Pennsylvania
Allegheny County:
John Anthony Wells was charged with abuse and neglect after abandoning his rented house, leaving his dog in a crate without food or water. The landlords found the dog when inspecting the property; he had told them the dog was a service dog. It was taken to Animal Friends Rescue emaciated, dehydrated and covered with urine and feces. When Wells returned, he asked about his mail but not his dog. The dog is expected to recover. [https://www.wtae.com/article/arrest-warrant-issued-after-dog-found-abandoned-in-cage-for-weeks/40233801#](https://www.wtae.com/article/arrest-warrant-issued-after-dog-found-abandoned-in-cage-for-weeks/40233801#).


Crawford County: 9 German Shepherds, from 8 months to 5 years, were shot while their owners were away; the owners had asked a friend to watch them, and found the dogs dead and injured when they returned. The ANNA Shelter assisted with the survivors’ care; one was sent to a critical care specialist veterinarian in Pittsburgh. The incident is being investigated. [7 dogs dead, 2 injured after being shot in Crawford County (msn.com)](https://www.msn.com/en-us/entertainment/science/7-dogs-dead-2-injured-after-being-shot-in-crawford-county).  

Lancaster County: Following complaints and a tip, PSPCA removed 11 dogs, 27 cats, 5 horses, 4 sheep, 1 goat, 2 turkeys, 32 chicks, 4 guinea hens, 6 hens and 8 ducklings from a Quarryville property, where they were lived in filthy housing with untreated medical conditions; the owner surrendered them, and charges are pending. Most were taken to PSPCA’s Philadelphia headquarters for care; the horses, sheep and goat went to its Danville Center. All will be available for adoption. [Humane officers rescue 100 animals from central Pa. property (msn.com)](https://www.msn.com/en-us/entertainment/science/humane-officers-rescue-100-animals-from-central-pa-property).  


Philadelphia:
Rregan, TSA Explosive Detection Canine, passed on June 4 from liver failure. She was in the original TSA Puppy Program, and was named after a firefighter who died on 9/11. She worked with her partner, Joseph Zappala, and retired in 2017 from Philadelphia International Airport. She had 2 litters; some of her puppies entered the Program. (Thank you to Gerardo J. Spero, TSA Federal Security Director, for sharing about Rregan’s life. His LinkedIn post about her received many responses.)
Dr. Katie Venanzi and her husband David adopted Buddy the Cat, the community cat injured when two minors set their dogs on him; she had provided his emergency treatment. Buddy has a sibling, Teddy. Video: Buddy The Cat Finds ‘Furever’ Home After Attacked By 2 Dogs In March – CBS Philly (cbslocal.com). Buddy’s story received worldwide attention, with toy and treat donations and $100,000+ towards his care, and he has a social media following. The toys and treats were shared with other animals at the SPCA; the money created The Buddy Fund to help other animals. “Save Every Buddy” T-shirts and stickers are being sold to raise funds. Cruelty charges are pending against the juveniles; their dogs remain in PSPCA custody. https://www.post-gazette.com/life/goodness/2022/05/23/philadelphia-animals-76ers-cat-sPCA-emergency-veterinarian-hospital/stories/202205150012. (See March Animal Law News for his story.)

United States – Federal


Recovering America’s Wildlife Act of 2022 | Congress.gov | Library of Congress. It would provide funding for conserving or restoring wildlife and plant species based on need; support state, territorial or District of Columbia conservation strategies; and support wildlife conservation education and recreation projects. The Interior Department would have to use some funds for a grant program for innovative species recovery efforts, based on need, endangered or threatened species, or their habitats. Some revenues generated from fees and penalties for environmental violations would have to be used for this funding. As of April 27, S.2372 was on the Senate Legislative Calendar. Its companion bill is H.R.2773. Text - H.R.2773 - 117th Congress (2021-2022): Recovering America’s Wildlife Act of 2021 | Congress.gov | Library of Congress, introduced by Representative Debbie Dingell, Michigan, with 194 cosponsors; as of June 15, it was on Senate Legislative Calendar.

