

Herald Football Contest Planned

With the start of the football season just around the corner, the Herald is gearing for one of its most successful promotions...the annual "Pick The Winners" football contest.

The contest will run throughout the high school and college season, which begins on Fri., Sept. 7, and area "guessperts" will be taking shots at the \$75 prize money.

The first contest will appear in

next Tuesday's paper. Contestants will have until Friday noon to submit their entries.

Meanwhile, a limited amount of space is available to advertisers. The contest will be limited to 10 advertisements. Anyone interested in having an ad on the page may call the Herald's advertising department at 739-7496.

All contestants are urged to closely read the rules next Tuesday.

Often-times entries are disqualified because contestants neglected the rules.

The main thing to bear in mind is that only one entry per person will be allowed, and entries must be received by noon Fridays. No typewritten entries will be accepted.

In case of a tie, the tie-breaker method will be used. In it, contestants predict the total number of points (not the final score) that will

be scored in a selected game. The person coming closer wins the \$75. If a tie still exists, the money will be divided if no more than two persons tie. If more than two tie, a drawing will be held to determine the winner.

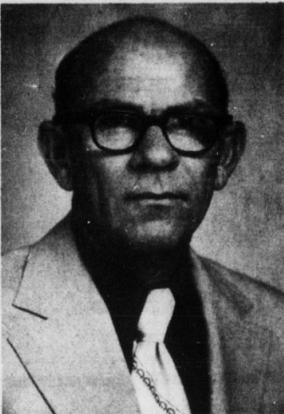
Games in the first week's contest will be played on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 7 and 8. So brush up on your high school and college football and get ready to pocket some of that dough!

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KINGS MOUNTAIN HERALD

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Childers Seeks Re-election



JAMES A. CHILDERS
District One Commissioner

District One Commissioner James A. Childers filed to seek re-election on Oct. 9.

Last Tuesday both incumbent commissioners Norman King and Corbet Nicholson announced their candidacies. Childers rounds out the incumbents up for re-election this year.

Mayor John Henry Moss said late Wednesday that he will make a formal announcement at 2 p.m. Monday concerning his candidacy for re-election. The mayor said he will be a candidate in the Oct. 9 municipal election.

A native of Kings Mountain, Commissioner Childers is completing his first term in public office. He was elected in 1975 under the first four-year staggered term system for commissioners and mayor in Kings Mountain.

"In reflecting back on the past three years and eight months," Childers said, "it becomes apparent how much progress has been made in the city. Completed, to mention a few, is the Citizens Service Center; additions to the community center; Davidson Park upgrading; additions to the Deal Street Recreation Complex; additions to the water treatment plant and waste treatment plant; improvements to water and sewer lines; upgrading of the electrical system; an ongoing program of safety and efficient gas system operation; a personnel policy and job classification for city employees."

The candidate said he is "proud to have been a part of making these things happen and if re-elected will continue to work towards more progress for our citizens."

Childers said some of the programs and projects he is in-

terested in seeing through include more street improvements, an expanded and improved surface drainage program, continual upgrading of the water, sewer, gas and electrical systems, renovation of the former city hall into a functional law enforcement center, further enhancement of Davidson and Deal Street parks, final and complete closeout of the redevelopment projects of urban renewal, a workable program to bring developers together to create more private housing into the city.

"And I want to see a continual upgrading of the city's fire protection system," Childers said.

Childers, 48, is a veteran of the Korean War, serving in the U.S. Army. He is president of Childers Roofing and Heating Co., secretary and treasurer of the Kings Mountain Babe Ruth Baseball League and a member of Second Baptist Church.

Rufus Thomas Of Canterbury Rd.

Man In A Legal Bind

By TOM MCINTYRE
Editor, The Herald

The bureaucratic machinery has chewed up Rufus Thomas and spit him out.

Monday night, Thomas appeared at a public hearing with his attorney regarding his request for rezoning a portion of his Canterbury Rd. property to expand a machine shop. He left with his petition denied.

Commissioner Corbet Nicholson moved the petition be approved and Commissioner Norman King seconded the motion. They were the only ones voting favorably for the petition. The "no" votes of Commissioners James Childers, Humes Houston, William Grissom and James Dickey killed the petition.

During the public hearing only two persons spoke; Gastonia attorneys James B. Garland, in favor, and Joseph Roberts, in opposition.

Garland, representing Thomas, painted a vivid picture of his client's problems. He said Thomas purchased his property on Canterbury Rd. in 1972 "when there were only two homes in the neighborhood." Thomas built "what was really a shed and began a machine shop business in 1974. That business has grown steadily."

The attorney said Thomas, who has an eighth grade education only,

employs four others besides himself in the operation and "on Sept. 5, 1978 he talked about expanding his business site." Garland said, in essence, this meant tearing down the original structure and erecting a larger steel building.

