



PRESS RELEASE

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Yancey County Economic Development Commission Announces First Grant Award through New Downtown Entrepreneurship Assistance Program

The Yancey Economic Development Commission is pleased to announce the first grant award made under the newly adopted Burnsville Downtown Entrepreneurship Assistance Program initiated by the EDC earlier this year. “I’m very pleased to announce the first grant made through Yancey EDC’s new Downtown Entrepreneurship Assistance Program was awarded to Samantha Robinson, the proprietor of Magnolia & Wren Ltd. Boutique, a new store scheduled to open at 127 West Main Street in Burnsville on November 17th” said EDC Director Jamie McMahan.

The store, the newest addition to Burnsville’s growing Main Street business community, will be opening in the former Lamp Post Shoppe Building at 127 North Main Street and will feature trendy and affordable clothing for women and children, sourced locally and regionally, along with locally sourced gifts, beauty products and more.

“The key to economic prosperity in any town, but especially in small town America, is a proactive approach to recruiting and developing our best assets; those in our own backdoor- the entrepreneur” added EDC Director McMahan. “Creating a community that supports entrepreneurial development will not only generate profit for the entire county, but will fill a gap that directly benefits our specific economic needs.”

The Burnsville Downtown Entrepreneur Assistance Program (DEAP). DEAP is an incentive grant program with the goal of creating new jobs, increasing revenue, and making downtown Burnsville an attractive option for business development. The purpose of this program is to support business recruitment by assisting new start-ups within the critical first six months of business.

The DEAP program requires applicants submit a written business plan when applying for the grant and may, depending upon the applicant's previous business experience, require attendance of business management and training courses at Mayland Community College through the Mayland Small Business Center, or other accredited institution offering the required courses and will require recipients to create at least one new full time equivalent job. In addition to the grant award of \$2,500 the grant will also cover the cost of the recipient's first year of membership in the Yancey County Chamber of Commerce.

For more details on how to apply for the grant program contact Jamie McMahan, Executive Director of the Yancey County Economic Development Commission, at (828) 682-7722 or via email at yanceyedc@gmail.com. Application information may also be obtained at the Yancey County Chamber of Commerce or the Mayland Community College Small Business Center.

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