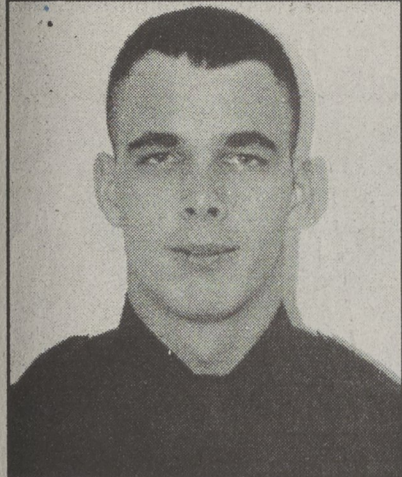


Kings Mountain Police Report



PTL. CLIFF IRVIN

Ptl. Cliff Irvin joins Kings Mountain PD

Ptl. Cliff Irvin, one of the city's young and newly-hired policemen, plans to make law enforcement a career.

"It's something new, different and good," said Irvin who spent four years in Uncle Sam's Army and came home to Cleveland County to join the Kings Mountain Police Department.

Irvin said his role model was an uncle who worked on the Rutherford County Sheriff's Department for a number of years.

"I always respected the badge and always looked up to my uncle for all his devotion to law enforcement, so when the chance came to apply for a job here I jumped at the chance," said Irvin, who graduated from East Rutherford High School in 1992.

Irvin came to work in Kings Mountain November 12, 1996 after completing rookie school at Cleveland Community College.

A native of Columbia, SC, he is the son of Anne and Tex Irvin of Boiling Springs. He and his wife, Kim Drewer Irvin, have an 18-months-old son, Damine, and reside in Boiling Springs. They are active in Mount Calvary Baptist Church. The Irvin family also includes his three brothers, Guy Irvin and Avery and Jimmy Melton.

Golfing, fishing and playing softball are hobbies that Irvin enjoys when he's isn't working.

He is a member of Sgt. Maurice Jamerson's squad which also includes Ptl. Larry Ware, Ptl. Tim Adams and dispatcher Shawn Neighbors.

Trailer fire claims life of Midpines resident

A house fire early February 12 claimed the life of Midpines Community resident James Houston "Poochie" Mitchem, 59.

Firefighters arrived about 1:20 a.m. after a neighbor called 911 and found the living room and kitchen of the mobile home burning out of control, said Cleveland County fire marshal Beau Lovelace.

Rodney Hovis, who escaped the burning trailer after Mitchem woke him, said Mitchem had gotten out but had gone back inside to fight the fire, according to Lovelace.

Mitchem told Hovis the fire started when he spilled kerosene while trying to light a heater, according to the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department report.

ARRESTS
Ken Dale McGill, 41, 405 E. Parker St., felonious breaking and entering, felonious larceny and assault on a female.

Joe Hollis Saine Jr., 30, Shelbyville, Tn., felony possession of a stolen vehicle and six counts check forgery, \$5,000 bond, secured

John R. Walker, 39, 601 Meadowbrook Rd., disorderly conduct, \$300 bond, secured.

Dennis Edward Moore, 36, 100 N. Dilling St., assault on a female.

Eric Lee Burgess, 1206 Forbes Rd., Lot 7, driving while license revoked, \$300 bond, secured.

Faneak Mario Washington, 30, 317 N. Washington St., Shelby, order for arrest, no operator's license and hit and run, \$800 bond, secured.

Michael Bell, 36, 103-A Tracy St., assault on a female.

Edward Ray Blanton, 29, 1210 Northwoods, assault on a female and communicating threats.

Historical home survey under way in county

Brian Eades, architectural historian, will be conducting a survey of historical homes in the Kings Mountain area during the month of March.

He will be calling on residents to compile historical data for a book which will be made available to residents detailing what the county has to offer in historical resources.

Eades, of Atlanta, Ga., began a 15-month survey of historical sites of the area for the

Bible study at Cherryville Church of God

Cherryville Church of God, 810 East Main St., Cherryville, is continuing the Bible study "Biblical Eternal Security: Conditional or Unconditional" each Wednesday at 7 p.m. through February.

The public is invited. For information, call 435-2275.

CITATIONS

Billy Eugene Lunsford, 53, McAdenville, expired registration.

Gregory Morris Stewart, 29, 200 Spruce St., Apt. 3D, driving after revocation.

Sidney Eugene Brown, 28, 25 Country Club Rd., no operator's license.

Vaughan Lewis Trammel, 201 Cherry St., Belmont, no operator's license, no insurance and improper equipment.

Kristy Ann Hale, 27, 331 Lot 3 Oak Grove Rd., no operator's license.

INCIDENTS

Carol Gunter, Dallas, reported theft of her automobile tag.

Police recovered stolen vehicles owned by Jerry Dale Mixion, 406 Walker Street, Brenda Williams, 105 Morris St. and Carol A. Litchford of Tullahoma, Tn.

Victoria Adams, 57 Pine Manor, reported theft of a jacket and shirts.

Express Store, 212 W. King St., Texaco Express, 511 Linwood Rd., and Little Dan's, 726 York Rd., reported theft of gasoline.

Natalie Falls Pennington, 809 W. Cold St., reported theft of two Cablevision boxes valued at \$150 each.

Four incidents of assault were reported. Jinny Carman, 504 N. Cansler St., Angela Teague Carrigan, 129 McGinnis St., Pamela D. Leach, 425 N. Tracy St., and Debra A. Emery, 815 Phillips Dr., each filed complaints.

Lothridge Plumbing, Lexington, reported that the window in a truck cab was damaged at 801 Boyce Street.

Betty Stamey, 200 Spruce St. Apt. 2C, reported that her 1987 Pontiac was scratched.

