

Great Dane that attacked boy at Grand Lake will likely live

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Friday, October 16, 2009
10/16/2009 5:52:43 PM

GROVE - A Great Dane that mangled an 11-year-old boy's face and neck Saturday at a Grand Lake dog walk will likely not be destroyed, according to a Grove animal shelter officer.

Troy Helms, of Grove, underwent an hour-long surgery where he received around 100 stitches after he was bitten and shaken by a Great Dane at Strut Your Mutt dog walk, an event sponsored by the Humane Society of Grove and Grand Lake, a private organization.

The boy's parents were not available for comment.

Connie Norris, the owner of the dog, was issued a citation for keeping a dog in an annoying manner and dog bite by Grove police. She is to appear in Grove Municipal Court on Nov. 12, according to the police department. She is a former Humane Society president and current president of Angel Paws, a group that visits nursing centers and an elementary school.

The dog "is trained to go into nursing home, schools and hospitals," said Kathy Baker, Norris's attorney.


"This was a total freak accident," said Debbie Tanner, Grove animal control officer.

Whether or not the attack is provoked determines if a dog is put down, Tanner said.

The dog remains quarantined for 10 days from the day of the attack.

According to a Grove police report, Helms fell down while trying to catch his own dog, a golden retriever, that had gotten loose. While he was down, the Great Dane attacked him, records show.

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