



Chanticleer News

Chanticleer Estates
Homeowners Association
(CEHA)
Newsletter Issue 40
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Happy Easter!

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Please join us this year for the annual Chanticleer Easter Egg Hunt and Party! Bring 12 filled plastic eggs per child for hiding and a dish to share with your neighbors. The Easter Bunny will be there to take pictures with the children. 408 N. Woodlake Way – Gerry Veth and Susan Mercier will send out a reminder.

Recently a child in our neighborhood was bitten by an unsupervised neighbor's dog.



Many times notices have been placed in the newsletter to ask everyone to be responsible. This is the notice that was in the previous newsletter – BEFORE the dog bite:

PLEASE DO NOT LET YOUR DOG OUT OF YOUR HOME OR FENCED YARD TO ROAM THE NEIGHBORHOOD. YOUR DOG SHOULD ALWAYS BE LEASHED AND MONITORED BY YOU.

PLEASE ALSO BE CONSIDERATE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS AND BE SURE TO CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG IF THEY MAKE A DEPOSIT WHILE YOU ARE WALKING THEM AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

THANK YOU.

As reported in the last newsletter there have been many recent issues of break-ins and attempted break-ins in nearby subdivisions and also in our own. Our best defense is to always lock your doors to your cars, home and garage, put on our alarms and notify your neighbors when you will be out of town. No one in our subdivision has been hurt. Please be extra careful so you won't become a victim of crime. Notify the police immediately and do not enter your home if your alarm has been triggered without the police. These incidents were reported at all times during the day during working hours and at night.



At the last meeting Deputy Vauthier told us "BE A NOSEY NEIGHBOR" if you see something suspicious or witness a crime in progress don't be a hero -- call 911. If you make a 911 call the most important thing is to remain on the line until you are told by the 911 operator that you may hang up.

Please register on our website to access all old minutes, newsletters, forms, covenants, and other important subdivision documents.

SEND LINDA YOUR NEWS!
CALL ME WITH YOUR NEWS
OR PUT A NOTE IN MY MAILBOX.

ANIMAL CONTROL
PHONE NUMBER: 809-0183

EMERGENCY CALL 911

Dog Bite Overview

The State of Louisiana has a dog bite statute that requires a dog bite victim to prove that the incident was one which the dog owner could have prevented. The statute is Louisiana Civil Code article 2321:

The owner of an animal is answerable for the damage caused by the animal. However, he is answerable for the damage only upon a showing that he knew or, in the exercise of reasonable care, should have known that his animal's behavior would cause damage, that the damage could have been prevented by the exercise of reasonable care, and that he failed to exercise such reasonable care. Nonetheless, the owner of a dog is strictly liable for damages for injuries to persons or property caused by the dog and which the owner could have prevented and which did not result from the injured person's provocation of the dog. Nothing in this Article shall preclude the court from the application of the doctrine of res ipsa loquitur in an appropriate case.

The statute refers to an incident "which the owner could have prevented." This phrase is not found in the more straightforward dog bite statutes. As a result of this particular language, the Supreme Court of Louisiana held that a dog bite victim is required to prove that the dog posed an unreasonable risk of harm, in addition to the facts that must be proved in the more common dog bite statutes (i.e., that the defendant was the owner of the dog, the dog caused harm to the plaintiff, and the extent of loss to the plaintiff). Pepper v. Triplet, 864 So.2d 181 (La. 2004).

A person who is injured by a dog in Louisiana also may use the other common grounds for liability. They are scienter, negligence, and negligence per se. For further information about these causes of action, see Legal Rights of Dog Bite Victims in the USA.□

IF YOU OR YOUR FAMILY IS A VICTIM OF A DOG BITE:

Parents who delay taking their children to the doctor after a dog bite incident, or fail to take them at all, are taking a grave risk with the health of their children, experts say.

"The first thing is to seek medical attention," said Dr. Henri Gaboriau of the American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, who warns parents against trying to judge the severity of wounds. "We're talking about right now, not the next day," Gaboriau said, adding that if a child sees a medical professional immediately, risk of infection and scarring is greatly reduced.

