater level of service to the marketplace," he said.

Not everyone adheres to Peters' view, though.

Gary Tongate, president of City National Bank in Whitehouse, said he represents a group of about 300 banks fighting the proposition "tooth and toenail."

Tongate said branch banking will result in higher service charges for customers and will drain money from smaller towns as banks concen-

trate their resources in and around large cities.

"When you have branches, the (banks) won't think of the community, but only of profitability," he said.

Peters said he doesn't agree with the idea that banks would become unresponsive to the community they service.

"It serves no purpose for a (bankers) to put a facility somewhere if we're going to have a group of different people working in it," Peters said.

The reason banks would want multiple locations is to provide more services and be more responsive to the public, he said.

Since 1957, four amendments have been passed progressively increasing the distance from the main facility at which banks are allowed to offer customer services, he said.

The latest amendment, passed in 1985, allowed banks to locate facilities as far as 20,000 feet from the main building, he said.

This June, however, Attorney General Jim Mattox declared the 1985 amendment unconstitutional and strongly suggested that he would declare the previous amendments unconstitutional as well, Sexton said.

The effect of that, he said, is that banks will lose large investments in those additional service facilities and consumers will lose the convenience those facilities provide unless Proposition 4 passes.

Gallup Poll shows voter turnout could decide governor's race

Associated Press

Former Gov. Bill Clements maintains a slight edge over incumbent Democrat Mark White, and political polls show voter turnout could make the difference in the outcome of Tuesday's gubernatorial election.

The Gallup Poll shows Clements, a Republican, with a seven-point edge over White, while a poll conducted by the *Houston Chronicle* and KTRK-TV in Houston shows Clements with a five-point lead.

According to the Gallup Poll, 51 percent favored Clements, 44 percent were for White and 5 percent were undecided. The telephone survey was conducted for the *Dallas Morning News*, the *Houston Post*, KXAS-TV in Fort Worth, KSAT-TV in San Antonio, KPRC-TV in Houston and KVUE-TV in Austin.

Of the 1,824 registered Texas voters surveyed between Oct. 27 and 30, the Gallup Poll determined 913 were likely to vote. The margin of

error is plus or minus 4 percentage points.

The *Chronicle*-KTRK poll shows Clements with 47.8 percent of the vote, White with 42.8 percent and 7.9 percent undecided. The poll questioned 665 registered voters likely to vote Tuesday. The figures, which were rounded off, do not total 100 percent and the margin of error is plus or minus 4 percentage points.

White has improved his standing from April when he trailed his challenger by 18 points and in September when he trailed by 12, according to the *Chronicle*-KTRK poll.

"We're in the range where anything can happen," said Richard Murray, the University of Houston political scientist who conducted the poll. "If the shift continues, it'll be real close Election Day, a real cliff-hanger."

Murray said that although Clements still leads, the momentum is with White, who in 1982 knocked Clements out of office after Clem-

ents had served one term as this century's first Republican governor.

"Clements looks to be the casualty of the negative campaign," Murray said, noting that White's personal rating hasn't changed much but Clements' earlier high positive image rating has dropped to near the same level as the incumbent.

"A lot of voters are clearly turned off," Murray said. "That probably means fewer people voting Tuesday. If that's the case, then the election is going to come down to which side or which candidate can do a little better job of motivating their people to go to the polls."


James Shriver III, a vice president of the Gallup Organization Inc., said "Clements has a lead that is going to be tough to overcome."

White, campaigning in Houston and South Texas, seemed daunted by the results.

"That was last week," White said. "And it's not going to be the next week."

A Record of Achievement
Managing the Public Trust

Garry Mauro is a problem solver. Where some see only problems, he sees solutions. He sees empty state coffers and he finds ways to fill them. He sees Texas schoolchildren with dreams of higher education and he finds ways to pay for those dreams. He sees falling oil and gas revenues and he figures out ways to increase them. He sees the West Texas desert and he creates ways to farm it. GARRY MAURO thinks solutions. And he backs up that thinking with action.



- Collected more than \$1.6 billion from the state's oil and gas leases to defray the cost of public education since taking office in 1983. Last year, Land Office deposits into the Permanent School Fund meant that Texas taxpayers paid an average of 7.2% less in state school taxes and 3.2% less in local property taxes.
- Modernized the Texas Veterans Land Program so that the last three years have been the most productive three year period in its 40-year history.
- Created nearly 25,000 Texas jobs and billions of dollars in economic activity across the state by creating the Texas Veterans Housing Assistance Program—all without costing Texas taxpayers a penny.
- Used common sense management to run the General Land Office and earn the state of Texas an additional \$100 million in revenues without raising taxes.
- Has a vision for the future that includes raising another \$120 million in never-before collected, non-tax revenues for Texas: starting a \$500 million loan program to keep alive the Texas tradition of the family farm and ranch; using Israeli farming techniques on state land to make it more valuable and more productive.

Re-Elect GARRY MAURO '70
Texas Land Commissioner

Political Advertising paid for by the Aggie Democrats; Authorized by the Garry Mauro Re-Election Campaign, P.O. Box 1308J; Austin, Texas 78711; 512/477-2800