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SHELTER SENSE

For the people who care about community animal control



Above, HSUS's Phyllis Wright with Super Dog; at right, Wonder Mutt with friends.



Supersize pets entertain and educate

First, there was Super Dog; now there's Wonder Mutt. The Oregon Humane Society (PO Box 11364, Portland, OR 97211) and now the Tacoma-Pierce County Humane Society (2608 Center St., Tacoma, WA 98409) are both having great success with full-size dog costumes that employees and volunteers wear at shopping mall booths, fairs and other events.

Liz Kaye of OHS found a costumer who makes fake fur outfits on special order and developed Super Dog. She takes Super Dog to school assemblies on a leash and carries a satchel with food and water dishes and other pet equipment to talk about with the youngsters. (The costumes cost \$300-400--if you'd like to get one, contact Liz.)

Dian Kaufman of Tacoma-Pierce created Wonder Mutt who, she says, is "a magnet for all the little kids who drag their parents over to our display.... Wonder Mutt can even wander through the crowd, putting a friendly paw on a stranger's shoulder and pulling him to our table without causing any aggravation." Both groups give away "Responsible Pet Owner" T-shirts in their programs. ■

Items...

A Los Angeles man has been fined \$495 for assaulting a city animal control officer, after pleading no contest to two penal code violations and a city leash law violation.

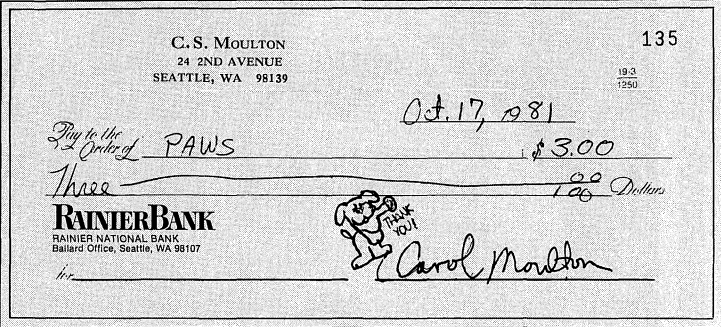
The officer had impounded the defendant's dog for running at large on public property. The defendant tried to free the dog from the vehicle and refused to show identification. He then grabbed the officer from behind and applied body pressure that caused her to momentarily stop breathing.

When advised that he was under arrest, the defendant released the officer and ran to his house. His wife redeemed the dog the next day. The officer was not seriously injured, although she weighs only 103 pounds!

Thank you.

When you send a contribution check to PAWS (Progressive Animal Welfare Society, P.O. Box 1037, Lynnwood, WA 98036), your cancelled check comes back with a "thank you" right on it (see illustration). The group finds the inexpensive "thank you" stamp acknowledgement less costly than sending a receipt but more friendly than a plain cancelled check.

Beverly Armstrong's popular animal drawings are now available as rubber stamps--write Bookman Enterprise, 9476 North St., La Rue, OH 43332 for information.



Booth successful

The Dallas SPCA (362 S. Industrial Blvd., Dallas, TX 75207) received more than \$4300 in donations and handed out more than 13,000 pieces of literature at their booth at the State Fair of Texas. SPCA personnel and volunteers made sure the booth was staffed each of the 17 days of the fair from 10 am to 10 pm.

The group also sponsored another highly successful booth at the Gaines Classic Obedience Championships in Dallas. Because the audience was already involved with dogs, the booth's displays and handouts concentrated on organized cruelty such as puppy mills and dogfighting. Humane Education Director Carol Baker says the material was well received.

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HSUS Director of Animal Sheltering and Control Phyllis Wright
Editor, SHELTER SENSE Susan Bury Stauffer
Editorial Assistant Janet D. Frake

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Training

The HSUS Gulf States Regional Office will hold a workshop March 19-20 at the Shreveport-Bossier City Holiday Inn, Bossier City, LA. Topics will include cruelty investigation, animal health care programs for the shelter and animal ordinance revision. For complete information, contact HSUS Gulf States Regional Office, 5333 Everhart Rd., Bldg. A, Suite 209, Corpus Christi, TX 78411, telephone (512) 854-3142. (See SHELTER SENSE, August 1980, pages 3-4, "A Success Story," for background on Bossier City Animal Control.)

