

Health Official Asks Citizens To Help Enact Strong Anti-Rabies Law

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I am asking that the article which appeared in the Asheville Citizen on Saturday, August 30, 1969 be published in

the Tri-County News and the Yancey Record hoping that everyone in these two counties will read it, or at least hear of it.

Just because this tragic death happened to a three-year old child in San Diego, California

doesn't mean that it could not happen to any man, woman or child in Mitchell or Yancey Counties.

Hundreds of dogs are in Mitchell and Yancey counties that have never been vaccinated against the deadly and incurable

disease of rabies, and they have never been listed for taxes. I know, and every taxpayer knows that each of these two counties needs a dog pound and a dog catcher, with a pound properly equipped. An ordinance, or whatever it takes to make it

lawful should be in effect, requiring everyone who owns a dog or cat have it vaccinated at one of our Rabies Clinics and to keep them at home. If this is done and done right, I believe the project would be self-supporting, at least after the first year.

I am offering no criticism of any official, rather I think our officials are progressive, wide awake people who are possibly waiting and expecting those of us who may be in charge to let them know our needs. It is a late day and hour to start a project of this kind, however, let us not wait until it happens to one of our citizens before we take action.

It is perfectly natural that dogs will run after wild animals, and in so doing may get bitten by a rabid animal and we know nothing about it until it might be too late.

If the above action were taken, we would not only be protecting the health of the public, but we would be protecting the animals we want and expect to keep.

A few years ago a dairyman
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Yancey Co Schools To Be Checked

State Educational agencies have begun a complete evaluation of Yancey County Schools. Areas to be evaluated as follows: facilities, lunchrooms, personnel, transportation, maintenance and curriculum.

The survey is under the direction of Dr. J. L. Pierce. Dr. Ben Quinn is responsible for conducting the local survey.

Last week Mrs. Nina Council evaluated all lunchrooms in Yancey County and Lacy Presnell has visited each school for general operational evaluation.

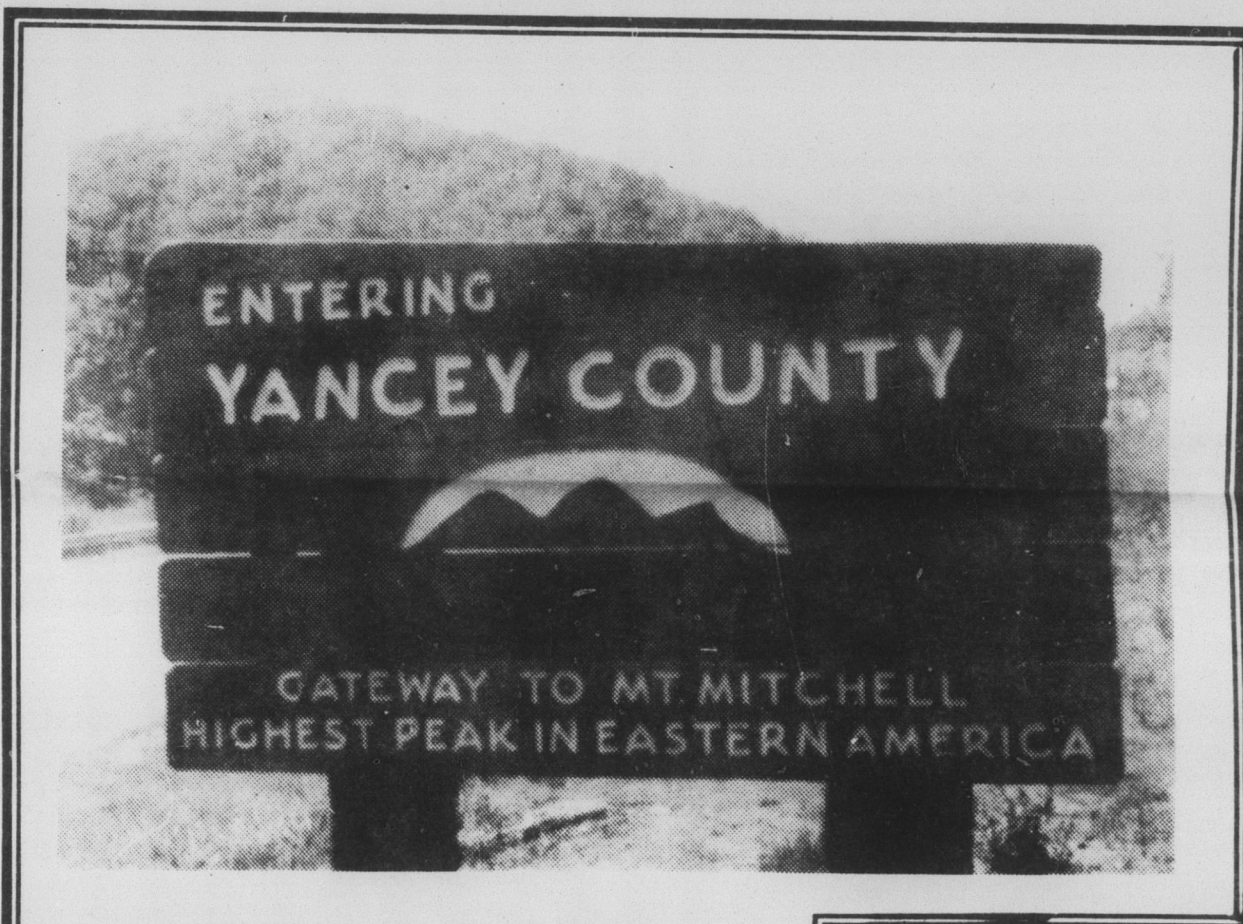
Recommendations will be made to the County Board of Education in this survey. It is scheduled for completion by January 1st. After the survey, long and short range planning is to be initiated for the schools in Yancey County to be eligible for the 1963 facility fund for up-dating local school system.

