



# THE NEWS RECORD

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## Hot Springs Receives Block Grant Approval

Hot Springs has received approval on a Community Development Block Grant request for \$137,470 to repair streets. Announcement of the grant was made in Raleigh by Gov. Jim Hunt and in Hot Springs by Mayor Debbie Baker.

The grant will be used to repave a large portion of the town, including the Silvermine section. Mayor Baker said Hot Springs streets between the Hot Springs School and the French Broad River will be repaved. No date for the start of construction has been set.

In addition to the block grant funds, the town has also received two grants from the North Carolina General Assembly totalling \$50,000. Speaker of the N.C. House Liston B. Ramsey presented a check for \$15,000 to assist the Hot Springs Volunteer Fire Department and an additional \$35,000 for the purchase of a new garbage truck.

In making the presentation, Ramsey credited his fellow legislator, Rep. Charles Beall, with pushing the appropriation through the General Assembly.

The \$50,000 appropriation is identical to a similar grant

given to the town of Marshall recently. Marshall will also use the funds for the fire department and the purchase of a new garbage truck.

Ten percent of the Community Development Block Grant can be applied to another project at the town's discretion. No decision on the funds was made at Monday's meeting of the town's Board of Aldermen.

The aldermen did approve purchasing uniforms for the town's newest policemen, Richard Roberts and Johnnie Norton, during Monday's meeting.

After Mayor Baker announced the grant approvals, the aldermen approved a letter thanking both Ramsey and Beall for their assistance in obtaining the grant funds.

Board member Waylon Puryear suggested that the town use the \$15,000 from the General Assembly to purchase property for a new fire house. Mayor Baker told the board members, "I agree that the money needs to be spent, but I think we should meet with the fire department to get their input before making a decision. I'm not opposed to a building, but I think we should

make sure the truck is running and the hoses are right before we start building."

The board agreed to meet with directors of the fire department sometime in the next week to discuss possible uses for the funds.

Puryear also recommended that the town obtain price quotes for rehabilitating the old HUD office on Main Street for use as Town Hall. Puryear also suggested making repairs to the present Town Hall building. The board agreed to obtain quotations on fixing the buildings, but took no further action on the matter at Monday's meeting.

Board member Kenny Ramsey was named to prepare a work schedule for the town's police officers. Ramsey said a schedule would be presented to the full board for approval later this week.

The board also approved a change in the meeting date for September's meeting. Because of the Labor Day holiday, the meeting will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 4 at 7:30 p.m. The Sept. 4 meeting will begin with a public hearing concerning a grant request for economic development funds administered by the N.C.

Dept. of Community Development and Natural Resources. A second hearing on the grant request will be held later in Sept.

The Hot Springs aldermen also approved several resolutions during Monday's meeting. The board approved paying town employees at a rate of 20 cents per mile for using their private vehicles on authorized town business. Also approved was a resolution designating the week of Sept. 8 through 16 as French Broad River Week. A series of events in Buncombe County are planned in connection with the week.

The alderman also approved hiring Randy Moore as a part-time street cleaner and Ed Laws as a weekend policeman.

Also approved was a resolution asking the state Department of Transportation to assume responsibility for maintenance on a 1.5 mile section of Paint Rock Rd.

On a motion presented by Gerry Ramsey, the board renamed Robert Z. Ponder to a three-year term on the local Alcohol Beverage Control board.



Photo by Robin Reeve

MICHAEL JACKSON AND HIS BROTHERS entertained before packed house at Knoxville's Neyland Stadium over the weekend. Jackson's three concerts attracted more than 100,000

music lovers who paid \$30 each for tickets. The Jackson's Victory tour continues this week with concerts in Detroit.

## Mars Hill Presents Diplomas

Mars Hill College presented diplomas to 34 graduates during the annual summer commencement exercises held on Aug. 10. The additional summer graduates raised the total for the Class of 1984 to 287 students.

