

Folklife Festival begins July 1 in Durham

Mountain quilters, piedmont blues singers, coastal netmakers and other members of the North Carolina folk community are already gearing up for the N.C. Folklife Festival, July 1-4.

Two years ago, a similar festival celebrated the bicentennial and received enthusiastic response from the more than 100,000 persons who attended.

Its success and a desire to preserve the state's unique cultural heritage led the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources to establish an Office of Folklife Programs. The office has planned an even more comprehensive celebration of the state's folk traditions for this year.

This year, the festival will begin Saturday, July 1 and continue through Tuesday, July 4 at Durham's historic West Point on the Eno River Park.

Festival-goers will have the opportunity to meet and see a carefully selected sampling of the state's outstanding native musicians, cooks, craftsmen, tradespeople, dancers and storytellers.

The focus, emphasized festival Director George Holt, is on "living folk traditions handed down through generations but still practiced in communities today."

Among the more than 300 participants will be Williard Watson, a

woodcarver, and his wife Ora, a quilter, Frank Proffitt Jr., a balladeer who plays fretless banjo and the dulcimer; the Joe Wheeler family, who make molasses with a mule-powered mill; the Gospel Jubilators, an old-fashioned gospel quartet; James and Earl Rose, boatbuilders from Harker's Island; and Matthew Salter, a netmaker.

Food making will also be an integral part of the Folklife Festival. Traditional North Carolina foods, such as pit-cooked barbecue and Brunswick stew, will be prepared by various community groups.

In addition, food-making demonstrations will include recipes for clam chowder, ash cakes, turtle, Moravian cookies and oliebollen, a Dutch bread.

The park itself will be divided into six areas: the Main Stage, Mountain Area, Piedmont Area, Coast Area, Children's Area and the Forum.

Participants will be grouped according to their geographical origin; and the Main Stage will be reserved for large-audience performances.

The Children's Area activities will include games, hayrides, parades and crafts sessions.

And, to bridge the gap between

performer and observer, the Forum will provide a place for participants and festival-goers to get acquainted.

The Forum's structure will be flexible enough to include discussions of traditional folkways, such as herbal healing and midwifery, and contemporary issues, such as Indian

concerns and commercial fishing.

Tickets for the Folklife Festival will be 50 cents per day for children under 12 and for senior citizens, and \$1 per day for adults.

Ticket and parking information will be announced later.

N.C. Zoological Park provides natural habitats for animals



In some places a trip to the zoo means a chance to see some exotic animals in some not-so-exotic cages of iron and concrete, but at the North Carolina Zoological Park, a trip to the zoo means a chance to see the same exotic animals in their natural environs.

The N.C. Zoo is located on 1,371 acres of land on top of Purgatory Mountain, five miles south of Asheboro.

Eventually, the zoo will spread out over the entire plot of land, but for now the zoo's 260 animals are housed in 14 paddocks which cover 40 acres.

These outdoor paddocks are home to most of the zoo's larger animals. Zebra, giraffe, rhinos, bison and several kinds of antelope are among those featured.

Several species of primates and a variety of reptiles, birds and other mammals can be seen in the Animal Building. Animals currently on display include a lowland gorilla, leopards, wolves, tree kangaroos, owls, gibbons, crested porcupines, a Siberian tiger and several species of snakes and lizards.

The Zoo is open from 9-5 daily and from 10-6 on the weekends. Admission rates are \$1 for adults, 25 cents for children 2-15. Children under two and senior citizens are admitted free.

For more information, call (919) 625-1290.

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