



'Marine kudzu' threatens river — 4A

## State Supreme Court holds session here

By REGGIE PONDER  
Staff Writer

Attorney Ann Petersen told the N.C. Supreme Court last Wednesday that she would gladly come to Edenton anytime to argue a case.

Petersen made the comment during the historic session of the Supreme Court held here last week. She was representing the defendant in the case State v Robert Lee Earl Joe — one of three cases the court heard last week in Edenton.

The court will issue rulings in the cases at a later time.

State v Robert Lee Earl Joe was before the Supreme Court previously, and the court sent it back to the Court of Appeals for review of a specific issue in the case.

During arguments in the case last week, Petersen remarked that she didn't want to come back before the court a third time in the matter.

"Even if we come to Edenton?" asked Chief Justice Sarah Parker.

"I'll come to Edenton on any case," Petersen replied.

Petersen's comment echoed similar statements made by attorneys in other

### MORE ON THIS STORY

Local's enjoy Court's visit — 4A

### MCCRORY VISIT

Gov. will be here Saturday — 1B

The court heard cases

Under state law, the only place other than Raleigh where the State Supreme Court can sit for cases is in Edenton.

The Supreme Court's session last week at Edenton's 1767 Courthouse was held in conjunction with Edenton's 300th Anniversary. It was only the second time the court had met outside of Raleigh since 1860.

The court heard cases

involving identity theft, seizure of drugs, and arbitration.

Parker said at the outset of the court's session last Wednesday that the court was honored to be part of Edenton's 300th Anniversary and is grateful for the work that was done by many in preparation for the event.

In particular, Parker expressed appreciation to Bob Quinn and the 300th Anniversary Committee, Jerry Climer and the Edenton Historical Commission, Karen Ipock and the staff of the Edenton state

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PHOTO COURTESY NC DEPT. OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

Mayor Roland Vaughan presents a commemorative plate to Chief Justice Sarah Parker during a reception at the Barker House on May 7.

## Food pantry receives grant

By REBECCA BUNCH  
Staff Writer

The Edenton-Chowan Food Pantry has been named the winner of a \$20,000 grant from Walmart's Fighting Hunger Together initiative.

Pantry director Ray Wells said that the non-profit received 1,918 votes, finishing in 51st place among online voters in the competition. According to contest rules, the grants will be awarded to the top 60 vote getters.

Wells said that he was not certain when the funds would be received but that they would be used specifically to expand the Book Bag Buddies program in the Edenton-Chowan Schools. That program provides book bags filled with nutritious food that children who qualify take home over the weekend. The food pantry is a partner in that effort, which currently assists 100 elementary school-age students. The Wal-mart funds will enable the pantry to assist about 100 more students starting this fall, Wells said.

"These funds will be used specifically for that program, to help children," Wells said. "They will not be a part of our general operating budget."

Wells said he was deeply grateful to all those who took the time to vote for the food pantry on Facebook throughout the month of April.

"Our town is not a big one, but the people here are known for having big hearts," Wells said. "They see a need and they respond quickly and without hesitation. That's one of the things that makes it such a special place."

Food Pantry board Chairman Craig Miller

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## HOG WILD Annual Hog Fest a big hit with all

By REBECCA BUNCH  
Staff Writer

All the good-natured ribbing Jimmy Jones of Edenton has been taking lately paid off on Saturday afternoon.