Other States
Arizona: The bison herd living almost exclusively in the North part of Grand Canyon National Park will not be subject to killing this Fall. The approximately 200-member herd is considered manageable, and Grand Canyon National Park is working with other agencies and groups on a long-term management plan. In 2016, the bison was declared the United States’ official mammal. For Fall 2021, 45,000 people applied to the lottery to select people to kill bison in the herd. Grand Canyon won’t seek volunteers to kill bison (msn.com).

In other bison news, three Yellowstone National Park visitors, one from Pennsylvania, were gored by bison recently. One tourist had gotten within 10 feet of the bison; Park rules require a distance of at least 75 feet. Woman Gored by a Bison in Yellowstone National Park | Smart News| Smithsonian Magazine; Man gored by bison at Yellowstone, second visitor attacked in month (msn.com); Penn. Woman Gored by a Bison at Yellowstone National Park in Third Recent Attack (msn.com).


Iowa: The Animal Rescue League of Iowa rescued 30 cats and kittens, some about 2 weeks old, from a filthy abandoned house where their owner left them. All needed treatment. The investigation is in progress. Dozens of cats and kittens abandoned in a hot, filthy house are receiving life-saving care from the ARL (msn.com); Animal Rescue Saves 30 Cats and Kittens from ‘Filthy House’ in Iowa | PEOPLE.com.
Kansas: After a 3-year investigation, the Department of Wildlife and Parks charged 9 people with 140 counts relating to poaching 25 deer, 1 antelope, 8 turkeys and other wildlife. 9 charged in Kansas poaching case | KSNT 27 News.

Kentucky: Michael and Katrine Cain were charged with two cruelty counts and animal fighting charges. They left their 2 dogs on their property, 1 loose, the other in a shed, when they moved. Mercer County Animal Control rescued the severely malnourished dogs and believes they will recover. Chief Deputy Wes Gaddis stated that the Cains told him “that life just kinda got in the way, they moved…and the dogs were forgotten about.” They admitted that 1 dog was used for fighting and breeding. Abandoned dogs rescued by Mercer Co. Animal Shelter (lex18.com).

Massachusetts: Law enforcement agencies helped rescue, from a U-Haul in Cambridge, two chinchillas, a rabbit, two rats, three Quaker parrots, three love birds and four coatis; coatis are native to South America and illegal to own as pets in Massachusetts. The as yet unnamed individual connected to the U-Haul is under investigation. Humane and law enforcement authorities are treating the animals and seeking proper homes, ideally an accredited facility for the coatis. Mass. Shelter Searching for Appropriate Home for 4 Coatis Left Inside U-Haul in Cambridge (msn.com).

Carl Moglika Jr. surrendered Sophie, a Pittie mix, after reports from his condominium management office of Sophie crying and being hit; he faces 2 counts of felony cruelty. Sophie suffered diarrhea, emaciated, a fractured tooth and thin coat, and resource-guarding – aggressive regarding food, attributed to her abuse. She is being treated for all conditions, with hope for placement in a proper home. Emaciated young Pit Bull mix named Sophie rescued by MSPCA and Agawam police needs ‘hero adopter’; former owner faces felony animal cruelty charges - masslive.com; As Massachusetts Pit Bull owner faces felony animal cruelty charges, MSPCA searching for “very special” adopter for dog – Fall River Reporter; MSPCA Files Felony Animal Cruelty Charges against Owner of Emaciated Dog • MSPCA-Angell.

Nevada:
Jonathan Littleton of Las Vegas was charged with torturing/maiming/killing an animal to threaten or terrorize, a Class C felony, when he kicked a woman friend's 15-year-old Poodle to death because the woman would not have dinner with him. When police arrived, Littleton stated, “I plead the Fifth.” His $3,000 bond was posted; he must appear in court in July. Man accused of kicking, killing 15-year-old dog after woman would not have dinner with him: report (msn.com); N.R.S. 574.100(6)(b): NRS: CHAPTER 574 - CRUELTY TO ANIMALS: PREVENTION AND PENALTIES (state.nv.us).

