

# Simmons, Rainosek exchange vows

A warm summer evening saw the uniting of Miss Stephanie Darden Simmons and Mr. Perry Alan Rainosek in holy matrimony.

The double-ring candlelight ceremony was held Saturday, June 23, 2001 at six o'clock at First Baptist Church in Columbus with Pastor Sammy Carr officiating.

Music for the ceremony was provided by pianist Bethany Boley, organist Jana Christoph and soloists Nancy Bubela Rosenauer, friend of the family, and Ruth Alfred, college friend of the bride.

Selections included "Only God Could Love You More", "Parents Prayer" and "Through the Eyes of Love".

Scriptures readers were Leigh and Lauren Berger, cousins of the groom. Witnesses were Randa Wegenhoft, sister of the bride, and Craig Rainosek, brother of the groom.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Simmons of Columbus. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Harrison Sr. of Eagle Lake and Mrs. Delia Simmons of Longview.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo John Rainosek of Oakland. He is the grandson of Mrs. Edna Berger of Schulenburg and Mrs. Leo H. Rainosek of Dubina.

Given in marriage and escorted by her father, Stephanie was radiant in an elegant gown of ivory organza.

The gown featured cap sleeves, a scoop neckline and a bodice completely adorned with Venetian lace with accents of blush Schifflil lace, all covered with beads and sequins.

The gown flowed to an A-line skirt of ivory organza with scattered motifs of beaded lace and trimmed in a scallop hemline of beaded lace.

The back featured a low scoop neckline, accented with satin covered buttons.

The cathedral train was trimmed with a double carriage back accented with pearls and sequins.

In keeping with tradition that started 38 years ago, Stephanie wore her mother's wedding veil of handmade Princess lace, purchased in Brussels, Belgium, by her mother when she was 16 and touring Europe. The veil was also worn by the bride's two aunts and five cousins.

Stephanie carried a sixpence in her shoe as a lucky charm, wore a sapphire ring borrowed from the matron of honor as something blue and an Aggie garter was something new. An angel was also pinned to the hem of her gown.

She carried a hand tied bouquet of white peonies, hydrangeas, mini calla lilies, dendrobium orchids and lisian-

thus, all tied with ivory silk ribbon and an antique lace handkerchief. Her bouquet was designed especially for her by her sister, Anna Gertson of Creative Expressions in Eagle Lake.

Columns of candles tied with curly willow and plumosis fern lit each of the windows in the sanctuary and baptistry.

Two pedestals held tall silver urns with large arrangements of pink peonies, pale yellow French tulips, blue Bella Donna, coral Corvette roses, purple stock, green hydrangeas, oriental lilies, hybrid delphinium and Bells of Ireland.

An Italian relief pedestal held the Unity Candle nestled in plumosis fern, lemon leaf and hydrangeas.

Tracey Glueck Lanham of Round Rock, high school friend, served as the bride's Matron of Honor.

Sarah Wooten of Columbus and Austin, lifelong friend, served as Maid of Honor.

Bridesmaids were Mindy Mazoch of Columbus, childhood friend; Kristi Borror of Gonzales, college roommate; and Rachel Ludicke of Trophy Club, mutual friend of the bride and groom.

Junior bridesmaid was Mollie Wegenhoft of Fort Meade, Maryland, niece of the bride.

Each bridesmaid wore an ivory silk shantung sleeveless top over a silk shantung skirt of either periwinkle, coral, seafoam green, pale yellow, rose pink or light purple.

They carried hand-tied bouquets of either blue Bella Donna, coral Corvette roses, green hydrangeas, pale yellow French tulips, pink peonies or purple stock which coordinated with their skirts.

Flower girls were Rose Harrison of Alleyton, the bride's cousin; and Kaitlin Rainosek of Oakland, the groom's niece.

Their dresses were ivory organza with a shantung bodice. The waistbands were accented with silk flowers in the wedding colors. Each wore a grapevine halo with flowers and silk ribbon.

Eric Pesak of Weimar and College Station, mutual friend and the couple's matchmaker, served as best man.

Groomsmen were Joe Janecka of Weimar, childhood friend; Jay Nabors of Houston, college roommate; and Trace Roller of Houston, a college friend.

Junior groomsmen was James Wegenhoft of Fort Meade, Maryland, the bride's nephew.

Memorial Groomsman was Bradley Mathis, who was a high school friend from Schulenburg.

Ring bearer was Andrew Rowe of

Austin, cousin of the bride. He carried a grapevine ball adorned with flowers and wedding rings tied to silk ribbons.

Ushers were Brian Rainosek of Houston; Jason Rainosek of Flatonia, cousins of the groom; and Kyle Poppe of Weimar.

Following the ceremony, the newlyweds were taken to the Stafford Opera House in a horse-drawn carriage driven by the bride's brother-in-law, John Gertson of Lissie.

A formal garden setting was created by the bride's sister, Anna Gertson.

