

New owners pledge upgrades at Tidewater

Tidewater Apartments, a 100-unit apartment complex, is under new management and ownership, and the new owners said they will be making several changes to the housing development in the coming years.

The new owners have been managing apartment complexes in South Carolina since 1990 and recently purchased three properties in the panhandle of Florida. Griffin Heights, LLC, purchased Madison Heights Apartments in Madison and Tidewater Apartments in Perry.

Its principals, Jimmy Kerr and Jamie Kerr, have a large portfolio of more than 3,000 units and said they have a

respectable reputation with United States Housing and Urban Development Authority (HUD), State Housing Finance Agencies as well as all local city and law enforcement agencies where they do business.

City Manager Bob Brown said he is enthusiastic about the changes to the property and willing to assist in implementation of decent affordable housing in the city of Perry.

"There are residents who have lived at Tidewater since it opened. I know they have been through a lot and will embrace the changes being considered

→ Please see page 3

Complex sold in June

TIDEWATER

Continued from page 1

at the property," Brown said while meeting with AMCS Development Manager Jennie Wilkinson. (AMCS is the development group for Griffin Heights.)

"The owners plan to apply for tax credits through the Florida Housing Finance Corporation in an effort to put a considerable amount of money into bringing the property to energy efficient and low maintenance conditions for easy living. If awarded, the owners' plans include replacing roofs, windows, appliances, fixtures and installing HVAC units

to name a few. The property has been in distress for many years. The Kerrs are eager to make the necessary changes for the residents of Perry," Wilkinson said.

The apartment complex was sold in June.

"We have already raised occupancy in just three weeks," Wilkinson noted.

Screening criteria for renters includes background checks, criminal records checks and employment verification.

"To qualify for residency, an individual must have some form of income," she said.

"There are no changes for the residents who were already living at the complex."