

Let the Centennial Celebration Begin!

Written by Steve Frank
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The celebration begins this afternoon and continues all weekend—the Centennial Celebration for Avery County. Avery is the 100th county in North Carolina, formed in 1911—chartered February 23rd, but the centennial committee wanted warm weather for the celebration, and it is set to start today. Festivities start at Riverwalk Park in Newland this afternoon, with music, games and activities for the kids, then the 60's & 70's soul band, the Tams take to the tent-stage at the Riverwalk Park, followed by fireworks about 9:30. Tomorrow, activities will be split with the historic courthouse square and the Riverwalk park, with music and gathering at 10, a parade at 11, then the main program about the history of Avery County at 1 in front of the courthouse. Meanwhile, music cranks back up at the Riverwalk and goes all day. Sunday, the main weekend of celebration changes to a religious theme, with music much of the day in a religious tone.

Over its history, Avery has been a part of some 14 counties, but was carved at its inception from three or four—the last of the 100 counties that now make up North Carolina.