

# THE CHOWAN HERALD

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## Evidence presented in Moore sentencing

BY SEAN JACKON  
The Chowan Herald

The sentencing trial for the man who killed his ex-girlfriend continued Tuesday, with jurors hearing and seeing evidence about the victim's murder.



Moore

William Joseph "Bill" Moore sat beside his former attorney — and current standby counsel —

James Vosburg during the first two days of proceedings. Dressed in a white dress shirt, navy-blue tie and dark slacks, Moore, 48, told Judge Clifton W. Everett Jr. of Pitt County on Monday that he would handle his own case during the proceedings. A 12-member jury, along with two alternates, was empanelled late Monday afternoon.

Tuesday morning, Edenton Police Det. Sgt. Rhonda Copeland read a transcript of her initial interview with Moore, who pleaded guilty on Feb. 27 to the first-degree murder of Pamela Joye Virzi, 47, on

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## Election Day next Tuesday

Polls will open at 6:30 a.m. next Tuesday for the May 2 primary. They will close at 7:30 p.m.

East Edenton precinct is at the D.F. Walker Alumni Bldg. West Edenton is at the Chowan Ag Bldg; Rocky Hook at the Rocky Hook Rescue Squad Bldg; Center Hill at the Northern Chowan Community Ctr.; Wardville at Gliden Rescue Squad; and Yeopim at the Airport Terminal Bldg.

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## New grocery store planned for Edenton



Sean Jackson/The Chowan Herald

From left, Retnauer design firm officials Sandra Baynes and Tom Retnauer listen as engineer Sean Robey describes the proposed traffic flow plans for the Edenton Commons Shopping Center to the Edenton Town Council Monday night. The project is located off of Whitemon Lane.

## Farm Fresh wants to build new store in town

BY SEAN JACKSON  
The Chowan Herald

The designers of a proposed new shopping center off of Whitemon Lane unveiled their preliminary ideas for the site Monday night, including a plan to have a Farm Fresh supermarket anchor the development.

Two officials from Retnauer Design Associates, P.P.C. told the Edenton Town Council that the supermarket would contain about 54,000 square feet of floor space, with an additional 150,000 square feet contained in other stores at the site, which is bordered by N.C. Highway 32 to the south.

Sandra Baynes, director of operations for the Chesapeake, Va.-based design firm, said the speaks for the site — currently called Edenton Commons Shopping Center — would likely be tweaked before they are formally presented to the town around November.

"There will be some changes as we go," Baynes said during the 45-minute presentation Monday night. "(But) nothing too drastic."

Retnauer was hired by developer Perrine Wheeler to develop the site, owned by the family of Lloyd Griffin Jr. of Elizabeth City. The Hampton Roads-based developer, Baynes said, wants to construct a shopping center that is in harmony with Edenton's new architectural standards implemented last year.

"The developers have instilled in us they

want to do a quality project," Tom Retnauer, head of the design firm, told the 26 people on hand for the presentation.

Town Manager Anne-Marie Knighton confirmed that Retnauer has been doing just that.

"They all understand the intent of our architectural guidelines," she said. "They've been working with us to ensure the center is built within (the guidelines)."

Retnauer also said there is no current list of what other retailers would be a part of the shopping center. Baynes said plans are to recruit businesses that would not drag customers away from the town's existing retail base.

"Everything should be complementary, it adds to growth," Baynes said.

"We're looking to be a part of the community here," Retnauer added.

Efforts to complete three impact assessments on how the shopping center would affect traffic, the environment, and the local economy are all underway, Knighton said.

As for a timeline for when the project could be begin and when doors to shops could open, Retnauer only said that his firm would continue to seek a conditional-use permit and that the plans could be finished in October or November.

Mayor Roland Vaughan said the public would have the opportunity to have input on the project when it is reviewed by

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## Three chases end in five arrests for Edenton police

Multiple suspects facing drug charges following foot, bike, car chases; AWOL soldier and suicidal jumper are also apprehended by officers

BY SEAN JACKSON  
The Chowan Herald

The Edenton Police Department arrested two suspects stemming from chases last week — one on foot and the other after a high-speed vehicle pursuit — and also nabbed several on drug charges over a two-day span last week.

"It was a busy week for us," Det. Aaron Davidson said Tuesday.