Jasmine, Jennifer Lloyd’s and Christopher Smith’s Wheatley Terrier, survived poisoning by a neighbor who, while the couple was at Easter celebrations, threw meatballs filled with acetaminophen or Tylenol into their yard. Their door cam showed the incident and recorded the neighbor calling Jasmine, saying, “we’ve been at this all day. Are you done
yet?” The neighbor was cited for unlawful substance on the ground to endanger an animal and fined almost $10,000. She apparently did it because Jasmine sometimes barks; she blamed her actions on being under the influence of alcohol. Henderson woman charged after allegedly attempting to poison neighbor’s dog (msn.com).

New York: The State Legislature passed S1130, the Puppy Mill Pipeline Bill, which will end pet store sales of dogs, cats and rabbits. The Bill was propounded by Assemblyperson Linda B. Rosenthal and Senate Deputy Majority Leader Michael Gianaris, and heads to Gov. Kathy Hochul. NY State Senate Bill S1130 (nysenate.gov) NY State Senate Bill S1130 (nysenate.gov); https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/puppy-mill-pipeline-bill-passed/.

North Carolina: Christi Michell Stivers Ranson was charged with abandonment of an animal and drug offenses. She left her dog tied to her car’s center console in 79º heat, for approximately 90 minutes; law enforcement explained that the interior temperature was about 123º. The Davidson County Animal Shelter, where the dog was taken, stated that it is “doing well.” NC woman arrested after dog found ‘choking itself out’ in 123-degree vehicle (msn.com).

Oregon: Lionardo Munoz must pay $15,000 for illegally harvesting an elk buck in November 2021 and received a 3-year hunting ban. Matt Wilkinson must pay $1,000 for helping conceal the crime, and received a 5-year hunting ban. His wife, Rachel Hallett, was cited for illegally harvesting a buck deer. The trio was caught after law enforcement followed up on social media posts of the kill. Elk poachers nabbed after ‘suspicious’ photo appears online (msn.com).

Rhode Island: The Rhode Island SPCA took in 40 beagles from a facility that allegedly breeds animals for testing; 1 dog was believed pregnant. HSUS said the unnamed facility allegedly used the dogs for product tests and housed them in unsanitary conditions. They are being treated for various medical problems, and will be spayed and neutered before placing for adoption. With video: RISPCA welcomes 40 beagles from alleged neglect case to Warwick (msn.com).

South Carolina: The City of Charleston is reviewing its animal cruelty ordinances, and is contemplating banning dog tethering. Charleston to consider making dog tethering illegal (msn.com).

Texas: Lorenzo Johnson was charged with felony cruelty to animals, 3 dogs were seized from his property, after video showing him “whipping” 1 dog was posted to social media. The dogs are being held pending a hearing. Man arrested in East Texas after dog whipping video goes viral (msn.com).

Vermont: 13 horses, a mini mule, a llama, and 6 dogs were seized from Hoofbeats and Dreams, a rescue. The large animals were taken to Dorset Equine Rescue, which found several of the horses underweight, one with a bleeding wound, and another with a fly-infested eye infection. Debra Densmore is accused of animal cruelty; she denies
mistreatment, states that the animals were cared for and attributes the matter to “one person with a vendetta.”  

Horses, other animals seized during Vermont cruelty investigation (msn.com).

International
Artsakh: Rescuers took 6 bears and a lynx from a private zoo in Artsakh, a breakaway state between Armenia and Azerbaijan. They were taken to a rehabilitation center in the Armenian mountains, for rehabilitation before release into the wild. The effort was by UK-based International Animal Rescue with its local partner, Foundation for the Preservation of Wildlife and Culture Assets. IAR says it has saved 35 bears in Armenia from private locations, usually businesses; this was the groups’ largest single bear rescue.  

Charity workers help save 6 caged bears from squalid private zoo (msn.com).