Ronald Calvin Miller, Belmont, reported that a house at 216 N. Sims Street was extensively damaged and thieves took a ceiling fan,

Cleveland County Economic Development Commission last September.

Eades said the field work on the project is well underway. He said newcomers to the county, particularly those interested in industrial development, will enjoy seeing the results of the project being also emphasized by Cleveland Tomorrow as a tool to enhance economic growth.

vanity sink, faucets, door knobs and hardware, a window air conditioner, folding doors and shelves and window screens.

Cynthia Martin, 205 E. Parker St., reported a break-in and theft of a computer, washer and dryer and damage to her residence.

Darrell Thornburg, 413 Crescent Hill Rd., reported that two tires on his 1993 Toyota were punctured.

Andre Lamont Robbs, Cherryville, reported theft of a cellular telephone from his 1986 Nissan parked on East King Street.

Lavonda Lynn Camp, 526 Baker St., reported theft of end tables, one coffee table, two lamp shades, two brass frame mirrors, seven video tapes, one fish tank stand, three aluminum porch chairs and bedspreads.

WRECKS

FEB. 12

A 1994 Dodge Van operated by Wanda Black Hodges, 2431 Caswell St., Gastonia, struck a 1985 Ford operated by Walker Smarr, Route 4, doing \$650 damage. The accident occurred on Cleveland Avenue.

FEB. 13

A 1984 Oldsmobile operated by Chiquita Johnson Womic, 1201 Kermit Dr., struck a patch of ice on Waco Road and slid off the right side of the road.

Michael James Splawn, 112 Edgemont Rd., Bessemer City, lost control of his 1984 Chevrolet truck on the I-85 exit ramp on York Road and struck a highway sign. The car was damaged \$5,000.

A 1996 Honda operated by Anne Marie Minter, 112 Cindy Lane, struck a 1994 Ford truck operated by David C. Griggs III, 113 Chestnut Ridge Rd., at the exit ramp 74 East. Damages were estimated at \$5200.

Cars operated by Julien Therrien, 423 Leander St., Shelby, and Darryl Von Frazier, 1822 Idlewild Dr., Shelby, hit at the East bound off ramp at the 74 bypass doing \$350 damage.

Ice was blamed for a one-vehicle wreck on West King Street. Paul David Whetstone, 1 Country Club Rd., was operating a 1990 Toyota which was damaged \$2500 when it struck a city utility pole.

Lamar Adams Rashade, 811 W. Gold St., said his 1991 Honda hit an icy spot on Waco Road and the car slid off the right side of the road.

FEB. 14

Helen Case House, 814 Third St., as backing her 1980 Datsun truck from Mac's Grocery parking lot and struck a 1985 Dodge operated by Jerry Franklin Gregory, Gastonia. Damages were estimated at \$500.

Clyde Lewis Chambers Jr., 1219 Dodd St., Shelby, complained of injuries after a two-car wreck on West King Street. Chambers' car was struck by a 1991 Hyundai operated by Ronald Eric Norton, 3712 Stout Dr., Raleigh. Damages were estimated at \$3500.

A 1991 Toyota operated by a 17-year-old male struck a 1985 Nissan operated by Larry Dale Beatty, 1497 Lackey St., Shelby, at a stoplight on S. Battleground Avenue. Beatty complained of injuries. Damages were estimated at \$2200.

FEB. 15

Annie Gibson Davis, 106 S. Oriental Ave., operating a 1985 Mercury, struck a 1995 Ford operated by Anne Guyton Haynes, 1063 Barnette Dr., in the parking area of Harris-Teeter. Damages were estimated at \$925.

James Michael Johnson, 27, of Bowling Green, SC, was cited for running a red light after a two-vehicle wreck involving his 1989 Dodge and a 1990 Chevrolet operated by Broadus Franklin Kelly, 4 Bennett Dr. One person in the Kelly vehicle was reportedly hurt. Damages were estimated at \$4,000. The accident happened at the intersection of York Road and East Gold Street.

An IRA Can Lower Tax Bill

For many people who work for companies without a pension plan, setting up an individual retirement arrangement (IRA) can give a double bonus. It can lower their taxes if they make deductible contributions to the IRA and provides for a more secure retirement.

Anyone who has taxable compensation, such as wages, tips, commissions and taxable alimony, and who will be under age 70 1/2 at the end of the year can set up an IRA. Money can be put into an IRA at any time during the year or by the due date of the tax return for that year, not including extensions.

Contributions must be in the form of money, such as cash, check or money order. Property doesn't count. The most that can be contributed for any year is \$2,000 or taxable compensation, whichever is smaller. For married couples who work, the maximum is \$2,000 each. A working spouse can set up a spousal IRA for a spouse who has little or no taxable compensation. The maximum combined contributions to the working spouse's IRA and the spousal IRA is \$2,250. Many people can deduct part or all of their contributions. IRA earnings generally are not taxed until they are withdrawn from the account.

Publication 590, *Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*, gives more information on IRAs, including how to compute and report deductible and nondeductible contributions, when to start withdrawing money and what actions will result in penalties. Order it by calling 1-800-829-3676.

Tax News

Tax Relief Can Soften Disaster

Losing personal or business property due to a fire, flood, hurricane, theft or other similar event is devastating, but some losses can be recouped through federal income tax breaks.

People who suffer a casualty loss or theft may be able to deduct the loss when they itemize deductions on their tax returns. If the loss happens in an area declared a disaster area by the president, people can

choose to deduct the loss when they file their tax return for the year of the loss, or amend their return for the year before the loss, whichever provides the best tax result.

Details can be found in Publications 547, *Casualties, Disasters, and Thefts (Business and Nonbusiness)*, and 1600, *(1600SP in Spanish), Disaster Losses*. Call 1-800-829-3676.

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