

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

"News from Next Door"

JULY 22, 2009 - JULY 29, 2009



Reilly wins at Northeast Dragway 4

RECEIVED  
JUL 22 2009

35 cents

## Cleaning up for Friday Night



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Unidentified RHEMA Academy students participating in Summerfest 2009 pick up trash on King Street Friday prior to Friday Night in the Park activities. Local leaders shared their time, knowledge and words of encouragement with local youth and families during the event at Academy Green Park. Participants also enjoyed free food and a movie. Friday Night in the Park is sponsored by the Perquimans County NAACP. The next one is scheduled for Friday evening.

## Friday Night in the Park a success

Programs offer area families safe activities

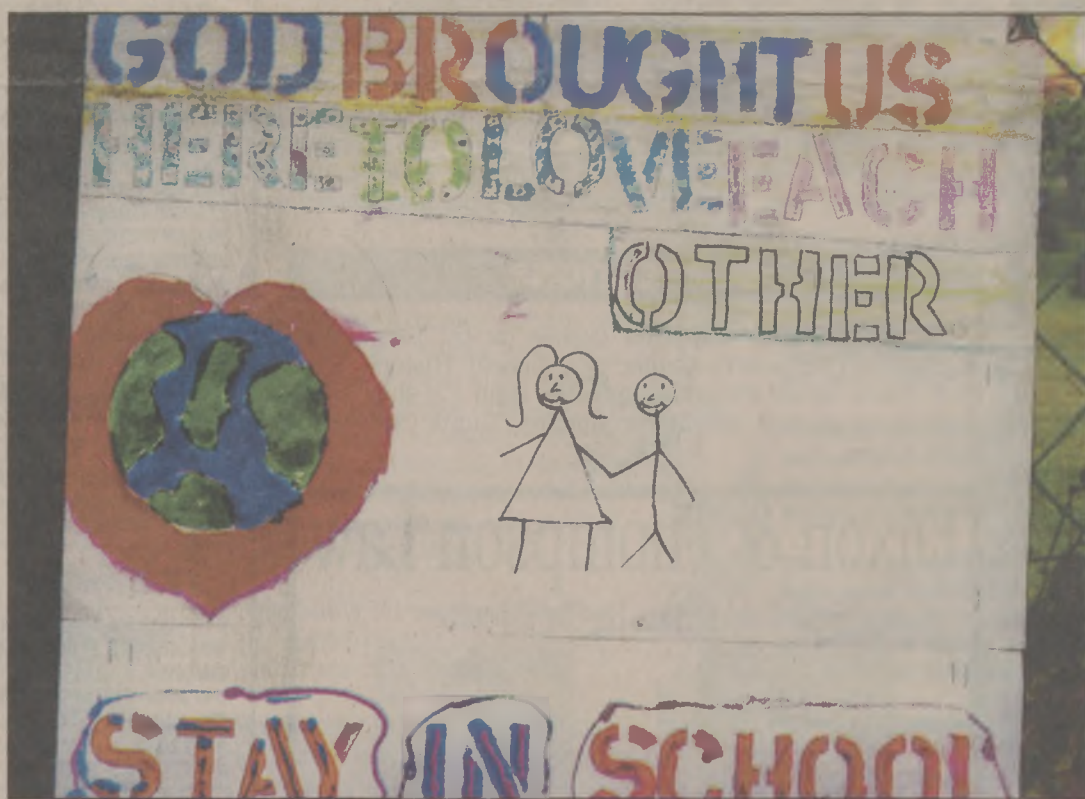
By Cathy Wilson  
Staff Writer

Two programs this summer are encouraging area youth and families to enjoy safe activities that are fun and enriching while helping the community at the same time.

RHEMA Academy is hosting Summerfest 2009 while the Perquimans County NAACP is joining forces with the church community and others to offer free movies and activities at Academy Green Park. Together, the programs offer free activities for the kids, help with academics, and offer opportunities for community service with a smile.

Hattie Sharpe, chief executive officer of RHEMA Academy, said 26 children, ages 6-16, recently took part in a special project as part of Summerfest 2009. Armed with safety vests and black trash bags, the children picked up litter on King Street. In their effort to help clean the community, the children collected 10 bags of trash over a period of two days.