In the upstairs foyer, next to the bride's portrait, was a birdbath supporting a large glass bowl holding curly willow with a maroon Beta fish inside. Surrounding the bowl was a wreath of the wedding flowers.

In the Grand Room, the tables were decorated with glass bowls nestled in grapevine wreaths and holding either peonies, hydrangeas, roses, tulips, stock or Bella Donna.

On the couple's table was a tall arrangement of like flowers and the bride's cake was also surrounded with a grapevine wreath and accented with

flowers.

Clusters of Boston ferns, lantana and verbena on the stage blended with the hand-painted backdrop.

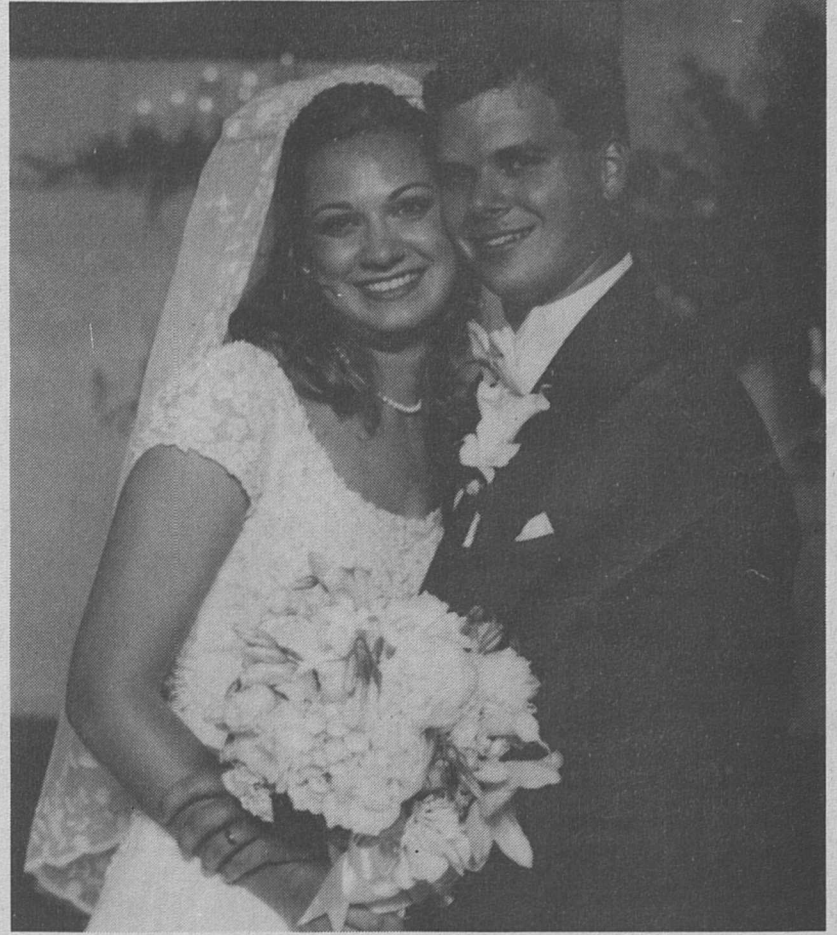
The house party included Helen Simpson of College Station, college roommate; Ruth Alfred of Lancaster, college friend; Jennifer Stoner of Nacogdoches, college friend; Leah Brisco of Austin, high school friend; Maggie and Caroline Waligura and Keili Harrison of Alleyton, cousins of the bride.

Music was provided by high school friend Dawson Kaiser and Tim Buhler of Columbus.

Mrs. Jo Churchill served as wedding coordinator, assisted by her husband, Don.

The couple spent the first week of their honeymoon in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, and the second week in Keystone Ski Resort, Colorado, attending the wedding and week-long celebration of Stephanie's cousin.

They now reside in College Station where Stephanie will finish her senior year and Perry will begin his Master's degree program, both at Texas A&M.



Mr. and Mrs. Perry Alan Rainosek

## Cook

Continued from Page 2

the holiday on the state's sales tax of 6.25%, every community in Texas has also chosen to waive their local sales taxes, which will save taxpayers an additional 2% in most areas.

