

Tom Simmons New Columbus Hospital administrator welcomed to post Monday

Tom Simmons, 28, was welcomed Monday at Columbus Community Hospital as the new executive director. He grew up in Texarkana, Arkansas, and most recently was associate director of the hospital in Texarkana, Texas. He is taking over from Layton Golemon who is moving to senior vice president of Affiliated Hospital Systems, the company which signed a management contract late last year with the Columbus hospital board to reverse day-to-day operations. At the same time, the hospital board and Affiliated Hospitals, an arm of the Hermann Hospital system, announced Monday that a strategic plan has been developed for short and long range actions. These include recruiting more physicians and other medical staff, who are getting to know the new executive director for the first time. Although he said this is only his third trip to Columbus, he told the board that he chose Columbus over other communities. "Columbus looks like a really nice place to live," he said. "The two other communities were nice, but not as nice as Columbus."

On April 14th Simmons is marrying Cindy Wingfield, but doesn't plan to take any time off from his new assignment for the honeymoon. He also has been an account executive with Dean, Witter Reynolds in Little Rock, Arkansas. Simmons, who is related to board member Jimmy Simmons, was welcomed Monday morning by members of the hospital staff and medical community, who are getting to know the new executive director for the first time. Although he said this is only his third trip to Columbus, he told the board that he chose Columbus over other communities. "Columbus looks like a really nice place to live," he said. "The two other communities were nice, but not as nice as Columbus."



Doctors Bob Lowe and Todd Barfield chat with the new administrator of Columbus Community Hospital, Tom Simmons, right. Next to Simmons is Layton Golemon, former hospital executive director, who is taking a position with Affiliated Hospital Systems.

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Marine in exercise
Marine Cpl. Joe L. Yuens, Jr., son of Lorraine and Joe L. Yuens, Sr., of Eagle Lake, recently participated in "Combined Arms Exercise 484" in the California desert. He is a member of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, CA.

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Eagle Lake and Columbus sororities hold joint meeting
Xi Psi chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met March 6 at the home of Ernie Sommerlatte. President Diana Brunner presided over a short business meeting as members traveled to Columbus for a joint meeting with Xi Chi Kappa Exempt chapter members. Mrs. Sonny Spanihel was announced as Lady of the Year. A tea was scheduled to be held in her honor at the home Ernie Sommerlatte on March 25. Past ladies of the year are also invited. At the conclusion of the business meeting, members were reminded of the election of officers held and register.

Sheridan News
By Velma Kutzer
The Colorado County sheriff's posse unit seven, which includes Sheridan, will meet April 15 at 1:30 p.m. at the B&N Country Corner in Rock Island. The unit now has 40 members and all are urged to attend. Anyone who has not joined is cordially invited. Caps and vests will be purchased in the near future.

Mrs. Raabe wins fashion award
Mrs. Lois Raabe of division, using fabrics Eagle Lake took top honors in the Natural Fibers Showcase in Fort Worth in March. Mrs. Raabe, who teaches art in middle school, made and modeled a stunning ensemble in the Knitted and Crocheted Garments sewing.

New technology is applied to soybeans
With soybeans increasing in popularity in the Upper Coastal region of Texas, production programs are being tailored more closely to the crop's particular needs. As farmers see soybeans as a valuable commodity in their own right, they are beginning to use new technology to help in areas like weed control. A new group of post-emergent grass herbicides has joined the familiar preplant incorporated and pre-emergent herbicides used in the region's soybean fields. According to Dr. Arlen Klosterboer, extension agronomist for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, the new herbicides can be a valuable tool, when used in conjunction with a farmer's other weed control techniques. The agronomist advises farmers to take weed, weather and management conditions into account when designing a weed control program. The Upper Coast is home to a tremendous variety of grasses and broadleaf weeds. Klosterboer names barnyardgrass, crabgrass, broadleaf signalgrass and red rice among the most troublesome grasses, with cocklebur, sicklepod, bump sesbania, redweed and mexicanweed as tough broadleaf problems. Farmers should be aware of tough weeds in their fields. Knowledge of a combination of herbicides which can control those weeds is also essential to controlling these weeds. Because of the rainy and dry periods common to the area, management programs must be linked to climate. "It can get to be a vicious cycle," Klosterboer said. "Let's say a grower gets his land ready for planting in early April. By the time the planting date comes in mid-May, he might already have a flush of weeds that must be controlled. Then, if it rains and the field dries out before he can plant, there could be another flush of weeds to control."

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April is recycling month
April has been proclaimed "Recycling Month" by Governor Mark White. The purpose of promoting recycling during the month of April is to draw the attention of the public to the vital need that recycling serves in our community. Recycling will provide a way for many "throw away" items to be re-used. Those items that would become trash and litter can be recycled into another useful product. Recycling provides income to every community that is committed to its practice. Those people with "no income," "low income," "limited income," "handicapped" and service groups who do so much to help the community, can collect litter items and turn them into money for projects and this becomes a two-pronged opportunity. The problems of growing landfill that towns and cities are experiencing can be reduced if the communities develop a good recycling industry that will take care of great amounts of litter. This process will take care of the litter problem that is being experienced across the United States without the deposit law becoming an issue. If we have an effective litter solution, we can save money for consumers and beautify our environment at the same time. We urge you to recycle your cans, bottles, cardboard, newspapers, tires, batteries, etc., at your nearest independent or community recycling center to better your environment and be paid money for it too.

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