Taylor's Asst. To Visit Here

ASHEVILLE- Tom L. Mal-lonee, 11th Congressional District Assistant to Congressman Roy A. Taylor, is now making scheduled visits to the county seats and other sections of the counties.

On Monday, September 29, he will be at the Madison County Courthouse, Marshall, from 9:30 to 10:30 a. m.; at the Yancey County Courthouse, Burnsville, from 1:00 to 2:00 p. m.; and at the Town Hall, Spruce Pine, from 3:00 to 4:00 p. m.

Any person who has plans or official business pertaining to Congressional matters they wish to discuss, is invited to meet with Mr. Mallonee at the above specified time.



Something New Has Been Added

Something new has been added to the scenery of Yancey County. At three entrances to the county - on 19 E coming from Spruce Pine, Mitchell County; on 19 E coming from Asheville, Madison County; and on Highway 80, coming from McDowell County - the Chamber of Commerce erected new county signs with the cooperation of the U.S. Forest Service in Burnsville. A special thank you goes to Jim Covington, Johnny McLain and Rev. Don Lilly, for their help in erecting these signs.

Scholarships Will Be Awarded Next Spring At C Of C Dinner

As previously announced, the proceeds from the Yancey Youth Jamboree, held August 8 and 9 at East Yancey High School, will be used to establish a scholarship fund for Yancey County students.

The Youth Opportunity Task Force of the Yancey County Chamber of Commerce announ-

ces that scholarships will be awarded a student from both East Yancey and Cane River HS at the Chamber's Annual Dinner, to be held in April, 1970.

Recipients of the scholarships will be selected by the Youth Opportunity Task Force from recommendations by faculties of the schools.

Boy Loses Long Fight To Rabies

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (AP) -- Tommy Buchmann, who fought a rabies infection twice as long as anyone else in medical history, died Friday, two days after his third birthday.

The child, son of a Swiss immigrant chicken farmer, never awakened from a coma that lasted 124 days. A rabid bobcat bit him as he played in his backyard on April 1. Four days later he was admitted, unconscious to University Hospital.

His father, Max, said doctors never offered hope for Tommy but "we tried to believe he might make it."

In the efforts to save the boy, doctors tried blood transfusions from a man who said he might have survived rabies.

A hole was made in Tommy's skull for antiserum, and vaccine was added to raise the antibodies level. He was kept in isolation with a respirator always at work and liquid formula funneled through his nose.

There is no known treatment

for rabies but, over the months, Tommy's condition appeared to stabilize and his brain-wave patterns seemed to improve.

As Tommy clung to life, letters offering hope and prayers piled up in the Buchmann home at nearby Lakeside, including one from Mrs. Richard M. Nixon. More than \$20,000 in donations helped pay for the hospital care.

The last hope died Wednesday on Tommy's birthday. The hospital said tests to see whether the disease might have burned itself out showed rabies still present in his brain.

The postman brought 130 letters that day. The Buchmanns took a musical toy to the hospital while their other children, Max Jr., 4, and Elizabeth, 10, played at home.

"His heart just stopped," a hospital spokesman said Friday. "The nurses all loved him and are so sad."

The previous rabies survival record was 63 days by a 13-year old boy from Elk City, Kan.