



Smidovec, Eggemeyer to wed

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Smidovec of Garwood are pleased to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Misty Dawn, to Jason Patrick Eggemeyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Eggemeyer of Garwood.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Watson of Wharton and the late Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Smidovec Sr.

The prospective groom is the grandson of Mrs. Annie Holub of Nada and the late Victor Holub and the late Mr. and Mrs. Albert Eggemeyer.

The couple will exchange vows Saturday, Sept. 27, 1997, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Nada.

Learn to square dance

On two Mondays, Sept. 1 and 8, the Country Squares - Square Dance Club will be offering free square dancing lessons. Couples, singles and even the whole family are encouraged to come and experience the joy of square dancing.

The lessons will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Sheridan Community Center one block off Hwy. 90A, beside Sheridan Elementary School.

There is plenty of air conditioning and a great wood floor to dance on.

Traylor Walker, professional square dance caller of Sheridan, will be giving the instructions.

Traylor has been calling and instructing square dance and line dancing for the past eight years. Not only does he call the Country Squares of Sheridan, but the Bluebonnet Swingers of Bellville and Christian Squares

of El Campo weekly.

Besides calling for local clubs, Traylor also calls for area festivals, state and national conventions.

Traylor is also a square dancer recording artist, having released four records on the Rockin M Stampede label.

The Country Squares hope you can take some time out of your busy schedules to learn something about your heritage. Square Dancing is our native dance. It has been adopted by the Texas Legislature as the Texas State Folk Dance.

Square dancing has been recommended by the American Heart Association as an excellent exercise.

It's family entertainment, fun, and a place to meet a lot of new friends. Hope you decide to give it a try and we meet you in a square!

New graffiti law

By Colorado County Attorney Julian Moore

Schools are starting up this month all around Colorado County. Perhaps not completely coincidental, most of the new criminal laws passed by the 75th Texas Legislature will take effect Sept. 1. Many of these new laws affect young people more often than the general population. I want to discuss the aspects of some of these changes here from time to time.

A mostly overlooked change in the law is the new "Graffiti Law". While it is true that graffiti has been against the law as "criminal mischief", state lawmakers chose this year to write a new statute, Section 28.08 of the Texas Penal Code, which makes graffiti a crime in and of itself.

The best way to think of this "new" crime is that it is criminal mischief committed with aerosol paint or indelible markers. The statutory definition describes the offense as one when, without the consent of the owner, a person makes drawings (including inscriptions, slogans, drawings or paintings) on the tangible property of the owner. The major difference between this and the prior criminal mischief law (Penal Code Section 28.03) is the punishment that it now calls for.

Under the old criminal mischief statute, any damage \$20 or more done

to someone else's property would result in a Class B misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in the county jail and up to a \$2,000 in fines.

The possible punishment now goes up dramatically with the amount of damage.

For the more dramatic graffiti artist who does damage over \$500, the penalty increases to one year in jail and fines up to \$4,000. As always, restitution to the victim can be ordered in any of these situations.

If someone is irreverent enough to place their graffiti on a place of worship or human burial, a public monument or a community center that provides medical, social or educational programs, the crime rises to the level of a state jail felony, which could result in incarceration for up to two years in a state facility.

Graffiti is just one of the crimes that some think is not a priority to fight, but the change in the law provides law enforcement an additional tool, that is, a higher punishment than the old criminal mischief.

In addition, the new law makes it clear to anyone that graffiti is not covered by free speech or some concept of artistic expression, but is a crime

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Loans

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ries at normal levels. To the extent these problems have caused the business difficulty in meeting its normal obligations, these loans may be of assistance.

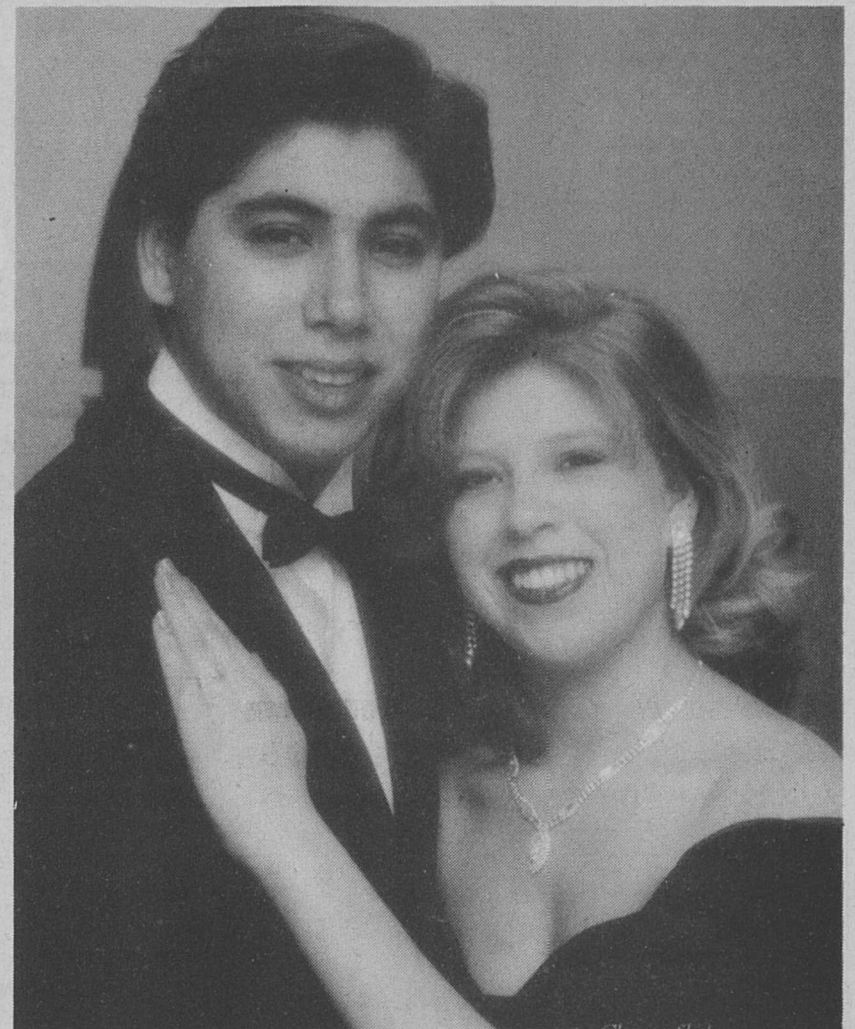
The loan can help a business meet installments on long-term debt, accounts payable and overhead expenses that would have been met had the disaster not occurred. Refinancing of long-term debt, however, is not eligible under this program.

