

# KINGS MOUNTAIN MIRROR-HERALD

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## Meeting Set Tuesday To Discuss Demotion

By TOM MCINTYRE  
Editor, Mirror-Herald

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The commissioners will meet in special session Tues., Aug. 19 at 7:30 p. m. at city hall for further action on the demotion and pay cut of KMPD Officer Tommy King.

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be called before a decision can be announced.

White said the real question is whether or not the chief of police has the authority to demote an officer. "Chief Roper contends he does have the right to take the action he did," White added. Then he suggested "in all fairness, I think both Roper and King should be in on the personnel session prior to this special called meeting."

The city code outlining where authority lies comes under Article Five, Employee Position Classification and Pay Plan.

Section 2-90. Suspension.

An employee may be suspended without pay for not more than one week by a department head for misconduct on the job. Such suspension shall be reported to the mayor . . . .

Officer King was suspended for two days without pay, according to Chief Roper.

Section 2-91. Dismissal or demotion. An employee may be dismissed by a departmental supervisor without notice for gross negligence, disloyalty, or defects in character that bring discredit upon the city. An employee may be demoted or dismissed by the mayor on recommendation of the department head for negligence or failure to do work up to the standard of the classification held. The mayor shall report every such demotion or dismissal to the board of commissioners at the next meeting following the action.

This section of the city codes gives departmental heads authority to dismiss, but fails to state whether or not the departmental head has the authority to

demote an employee. The code does state the mayor has the authority to dismiss or demote. However, Chief Roper says he was told by the mayor and commissioners to handle the situation himself.

After the first petition was given the mayor Joe King, another brother of Tommy King, told the commissioners "We want to know something tonight. This has been going on for two weeks and you should know something by now."

The commissioners declined to discuss the situation in an open meeting and Commissioner Corbet Nicholson motioned for a discussion in executive session "tonight with Chief Roper and Tommy (King)."

Jimmy King, acting as spokesman for the petitioners, told the board "You've had plenty of time to make a decision. We'd like to see Sgt. King get back everything and be reconciled for everything that has been done to him."

David King, a third brother to officer King, said, "This thing has brought disgrace on the whole King family and it was done to discredit Tommy. He's one of the finest officers this city has. He has a degree in police science and has been to school more than any of the other policemen."

At the conclusion of the meeting Tommy King told the commissioners that he has not been told what his status is with the police department. "I read in the newspaper where I was to report back to work today (Monday) to work under Lt. Bob Hayes' command. I haven't been told by anybody what I'm supposed to do. I read it in the newspaper. Am I still a police officer? Am I getting paid?"

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Photo By Tom McIntyre.

**SITTING AND WAITING** — This photo was snapped toward the end of a three-hour wait for commissioners to end a closed personnel discussion during Monday night's board meeting. Seated with head in hand is KMPD Officer Tommy King, who was demoted from sergeant to patrolman last week when a

fellow officer reported King's taking city gasoline without authority. Several members of King's family and friends presented a petition to the board to have King reinstated. Above, they were waiting for an answer.

### 1975-76 KM School Schedule

School bells will ring for 4,300 Kings Mountain district pupils Aug. 26 for Orientation Day and first day of school of the Fall term is Aug. 27.

Teacher work days in the eight plants of the system for the 216 faculty members are Monday through Friday, Aug. 18-25.

Supt. Donald Jones said that faculties are complete and finishing touches building improvements are being made or underway.

At Grover, a new five-classroom building is being readied for students utilizing the open classroom concept plus a learning center. In addition cafeteria facilities are being renovated with addition of a walk-in freezer, new offices and kitchen.

Eleven new classrooms, a new cafeteria and a media center are under construction at Bethware and, although in the early stages, should be completed early in the year, said Jones.

Central School has been air-conditioned, paneled, painted and carpeted plus a new electrical system has been installed.

An addition to the faculties this year will be a reading instructor to serve Central school students, utilizing the new reading lab there. Two reading teachers will be added in grades one through five at the other schools to work with 13 reading aides.