According to Attorney Garland, Thomas' property lies in Gaston County about one and three-quarters of a mile south of I-85. His property line is 560-500 feet from the end of the Kings Mountain zoning perimeter. Thomas contacted a Gaston County building inspector and obtained a permit to install the new building. The structure cost \$7,321. After the foundation for the new building was begun, Thomas borrowed \$12,000 from Independence National Bank to go into his business. The structure arrived later than promised and construction was delayed until the spring of 1979.

At this point the City of Kings Mountain came into the picture. Alvin Moretz, city codes director, sent a letter to Thomas informing him that the property he owned was not zoned for what he proposed.

"This was Mr. Thomas first indication the city of Kings Mountain had any jurisdiction over his property," Garland said. "A letter was also sent from Mr. Moretz to John Stowe, Gaston building in-

spector, informing him of the violation. Six weeks passed and Mr. Thomas heard nothing more. He began constructing his building again and this time the city stopped him."

Garland said the building is partially constructed and Thomas is in debt. "This is a situation over which he has no control. If the property is not rezoned from R-20 to LI, he cannot put up the building, and if he cannot put up the building to expand his business, he cannot repay the bank loan or pay for the structure."

Garland said the building can be seen, "but not much of it shows in the community."

Attorney Roberts told the board he represented "fifty-three individuals who have built their homes on Canterbury Road. They built there because they were sure the zoning would protect them and their investments."

Roberts described the area as similar to the North Carolina foothills in beauty, which was another reason the "residents chose to build their homes there." Roberts termed Thomas' situation as "tragic," but questioned whether granting his rezoning request was "valid."

"The problem presented is that Thomas wants to take a piece out of the heart of this residential section

for another purpose," Roberts said. "He wants to go from the extreme of an R-20 to Light Industry. I'm sure Mr. Thomas has quite an investment in his property and business, but what about the investment of these 53 people in that community?"

Roberts said he felt the board would not destroy their own zoning without a strong reason and "the mistake made by one homeowner is not sufficient rationale to warrant this destruction."

The board had agreed that both Garland and Roberts would be permitted two minutes rebuttal at the end of each initial statement. Garland took less than one minute and Roberts "had nothing further to add."

Garland pointed out that the 53 people concerned knew the Thomas machine shop was there when they built and that "the majority of these people live outside the Kings Mountain zoning perimeter. They are calling on Kings Mountain to protect them, yet they chose to build outside the city's jurisdiction to avoid the thing they ask for."

To questions from commissioners, Garland said he had no information as to why a Gaston County building inspector would grant a building permit to someone inside Kings Mountain's perimeter without informing the citizen of the facts.

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BETHWARE FAIR QUEEN—Miss Ann Grant, daughter of the John Grants, will serve as official hostess for the 32nd annual edition of the Bethware Fair, Sept. 12-15 at Bethware Elementary School.

Ann Grant Is Named Bethware Fair Queen

Ann Grant, a senior at Kings Mountain Senior High, will serve as Queen of The Bethware Fair next month.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Grant of Rt. 1, Kings Mountain, will cut the ribbon to officially open the 32nd annual edition of the fair, sponsored by the Bethware Progressive Club, at 4 p.m. Wed., Sept. 12. Miss Grant will serve as hostess and will present door prizes won in the nightly drawings.

Besides the rides and games for adults and children along the

midway, there will be over 1,000 exhibits set up in the school gym, according to Mrs. Betty White.

"Last year we had 1,437 exhibitors and this year we are expecting more," Mrs. White said. "Persons interested in placing an exhibit of handicrafts, homegrown or homemade items may register on Sept. 12 from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. at the gym."

First place winners will receive extra cash prizes this year and the prize money will be presented after 8 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 14.

\$5.3 Million Project Proposed For Hospital

The Western North Carolina Health Systems Agency has approved a proposed \$5.3 million renovation and modernization project at Kings Mountain Hospital.

Local hospital officials attended the WNCCHA governing board meeting in Asheville last Wednesday night to answer questions concerning the program. The proposal had already received a positive nod from the WNCCHA review committee this week before.

Now, according to Grady Howard,

hospital administrator, the proposal goes to the Certificate of Need Section of the Division of Facilities Service for final review.

Kings Mountain Hospital has applied for a \$4.8 million loan from the Farmers Home Administration. If approved, the hospital plans receiving construction bids in spring 1980.

To repay the loan over the next 30 years, the hospital would increase daily billing to patients by about \$10.

Local Churches

To Take Poll

This canvasser form will be used this week by members of local churches calling for the Christian Growth Celebration.

The information on local families will be used by the pastors in the Kings Mountain Ministerial Association to plan and follow up on the celebration - Sept. 2-9, Gamble Stadium.

An attempt will be made to contact every family in the phone directory in the city to ask for cooperation.

PEOPLE SEARCH FAMILY INFORMATION

Family Name _____ Telephone _____
Address _____ Date _____
City _____

Given Name	Age (of Children)	Attendance W-Weekly M-Monthly S-Seldom N-Never	Church Member? Name of church	Church Preference

1. How do you rate this family as prospects? Good ___ Possible ___ Poor ___

2. Remarks _____

Canvasser _____