The loan is designed for those businesses with substantial disaster-

related needs and intended to supplement monies the business owner can provide from other sources.

Loans may be approved for up to \$1,500,000 for actual disaster-related financial needs of the business.

Interest rates are 4% and terms may extend to 30 years, depending on the repayment ability of the individual applicant. To qualify, businesses must be small by SBA's size standard. Businesses which can meet their financial needs through other sources are not eligible.



Vargas, Garza announce engagement

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Vargas of Eagle Lake are proud to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Kristie Yvonne, to Eric Wayne Garza, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Garza of Sheridan.

The wedding is scheduled for Sept. 13, 1997, at St. Anthony's Church in Columbus.

The couple will reside in Houston where the groom is employed at Texas Childrens Hospital and West Houston Medical Center as an X-ray Technologist and the bride will be attending college, majoring in Surgical Technology.

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Mr. & Mrs. A.H. Dipple are leaving Sunday for a week's vacation trip to Mexico... Mr. & Mrs. Louis Muzny and son John and Mr. & Mrs. E.J. Parma took a 4th of July trip to Port Lavaca and Corpus Christi...

Mrs. Ted Brunner and nephew, Dennis Brunner, accompanied Mr. & Mrs. Jim Clipson to Flatonia Monday where they visited with Dennis' mother, who is still in a cast following an automobile accident...

Supt. W.C. Reed left yesterday afternoon for Huntsville. His mother is in Memorial Hospital there following a fall in which she broke her hip yesterday morning...

Mrs. S.H. Johnson left Monday for Daisetta where she will have charge of the theatre for a few weeks...

The seventh birthdays of Johnny Meitzen and Green Davidson were celebrated at a swimming party followed by a picnic supper at Legion Pool Park Wednesday evening...

Betty Ruth Beane, who is attending Girl Scout camp at Conroe, was bitten by a copperhead snake. First aid was given by one of the girls followed by treatment from the camp nurse who took her to a doctor. She is doing fine and was able to resume swimming activities at camp.

This Week's Action!



Date	Team & Time	Place
Saturday, Aug. 23	Varsity volleyball at Lamar Tournament, Rosenberg	
	F & JV volleyball at Brazosport Tournament	
Tuesday, Aug. 26	F, JV & V volleyball vs. Royal, 5 p.m., Here (Jr. High Night)	

Lower Gasoline Prices

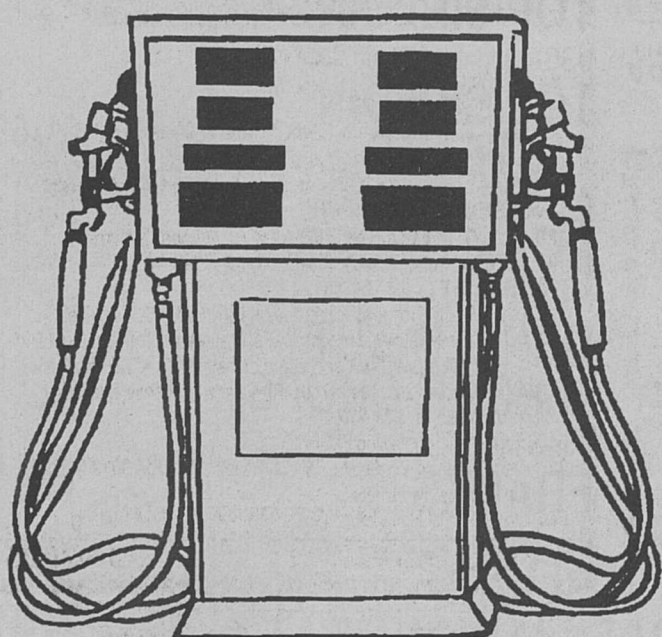
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1.22⁰⁹



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OFFER VALID JUNE 1 - AUG 31, 1997