There is still time to sign up for the Animal Control Academy 100 hour Animal Control Certification program, March 29-April 9 at the Academy in Tuscaloosa, AL. The Euthanasia Technician Program will be held April 19-21. These two courses will help you develop a better animal control program for your community, as well as putting you in touch with a nationwide network of animal professionals. For details, contact Academy Director Hurt "Bill" Smith, Animal Control Academy, 4831 Springhill Dr., Tuscaloosa, AL 35405, telephone (205) 553-8665.

The system works!

A cooperative effort paid off for the Consolidated Humane Organizations of Southeastern Ohio (CHOSO) at the Ohio Walking Horse Celebration. The second largest all-Walker show in the country, the celebration was supposed to have been attended by an inspector from the US Department of Agriculture to make sure there were no violations of the Horse Protection Act.

When Nancy Wildermuth of the Hocking County Humane Society was told that no USDA inspector would attend the show, she asked other CHOSO member groups to contact the area's US Congressman, Clarence E. Miller.

The phone calls that CHOSO members made to Congressman Miller's office prompted him to get in touch with USDA--which, in turn, resulted in an inspector being sent to the show. The inspector disqualified eight horses because of violations of the Horse Protection Act. Other horse owners were warned about violations that were corrected.

Elected officials do listen and respond when enough people make the effort to show an interest in animal issues.

Absenteeism down

The Humane Society of Santa Clara Valley has reduced employee absenteeism with a "Stay Well" incentive program. The employee teams with the least absenteeism get cash prizes and "victory pizzas." The need for overtime dropped by 50% in the first month. The HSUS West Coast Regional Office will send you an outline of this program if you send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to them at 1713 J St., Suite 305, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Yogurt containers hurt animals

Many of you have reported in your newsletters that you have had to rescue animals that got their heads caught in the plastic 6-pack can holders from beer and soft drinks. Now the Animal Care Officer at the University of California, Santa Cruz, Michele Oka, reports that several skunks have been found with their heads stuck inside Yoplait brand yogurt containers, which taper toward the open end rather than the closed end. You may wish to get the word out to your community that Yoplait customers should crush or cut open these containers before putting them out in the garbage where animals might find them. ■

Tax time

While you're sharpening your pencils to begin filling out (and erasing and filling out) your income tax forms, remember there are a number of deductions available to municipal animal wardens, humane society employees and volunteers for work-related expenses not paid back by your employer.

Deductible expenses may include:

- Membership dues to animal-related organizations.

- Books, magazines and materials that you have purchased to distribute to the public or to use in your employment or volunteer services.

- Transportation costs in performing job or volunteer services, other than commuting.

- Meals and lodging for attending job-related meetings and conferences away from home that take longer than one day.

- Uniforms or special apparel required for the job.

If you had these kinds of expenses that were not reimbursed, you should look into these deductions with an income tax consultant. Expenses for lobbying on behalf of a charitable organization, though, are not deductible if the group has chosen to bring itself under the provisions of the Tax Reform Act of 1976, which limits the lobbying the group can do and still maintain its tax-exempt status.

Further information is available from the US Internal Revenue Service; call the Tax Information number listed in your phone book under "US Government, Internal Revenue Service," and ask for pamphlets on job-related deductions. Remember to check also with your city and state tax offices on available deductions. ■

The Indianapolis Humane Society (7929 N. Michigan Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46468) reports good results from a Corporate Membership Campaign.

The campaign chairman was a banker, who got the effort started by writing the directors of area companies to ask for volunteers. Nearly 100 volunteers were recruited and trained to make presentations about IHS.

The society acquired a list of area businesses from another agency that had been soliciting donations, so each company on the list was a good prospect. A letter was written to each of these businesses, asking if a volunteer could call.

Each volunteer eventually called on three companies to present a packet of information. Of the 300 companies called on, 30 became Corporate Members with donations of \$200 and 50 others gave smaller amounts.

Xerox Corporation volunteers made their donation in the form of painting the IHS barn with paint supplied by another local business. An area paper company is giving IHS surplus paper supplies, and the employees of an insurance company collect pet food and other products for the shelter.

IHS Development Manager Katie DeGroff recommends you keep these points in mind if you are interested in a similar campaign:

- 1) Your organization must have a good public image. Before the Corporate Campaign, media in Indianapolis had reported IHS's need for funds, and the public response was generous. DeGroff says the media supported IHS because the group works hard to be professional, emphasizing the positive aspects of their work. The IHS volunteers could demonstrate to the businesses being solicited that they had the support of the community.

