

There's Still Time To Win A Bike

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Photo By Lib Stewart

OFFICER HONORED — KMPD Sgt. Ellis King receives a plaque honoring him for 20 years service as a city policeman from Mayor John H. Moss, right, on behalf of citizens. Comm. Norman King is in background. Sgt. King retired Aug. 1.

King Honored By City On Retiring

Sgt. Ellis Harmon King, who retired Monday, has been a familiar figure at City Hall for 20 years.

The popular Kings Mountain policeman, who took an early retirement because of health reasons, said he expects to attend a lot of sports events and spend more time now with his six grandchildren, none of whom he thinks will follow in Grandpa's footsteps.

The King family has provided the area four law enforcement officers, Ellis King and two of his sons, Tommy and Joe King, serving at the same time during one period at City Hall and the third boy, Jimmy, as an officer in Blacksburg, S. C. Three Kings have now left the force, Tommy is at Eaton Corporation, Jimmy is at work at Fiber Industries, and Joe King is a Cleveland County Deputy Sheriff.

Sgt. King looks back on a busy career in which he served under six police chiefs beginning with former Sheriff Hugh A. Logan, Jr. who tried to interest his friend in becoming a Deputy Sheriff 20 years ago. Mr. King said he was working in the textile mill then and when Sheriff Logan became KMPD Chief of Police joined the force as a patrolman. Mr. King was 22. He subsequently served under Martin Ware, the late Paul Sanders, Tom McDevitt, William Roper, Jr. and Earl Lloyd.

Sgt. King said law enforcement changed more "in general" during the administration of the late Paul Sanders but credited Chief McDevitt, now of Forest City, with updating department and beginning training school programs for officers.

"It's harder to police now than it was 10 years ago," said King, who declared that "police have their hands tied and there are so many more changes in law enforcement and courts."

Sgt. King has earned numerous certificates for advanced training at UNIVAC school at Gaston College, and various training programs at Cleveland Tech, Isothermal and Western Piedmont, plus 100 hours of credit in traffic control at Spartanburg, S. C. school.

All the King family, including

Sgt. King's youngest grandson, age six weeks, turned out Monday night to see the city present Sgt. King with a handsome plaque "in recognition of dedicated service as a law enforcement officer for 20 years for the Citizens of Kings Mountain." The plaque was enhanced by the officer's patrolman badge and sergeant's badge.

The award was presented by Mayor John H. Moss at the regular meeting of the city board of commissioners.

Mr. King's wife, Maude, and their eight children and their families were all present. They include Tommy, David, Joe, Jimmy and Bobby King, Janelle King Wood, Barbara King and Susan King and Sgt. King's four sisters and brother, Willis King, who is an employee with the city electrical department.

Son of the late Sally and Claude King, Ellis King was born in Sylva in Western North Carolina and moved to Kings Mountain at age seven, one of four boys in a large family of 11 children.

The King family has always been a close-knit family and enjoy doing things together.

Mayor Moss, in presenting the city plaque to King, noted that Sgt. King "is interested in his fellowman and in doing good things for the community," citing the sergeant for his interest in youth of the community and as a leader in the Junior Police program and recognizing him as the city's first community service officer.

Acting Chief Jackie D. Barrett began duties Tuesday for the third time in 21 years as interim Kings Mountain Chief of Police. The veteran Kings Mountain Police Captain, who served as assistant chief under three Chiefs of Police, was appointed acting police chief Monday night by the city board of commissioners.

The board, meeting in executive session for 90 minutes at the close of the regular meeting, accepted formally the resignation of Chief Earl Lloyd, effective Aug. 8.

The board also approved paying Chief Lloyd through Aug. 15, plus two weeks vacation. In other personnel matters, the

board also accepted the resignation of Ptl. Donald Ivey and tabled employment of a clerk for the police department.

The board also approved unanimously increment pay increases to all city department heads effective with the first paycheck in September.

A Kings Mountain native, Acting Chief Barrett joined the KMPD force over 21 years ago, hired by Former Chief and Ex-Sheriff Hugh A. Logan, Jr. He has served under six Chiefs, including Logan, Martin Ware, the late Paul Sanders, Tom McDevitt, William Roper, Jr. and Earl Lloyd. He is the son of Mrs. John Queen of Kings Mountain and he and his wife, Arlene, and daughter, Cheryl and son, David, live on Park Drive.



JACKIE BARRETT

Citizens Are Tired Of 'Eating Dust'

The city board listened to citizens aggravated by street problems Monday night and promised attention to the matter would be given.

Donald L. Parker, representing residents who are "eating dust of city trucks" on a service road leading to the McGill treatment plant, cited damage by the dust to freshly painted homes and asked that the city cover the dust with asphalt and extend the present pavement about 400 feet. "This is a small problem for you but a

major one for us," Parker told the board. "We've suffered this problem for a number of years and we're going to keep bothering you until you do something about it."

The board agreed to have its engineering department investigate the matter and bring back a report.

In a related street matter, Mrs. O. V. Ellis complained about dust and holes on Ellis Street in the Canaler Street

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Officers Are Cited

The city commission Monday night approved resolutions of appreciation to KMPD Sgt. Richard Reynolds and SBI Agent Jim Woodward.

