

Burnsville To Adopt Zoning Ordinance As Basis For Community Improvement

Burnsville is taking final steps toward the adoption of a zoning ordinance, a long contemplated action toward protecting property values and assuring the

town's future growth in an orderly, efficient way.

The proposed zoning ordinance will apply not only throughout Burnsville, but will cover, in

addition, a mile wide band outside the town limits. Under North Carolina law municipalities are empowered to apply zoning beyond the town limits.

A public hearing will be held on October 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the courtroom of the County Courthouse relative to the proposed ordinance. Questions will

be answered, and any criticisms and objections will be received by the Town Board. Following this meeting the Board may make changes in the proposed ordinance before its formal adoption.

Interested citizens, in the meantime, may examine the proposed ordinance at the town hall, where a large map is posted showing the several residence, commercial and industrial zones being established for the area.

The preparation of the zoning ordinance has been under the supervision of the Town's planning board, of which David Powers is chairman. Technical assistance relative to the ordinance has been provided both by the Western North Carolina Regional Planning Commission, who have been employed by the Town with the aid of a Federal planning grant, and by the State's Division of Community Planning. This latter agency, which has recently set up an Asheville office to take over the work of the Regional Planning Commission, will have representatives present at the hearing to help answer questions.

Zoning for Burnsville has been under consideration for a number of years, with civic organizations and town planning consultants urging the adoption of an ordinance. In the past ten years nearly all towns in Western North Carolina have adopted zoning, and Burnsville is now one of the last to take this step.

A special reason for taking the step is that a town's eligibility for receiving Federal grants is now dependent on the town's having "a workable plan for community improvement", and a zoning ordinance is one of the requirements for such a plan.

Any zoning ordinance restricts to some extent the property owner in the use to which he may put his property. A business, for example may not be placed in an area zoned for residence only. At the same time, the adoption of zoning is not retroactive. The buildings now in existence, whatever their present use, may continue in their present location.

Following the adoption of a zoning ordinance, a board of adjustment will be formed, with the power to make decisions regarding application of the ordinance. This board will consist of five citizens of Burnsville and five from the mile-wide zone adjacent to the town.

Yancey Sheriff Died Friday Son Appointed To Fill Post

Donald Banks, Sheriff of Yancey County, died unexpectedly last Friday. He was 53 years of age.

Mr. Banks, a graduate of Bald Creek High School and a native of Yancey County was first elected sheriff here in 1938. He was only 22 years old at the time and was the youngest sheriff in the nation.



Donald Banks

Formerly State Senator in 1951, he was elected to the second term as chief county lawman in 1958 serving until 1962. His third term began in 1968.

A member of the National Sheriffs Association, Mr. Banks was also former chairman of the Yancey County Republican Party.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Pauline Maney Banks; a daughter, Miss Dianne Banks of the home; three sons, Johnny, Robert and Kermit Banks, all of Burnsville; and three grandchildren.

Services for the deceased were held at 2:30 p.m. Monday in the Cane River Baptist Church, of which he was a member. The Reverend M. H. Kendall and the Reverend Bert Styles officiated and burial was in the church cemetery.