Supt. Jones said the Kings Mountain School Calendar for 1975-76 is as follows:

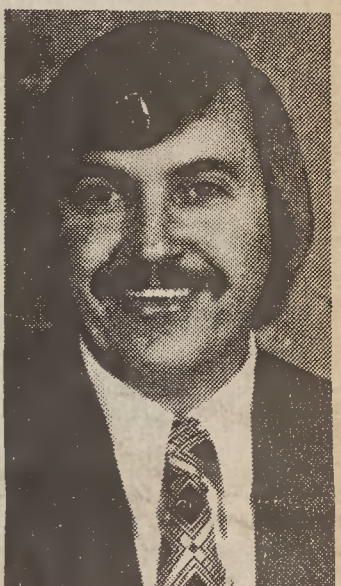
- Aug. 18-25 — Teacher Work Days
- Aug. 26 — Orientation Day
- Aug. 27 — First Day of 180 School Days
- Sept. 1 — Labor Day Holiday
- Oct. 10 — District 2 NCAE Meeting - Kings Mountain
- Oct. 31 — 1st Evaluation Day
- Nov. 27-28 — Thanksgiving Holidays
- Dec. 19 — Last Day for Students-Christmas Holidays
- Dec. 22-Jan. 1 — Teacher Annual Leave and Holidays
- Jan. 2 — Teacher Work Day
- Jan. 5 — Students Return — Christmas Break
- Jan. 22-23 — Mid-Term Evaluation
- March 25 — Last Day for Students — Spring Break
- March 26 — 3rd Evaluation Day
- March 29-April 2 — Spring Break
- April 5 — Students Return — Spring Break
- April 16-19 — Easter Holidays
- May 23 — Baccalaureate
- May 28 — Graduation
- June 7 — 179th Student Day
- June 8 — Final Evaluation Day
- June 9—180th School Day
- June 10-11 — Teacher Work Days
- June 14 — Teacher Annual Leave Day



RAY CLINE



REV. HOWARD SHIPP



JERRY MULLINAX

## Cline, Shipp, Mullinax, In City Board Race

There were three more splashes made in local political waters this week with the announcements of candidacies of one incumbent commissioner and two newcomers.

District One Commissioner Ray Cline is seeking his eighth consecutive term in office in the coming Oct. 7 municipal election. Rev. Howard Shipp, who ran and was defeated four years ago here, will seek to unseat incumbent James E. Amos, commissioner of district five. Jerry Mullinax, a first time candidate, is after the district two commissioner seat.

Thus far incumbent commissioners Lloyd Davis, district two, and Don McAbee, district four, have not announced their campaign plans. Mayor John H. Moss also has not made known his plans. However, it is expected all three will be in this municipal race before the filing deadline.

Candidate filing actually does not begin until Fri., Aug. 15 and runs through Fri., Sept. 5. The fees are \$10 for mayor, \$5 for commissioner.

In past weeks incumbent commissioners James Amos, district five, M. C. Pruette, district six, and Corbet

Nicholson, district three, have announced re-election plans.

To date Pruette has only one opponent for the district six seat, Fred Wright Jr. It was erroneously reported last week that Wright was a candidate in district five. Rev. Shipp at present is Commissioner Amos' only opponent.

With Cline's announcement today, the number of candidates on district one are two. Hugh A. Logan Jr. is the contender.

Former commissioner Norman King is the lone candidate in district four at this point and Commissioner Nicholson alone has announced for district three.

RAY CLINE

Ray Cline is completing his seventh consecutive term on the Kings Mountain Board of Commissioners.

A Lincoln County native, Cline graduated from schools there and came to Kings Mountain 1933 as an employee of the old Bonnie Mill. He later went to work for Mauney Mills, then finally to Mauney Hosiery. He retired from there in 1973.

The commissioner served in the U. S. Navy in 1944-45 and is

a past commander of the local American Legion. He is also a member of the local VFW and the Shelby Moose Lodge. He has held several offices in both of the latter organizations.

Cline is married to the former Elizabeth Huffstickler of Kings Mountain and is the father of six children, three daughters, all of whom reside in Kings Mountain, and three sons, one in Virginia, the second in Gastonia and the third in Marietta, Ga.

