

The Yancey Record

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Scene From Top O' The Hill

By: Jack Kelly

For several weeks past I have been wondering what in the world I could say in this Column for a New Year's Greeting to all the people in Yancey County and to my particular friends and acquaintances in Burnsville. I racked my mind trying to think up something clever but I couldn't do it. Suddenly, I realized why I couldn't. A very simple reason. Anything I wrote that I had to study over, would have to be as phoney as a three-dollar bill because the only way to greet people for the New Year is to wish them a Happy New Year. This wish, I do extend, to one and all. Not only from me but from Blanche Kelly, my two sons-of-Kelly, and my little grand-daughter, Colleen Kelly.

Ever since we first visited Burnsville, some fifteen years ago, I have bragged outrageously on the Town and the County. I dreamed of the possibility of owning a place there some day. But I had had lots of dreams and at least a couple of them never materialized. So, I thought the idea of finally settling in Burnsville was just another one of those things that would be nice but, if I faced the facts, it wouldn't happen. I knew that. Then, after years of hoping, it happened. Now, the good Lord willing, as Arthur Godfrey used to say, I got us a place and will retire to it and live there 'til I die.

I am happy that I am a new person moving into the community because none of you folks who are native to the area can possibly realize what you have. With me, it's different. I have bounced around too much. My poor wife Blanche has moved so often that she doubtless dreamed she had married a gypsy. It just shows that if you play long enough, luck will run your way. She now is one of the most fortunate of mortals: a Burnsville-ite.

Both of our sons are married now, and they can look back to a childhood of travel and school attendance in several places: Washington, D. C., Chevenne, Wyoming, San Francisco, California, Falls Church, Virginia, Miami, Florida, and Latrobe, Pennsylvania. They never had a certain place to visit in the summertime, but their kids will. They can come home to Burnsville. They are fortunate.

Yancey County and Burnsville will make a mighty change in their lifestyles. This nation of ours will progress to a 4-day work-week and that means a 3-day holiday or play-week. This will

necessitate a huge expansion for our area as a recreation center for both summer and winter. I hope I live to see it but, if I don't, I feel certain my grand-children will live to see a ski-region that will rival any now available in Maine or New Hampshire. They will see summer camp sites and autumn tours that are just beyond the horizon today. They will see the dawn of helicopter travel that you and I barely imagine. To a large degree, the helicopter will take the place of the automobile for travel. This will make both Burnsville and the County blossom like the Proverbial green Bay tree.

I hope this generation of the Kellys partake in this blossoming in Burnsville, if they don't, I know that the next one, many of whom are as yet unborn, will be part and parcel of it. Let's hope that these on-coming generations do well what must be done but let's also hope that they don't completely obliterate all of the charm that makes our area what it is today. Let's pray that they keep our Village Greens and its surrounding Square pretty much what it is. That their resort hotels will keep a bit on the outside of the Town. That they will always have Churches for the people — and people for the Churches. Then, may they always greet each other with a sincere wish for a Happy New Year.

Mrs. Roberts Wins First Place In Decorations

We don't think we have ever seen more beautiful outdoor Christmas decorations than were shown in Burnsville this Christmas. Some of this may have come through the encouragement of the Burnsville Garden Club, who gave honorable mention to the four which in the eyes of the judges were considered the best. The judges — Mr. and Mrs. Herb Allen and Mrs. Robert Rhinehart — after careful inspection made the following selections: First place, Mr. and Mrs. George Roberts; Second place, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Woody; Third place, Mr. and Mrs. Josh Banks; fourth place, Mr. and Mrs. Vint Westall.

Beautiful decorations, both in-door and out, were seen throughout the county. If the Christmas spirit was lacking a ride around town and throughout the county was enough to get one in the "Spirit".

Happy New Year



All of us send you best wishes for the New Year. May you prosper and have great happiness.

Another Burnsville In N. C.

By: William L. Rathburn

While most of us might contend that our town is second to none, it is a fact that there was a Burnsville in North Carolina about 80 years before there was even a Yancey County.

Some interesting facts about the oldest Burnsville in the state is to be found in Bill Sharpe's A NEW GEOGRAPHY OF NORTH CAROLINA. Below is an excerpt from Sharpe's writings:

"The school, houses and stores here form a nucleus for a thrifty section of small diversified farms, which has maintained its prosperous life for over two centuries. Burnsville was first settled around 1753 and was named for Walter Burns, proprietor of the village tavern. During the depression, it is said that not a single person in the community was ever on relief. Recently, it won Piedmont Development Awards for two consecutive years.

The Rocky River Baptist Church, oldest congregation in Anson is located here. Here also was the boyhood home of the Efrid Brothers, chain store founders."

This "other" Burnsville is near Wadesboro in Anson County. It has no post office

and is not an incorporated town and, so far as we know, has no newspaper called THE YANCEY RECORD.

Neighborhood Youth Corps Set Out Trees

By: Shirley Anne McAllister

Do you have any idea how many trees were set out by the Neighborhood Youth Corps Reforestation crew in Yancey County during 1966?

One thousand? Two thousand? Three thousand? No, guess again. More than 195,000 were planted last winter by the boys in the W.A.M.Y. program.

And this winter, they expect to plant at least that many more trees during the planting season which began the first of the month, according to Carlie Rice, Youth Corps Supervisor who works with W.A.M.Y. and the Soil Conservation Service.

The Youth Corps boys not only plant trees, they also clear land before setting out the seedlings and fence land to keep cows out of the trees after they are planted. More than 100 acres were fenced in 1966.

In addition to setting trees, clearing land and fencing, the Youth Corps also thins undesirable trees out of existing timber stands and sprays stumps with chemicals to kill hardwoods. The State Forester marks the trees to be thinned. Twenty acres were thinned in 1966.

The Youth Corps will plant trees for any farmer in the county if the landowner will buy the trees and supervise the planting. The boys will plant up to 10,000 trees for each individual.

This year's planting will run from December to April. The boys will only plant timber trees; they will not set nursery stock such as Fraser Fir or Balsam.

The Reforestation crew only works on jobs related to planting trees. They do not repair barns or build bridges. During rainy and snowy days they work indoors refinishing chairs and desks for the county schools.

Anyone desiring help planting trees should contact Carlie Rice at the Soil Conservation Service office.

NOTICE

The County Court House will be closed Monday, January 2, 1967.