

# School

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the ticket outlet in the Visitor's Center on Broad Street.)

"Under His Wings", the love story of Ruth and Boaz (from the Bible), enjoyed excellent reviews in Nags Head, where the company presented it for the past two years. This play, written in the early 1990s by Mike Herron, first opened on the West Coast. Gloria & Jeffrey Emmrich collaborated on it and were a part of the original production. They have done the play many times since then, in various places, and are very familiar with it. Many of the actors have also been in this play before, so it's not going to take too long for the company to put this show together. It will open June 1.

For "King David", Jeffrey Emmrich expects to be in rehearsal 10-12 hr. a day (except Sunday mornings) from the time "Under His Wings" opens until King David opens (June 15).

The actors will be originating all of these roles; they will interpret and develop their parts, starting from scratch.

"King David" is very exciting because we're... 'workshopping' it," explains Jeffrey

Emmrich. "It's never been performed before...you can't just take a script that's never been used and assume it's going to be exactly like the finished product...so we have the privilege of playing with it and tweaking with it..."

The Company enjoyed excellent reviews in Nags Head, but Emmrich said that they felt it was important to get into another location, "maybe a little bit closer to Va. Beach." Traffic was cited as a problem, and then "this community (Edenton) has opened its arms to us."

"Everyone has really cooperated so much," he says. "...the Sheriff's Office, the school districts, city officials, the ministerial association..."

Six to eight local restaurants are fixing meals for the troupe, and one of the local grocery stores is providing groceries. Citizens have been housing some of the students.

"It's been a community effort!" says Emmrich.

In addition to bringing wholesome entertainment and art to the community, though, the Company is creating other benefits. A number of bus tour companies from VA and from NC are going to send tourists and day visitors to Edenton. Local restaurants are being recommended for meals, and the Visitor's Center has already booked historic walking tours.

The actors too, are benefiting. Most come from North Central University, in Minneapolis, MN, although they do come from all over the midwest, with a few from other states (e.g., CA). About half are drama majors. Most others are in related fields.

"Many of them have never been to the east coast or to this state," says Emmrich, "so they're and oohing over the scenery...It's a good change. It's a great way to spend the summer...It sure beats flipping hamburgers; they can hone their skills and enjoy it at the same time, and just focus on the things they love to do."

During the school year, these students are active in drama, but also have other school work to contend with. Here, they can focus on what they love to do.

"They love to act. Ours is a Christian University and so they love to minister in this kind of way...we feel like ministry can be many different things, not the least of which is presenting good family entertainment, Christian values — that kind of thing..."

"The students were all hand-picked," says Jeffrey Emmrich. "Every one of them is here because they're exactly right for the roles that they'll be playing."

"We're glad to be here, and the community is so warm — It feels like success already!"



The Albemarle Sounds donate money to local school music programs. Shown here during the presentation are (l-r) Jack Parker, Larry Moore, Gil Burroughs, Anna Kay Loughton, Mary Smith, Lisa Evans, Christopher Bunch and Jack Schroeder.

## Sounds help fund music programs

BY LAURIE HUFFORD  
Staff Writer

The Albemarle Sounds are the Edenton chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. Like the Society's name implies, one of the group's goals is to try to keep young people interested in singing.

"The whole idea is to try to get the youth of the nation into singing — to preserve the singing tradition," explains Gil Burroughs.

One program designed to do this is "Sing, America", which has a Canadian counterpart, "Sing, Canada". But the group's most popular local program is probably its "Singing Valen-

entine" campaign, which it accomplishes in partnership with Evans Florist.

How the project works is simple: a customer calls Evans Florist to order a singing valentine. Evans Florist books the "gig", takes care of all the paperwork, and donates the flowers used. The Quartets "deliver" a rose to each valentine recipient, along with two love songs. For the sake of perfection, two songs are standard: "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" and "Heart of My Heart, I Love You".

The cost of a singing valentine is \$25 and, since Evans Florist donates all the flowers, 100% of the money can be donated to the local school system.

Money is distributed to indi-

vidual schools on a "per pupil" basis. This year, the group delivered 36 valentines, a few more than last year, and was able to distribute \$900 to four schools.

"It's our attempt to try to help the school's vocal music programs," says Gil, "to keep the kids singing."

Speaking again of the valentines, Gil notes, "Strange as it may seem, we sing just about as many singing valentines to men as we do to women."

## Dealers

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After receiving information that Gregory was a volume drug dealer, and after reviewing the scope of their own investigation, Sheriff Fred Spruill, of the Chowan County Sheriff's Department, had decided to call in federal agents. Whenever there is evidence that someone's selling two or more ounces of crack cocaine, federal indictments are usually sought, and it's estimated that undercover law enforcement authorities bought approximately 97g of cocaine from Gregory during the course of the investigation.

Twelve officers from the Sheriff's Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the SBI, the FBI, and the State Department of Revenue were involved in Gregory's arrest.

"The joint investigation has proven to be effective, as it's helped us to arrest and convict major drug dealers in our area," commented Sheriff Fred Spruill.

"A good job has been done by all."



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eyes and lenses.

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## Business Relocated

Donald Forehand wishes to announce that his business, Countrywide Entertainment, has moved to a new location at 108 South Oakum Street in Edenton (formerly occupied by Trademark Images).

Forehand's business was previously located on North Broad Street.

Countrywide Entertainment was originally the sales agent for PrimeStar but now represents Direct TV.

Business hours are 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday; closed Saturdays.

Anyone having questions can call Donald Forehand at 482-5994.

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