

APPENDIX G

Terrified worker bitten in vicious pitbull attack

Author: Zwanga Mukhuthu

Published: 4 March 2016

Like us on facebook
Daily Dispatch

Follow us
@Dispatch_DD

Friday
March 4, 2016 **NEWS 5**



BEWARE: Pit bulls belonging to Gonubie resident Ronnie Courtney are seen here standing in the yard shortly after one of them bit construction worker Lungisile Thongo, 60. **INSET:** Thongo shows where the dog grabbed hold of him. **Picture:** ALAN EASON

By ZWANGA MUKHUTHU
Senior Reporter

A ROAD construction worker yesterday told how he fought off a pitbull dog as it viciously attacked him.

Lungisile Thongo, 60, is an employee of Mamlanbo Construction, a company busy with road maintenance on Gonubie Main Road.

He was taking a break in shade next to a property called Pitbull Trailers when the dog called Sparky came charging at him.

The dog came at him with such

Sparky's unrepentant Gonubie owner claims stones thrown at dogs

force that he fell to the ground. The attack occurred at 1pm in front of seven other construction workers.

"I did not see it coming. I just heard screams from my colleagues, who were shouting 'here comes a dog, here comes a dog'."

By the time I turned around to look, it had bitten me on the hip and looked its teeth," Thongo said.

One of the dog's canine teeth punctured his flesh and the other

his cellphone, which was in his right pocket.

"Had I not had my cellphone in the pocket, I would have been in big trouble," he said.

While on the ground and struggling to get up, Thongo started punching the dog with his fist. It let go of his hip and went for his neck.

"I fought it off and my colleagues came running causing the dog to stop and take a few steps back."

The father of three said he had a phobia of dogs. "I have been scared of dogs all my life."

The dog belongs to Gonubie pitbull breeder Ronnie Courtney, who was not apologetic yesterday.

Courtney has four pitbulls in his yard and has sold more than nine of them. "Let us be fair on the dog and not only the human. I am a white man living on a farm and you know about farm attacks in this country."

"I need these dogs to protect me. I will stop breeding them the day police starting doing their jobs," he said.

Courtney claimed he had on numerous occasions caught workers throwing stones at his dog.

"I came home the other day and found one of my dogs with a big hole on the head."

Courtney said he was not sure how the dog managed to unchain

itself and break out of the yard.

Mamlanbo contract manager Arthur Page-Wood said the dog came from bushes on the side of the property.

"We are still busy investigating the whole incident. Our employee was taken to Life St Dominic's Hospital. We are going to bring him back here so that we can lay a criminal charge at the SAPS in Gonubie," Page-Wood said.

He said Thongo had sustained a couple of puncture marks in his hip. He was very lucky he wasn't alone." — zcwangam@dispatch.co.za

Health dept looking for 'pregnant' op woman

By VUVU VENA
Health Reporter

THE provincial health department is appealing to an East London woman operated on 16 years ago after an allegedly false diagnosis of ectopic pregnancy to contact the Mthatha General Hospital CEO.

Health spokesman Siyanda Mhahla said they had tried to get hold of Xoliswa Ntusi, 41, but had been unsuccessful.

He said Ntusi should ask for hospital CEO Thozama Madubela, who would be expecting her.

This is despite the Daily Dispatch giving the department three contact numbers for Ntusi who approached the paper last week alleging that a doctor from Mthatha General Hospital diagnosed her with an ectopic pregnancy in 2000 following urine samples and blood tests.

He then allegedly proceeded to advise her to have an operation "or else she would die".

"He said it would be a minor operation and the scar would be close to invisible," she said.

Ntusi said she feared going under the knife and asked to consult with her family, who advised her that if it was a choice between life and death, then she should undergo the procedure.

However, the scar she got after the operation went from one side of her lower abdomen to the other, her fallopian tubes were allegedly cut and Ntusi claims no baby was found, only a small amount of liquid in her womb.

She further alleged that no one had ever explained to her what had happened in theatre.

"I heard from the nurses that I wasn't pregnant," she said.

When her wound became septic while at the facility, she visited a doctor in East London, where she claims she discovered that her fallopian tubes had been cut and that it would be impossible for her to give birth naturally. — vuvuv@dispatch.co.za



National Teachers Awards Education MEC honours OUTSTANDING TEACHERS

The National Excellence Award seeks to recognize educators who, in their work, demonstrate the key values that are a hallmark.

- A demanding educational activist who leads by example;
- An educator with a conscience and a feel for social justice;
- Takes/has taken a stand for an issue (popular or unpopular) on grounds of conscientiousness;
- Intellectual tenacity and rigour; and Creative and inspired visible delivery.

The winners in the different categories got to drive away in a brand new Kia Picanto and Datsun Go, all courtesy of our generous sponsors.

MESSAGE FROM THE HONOURABLE MANDLA MAKUPULA

As you move to position the Eastern Cape Education department amongst the best in the country through your sterling work, I salute you for your heroic contribution in the department and sector. The entire EC province is proud of you for your selfless zeal for greatness in class and we hope this will continue to inspire and motivate other educators to do their best through opting for innovative ways to teach in the classroom. We thank you for restoring the dignity of this profession as you have sacrificed to ensure that our children's education is prioritised. - Hon Mandla Makupula



EXCELLENCE IN SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHING
Ms Ntombuzuko Mkhizwana,
Mandela School of Science
and Technology in Mthatha

EXCELLENCE IN SPECIAL NEEDS TEACHING
Dr Sharon Townsend from
Merryvale School for
Specialized Education in
Port Elizabeth

EXCELLENCE IN GRADE 8 TEACHING
Mandisa Mnywa
from Didi Special School
in Bizana