Job announcement

Only SHELTER SENSE subscribers may place job ads. Limit to 25 words plus your address. Ads will appear in the next available issue.

WANTED - Operations manager for the Humane Society of Utah, located in Salt Lake City. Must be experienced in all facets of operations and fund raising. Send resume to Mr. Manuel Fuentes, President, 67 So. 2nd West, Brigham City, UT 84302. ■

Materials

FACTS ABOUT ANIMAL CONTROL



Saginaw County Animal Shelter (2736 Carrollton Rd., Saginaw, MI 48604) has produced an informative pamphlet for the public explaining the role of animal control and giving other useful information.

Animal Control Director Elizabeth Walton will send you a sample copy if you send her a sample of your own literature.

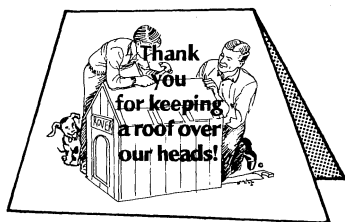
Lake County Animal/Rabies Control (2400 Belvidere Rd., Waukegan, IL 60085) has produced a booklet titled "Animal Bite/Wound Management" with information on medical treatment and reporting procedures. Chief Animal Control Officer Len Hackl has offered to send a copy free to any animal agency or organization.

The booklet is well-researched and can serve as a model for developing your own local procedures manual. Request your copy from Chief Hackl and use it to work with your local health department.

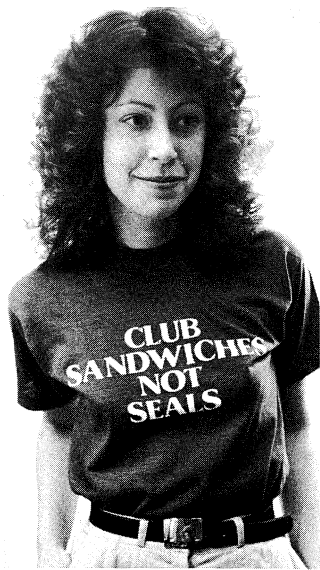
The Humane Society of Huron Valley has produced a cruelty investigation manual that is well organized and clearly written, covering investigation procedures, courtroom testimony, equipment and other topics. Author Delores Gibson will send you a copy if you send her \$2--address your order to "Cruelty Manual," Delores Gibson, 3100 Cherry Hill Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

John Seales, Director of Hot Springs, AR, Animal Control hosts a weekly radio program on responsible pet ownership. He has cassette tapes of the programs available and will send them out for \$5 each. For further details, contact Seales at Hot Springs Animal Control, 400 Kimery Lane, Hot Springs, AR 71913.

Courting corporate contributions



IHS Christmas card. Card opened to show photo of staff, with thanks to contributors for their support.



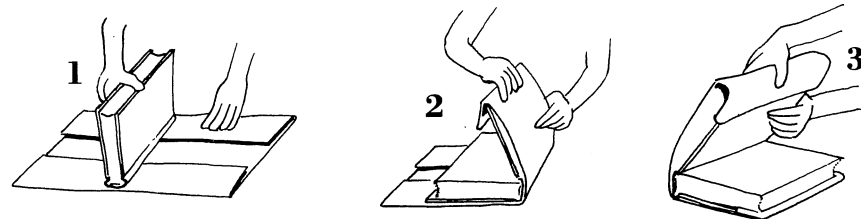
Have you ordered your seal T-shirts yet? As part of the observance of International Day of the Seal on March 1, HSUS is offering royal blue T-shirts with white lettering reading "Club Sandwiches, Not Seals." The face of a baby harp seal is on the back.

Available in men's sizes, S, M, L, and XL (S fits a small woman or large child), the shirts are \$6 each, \$5.50 for 4-9, and \$5 for 10 or more. Order before February 15 to have your shirts in time for Seal Day. When you send in your order, be sure to request our additional materials on Seal Day activities. Send your order to Seal Shirts, HSUS, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.

HSUS has sent packets of information to local humane societies on both Seal Day and our campaign to make the methods of raising veal calves more humane. If you have not received your packets, drop SHELTER SENSE a card, and we'll see that you get the information.

A bookcover bonus--you can let friends and co-workers know how you feel about the seal issue by covering your current reading with the "Save the Seals" bookcover bound into the center of this issue. To remove the cover, carefully bend back the staples and pull it out. Then bend the staples back so that the rest of the issue won't fall apart.