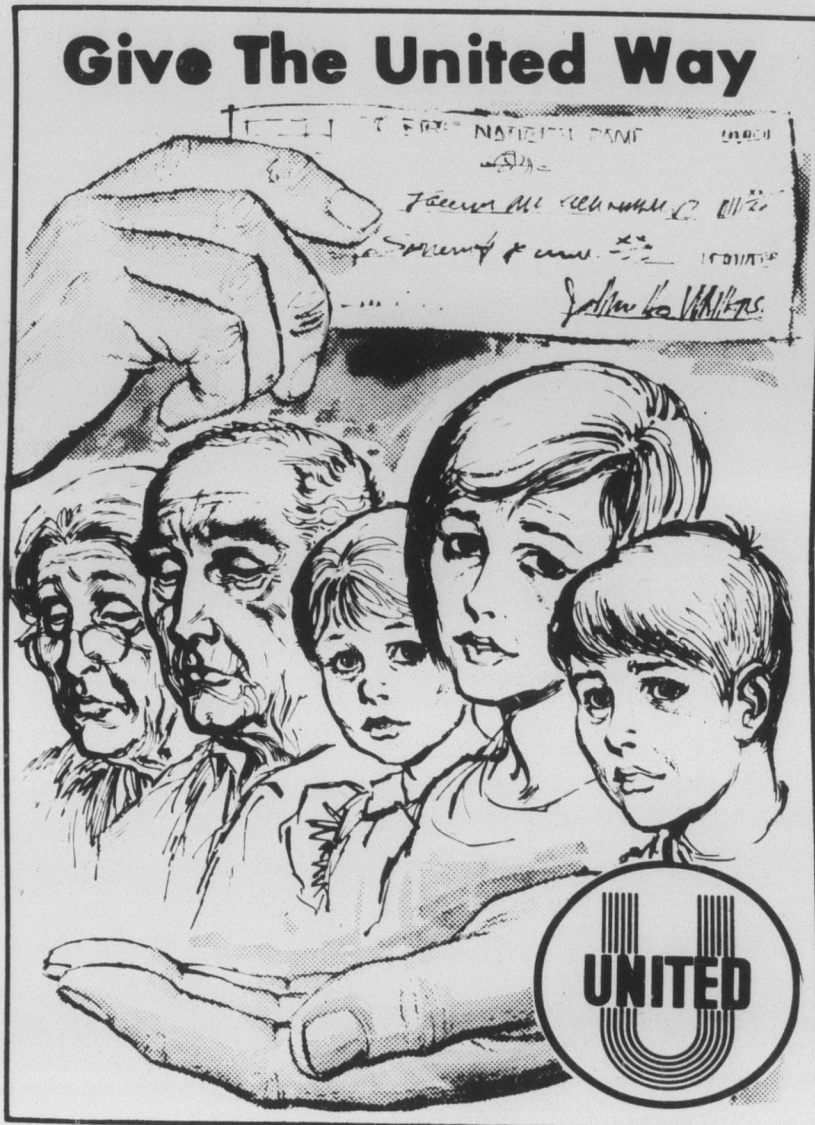
Masonic rites were conducted by Burnsville Lodge No. 717AF and AM, of which he was a charter member.

Honorary pallbearers were Burnsville and Yancey County law enforcement officers and members of Troop F of the N.C. Highway Patrol.

Sheriff Banks will long be remembered by his friends and fellow officers for his rendering of fair and just decisions in his official capacity and his warm and generous nature in personal affairs.

His son, Kermit Banks, was elected to his father's post as Sheriff of Yancey County. Although we grieve for the father, we trust his duties to the capable hands of his son.

Attending the funeral from out-of-state were Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ledford of Newport News, Virginia; Mr. Bobby Ayers of Newport News, Virginia; Mr. and Mrs. Leo Celano and son, Mark of Brooklyn, New York; Mr. Hal Maney of Christiansburg, Virginia.



Hunter Receives Medal

Vietnam - Army Specialist 4 Danny Hunter, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Hunter, Rt 2, Burnsville, received the Bronze Star Medal during ceremonies near Tay Ninh, Vietnam, August 15.

Congratulating him is Brigadier General Henderson, assistant commander of the 25th Infantry Division.

Spec. 4 Hunter received the award for heroism in action as engaged in ground operations against a hostile force in Vietnam.

Spec. 4 Hunter, a mechanic with Battery B, 7th Battalion, 11th Field Artillery of the 25th Infantry Division, entered the Army in June 1968.



Gen Henderson Congratulates Hunter

Community In Competition

Winners of the Roadside Improvement Contest of the 1969 Western North Carolina Community Development Program will be announced at a luncheon on Friday, September 26 at 12 noon at Bailey's Cafeteria, Tunnel Rd. Shopping Center, Asheville.

A total of 72 organized communities competed in the Roadside Contest this year and 14 county winners were judged in area competition earlier this month. Rocky Springs Heights represented Yancey County in the judging.

The presentation of awards in the special rural beautification effort will be held in conjunction with a planning meeting of the area improvement program's '69 Steering Committee representing the 18 county western area.