On Aug. 18, Det. Dwight Rawlins arrested John J. Douglas, 20, on charges of possession of marijuana, after spotting him buying drugs at the intersection of North Granville and West Carteret streets. Douglas, who is also AWOL from the U.S. Army, was issued a \$1,000 unsecured bond. His next court date is May 9.

Following Douglas' arrest, police began chasing Cordell Long, 20, of 401 Coke Ave., who police said they observed selling the drug to Douglas. They apprehended Long in a foot chase after Long's bike crashed into the rear of Davidson's patrol cruiser, Rawlins said. After the collision, Long dropped a .380 handgun and 31 rocks of crack cocaine, Rawlins said.

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Long



Douglas



Williams

## Suspects plead guilty on federal drug charges

BY EARLINE WHITE  
The Chowan Herald

Cases resulting from recent arrests on charges made by the Chowan County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with surrounding agencies, have made their way to the federal court system. Pleas have been entered on the charges and under the Federal guidelines sentencing will follow in the next few months.

Sheriff Fred Spruill said as of April 24 a number of suspects have pled guilty to drug-related charges. They include:



Bond



Bland

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## Conger family doesn't just talk about the weather

Officials from the NOAA honor local family for their long record of recording useful meteorological data

BY EARLINE WHITE  
The Chowan Herald

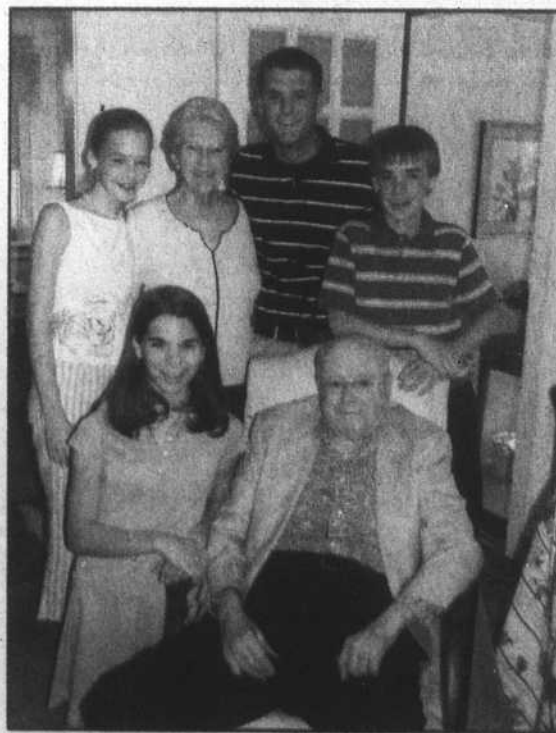
For almost as long as radio signals have been transmitted and successfully received, and six years before Orville and Wilbur Wright ever soared in Kill Devil Hills, Joseph H. Conger, Jr.'s family has recorded the weather—the highs, lows, and precipitation for each and every day. To honor 109 years of volunteer weather observations that began with his grandfather E. R. Conger in 1897, representatives from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) held a ceremony in Conger's home on Friday, April 22 and bestowed four unique and high honors upon him — recognition for 25 years of service to the US Government for his individual performance as a cooperative weather observer, the Conger family Storm Warning flag, the Family Heritage Award for 2006 and the Or-

der of the Long Leaf Pine, on behalf of Gov. Mike Easley.

"Since 1898 E.R. Conger and his descendants have provided the nation with an unbroken record of precipitation and temperature data for Edenton", said Rick Curry, Cooperative Program Manager for the National Weather Service forecast office in Wakefield, VA, at the celebration. "What is unique about the Conger family is that for many years they also were responsible for "raising the flag"; when National Weather Service issued small craft advisories or storm warnings the Congers would alert local mariners by raising storm flags over the Edenton dock. This program was discontinued as radio became the primary method to disseminate this information," Curry explained. For such efforts Conger received a replica of a storm warning flag folded and encased in glass etched with the family name.

"Cooperative observation sites like this one (behind Conger's home on Gale Street) take a family effort," Curry said. "It's a constant

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Joe Conger is congratulated by his wife Barbara and grandchildren Hollis Elmore, Miriam Cooper, Graham Elmore and Miles Cooper.

Earline White/  
The Chowan Herald

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