

Spruce Pine blaze devastates downtown

Written by

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Two weekend fires all but destroyed two buildings in downtown Spruce Pine Saturday.□

While most of downtown was reopened Monday, a state of emergency still exists in the fire area.

The fire at 380 Oak Avenue in Spruce Pine destroyed Miller Insurance, Brian Buchanan Attorney at Law, Keen Enterprises and a church, while the fire on Locust Street consumed a thrift store, a garage and Spruce Pine's historic train depot. No cause or origin of the blaze has been determined, but the SBI has been called in to investigate a possible arson. A meeting at 9 a.m. today at Central Baptist Church in Spruce Pine will hopefully answer business owner's questions about where to go from here.