Canada: Toronto Animal Services recommended to City Council that several changes be made to the animal laws, including feeding wildlife, currently allowed in parks but not elsewhere, limits on pet ownership, new licensing and fees, “slacker stoop and scoop” laws, and no longer impounding healthy but “problem” cats. The results of a city bylaws review will be presented at July’s meeting of the Economic and Community Development Committee.  

Five proposed changes to Toronto’s animal bylaw | The Star; Toronto updating bylaws to improve interactions with city wildlife - Toronto | Globalnews.ca.

UK: Choose My Car, a car-buying service, reminds motorists of Highway Code Rule 57, requiring passenger dogs to be securely positioned or restrained. Violators must pay a £1,000 fine “on the spot”; the fine could be raised to £5,000, and drivers could receive 9 penalty points or license suspension and compulsory retest. Motorists Warned Over Massive Fine for Driving With A Dog In The Car (ladbible.com).

Research, Publications and Other Media


https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2022/06/ai-powered-birdnet-app-makes-citizen-science-easier;  
https://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/article?id=10.1371/journal.pbio.3001670.

Sanjeeta Sharma Pokharel, Nachiketha Sharma and Raman Sukumar, Viewing the rare through public lenses: insights into dead calf carrying and other thanatological responses in Asian elephants using YouTube videos (May 18, 2022), Viewing the rare through public lenses: insights into dead calf carrying and other thanatological
Non-Legal News
Veterinarian Kwane Stewart works at a Modesto shelter. He thought euthanasia was the only recourse for Sushi, a kitten with severe eye and respiratory infections, but decided to try to save her when she responded to a food test, immediately sniffing out food and eating; she recovered and now lives with Stewart’s family. Sushi inspired his successful campaign for the county to build a new shelter; the euthanasia rate was one of the nation’s worst, but the facility is now almost no-kill. Sushi inspired Dr. Stewart to found Project Street Vet, a non-profit providing free veterinary care, treatment and support to the pets of the homeless; Fetch by The Dodo is its primary sponsor. The two are recruiting “street vets” in Southern California and plan to develop nationwide, Vet Saves Tiniest Kitten From Being Put Down And She Ends Up Changing His Life (msn.com).

Nevada: Las Vegas rescue groups cooperated to achieve the adoption of Kane, 17 or 18 years old, with health issues including deafness and visual impairment. Ewa and Phil Halverson are his new parents. His former family abandoned him with 2 other dogs, and the rescues stepped in to save them from euthanasia. Old, abandoned, partially blind and deaf dog that no one wanted to adopt finds new forever family (msn.com).

New Jersey: Nadya, a Siberian tiger at Six Flags Great Adventure's Wild Safari, gave birth to 5 cubs, her third litter, on May 2. 2 to 4 cubs are typical. Nadya’s cubs are 1% of the wild population of Siberian, or Amur, tigers, estimated at fewer than 500, critically endangered due to poaching, hunting and habitat loss. Siberian Tiger Cubs Born at Six Flags Raise Endangered Species Population by 1% | Watch (msn.com); Strategy for conservation of the Amur Tiger in the Russian Federation (amurinfocenter.org).

Ohio: The Cincinnati Zoo welcomed Rozi, a cheetah cub. She now has Daisy, a puppy friend adopted from Amelia’s Animal Rescue Fund. VIDEO: Cincinnati Zoo’s newborn cheetah cub, Rozi, meets her puppy companion for the first time (msn.com); https://animalrescuefundamelia.com/.

Tennessee: Kaye Fiorello saw a dog in a roadside ditch. She soon found State Trooper Tudors, who provided water and shielded the dog with his umbrella until she trusted him and he could take her to a shelter for treatment. He named her Princess, and will adopt her when she is released from treatment. Woman Is Touched By Cop's Kindness For Dog Stranded During Heatwave (msn.com); THP trooper adopts dog he rescued from extreme heat (msn.com); Tennessee state trooper adopts dog he found in sweltering heat on side of highway (msn.com).