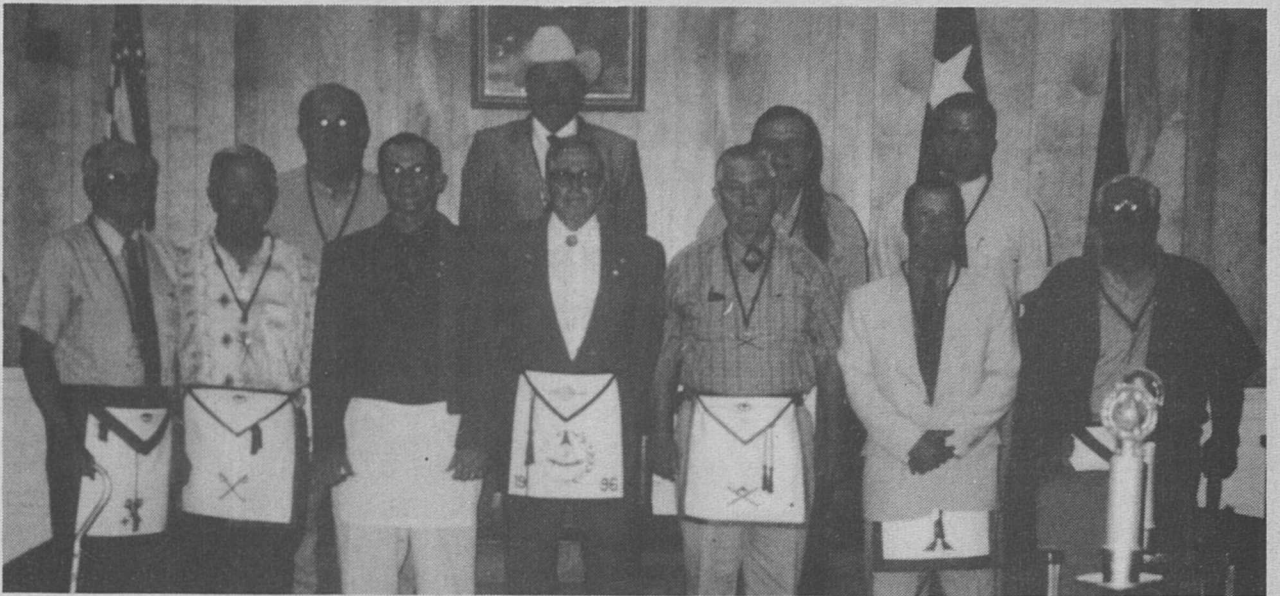
Cook explained the sales tax exemption on shoes and clothing also includes baby clothes, belts with attached buckles, cowboy and hiking boots, choir robes, coats and wraps, diapers for adults and babies, dresses, jeans, jogging apparel (bras, suits and shorts), pajamas, raincoats and ponchos, shirt, socks, underwear and work clothes and uniforms.

The sales tax holiday does not cover jewelry, accessories, handbags, or specialty sportswear items, noted Cook.

Further, Texans will not be charged with sales tax on tax-exempt items placed on lay-away for future purchase or bought from lay-away during the Sales Tax Holiday, he explained.

Cook went on to say that during the three tax-free shopping days, Texas families are expected to save \$31.2 million in state sales tax and \$8.4 million in local sales taxes.

Even with the sales tax savings, some families may not be able to afford everything they need to buy during the first weekend in Aug., said Cook.



## Masonic Lodge installs new officers

The Eagle Lake Masonic Lodge #366 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons held its installation of officers July 13 for the 2001-02 year. The ceremony and dinner were held in the Masonic Hall in Eagle Lake with officers, their family and guests present.

Hugh Sheridan served as the installing officer and Benson Landrum as the installing marshal. New officers are, from left, Walter Bauer, treasurer; Victor Scott, master of ceremonies; Joe H. McCreary, chaplain; Landrum, installing marshal; Tim Ray Austin, worshipful master; Hugh Sheridan, secretary; Archie Scott, marshal; Edward Thompson, junior warden; Charles Abel, senior warden; Eric Cameron, senior warden; and Jim Mathis Jr., tiler.

Not pictured are Bill Kell, senior deacon; Jeff Argo, junior deacon; Larry Dulany, junior steward; and Joe L. McCreary, musician.

Photo Courtesy of Masonic Lodge

## Tony Balas to attend D.C. reunion

Tony Balas, a resident of Columbus who grew up in Eagle Lake, was scheduled to depart Aug. 2 for Washington, D.C.

He will spend the weekend in the nation's capital attending the 17th Reunion of the 11th Armored Cavalry's Veterans of Vietnam and Cambodia and the 100th Anniversary of the 11th Armored Cavalry.

Tony will be accompanied by his cousin, Louis Balas, and his wife, Loyce, and their two daughters, Lori and Tonni of Sonora.

Louis served with the 11th Armored Cavalry E Troop as a Recon Intelligence Specialist in 1967 and

1968. Tony served with F Troop and H Company as a Combat Medic in 1970

and 1971.

More information is available at [www.11thcavnav.com](http://www.11thcavnav.com).

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## Poster

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number and school grade on the back. Posters are due at the County Extension Office, 316 Spring St., Columbus, by 5 p.m., Friday, Aug. 10. Additional information is available by calling Pamela Potter at 979-732-2705.

### Did You Know...

•To see how you are spending (and maybe wasting) your money, throw all receipts in a glass jar and tally them up at the end of the month.

**Happy 31<sup>st</sup> Birthday Tita**  
Love,  
Ryan, Jadelynn & Aaliyah

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