Gaboriau joins health professionals and organizations, including The American Veterinary Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics, in an effort to better inform the public during National Dog Bite Prevention Week.

The majority of bites Gaboriau sees are on kids' noses, lips and hands. Adults commonly underestimate puncture wounds, when the dog closes its jaw and creates little holes, because the victim might not bleed as much, he said. But if left unattended, such wounds heal with "very bad, very hard, very red" scars and run a high risk of infection, he said.

Bites involving torn flesh can be a surgical emergency, Gaboriau said, giving the example that one bite can take off half a child's nose. Children do not have much extra tissue to work with, so it is crucial to get them to the emergency room in the case of a true attack, he said.

TIPS TO PREVENT DOG BITES:

Nearly 5 million Americans report dog bites annually, and half of the approximately 800,000 victims who receive medical attention for these wounds are children, according to American Veterinary Medical Association data.

When parents teach their kids how to stay safe, that's when we can prevent more bites from occurring. Everyone thinks their pet doesn't do it, but all dogs have the potential to bite, even if it's a golden retriever.

Dog bite prevention: tips to share with your family

If the child sees a strange dog, he or she should stand like a tree. The dog might walk up to the child for a sniff, but it is likely the animal will become disinterested and walk away. If a child runs, the dog is more likely to chase and attack. Instruct a child to stand still, look straight ahead and avoid eye contact with the dog. After the animal leaves, the child should immediately report the loose dog to an adult.

Never leave a child of any age unsupervised with a dog. Even the friendliest dogs can show aggression. Do not take the risk of having one of your child's friends get bit by your family pet.

Discourage rough play with dogs. Young boys are the most common victims of dog bites, as they play rough, yell and run, which can trigger a dog's aggression. Make sure your child knows the right way to interact with your pet.

If children are scared of dogs, don't force them to be near the animals. This creates bad associations for both the children and the animals, and might lead the children to run or scream, which triggers the dog.

Many dogs send warning signals before they bite, but kids have a hard time reading them. These warning signs can include stiffness in the body or tail, head lowering or staring. As a parent, be aware of the signs so you can help prevent bites.

Make sure your children know not to bother a dog when it is eating. This goes for when a dog has a new toy, too. They tend to be more aggressive when they are guarding a resource.

Never approach a dog if it does not approach you. A dog should move toward you and appear calm and comfortable in your presence. Always ask before petting someone else's dog, even if it is supposedly a friendly breed.

All family dogs should be appropriately trained and socialized. Make sure to enroll a professional trainer to ease the transition when you bring home a new dog. Try to keep your dog on the same routine, such as getting plenty of exercise, after children are introduced into the family.

In the case of an actual dog bite, try not to thrash about. Anybody who has ever seen a dog toss around a toy or dead animal knows the more the object moves, the greater the response of the dog. If at home, spraying the dog with a cold garden hose might startle it enough that it lets go. Dog walkers concerned about attacks from other dogs are encouraged to carry pepper spray.

Secure the animal after it bites. Victims certainly take precedence in these emergency situations, but it is important to find the dog's owner to determine if the animal is up to speed on its vaccinations. If the dog just bit somebody, it might be in the mood to do so again. Local authorities should be alerted if owners are not identified.



When you attend the quarterly meeting, you will have a chance to win the \$25.00 gift certificate to Winn Dixie. One gift certificate will be awarded at each meeting.



COVENANT ENFORCEMENT

Chanticleer is a restrictive deed community. While you may own your property, there certain things you can or can not do on your property. Our covenants control construction, maintenance, use, etc. Please consult our covenants before undertaking a project on your property. Our covenants are on our website if you do not have a copy handy and are recorded in the St. Tammany Parish records (St. Tammany Parish Inst # 1169553 & #1192424). **BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR.**

**OUR NEXT HOMEOWNERS' MEETING IS SCHEDULED
TUESDAY, MAY 8th (3rd MEETING OF NEW YEAR)**

7 p.m. 388 Robert Boulevard (First Pentecostal Church, McKinney Building).

PLEASE ATTEND THIS MEETING! YOU HAVE A CHANCE FOR FREE DUES IF YOU ATTEND ALL FOUR MEETINGS.