



Artists Drawing Shows Blue Ridge Hardware And Adjoining Stores With Special "Facelift"

THE YANCEY RECORD

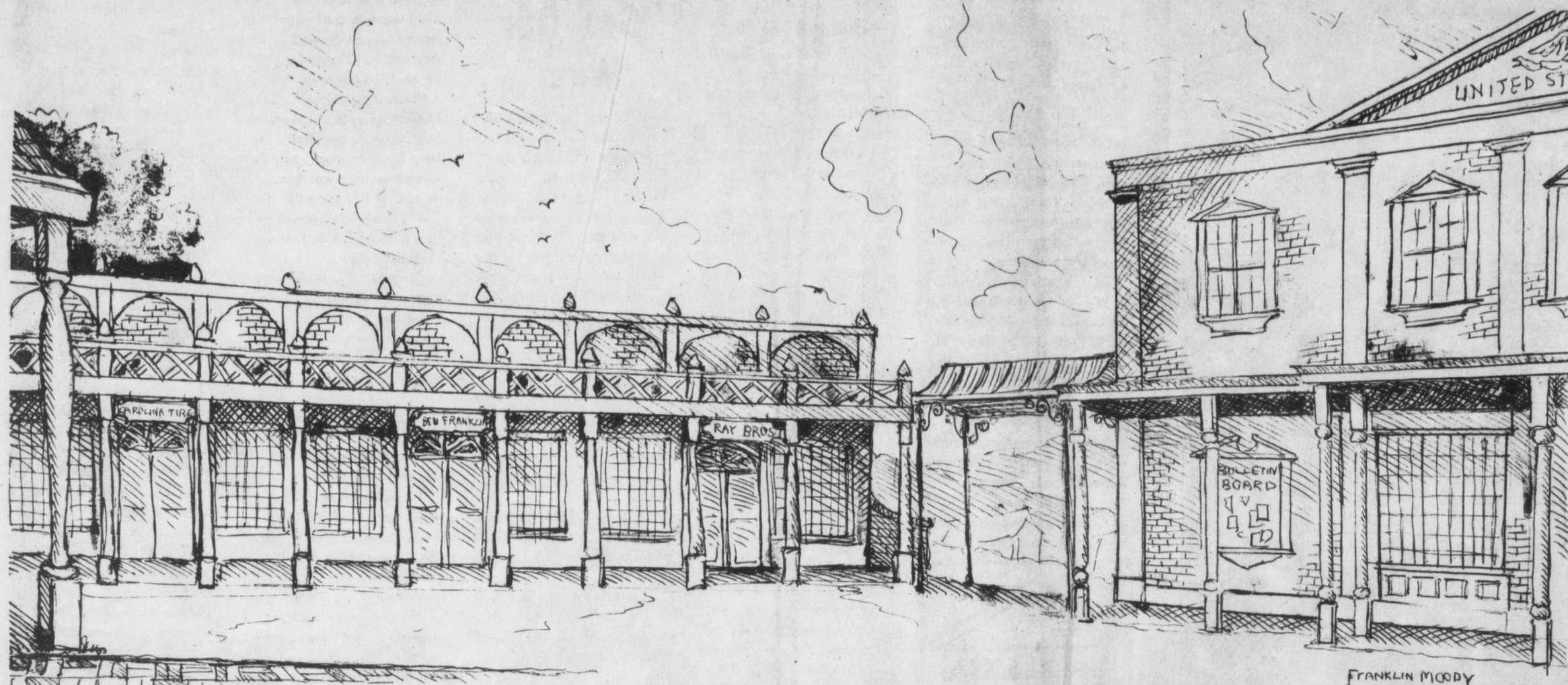
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10¢

Downtown Burnsville May Get Boost-- "Facelifting" Program To Be Considered



Burnsville Post Office, Ray Brothers Food Center, Ben Franklin Shown With "Mail" Concept And Attractive Storefronts

By Carolyn Yuzuk
Burnsville merchants are becoming cautiously optimistic as they consider a plan of action which could help businesses on Main Street flourish despite an expected "boom" in business development on the By Pass.

Franklin Moody, an artist of considerable renown who has traveled widely around the United States, but also spends much of his time in Yancey County, has offered his invaluable assistance in the planning of a new concept for the downtown business area. As a first step, he has sketched a series of architectural drawings showing Burnsville as it could be.

"Most of the changes in store fronts or facades would cost very little," said Moody. "A strong and vigorous beautification program should be undertaken immediately," he added. This program would be important in attracting the kind of tourism we want to have in this area--tourists who come into an area because of its simple, natural beauty and restfulness and are not looking for garish, neon-lit souvenir shops or the hustle and bustle of a

thrill-seeking vacation through.

According to Moody, the appropriate period for Burnsville seems to be from around 1830 or 1840 to 1900. This leaves the planners a wealth of fine possibilities to work with. Already on the square are several buildings that blend in with the early periods: the new county courthouse, the new bank building, the Country Store, Nu-Wray Inn, the old bank building and the old County Courthouse. Of course, the old courthouse needs careful and loving restoration, but it can be and should be a matter of pride for the county. The Architectural plan of the building is beautiful, said Moody, and with a new peaked roof on its central tower it would be complete. When restored it could house the Chamber of Commerce which, if the town is refaced, will grow by leaps and bounds. It can continue to house the police department and its upstairs courtroom can easily be converted to a town meeting room or the like.

