

**Outlook Edition: Past • Present • Future**



Waitress Renee Dameron takes an order at Town & Country Barbecue during the lunch business. The restaurant also has a buffet on Sundays and has started a catering service.

## Town and Country BBQ growing by the 'Bunches'

Wendell Bunch became interested in the corner between Grover and Kings Mountain where Town & Country Barbecue sits when it was a booming convenience store in the 80's.

"I knew what this place was capable of doing," he said.

So he took it over in July 1989 and after 7 months of work on the building, the doors to the popular restaurant opened Feb. 5, 1990.

Bunch added a sun room, paved the parking lot, upgraded the sewer and electrical systems, among other improvements.

He started to sell the property during eight months of '90 and '91, but in May 1991, Bunch became the owner again.

When Bunch first started, the restaurant was open Monday through Saturday

for three meals a day. Now he has expanded to a Sunday buffet and cut out breakfasts. But the restaurant is open seven days a week now -- Monday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Sundays 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Orders from the kitchen on Sundays are also available.

Seating has gone from about 90 to 170-175 with the addition of two private dining rooms, Bunch said.

And Bunch has entered into the catering business for plants, industries, schools and civic organizations. Town & Country caters not only barbecue but homestyle meals, too.

Bunch said his next venture would be to tap into the I-85 business. Also on his list are groups and private parties as well as civic and church groups.

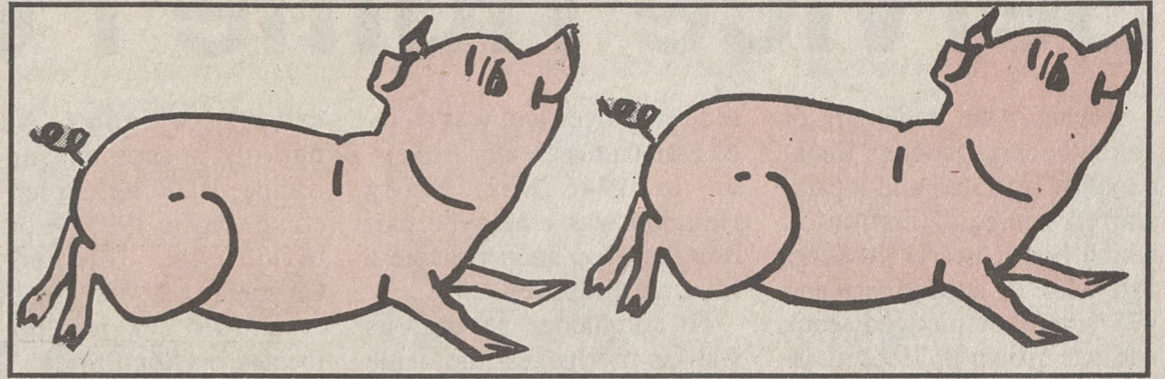
Bunch works two jobs -- he is in business with his family, but he wants to make the restaurant his primary job.

Recently, he was appointed to the Kings Mountain Housing Authority, and he has worked with the Boy Scouts as Committee Troop Chairman for Troop #90. Bunch was a drill sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserve for six years and was a member of the U.S. Army Rifle Team for five years.

He has a wife, Karen Ann, and two children.

Bunch said he asked a friend and fellow restaurateur for advice upon going into the business. He was told, "Never sell anything to the customers that you wouldn't eat yourself." And he stands by that.

"I'm the taster," Bunch said.



**WE FEATURE**

**Beef, Pork,  
Chicken and Ribs**

**DELICIOUS**

**SUNDAY BUFFET**  
HOME COOKED MEALS ON THE BUFFET LINE  
**11:00-2:30**

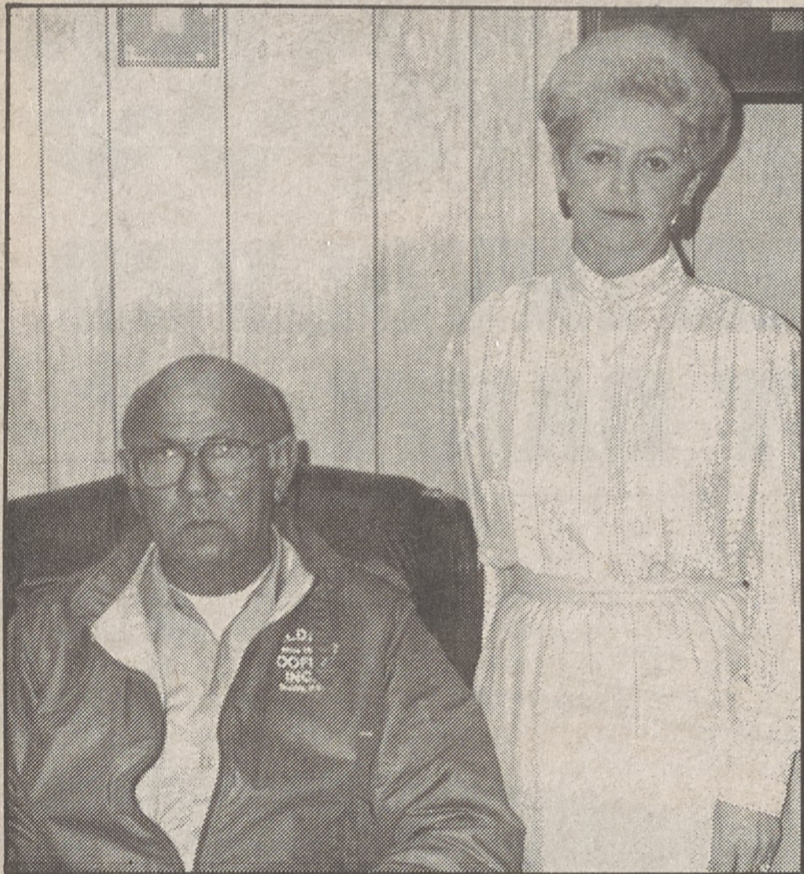
**HOURS: MON. THRU SAT. 11:00-8:30 • SUN. 11:00-2:30**



**Town & Country  
Bar-B-Que**

1553 S. Battleground - Grover Rd.

**734-0888**



JIM AND PAT CHILDERS

## KM's Jim Childers a natural roofer

Kings Mountain roofer Jim Childers got in the business when he was about five years old working with his father, the late W. A. Childers at the old Kings Mountain Tin Shop on Cherokee Avenue.

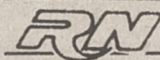
He answered the telephone even before he learned to read the hands on the clock. His enterprising father used a unique way to let his son know it was time to go to nearby Crawford Grocery for a cinnamon bun and R. C. Cola. W. A. took a saw and cut a slit in the floor and when the sun reached the mark on the floor that was lunch time.

For the past 10 years Childers, a Kings Mountain

city commissioner from 1975-83, opened his own roofing business, Childers Roofing, Inc. on Kings Road in Shelby and there has set a good example for the rest of the industry by consistent use of safety equipment.

Childers employs 12 to 14 full time employees and specializes in roofing with reroofing being about 75 percent of the business. The firm can do from 1 square up to 1,000 squares, with 90% of the work being built-up roofing. Childers Roofing has been a member of the Carolina Roofing and Sheet Metal Association since the early 50s. The late Mr.

See Childers, 24-E



**Cablelink**

A Robinson Nugent Company

**WE'RE INVOLVED IN  
PROGRESS**

We take great pleasure in participating along with other businesses in this salute to the growth of our great area. We also wish to recognize our employees for their dedication to the high principles of quality work as our reputation enjoys.

**Cablelink, Incorporated**

311 Childers St., Kings Mountain, NC