If you would like more covers or you have friends who would like some they can be purchased from Kind magazine at \$1 for 2, or \$4 for 10. (Kind Bookcovers, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037)



HSUS now offers six model plans for animal shelters in a package with a booklet of background information.

The six model plans are for shelters of different sizes and configurations so you can select the plan that best suits your community's needs. The plans were prepared by Bill Meade, HSUS Gulf States Regional Director and shelter architect.

For the booklet and plans, send \$2 to "Shelter Plans," HSUS, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.

The Pets Are Wonderful Council has named April "Pets Are Wonderful Month" and has sent a promotion package of materials to 2,600 animal shelters. If you have not received your kit, contact the Pets Are Wonderful Council, 500 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611 or call (312) 836-7145.

The kit includes order forms for a consumer radio series available on two 12-inch records. Titled "People and Pets," the series features 26 2½-minute interviews with pet experts, discussing the benefits of pet ownership. If you're interested,

Shared shelter program begins

contact the PAW Council--they'll tell you if your local radio station has already purchased the series. If it has, you can work with the station for local publicity. If not, you can buy the series for \$3.00 per record and ask your local station to air it.

Gaines Dog Research Center has published a 55-page booklet that explores the history of our relationship with dogs. Titled "The Dog in Society," the booklet gives guidelines on the selection and care of a dog while emphasizing the importance of responsible pet ownership. Shelters will find it a useful reference publication. Gaines products are promoted, but only briefly.

Single copies of the booklet are \$1 each. Animal welfare agencies may purchase quantities at discounted prices: \$22.50 for 25 books, \$40 for 50 books, \$75 for \$100 books. Orders should be addressed to "The Dog in Society," PO Box 1007, Kankakee, IL 60902. ■

Ten cities in San Patricio County, TX, have agreed to build and share two animal shelters that will meet the standards of the 1980 Texas state rabies law and the 1981 state shelter standards law.

The county is sixty miles long, and one shelter will be located in each half, allowing any county resident to reach a shelter in no more than fifteen minutes. The two shelters will cost about \$107,000, much less than the \$300,000 that would have been spent had each city built its own shelter. The cities are sharing the costs based on their populations, with the smallest paying \$203 annually and the largest (20,000 people) paying \$13,887.

The shelters will each have one full-time employee with an annual salary of \$14,000. The larger cities will have their own animal control officers who will share the shelter maintenance work. The program will be run by a committee of representatives from the cities.

The new program will result in a number of substandard "chicken wire" dog sheds being replaced by well-designed, humane shelters based on HSUS plans. (See Materials.) ■

Shelter maintenance: protecting your investment

New shelter construction is underway throughout the country, even though budgets for building are harder to come by. When your agency or organization has worked hard to build and open a new facility, you should protect your investment with a careful building maintenance program.

Shelters get as much wear and tear as any other public building. Employees bang cages and equipment into doors and walls, visitors track in dirt, and animals bring in a constant supply of fur. It takes only six months of neglect to turn a brand new shelter into a dirty deteriorating facility.

Bill Meade, HSUS Gulf States Regional Director and shelter architect, recommends that the following procedures be followed daily:

1) Cleaning and disinfecting all animal runs and cages. The animals must be removed from runs and cages before cleaning. If

Continued on next page

Why not make up a schedule to cover all these areas? Here is a handy form you can duplicate.

Enter the initials of the person assigned to that job that day. When the job is done, "X" through the initials.

We'll talk about spring cleaning for shelters in the next issue of SHELTER SENSE.

- you don't remove them, you'll end up with a kennel full of damp, smelly animals who will be far more susceptible to disease. Use a high-pressure sprayer to apply detergent and disinfectant.
- 2) Scrubbing kennel fencing and walls with a brush. If this is not done, oily grease from the animals' fur will build up.
- 3) Cleaning out gutters and drains. This means removing drain covers and cleaning out animal hair and waste.
- 4) Cleaning in the office and public reception areas. Throw away trash and wipe off counter tops. Make sure literature racks and displays are neat. The literature you make available should be informative and helpful.
- 5) Cleaning all interior doors, trim and window glass, one area or room each day. A rotating schedule will keep fingerprints and other dirt under control.
- 6) Mowing lawn, clipping shrubs, sweeping sidewalks, other exterior cleanup. Shelter managers can divide these jobs among the employees, with instructions to check a particular area daily or weekly and do whatever work is necessary. ■