The idea of "facelifting" a town is not a new one, nor is it an untried one. Edenton, N. C., is doing it--and among other things they are replacing the cracked, ugly concrete sidewalks with old brick. New Bern, N. C., is restoring old homes and buildings--the restoration of the palace there brings an estimated \$500,000 per annum to New Bern. Helen, Georgia was dying. Shopping centers were being built, downtown business had fallen off to almost zero, something had to be done. A few active and interested businessmen took the bull by the horns and "converted" the entire downtown area into a Swiss village--including chalet architecture and fountains. Now, less than three years later, Helen is beginning to boom. People visit and people buy--whether it's groceries, clothes, knick-knacks or hardware--they buy!

Burnsville has been especially blessed because it has been placed in an area of great natural beauty. It still has a chance to act constructively and creatively and "save" the downtown area. So many towns are doing it and the response has been overwhelming in increased urban spending, increased tourist buying, and just plain pride of the townspeople in their town.

A Mall concept is one very attractive, utilitarian idea for Burnsville which Franklin Moody has depicted in his initial sketches. "Since the ideal 'format' for Burnsville is an Early American-Victorian, agricultural one, a mall could easily be constructed as part of the new store fronts planned.

A meeting of merchants and other businessmen will be held soon to discuss plans and ideas for the restoration of "downtown" Burnsville. Already, a few interested citizens are looking into the prospect of Federal and State aid for the project and are encouraged by the possibilities. Burnsville just maybe--on the move!

School Bus Accident Injures Eight In Near Disaster

A school bus accident on Tuesday afternoon, December 14 at approximately 4:30 p.m. sent eight Yancey County school children to the hospital with injuries. The accident occurred six miles South of Burnsville on Halls Chapel Road off Blue Rock Road.

The bus left the road on a sharp curve and plunged over an embankment, overturning nine times before it reached the bottom of the hill.

According to State Highway Patrolman A. T. Camp, this is the second accident of this nature so far this school year in which "rough-housing" on the bus was apparently responsible for the

accident. "Charges are pending an investigation," he said.

Rick Huskins, 16-year-old driver of the bus was admitted to Yancey Hospital with injuries. Wanda Blevins, 14, and Dana Cheren, 8, were first taken to Spruce Pine Community Hospital and were sent from there to Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville where they were admitted. Willie Mae Blevins, 13; Wilma Blevins, 9; Judy Robinson, 11; Linda Hart, 9; and 6-year-old Howard Blevins were treated at Spruce Pine Hospital and released. All of the children were from Route 5, Burnsville in the Celu Community.



School Books, Papers Scattered From Broken Windows Of Overturning School Bus



Towner Canipe And Ed Hunter, School Superintendent, Inspect Wreckage Of Bus

East Yancey PTA Meets Mon

The East Yancey PTA will meet Monday night, December 20th at 7:30 p.m. A special Christmas Program will be presented by the Glee Club and Drama Club.

"Cross Beams" Featured

Included in this week's edition of *The Yancey Record* and *Mitchell Ledger* is a special feature article about "Cross Beams", the coast-to-coast radio work and international missionary of Miss Frances Radford, a local Free Will Baptist pastor who is one of the few ordained lady ministers in that denomination.

"Cross Beams" began on one station in 1962 and has grown now to network proportions, being heard on approximately 50 stations now with contract for over 100 early in 1972. Perhaps the most unique feature of the Cross Beams ministry is that Miss Radford has never made an appeal to her audience for financial support of the radio work. She simply trusts God, she says, to meet the increasingly heavy costs. She has never been late with a payment, and she attributes this simply to the power and faithfulness of God.

"Cross Beams" is heard locally each Sunday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. over WKYK. Other stations in the local area carrying the programs are WWNC, Asheville, 8:30 a.m.; WHKY at Hickory, 2:30 p.m. and WEMB, Erwin, Tennessee at 1:30 p.m., all on Sunday. Any reader who wants to receive Miss Radford's Newsletter or ask any further questions about the work may either write her at Box 155, Burnsville or call her at 682-3852.



CHRISTMAS WITH MRS. SANTA--75 to 100 eager "little people" took their turns rocking in Mrs. Santa's lap as they gave their Christmas list to her at the CHILDREN'S HOUR Christmas Party this past Monday morning at the Yancey County Public Library. Assisting Miss Theresa Coletta and Mrs. Mary Young in a very special way with the Christmas party was Mrs. Fred Bacon. Assisting Mrs. Santa with "goodies" from her kitchen were the Yancey County Jayettes. A jolly time was had by all!

Christmas Holidays

Christmas holidays for students in Yancey County schools will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 21. Schools will remain closed for the holidays

through December 28, Tuesday. Classes will resume on a regular schedule on Wednesday, December 29. Schools will be closed again for the New Years holiday Monday, January 3.

Lions To Visit

Burnsville Lions Club members will pay their annual visit to the thirty-one blind or visually handicapped persons in Yancey County a week before Christmas.

The Christmas baskets, made up of fruit, cake, candy and other goodies, will cost the Club approximately \$100.00. You can have a part in the project by purchasing a fruit cake from a member of the Lions Club. For further information about price and delivery, phone 682-2160.

Lodge Meeting

Burnsville Lodge No. 717 is having a Stated Communication Meeting at 7:30 p.m. December 16th. New officers will be elected. All members are urged to attend.

MAY Tech News

Mayland Technical Institute in cooperation with the Industrial Services Department of the North Carolina Community College System entered into an agreement last week with the Henredon Furniture Industries to train twenty-five new employees for the second shift. Fifteen new employees will be trained for the Machine Operator, five for the Assembler, and five new employees for the Finisher.