"It was their goal to clean up one of the portals to the



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A sign posted on a fence at Academy Green Park during last weekend's Friday Night in the Park event offers words of encouragement to participants.

Town of Hertford," explained Sharpe. "They collected trash early in the morning before it got too hot. They did a really good job."

Summerfest 2009, directed

by Mae McGee and assisted by Judie King, also provides students help in academics and trips visiting areas around the community. The program, which runs from June 15 until

July 24, is free for the children, she said.

The town provided the litter bags and disposed of the filled

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## Perquimans Weekly to be sold to Cooke family firm

Sale also includes Chowan Herald, The Daily Advance

From staff reports

Cox Enterprises Inc. announced Monday it has reached an agreement to sell The Daily Advance, The Daily Reflector of Greenville, The Rocky Mount Telegram and 10 non-daily newspapers in eastern North Carolina to Cooke Communications LLC, a privately held family company headed by John Kent Cooke.

The transaction is expected to be completed in upcoming weeks, officials said.

The non-daily publications include the The Chowan Herald of Edenton, Perquimans Weekly of Hertford, Beaufort-Hyde News of Belhaven, Bertie-Ledger Advance of Windsor, Duplin Times of Kenansville, The Enterprise of Williamston, Farmville Enterprise, Standard Laconic of Snow Hill, Times-Leader or Ayden-Grifton and Weekly Herald of Robersonville.

"These papers provide a valuable service to many communities across North Carolina," said Doug Franklin, executive vice president of Cox Newspapers. "Cox Enterprises began as a family-owned newspaper, and we're confident that the Cooke family will be excellent owners of these papers and continue to foster a strong commitment to the community and advertisers."

"We will continue the strong tradition of family-owned independent newspapers serving these communities of eastern North Carolina," John Kent Cooke said in a prepared statement. "We look forward to working with the talented staffs at these newspapers to continue to provide timely, accurate local news that matters to readers' lives."

Representatives of the two companies made the announcement this morning in Greenville.

"Newspapers are not dead. They're not even ill," John Kent Cooke said during the announcement. "I'm not worried in the least about the future of this business, particularly here in North Carolina. It's going to be difficult at times, but

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GREG EANS/THE DAILY REFLECTOR

Brian Cooper (left) and Neil Johnston, of Cox Enterprises, and John Kent Cooke, John Kent Cooke Jr., and Thomas Kent Cooke, of Cooke Communications, are shown in the newsroom of The Daily Reflector newspaper in Greenville, Monday.

### WEEKEND WEATHER

THURSDAY  
HIGH: 86 LOW: 71  
THUNDERSTORMS

FRIDAY  
HIGH: 86 LOW: 73  
THUNDERSTORMS

SATURDAY  
HIGH: 87 LOW: 73  
THUNDERSTORMS



## Residents excited about Albemarle Plantation sale

Homeowner: Deal ends 2-year limbo for residents

By DIANA MAZZELLA  
Staff Writer

HERTFORD — No one is as excited by the recent sale of Albemarle Plantation as the president of the homeowners group in the upscale waterfront housing development.

Dave Goss says Albemarle Plantation's sale in June to Albemarle Plantation Holdings, LLC for nearly \$16 million will finally allow residents to start thinking about the future.

For the past couple of years that's been difficult because the Hertford development has been in receivership while the previous owners dealt with lawsuits, he said.

"For us (the sale is) a very positive event because this has been in limbo

for a couple years, all a result of a court case amongst the partnerships," Goss said.

The investment group Albemarle Plantation Holdings bought Albemarle Plantation on June 30 for \$15.8 million. According to Perquimans Tax Administrator Frank Heath, that's \$8.6 million less than the property appraised for in 2008.

Albemarle Plantation Holdings is buying about 145 parcels of land in the sale, Heath said.

Perquimans County garnered \$158,583 in land transfer tax revenue from the sale.

Albemarle Plantation features a 212-slip boat marina, a golf course and country club, pool and tennis courts. Home sites range in price from \$80,000 to \$775,000, and existing homes are selling for about \$500,000, accord-



CATHY WILSON/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

The entrance to Albemarle Plantation is seen in this photo taken in June. The development was sold in June to Albemarle Plantation Holdings, LLC for nearly \$16 million.

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