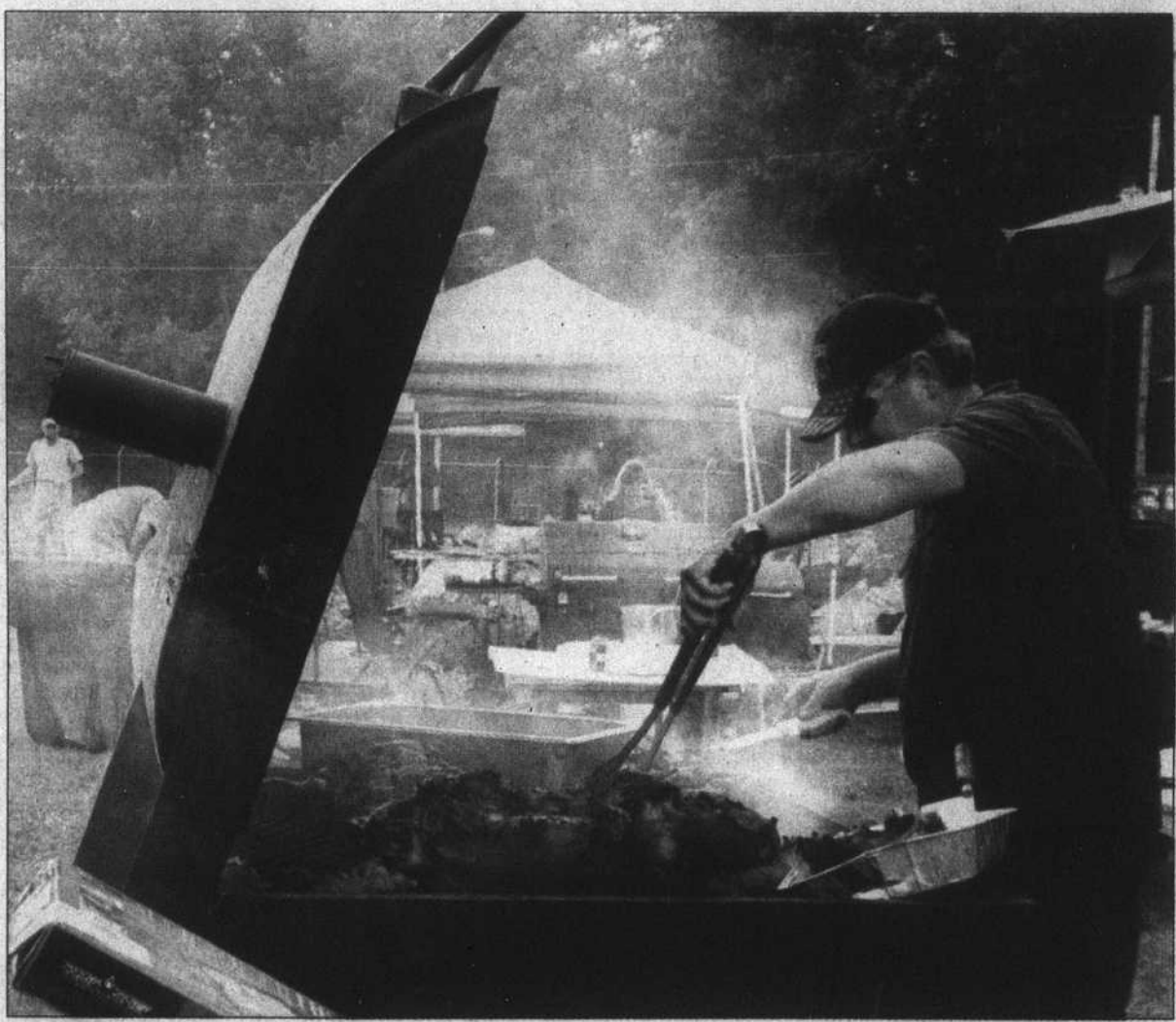
Jones said friends had teased him after he predicted in a recent Chowan Herald story that the new barbecue sauce he was perfecting for this year's Hog Fest competition would either win him first place or bring his entry in dead last.

When the two-day competition ended Saturday, Jones' Island Time Grillers team — sponsored by The Pines Golf Course in Elizabeth City — had indeed grabbed first place in the whole hog cooking competition.

While the competition was expected to name first-, second- and third-place entries, the judges ended up giving the second- and third-place entries the same number of votes — resulting in a tie between the Optimist Club team and the Chop Suey team.

Jones' team also won the Spirit Award. The Best Dressed Hog award went to the Cape Fear Hog Roasters, whose members include Kert Layton of Edenton.

Fifty-one volunteer judges paid \$10 each for the privilege of participating in a blind taste-tasting of 13 entries in the competition



STAFF PHOTO BY REBECCA BUNCH

Tony Cobb of the Bertie Bayou Brothers team from Merry Hill cooks a pig during the whole hog cooking competition at this year's Hog Fest.

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## Police seeking suspect in armed robbery

PHOTO COURTESY EDENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Surveillance camera footage shows the man police say is a suspect in the armed robbery of the Generations Community Credit Union in downtown Edenton Friday afternoon.



From staff reports

Law enforcement authorities are seeking a suspect following the armed robbery of a credit union in downtown Edenton late Friday afternoon.

A man armed with a dark-colored semi-automatic handgun took an undisclosed amount of money from the Generations Community Credit Union around 4:50 p.m., according to the Edenton

Police Department.

Police said the man entered the bank, wrote a note and demanded money from the teller. He left the credit union building and headed north on Broad Street, police reported.

The teller was not injured during the robbery, police reported.

Police say they are looking for a black male of medium build in connection with the robbery. He was de-

scribed further by police as dark-skinned, with a beard, wearing a blue New York Giants hat, gray T-shirt and green shorts.

A cash reward of up to \$1,000 is being offered for information that leads to the arrest and prosecution of the suspect, police reported. Police are urging anyone with information about the man's identity to call Sgt. Laura Wilkins at 482-5144 or 482-4444.

## Bill to reduce board terms clears state House

By REGGIE PONDER  
Staff Writer

A bill to reduce Edenton-Chowan County Board of Education terms from six years to four years passed the State House last week.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Bob Steinburg, R-Chowan, now

is in the Senate, where it has been referred to the Senate Education Committee.

The proposed legislation is known as a "local bill" because it applies only in Chowan County. The Chowan County Board of Commissioners has backed the change, while the county's Board of Education is on record in op-

position to it.

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education Chairman John Guard said the board of education has communicated with Sen. Clark Jenkins, D-Edgecombe, who represents a district that includes Chowan County.

"He is aware of our concerns," Guard said.

But while Jenkins has agreed to watch the bill on behalf of the board of education, he has stopped short of promising to fight the bill in the Senate, according to Guard.

The Chowan Herald has been unable to reach Jenkins since

See TERMS, 2A

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