Daily cleaning schedule for week of: _____

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Clean runs and cages							
Disinfect runs and cages							
Scrub fences, walls							
Clean gutters, drains							
Clean office, public area							
Clean interior doors, trim, windows: kennel rooms							
reception							
offices							
other:							
Lawn							
Shrubs							
Sidewalks							
Other:							

Rabies update

SHELTER SENSE thanks Dr. Greg Parham, Centers for Disease Control, and Dr. Tom Sayvetz, Virginia State Department of Health, for the information in this article.

The latest rabies statistics from the Centers for Disease Control show the need for animal agencies to continue public education programs about rabies and animal bites.

The figures available for rabies in animals cover the period from January through September 1981: 163 dogs, 215 cats, 369 cattle, 3561 skunks (for 53% of the total), 155 foxes, 681 bats, 314 raccoons, 96 in the category "other domestic" and 29 in the category "other wild."

Virginia had a substantial increase in animal rabies with 153 cases reported by December 5, compared to 35 cases in all of 1980. Of the 153 cases, 93 were raccoons, 41 were skunks, 3 were cats and the rest were other animals. There were no cases reported in dogs.

The increase is due primarily to an outbreak of raccoon rabies in the northern counties of Virginia and in adjacent areas of West Virginia and Maryland. The CDC has no ready explanation for the outbreak, particularly since the nearest focus of rabies in raccoons is in South Carolina. One possibility is that rabid raccoons have been transported into the area. The CDC reports that rabies was diagnosed in raccoons trapped in Florida and moved elsewhere illegally by private hunting clubs.

In Virginia, hunters had been bringing raccoons into the southwest part of the state legally. Although the rabies outbreak is not in that part of the state, the health department no longer allows the raccoons to be brought in. Rabies in raccoons is decreasing over all in the US.

The region with the most cases of animal rabies is the west North Central region, including the states of Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas and the Dakotas with Iowa in the lead. These states and the others bordering the Mississippi River have high incidences of rabies because of skunks.

The second of two human rabies cases in 1981 occurred in September in an American living in Mexico. The man had been bitten by one of his pet dogs; he had purchased rabies vaccines and inoculated his own dogs, and it is possible the vaccine had lost its potency because it was not dated or kept under proper conditions. Since laboratory examination of the dog's head revealed no evidence of rabies, no immediate treatment was given. When symptoms developed and became severe, the patient sought treatment in the US but did not survive.

There were 25 cases of rabies in humans from 1970 to 1981. In 15 of these cases, the people were known to have been exposed to a rabid animal. In 8 of these 15 cases, the people were exposed to dogs; in 7 of these 8 cases, the contact took place in Mexico, Puerto Rico or the Philippines.

CDC estimates that 25,000 to 30,000 Americans have to undergo post-exposure rabies treatment every year. However, a new project is underway to gather more reliable data. In the Human Rabies Prophylaxis Survey begun in 1980, the individual states are being asked to report rabies treatment to the CDC. For the first six months of 1981, 25 states reported 1875 cases.

More than half of the contacts with animals that result in people having to undergo treatment are with domestic animals, mostly dogs and cats. However, domestic animals account for only 13% of those animals reported positive for rabies in the participating

Continued on next page

states. During the 1980 reporting period, 172 persons were exposed to one "pet" raccoon that was found to be rabid.

In many of the cases reported to CDC, the person had not been treated until a week or longer after the exposure. The treatment is most effective when begun early, and in its report on this project, CDC comments that better public understanding of the importance of prompt treatment of bites is essential.



Rabies in skunks accounts for more than 50% of all animal rabies cases.

If your state health department is not participating in the Human Rabies Prophylaxis Survey, the staff there can obtain report forms and further information from Chad Helmick, M.D., Viral Diseases Division, CDC, Atlanta, GA 30333, (404) 329-3696.

Rabies takes its toll not only in anxiety and suffering, but also in hard dollars. In May 1980, one rabid dog came in contact with 70 persons resulting in their having to undergo post-exposure rabies treatment. Investigators found that only 20% of the dogs and cats in the area had up-to-date vaccinations, so clinics were held at which 2000 dogs were vaccinated. More than 300 unclaimed dogs and cats were destroyed.

