

Community outcry after "pitbulls" turn on young children

Author: Bongani Fuzile Published: 21 April 2018.

APPENDIX A.

Community outcry after "pitbulls" Attack on young children Author: Bongani Fuzile

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NEWS 7

Community outcry after pitbulls turn on young children



HURT: Two teenagers and a four-year-old girl after they were attacked by pitbulls in Parkridge
Picture: MICHAEL RINTALA



DECEIVING: One of the pitbulls in Parkridge that attacked two teenagers and a four-year-old

Calls mount for dogs to be put down after horror attack leaves serious scars

By BONGANI FUZILE
Senior Reporter

A PACK of pitbulls in an East London suburb this week viciously attacked three people, including a four-year-old.

The three are lucky to be alive as they escaped with deep wounds when the pack of dogs attacked them in Parkridge.

And yesterday, residents were up in arms, saying if the dogs were not put down they would attack more people – and maybe kill someone.

Community leader Mandy Fortuin said they were tired of dogs that were posing a danger to people, especially children. "Today our children can't even play outside on the street because of these dogs."

"We want them to be put down before they kill a person," said Fortuin, at a community meeting at the Haven Wellness Centre.

The meeting was also attended by the police.

On Wednesday morning Rishana Ibrahim was walking with her four-year-old cousin, Cynidia Prince, down Parkridge Road when a pitbull came out of a yard and charged at them.

"The dog jumped to us but I managed to kick it and I grabbed the little girl. It came back and jumped on her."

"It locked its teeth on her and dragged us down and we fell. She was crying," Ibrahim recalled.

She used her body to shield Cynidia. "I even pushed it with my hands with the hope that it will bite me, but it kept coming for Cynidia," she said.

Little Cynidia suffered serious deep wounds on her legs and body.

"She is struggling to sleep and is so traumatised by this," Ibrahim said.

The ordeal lasted for a few minutes and Ibrahim's brother and a friend came to their rescue.

"They also struggled but they managed to kick it," she said.

Wednesday's incident came after Gayetinda Arends and her friend Nikita Gyman were attacked by three pitbulls from the same house on Saturday evening.

"They attacked me when I was trying to save my friend. They surrounded me and I could not outrun them and they started to attack me," said Arends, who suffered wounds on her hands and legs.

Gyman suffered deep wounds on her left leg. "They wouldn't let go of me and my friend jumped to help and they attacked her," Gyman said.

Eurina Stowman of Haven Wellness Centre said action needed to be taken.

"We need to call for a community meeting where a decision will be taken for those who let their dogs loose to roam on the streets," she said.

The Saturday Dispatch visited the home of the dogs but was told that the owners were not home. When called, the homeowner's phone was off and the second phone number provided rang unanswered.

Police spokeswoman Warrant Officer Hazel Mylra confirmed they were investigating a case of "ferocious dogs at large". She said no one has been arrested. — bongani@dispatch.co.za



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BE AN EARLY BIRD: APPLY ON TIME FOR 2019

It is with great pleasure that the department issues guidelines for the 2019 learner application period, for Grades 1 and 5. The Department urges parents to collect forms in time from various schools, to avoid rejection. It is the responsibility of the Superintendent General to oversee admissions of learners to all Public Ordinary schools. He has however delegated school principals to perform this function.

Below is the Management Plan for the learner admission process.

WHO SHOULD APPLY:

First time Grade 1 and 5 and those relocating from other areas for 2019 intake

MEC: Dept of Education
Hon. M. Makopula

MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR LEARNER ADMISSIONS:

No	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY	TIME FRAME
1.	Re-enrolment of learners		
1.1.	Currently enrolled learners are re-registered	School principal and SGB's	10 April - 25 May 2018
2.	Registration process		
2.1.	Distribution of application forms to parents	School principal and SGB's	10 April - 25 May 2018
2.2.	Application period	Parents	10 April - 25 May 2018
2.3.	Return of application forms with all required documentation	Parents	17 April - 25 May 2018
2.4.	Admission period	School principal and SGB's	10 April - 30 August 2018
3.	Placement of learners by the school		
3.1.	Placements of learners and inform parents of successful and unsuccessful application in writing	School principal and SGB's	22 June 2018
3.2.	Parents accept/rejects placement offers in writing	Parent	27 July 2018
4.	Placement of learners by districts		
4.1.	Placement of unplaced learners who applied within the application period, in schools with available space	Districts	31 August - 12 October 2018
4.2.	District Director finalise placement of all unplaced learners	Districts	31 August - 09 November 2018
4.3.	District Director submit to Head office a list of all learners who have been placed	Districts	05 - 16 November 2018
4.4.	District Director submits the list of the late registration to Head Office		Daily



NOTE:

- No transfers (school hopping) learners already registered at schools must remain in those schools.
- Parents who are relocating and would like to apply for the in between grades (Grades 2 to 7 and Grades 8 - 11) must consult with the school of choice to verify availability of spaces. Spaces will be confirmed pending the current learner and enrolment retention in each grade, and in line with the capacity of the school.
- It is also to be noted that there is no guarantee that a parent will get a school of choice when applying.
- Parents should apply to as many schools as possible.
- MS: Parents are required by law to produce the following documents as requirements for registration:
 - An application form from the school.
 - Official birth certificate of the child/unabridged certificate.
 - A transfer card if a learner transfers from one school to another, and
 - The last report card issued by the previous school.

WHO DO I CONTACT FOR INFORMATION/QUERIES?

1. Buffalo City District Office: Ms N. Mabutho - Tel: 043- 708 6230
2. King William's Town Circuit Management Office: Ms Dora Ndyaheane - Tel: 043 - 605 0167
3. Nelson Mandela Bay District Office: Ms Babalwa Makapela/ Ms. Maryann Bosch - Tel: 041 - 403 4599
4. Chris Hani West: Mr Madoda Ndembe - Tel: 045 - 608 5708
5. OR Tambo Island: Mr Andile Steven - Tel: 047 - 5520142
6. DS&G Provincial Office: Ms Pula Mtsha / Ms Nonkqubela Nyoka - Tel: 040 - 608 4442

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