The Clines are members of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, where the commissioner has served as Sunday School secretary and

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### For Your Information

Attention: Senior Citizens! Aug. 28 from 11 a. until 1 p. m. special programs and a luncheon is planned for you in the Mountaineer Room at the Kings Mountain Community Center.

Rev. Kenneth George, coordinator of the city's aging program, said this is the first of many such programs for the city's senior citizens.

The program includes special entertainment and a free luncheon.

If any senior citizen needs transportation to the community center, call 739-4511.

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A dutch luncheon is planned by the Kings Mountain Bicentennial Commission Fri., Aug. 15 at noon at the Royal Villa.

All commission members are urged to attend to preview a special film entitled "The Bicentennial: Putting It All Together."

Bicentennial co-chairpersons Pat Plonk and Howard Jackson have called the meeting.

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## Two File For School Board

Two more candidates for the Kings Mountain Board of Education announced intentions to file in the coming county-wide election.

The seats now held by George Mauney, chairman, and James E. Herndon Jr., are open for election this year. To date, neither Mauney nor Herndon has announced their plans concerning re-election campaigns.

The two candidates announcing this week are Charles F. Mauney and Kyle Smith. Last week Herman Greene of Kings Mountain was the first school board candidate to announce.

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Mauney is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl F. Mauney and is a Kings Mountain native. He graduated from KM high, attended Davidson College for two years and graduated from North Carolina State Univer-

sity with a BS degree in textile chemistry and a BS degree in textiles.

He is married to the former Lynne Wagner of Statesville and has four children, Mary Kathlynn, 16, Carla Elizabeth, 14, Dartha Leigh, 12, and Stephen Andrew, 6. All four will be students in the KM school system this year.

The Mauneys are members of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, where Mauney is a Sunday School teacher and serves on the church counsel. He is a member and past president of the KM Rotary Club, a director of the KM Country Club, past president of the Catawba Valley Hosiery Association, former chapter chairman and blood chairman for the American Red Cross, past chairman of the KM United Fund, served as co-chairman of the KM Centennial Commission, serves on

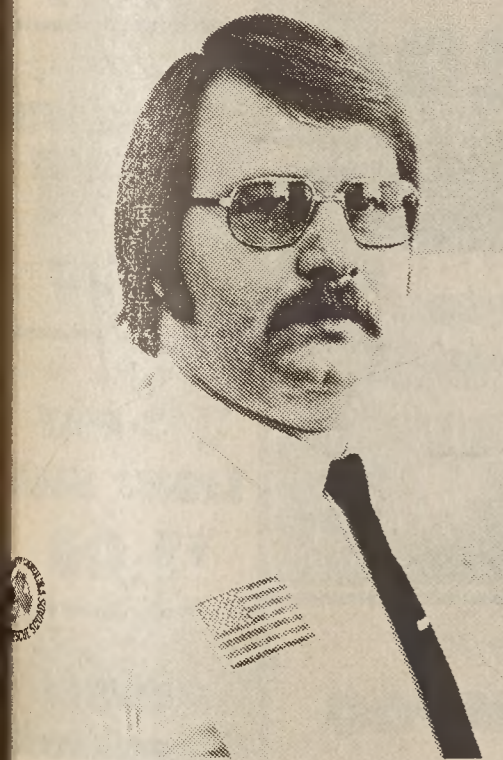
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CHARLES MAUNEY



KYLE SMITH



JAMES R. BRACKETT

## One Day He Could Save Your Life...

James R. Brackett is from Asheville and has been a resident of Kings Mountain since 1960. He went to work in 1966 at Duplex International as a fixer.

Still a bachelor, Brackett joined the Kings Mountain Rescue Squad in 1971 "because a friend talked me into joining and because I sort of like helping other people." At first all he knew about the rescue squad was that it was strictly volunteer. "But there is more to it than most people think," he said. "I've never regretted joining the squad."

Brackett puts in about 20 hours a week with the squad and has had Standard and Advanced First Aid, three units of rescue training and state courses furthering his skills in first aid. Since 1971 Brackett has had about 100 hours in classrooms.

As an ambulance driver he has assisted in the deliveries of three babies, one at the infant's home, another in the ambulance en route to the hospital and another at the hospital about the time the ambulance arrived.