Madison County residents among the graduates included David Wayne Ingle, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Ingle, Robert Todd McCormick, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph McCormick, Malona Ann Fish the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Fish and Constance Cauble Garrison of Route 1, Mars Hill.

Both Ingle and McCormick received a bachelor of science degrees in business ad-

ministration. Miss Fish received a bachelor of science degree in nursing and Garrison was awarded a bachelor of science in home economics.

Mars Hill College president Fred B. Bentley presented the diplomas during the ceremony, held in Moore Auditorium. Bentley was assisted by Dr. John Hough, director of the summer school and dean for continuing education, and Robert Chapman, associate dean for academic affairs. Several of the summer graduates completed their degree requirements through the school's Center for Continuing Education at sites throughout Western North

Carolina.

Music during the ceremonies was provided by Donna Robertson and Susan Hensley, members of the college's music faculty.

Dr. Bentley was the only speaker on the program. He told the new graduates that "God is the sole source of your strength. He created you, endowed you with special talents, and wants to use you in His plan for this world."

Bentley noted that during the summer months he has had the opportunity to review the significant developments at the school over the last 18 years. He told the audience that what most impressed him

was the hard work, sacrifices and joy which come from a task well done. He recounted Mars Hill's record of leading in service learning, experiential learning, competence-based curricula and other achievements.

Bentley closed his address to the graduates by telling them, "Because of the support of Mars Hill people, and your own individual efforts, I know you can handle any difficulties that come your way. Be proud of your achievements, be proud of your college and its history, be challenged by that which you can contribute to society and never forget that it is God who gives us the real meaning in life."

## Ramsey Appoints Beall

Representative Charles M. Beall of Haywood County has been appointed today by House Speaker Liston B. Ramsey to a special commission to study a "cafeteria style" program of benefits for teachers and state employees.

Under the present system, the state offers its employees certain specified benefits, such as hospitalization insurance, retirement, a death benefit and others. Under the proposed "cafeteria style" program, the employee would be able to "shop" from a list of benefits and select the ones most suitable to his or her needs.

The commission to study the "cafeteria" approach was created by the General Assembly in July. It is made up of five House members and five Senate members and is to file a report with the General Assembly by February 15, 1985.



Photo by Bob Koenig

YOUNGSTER HAS HIS FACE PAINTED DURING SPRING CREEK FAIR

## Marshall Board To Meet Thursday

The Marshall Board of Aldermen will meet in a special session Thursday at 8 a.m. in Town Hall to consider naming a police chief.

Mayor Betty Wild announced the special meeting Monday afternoon.

At their Aug. 6 meeting, Wild and the aldermen agreed

to meet with the town's two policemen after tabling a decision on the police chief.

Thursday's meeting will not involve the town's current officers, Wild said Monday. "I think we should name a chief first, and let him make the determination of what should

be done." Several Marshall residents called for the policemen's dismissal at the Aug. 6 meeting.

Mayor Wild has proposed Joe Griffey, a former Marshall and Hot Springs policeman, for the police chief's job. Marshall has been without an acting police chief

since December when the mayor disbanded the former police force. The town board hired Herschel Cox of Weaverville for the chief's job on July

5, but later withdrew the appointment when it was learned that Cox faced felony charges in Buncombe County.

## North Carolina Has Long History Of "Firsts"

North Carolina is a state that has always been first in exploration, innovation and opening doors to the future.

From the first exploration of the New World by Englishmen in 1584 to the opening of the first publicly funded high school for science and mathematics in 1900, North Carolina has led the nation throughout its history.

Public universities opened their doors to students for the first time in 1793 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Public higher education is now a fact of life throughout the United States.

Man first accomplished flight in 1903 when Wilbur and Orville Wright took to the skies in the first heavier-than-air vehicle for 120 feet at Kitty Hawk. Now manned space travel is becoming commonplace.

declared in America in North Carolina. One county, Mecklenburg, declared its independence from Great Britain on May 20, 1775 and the North Carolina colony passed the first official independence resolution on April 12, 1776.

