



THE SHELBYVILLE NEWS

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Saturday, December 13, 2008

Mastiffs attack local man

NEWS staff report

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Animal control officers ticketed a local man last weekend after his dogs got loose and attacked a man and his dogs while they walked through a Shelbyville neighborhood Saturday.

The conditions of the dogs belonging to Robert A. Ballard, 46, 335 Van Ave., were not known Friday afternoon.

According to a police report, Ballard and his dogs were bitten and mauled by several large mastiffs belonging to Wade Lewis, 410 Van Ave. Police said that at 9:30 last Saturday morning, officers with the Shelbyville Police Department responded to the area of Van Avenue and Blanchard Street, along with an ambulance and city-county animal shelter employees, in response to an alleged fight involving several dogs.

When police arrived at the scene, they found several dogs belonging to Lewis fighting with Ballard's dogs. After the police and Lewis gained control of the animals and placed them behind a fence, officers determined Ballard and his dogs were attacked while they were walking down the sidewalk near the Lewis home.

"The Lewis dogs came off their property and were aggressive towards Ballard's dogs," SPD Sgt. Bryan Cole wrote in his report. "The Lewis dogs normally wear collars to keep them from leaving the yard and the invisible fence around the yard, but Lewis forgot to put the collars on the dogs the night before."

Ballard was taken to Major Hospital, where he was treated and released. Lewis received a ticket from animal control officers for allowing his dogs to run loose.

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