Mayor John Moss presented citation to Reynolds, and Chief Earl Lloyd accepted citation for

Woodard in his absence. Both were cited for their part in investigating the murder of a local service station attendant, James Luther Rayfield, in December 1975 and of a concession operator at Cleveland County Fair in October 1976.

Supt. Davis Comments To Board

'Keep Students' Interest First'

By GARY STEWART
Staff Writer

New schools Supt. Bill Davis held his first official board meeting with the board of education Monday night and told them he looks forward to several years of service to the children of the Kings Mountain School District.

In brief remarks, Davis said his main interest is in the students and urged board members to keep the students' interest first, also.

Davis also cautioned board members about making promises and/or acting individually. "You only have authority," he said, "when you're acting as a board."

Davis also said he feels that any problems that arise in the school system should be handled at lower levels, if necessary.

"Why get the principal involved if the teacher can handle the problem?" he said. "And why get the superintendent involved if the principal can

handle it?, and why get the board involved if the superintendent can handle it?"

"I believe in handling the problems on the lowest level possible," he said, "and then moving on up the line when necessary."

In official board action Monday, the board:

— Heard a report by director of instruction Howard Bryant on various workshops scheduled this month and throughout the school year and was informed by Supt. Davis of the annual kickoff breakfast and faculty and staff meetings on August 15.

— Was told by Supt. Davis that CETA funds for the 1977-78 school year would be over \$300,000 for 45 employees working through the Comprehensive Employment Training Act.

— Received a questionnaire from the North Carolina State School Boards Association.

— Was told that the school system is seeking additional CETA funds through the

Governor's Office to expand the Primary Reading Program. The program is set for North, Grover and East and if more funds come the program will be added at Bethware.

Received a letter of appreciation from Linda S. Wilder, dental hygienist with the Cleveland County Health Department.

— Accepted an insurance plan from Youthguard Insurance Co. with rates of \$4.50 per student, \$28.00 for varsity football players and \$15.00 for jayvee football players.

— Denied a request from the Delta Dental Plan urging the schools to assist in getting information on the plan to parents.

— Increased school lunch prices by five cents per plate for sixth and seventh graders and 10 cents per plate for adults.

— Set the student fee schedule the same as last year.

— Agreed to give the city a right of way for a street which would open Morris Street to Sims Street.

— Increased local salary scales by 6 1/2 percent to bring them in line with the 6 1/2 percent increase in state-paid salaries.

— Passed a resolution on the 1977-78 budget which is over \$5 million. The budget was approved in the May meeting.

— Accepted the resignations of Frank Morehead, Nancy Gryder, Gene Alexander and Jerry Blanton; granted leaves of absence to Cynthia Wood and Hilda Leonard; and elected Misha Hill, Mary Jean Osborne, Onna M. Taylor, Harriet Joyce Van Dyke, Teresa LeFevers, Ree Smith Moss, Pamela Smith and Louis Eugene Alexander to teacher positions.

— Granted several student releases, transfers and accepted several students from other school districts.

— Approved, on recommendation by Supt. Davis, to request the Division of School Planning to do a school facilities survey on all schools in the system. Davis said the last survey was conducted in 1967.

— Was told that Kings Mountain Senior High has been accredited by the Southern Association.

— Approved a request from Gov. Hunt to assist his office in distributing a state survey sheet which will help his office determine the needs of the citizens of this state.

— Appointed June Lee and Marian Thomason as a committee to seek portraits of former superintendents.

— To a question by a citizen, promised to find out why Kings Mountain High School is charging an admission for an upcoming football scrimmage with Olympic High. The public has been admitted to past scrimmages free of charge.

'Festival' Ends Summer On Happy Note

Want to end the summer on a happy note?

Then clear your calendar of all other activities this Saturday (August 13) and plan to take part in the Community-Wide Festival at Deal St. Park.

To kickoff the activities a parade is planned beginning at 9 a. m. in front of Western Auto Store on S. Cherokee St. Anyone who wants to ride, walk or crawl in the parade is asked to be at the WA Store before 9 a. m.

The city fire truck will lead the way to Deal St. Park. Just follow the siren and prepare to find an old fashioned celebration underway.

You'll be able to buy a hot dog for 15 cents and a soft drink for a dime. And you can take part in such activities as sack and three-legged races, 100-yard dash, Putt Putt golf, watermelon busts and water sports.

To entertain you The Swinging Mountaineers will be there in colorful costumes and with a variety of musical instruments to play for you. The Swingers are all members of the senior citizens set.

And there is an Old-Timers softball game scheduled.

To register to play in this game or for more general information about the festival call Mrs. Kathleen Wilson at 739-4257, or Mrs. Victoria Bess at 739-2000, or Mrs. Dorothy Edwards at 739-8969.

A prize will be awarded the owner of the best decorated bicycle in the parade Saturday morning and the entire community is urged to participate.

A planning spokesman said, "We want to bring the summer activities in Kings Mountain to a happy conclusion with activities the entire family can take part in."