Gold and silver were first discovered in America in North Carolina. The first gold nugget was found in Cabarrus County in 1794. The first silver was discovered in 1838 near Lexington.

In the 19th Century, North Carolina has continued its lead. In 1946, the first state-supported symphony was established. In 1967, North Carolina was the first state to set aside funds for a state art collection. In 1965, North Carolina became the first state to support a public education institution specializing in the performing arts.

Carolina opened the doors of the first publicly funded high school for students gifted in science and mathematics.

Home of the world famous Research Triangle Park, North Carolina is now leading the way in scientific discoveries for the future.

First in freedom, first in flight and first in exploration and innovation, North Carolina is the doorway to the future.

Following is a list of some of North Carolina's most notable "firsts":

1584 — The First English Exploration of the New World. On July 13, 1584, explorers from England under a commission by Sir Walter Raleigh began the first exploration of North America on Roanoke Island.

1607 — The First English Colony. On June 21, 1607, the first English colony was

planted on the Outer Banks. Under the auspices of Sir Richard Grenville, 107 men were left on Roanoke Island as the first English colonists in the New World. Although this and subsequent attempts were nominally unsuccessful, they are marked as the spiritual beginnings of English America and are responsible for both the language and the foundation of the present day legal system.

1607 — The First English Child in America. Virginia Dare was the first child of English parents born in North America. She was born on Roanoke Island on August 18, 1607, only a few months after the second English colony arrived.

1776 — The First Declaration of Independence. On May 20, 1776, Mecklenburg County passed a act of defiance declaring the people of the state of North Carolina independent from Great Britain.

1783 — First Official Celebration of Independence Day. On July 4, 1783, the citizens of Salem (now part of Winston-Salem) marched through the town's streets, singing and carrying torches in the first official celebration of Independence Day in America.

1775 — The First Public University. On January 15, 1775, the University of North Carolina became the first state university to open its doors to students.

1785 — The First Gold Nugget. The first gold nugget discovered in America was found in the Little Meadow Creek in Cabarrus County in 1785 by a son of Conrad Reed, who owned the property. The discovery site was known as Reed's Mine. It owned by the state of North Carolina as

dependent people", declaring that all commissions granted by the king in the colonies were "null and void" and calling on the people of Mecklenburg County to elect military officers who should hold their powers "independent of Great Britain."

1775 — First Town Named for President Washington. Washington in Beaufort County was the first town in the United States to be named for George Washington in 1775 when he took charge of the Continental Army as general in late 1775.

1776 — First State Declaration of Independence. On April 12, 1776, the first resolution by a colony in this country was made when the Provincial Congress in session at Halifax by unanimous action empowered the delegates to the Continental Congress to meet with the delegates from other provinces in Philadelphia.

1833 — The First Interstate Railroad. The first interstate railroad was the Petersburg Railroad which opened in 1833 from Petersburg, Virginia, to Blakely, North Carolina, a distance of 59 miles along the north bank of the Roanoke River.

1838 — The First Silver Mine. The first silver lode in America was discovered in 1838 near Lexington. It was named the Silver Hill Mine. United States to emphasize primarily the performing arts.

an historic site and is open to the public.

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1850 — First Science and Math High School — located in Durham. The first state-funded public high school for gifted students and math students was founded in 1850 at North Carolina Central University in Durham.

Wilbur and Orville Wright piloted a mechanically driven, heavier-than-air machine 120 feet across a stretch of level sand at Kitty Hawk.

1946 — First State Supported Symphony. North Carolina established the first state-supported symphony orchestra in the nation in 1946.

1965 — School of Performing Arts. The North Carolina School of the Arts at Winston-Salem was the first state-supported institution in the United States to emphasize primarily the performing arts.

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