

The CatChannel Newswire

Top stories: Killer of cats gets five years in prison, pets as Christmas gift isn't a good idea, and other news.

Posted: Dec. 8, 2008, 3 a.m. EST

Killer of Cats Gets Five Years in Prison

When a litter of sickly kittens was born in his back yard last fall, Ben Hoffman and his wife nursed them back to health before putting two of them up for adoption. A man answering his newspaper ad for free kittens jumped at the chance to adopt the 8-week-old sisters. That very night last December, Hoffman and his wife, Vicky, later learned, both female kittens were dead - tortured and drowned by Anthony Appolonia, a 50-year-old Aberdeen Township, N.J., man who was sentenced Dec. 4 to five years in prison for killing 19 cats, the Newark (N.J.) Star-Ledger reports.

[Read the article >>](#)

Pet as Christmas Gift Isn't a Good Idea

Every year I struggle over whether to support the Home 4 the Holidays program or argue against bringing a new pet into your home this time of year. I understand the sentiment behind the 10-year-old campaign, created by the Helen Woodward Animal Center in California. Here's my problem: Is there a worse time of year to bring a new pet into your life?

[Read the article >>](#)

Hundreds of Cat Homeless in Wisconsin

As banks continue to foreclose on homes, the number of animals being left out in the cold is climbing, as well. For the Rock County Humane Society in Janesville, Wis., cats are showing up on their doorstep in record numbers, reports WMTV in Madison, Wis.

[Read the article >>](#)