

City Is Sprucing Up

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five Southern states that sent militia into the battle.

Secretary of the Interior Cecil D. Andrus will be the featured speaker at an Oct. 7 ceremony at Kings Mountain National Military Park, where the battlefield is preserved by the National Park Service.

Planning for the Bicentennial celebration has been under way more than a year and involved about 1,000 volunteers under the leadership of Kings Mountain Mayor John Henry Moss, who also serves as general chairman of the event.

Workers are busily dressing up the city's main streets—even painting the fire hydrants—to prepare for the thousands of people expected to attend the festivities.

Modern-day frontiersmen, reenacting the march along the Overmountain Victory Trail, set out from Abingdon, Va., Wednesday (Sept. 24) to signal the official start of the celebration. They will be joined along the 219-mile route by other reenactment groups representing North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia.

While the marchers are making their way toward the battlefield, the scene will shift to the City of Kings Mountain where Sen. Robert Morgan (D-N.C.) is due to open festivities on Friday, Oct. 3, in an 11 a.m. ceremony at celebration headquarters on Battleground Ave. Several other activities are scheduled for Friday at the Depot Center, including a 4:30 p.m. Rock-a-Thon, a pie throwing contest at 9:30 p.m. and a street dance at 10 p.m.

Exhibits by the U.S. Navy, Kings Mountain school children and Boy and girl Scout troops will open Friday and run throughout the celebration at downtown locations and at the Governmental Services Facilities Center at Gold and Cherokee Streets.

Friday also will mark the first performance of the outdoor drama, "Then Conquer We Must," at the Kings Mountain National Military Park amphitheatre. Performances will begin at 8:30 p.m. nightly except for the final performance Oct. 7, which begins at 8 p.m.

Activities Saturday, Oct. 4, will include a tennis tournament at Kings Mountain High School and Kings Mountain Country Club, the Battle of Kings Mountain Rotary Run at 10 a.m. at the high school and the Patriots' Ball at 8 p.m. at the National Guard Armory.

An 18th century military encampment will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday adjacent to the Governmental Services Facilities Center. Some 15 reenactment groups from 13 states will set up camp on an open field and give daily demonstrations through

Oct. 7 on military camp life as it was then. About 150 individuals in period costumes will show crafts, perform musket firings and prepare authentic camp meals. Both Patriot and British troops will be represented.

The churches of Kings Mountain will hold commemorative services on Sunday morning, Oct. 5. At 12:15 p.m. Sunday, residents will create a human chain on King St. in an event called "Hands Across Kings Mountain." Another major event Sunday will be Religious and Patriotic Heritage Program at 4 p.m. at the high school auditorium.

On Monday, Oct. 6, the focus will be on youth with a Youth Leaders Luncheon at noon at the Kings Mountain Holiday Inn, a 7:30 p.m. fashion show at the Governmental Services Facilities Center, and a Youth Concert featuring the Marine Corps Band from Camp LeJeune at 8 p.m. The concert will be held at the Kings Mountain Parking Plaza.

Also on Monday, the Overmountain Marchers will arrive at Cowpens National Battlefield, S.C., for an overnight encampment.

The celebration will reach its climax Tuesday, Oct. 7 - the anniversary date of the battle.

Final day ceremonies will include a 7 a.m. Prayer Breakfast at Kings Mountain First Baptist Church and first-day cancellation of a commemorative postcard at 10 a.m. at the high school auditorium.

A Bicentennial Luncheon will

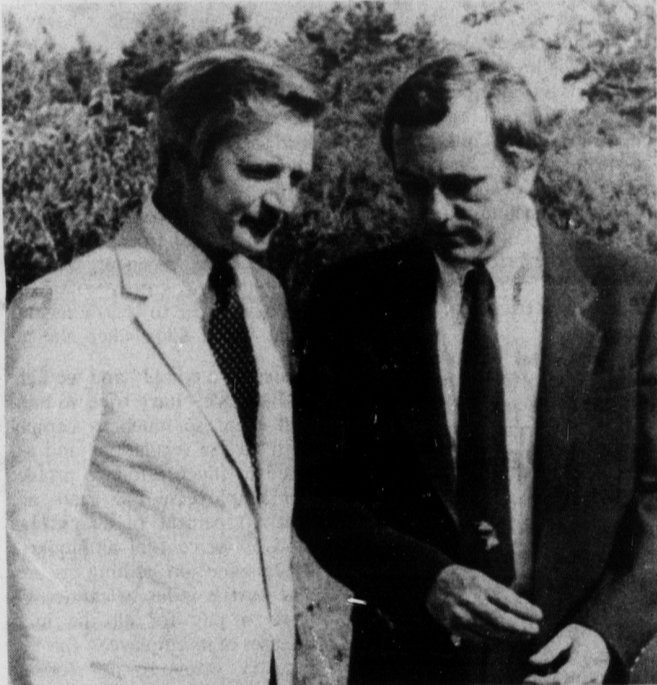
be held at the high school at 11:30 a.m., followed by a parade at 1 p.m.

Visitors and participants will gather at the high school football stadium at 2:30 p.m. for a major address, possibly by President Carter or a member of the First Family.

Following the program at the stadium, everyone will proceed to the Kings Mountain National Park for the final commemorative program and wreath-laying ceremony beginning at 3:30 p.m. Featured speaker for the park program will be Secretary of the Interior Cecil D. Andrus. Other participants will include a representative of the British government, Governors or their representatives and various other public officials. The Overmountain Marchers will arrive in the park just prior to the afternoon ceremony.

Governors Jim Hunt of North Carolina and Richard Riley of South Carolina, and Georgia Lt. Gov. Zell Miller are expected to be on hand for many of the events.

Retired U.S. Army General William C. Westmoreland will serve as honorary chairman of the 200th anniversary celebration. Honorary state chairmen include U.S. Rep. James T. Broyhill (North Carolina), P. Bradley Morrah (South Carolina), Charles Kirbo (Georgia) and U.S. Senator John Warner (Virginia). Singer Dolly Parton has been invited to be honorary chairwoman for Tennessee.



GREETS GOVERNOR-Jerry King, director of the Kings Mountain office of Economic Development, chats with N.C. Governor Jim Hunt during the groundbreaking ceremonies for Sulzer Brothers, a new industry on Grover Road. "You are doing a good job in Kings Mountain. You don't know how proud I am of all of you", said Hunt.

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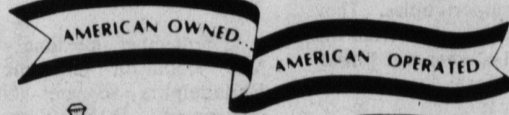
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