The costs were \$92,650 for human treatment, \$4,190 for animal vaccination and veterinary services, and \$8,950 for health department and animal control program, for a total of \$105,790. This does not include lost work time, patient travel time and the costs of quarantine for animals exposed to the rabid dog.

Your humane society or animal control agency is the closest agency to this problem in your community. While rabies in humans is rare and is certainly not epidemic in pet animals, it will remain under control only as long as all pet animals are vaccinated. Many communities are sponsoring highly successful rabies clinics, where humane organizations, municipal governments and veterinarians cooperate to provide rabies shots at low costs.

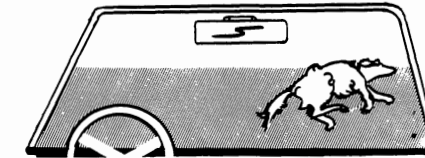
Residents should be warned that wild animals and particularly wild "pets" represent a clear danger. Wild animal problems should be handled only by professionals.

Your community should require rabies shots for both dogs and cats. Anyone bitten should be required to report the incident to the authorities. If no agency in your community is keeping statistics on bite incidents, you may want to begin record keeping. (Prince William County Animal Control in Manassas, VA, has been supplying yearly bite statistics to CDC to help them develop a better base of information.)

The more you know about rabies and animal bites, the more you can do to protect your community. ■

SHELTER SENSE Reproducible

A continuing feature to provide animal control agencies and humane societies with material that will help educate the public on community animal control and responsible pet ownership.

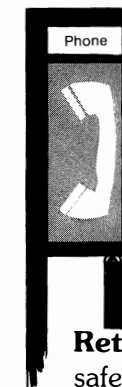


**We don't expect you
to endanger your own life
to save an injured animal
on a busy street.**

But there is plenty you can do...

The Humane Society of the U.S. suggests you:

Slow down as much as you can safely and turn on your emergency flashers. This will alert other drivers to be cautious.



Exit from the road as soon as you can and go to the nearest telephone. Call your local animal agency at the number below or call the police. Give as exact a location for the animal as you can—be sure to mention any helpful landmark.

Return to the animal, if you can do so safely, until help arrives.

Remove the animal from the road if it is safe to do so. You can do this by sliding a blanket or several layers of newspaper under it and gently carrying it. You can calm the animal by lightly covering its head.



**If you do a little,
we can do a lot!**

*(This space for your agency's
name and phone number.)*



The message above can be clipped out and reproduced in quantity by your local printer for you to distribute at schools, shopping centers, libraries and other community locations. Remember to add your organization's name, address, and telephone number in the space by typing, typesetting or affixing your group letterhead. You can also purchase advertising space in your local newspapers for the reproducible or use it in your organization's newsletter. ■

Just Wright

**Protecting yourself
in the field**

by Phyllis Wright



*Wright is director
of animal sheltering
and control for HSUS.*

SHELTER SENSE

**The Humane Society
of the United States
2100 L St., NW
Washington, DC 20037**



In this issue's "Items..." section, we report on a Los Angeles resident being fined for attacking a city animal control officer. While this is an extreme case of public resentment toward ACO's, it's not the first time an officer has been assaulted (see SHELTER SENSE, October 1979, page 12) and it probably won't be the last.

You're certainly not expected to endanger your life or your health on the job. If a situation appears threatening, get another officer to go with you. Establish a good working relationship with the police so you can radio for their assistance if necessary.

Your city or county ordinance should make it a violation for people to interfere with you while you are performing your duties. Many communities have laws allowing officers to enter private property to capture animals running at large or to aid animals. Some allow officers to make arrests or to confiscate animals being treated cruelly. Some ordinances set up procedures for officers to get court orders to enter private property. I'll send you a list of examples of various provisions if you send me a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

In those all-too-frequent cases where you're attacked not with fists but with words, your best defense is a cool head. Listen carefully to what the person is saying. If an angry dog owner says, "I don't understand why I can't just let him run loose, anyway!", that may be a good opening for you to explain calmly that keeping the dog under control can save the owner plenty in veterinary bills for accidental injuries.

If it appears that educational efforts are not going to get anywhere, proceed with impounding the animal or writing the ticket if you can do so safely. If not, get the information you are able to so you can return later with another officer or the police. Don't get into an argument that no one is really going to win. Remember that your job is not to get punched in the nose--it's to help the people and animals in your town. ■

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