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Anchorage teen recovering from dog attack

by Meghan Stapleton - Friday, June 24, 2005



Mike Nederbrock/KTUU-TV

Center, recovering from wounds suffered in a vicious dog attack Thursday on the Hillside.

One plastic surgery is underway and her leg is wrapped in bandages -- her love and trust of dogs the reason.

Sixteen-year-old Miranda Breaux was driving to a friend's house about 4 p.m. yesterday when she saw the dog wandering aimlessly.

As the animal ran into the intersection of Birch and O'Malley roads, forcing cars to dodge around it, Miranda couldn't watch anymore. She jumped out of her car and approached the dog -- a 120-pound Akita with a harness on, clean and calm.



"She's used to

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animals

and just last week she helped another family find their missing animal,” said Miranda’s mother, Belinda. Miranda even works with animals.

Miranda says she saw the Akita snap as she approached it, and then it attacked.

“At first (I wanted) just to run, but I knew that if I did that it would get me worse,” Miranda said from her hospital bed. “So I turned from it and it grabbed my leg and I was able to curl up into a ball as it pulled me down in the ditch onto the right side of the road. I hit the pavement and right about then, a guy swerved his car onto the side and he was yelling at the dog to get away from me, and it wasn’t. It wouldn’t leave me alone.

“It had stopped biting me, but at this point it was at my side and



Mike Nederbrock/KTUU-TV

more at my shoulder and my legs were up in the air, but really close. And the guy just tried to get it away from me. And they just told me not to move, and as soon -- he had a hammer and another gentleman had a piece of wood -- and as soon as it got far enough away from me, I ran. And this woman with two children let me into her car.”

Into the car and into hands of safety.

Now Miranda and her mom give thanks to the anonymous guardian angels who feel they owe Miranda’s life.

“I think I would have died,” Miranda says tearfully. “They saved my life. And

I thank them.”



Shawn Wilson/KTUU-TV

“I am just so, so grateful for the guardian angels that stopped,

that stopped to take care of her,” Belinda adds.

“I just want to thank you,” Miranda says of her angels. “I really do owe my life to you, and you're God's gift.”

God’s gift on the Anchorage Hillside leaves an angel herself in the hospital, chunks of her leg, back and shoulder gone. But she’s alive and so very thankful for that.

Miranda’s mom says she has a hard road ahead. Last night, Miranda went into plastic surgery for four hours. There could be more.

And tonight a warning from the family -- Let Animal Control take care of the situation, don’t try to do it yourself. As for the dog, it’s impounded at Animal Control.

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