

Paw Print Issue #18 - April 2012

New York Ins and Outs

The status of ferrets in New York City and the 5 boroughs (Brooklyn, Queens, etc.) gives homeless ones few options. While not technically “illegal,” they are on a banned list issued by the Department of Public Health. (You can read the history at nycferrets.com.) Along with California’s ferret ban, it’s another regulation from appointed officials who know little about domestic ferrets and are happy to wantonly exercise their powers. As usual, it’s the animals that suffer the most. When 13 ferrets were removed from a bad situation in Brooklyn, humane groups could not seek homes for them locally. With the kind assistance of [Animal Nation](http://AnimalNation.org), a rescue organization in Westchester, FACT was asked for help. Several regional ferret shelters stepped up to offer to take some in, and 7 were distributed between upstate New York and southern New Jersey. Would a special little New Yorker fit into YOUR home? A brief list is at the end of this column.

Our annual Ferret Frolic is coming up fast! It’s a great time for area ferret owners to gather and play with our pets in a supportive environment. Lots of ferret goodies will be sold onsite and there are games, specialty ring judging and low-cost dental scalings. This year we will also be visited by a WAY larger-than-life ferret, courtesy of [Hi-4! Entertainment](http://Hi-4!Entertainment.com). This will be great fun for kids.

L. Vanessa Gruden
Shelter Director

Paw Print is the [Ferret Association of Connecticut](http://FerretAssociationofConnecticut.org)’s online newsletter. You are receiving this message because you contacted us for information. If you do NOT want to be on our e-mail list, please click [here](#) to unsubscribe! FACT never sells or rents our e-mail lists.

Article Link: [Adrenal Disease Treatments](#)

We’re featuring a detailed article on some of the newer medications being utilized for adrenal disease on our website. Big thanks go to author Jeff Rosenberg for researching and writing about this disease that so many ferrets face as they age. For any groups that would like to reprint it, Jeff is requesting you contact [him](#) directly for permission. Ferret groups and nonprofits are welcome to link to it.



Melatonin implant under a ferret’s skin. Implant is .8 mm; red spot is injection site.

Ferret Vaccines - Now What?

We recently heard that Purevax canine distemper vaccine for ferrets is out of stock. There just isn’t any to be found; if your vet has some, have vaccinations done soon, because all the stock that WAS available expires in April.

Apparently the manufacturer, Merial, had some kind of issue in the plant and an entire batch had to be discarded. No one knows when more will be made.

This is certainly a frustrating situation. Here is the only approved canine distemper vaccine for ferrets and there isn’t any.

What are the options? Well, one vaccine is NeoVac® DA2.

Apparently the word is that it’s SAFE to use in ferrets but we don’t know how EFFECTIVE it is against distemper.

In Europe and England, we hear some shelters have been using



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Events

Special day for bargain hunters! On Saturday, April 21, FACT will hold a **Used Cage Sale** in Southington, CT. The address is 139 Autumn Drive and hours are 11 am to 2 pm. Held rain or shine! [Here are pictures of some of the cages](#) and pet taxis. All have been disinfected but some may need minor repairs. Bulk purchase and non-profit discounts will be cheerfully negotiated. There will also be a selection of gently used bowls, water bottles, and misc pet supplies at LOW prices. Please pass along the word to wildlife rehabilitators and other animal shelters.

The **FACT Ferret Frolic** will be Saturday, May 5th. Hours are 11 am to 4 pm and it will be held at the Wallingford Grange Hall, 150 Center Street (Route 150), Wallingford, CT. For [details](#), visit our site!

Ferret Appliqués & Patches



[1 Ferret’s Treasures](#) is offering readers a great deal for spring craft projects. To receive 10% off a \$20 or more purchase, use the code: WELOVEFACT upon checkout. This is the **only** place you can purchase ferret patches and rhinestone hotfix ferrets. Shelters: Create great items for fundraisers, raffles and auctions. Need something unique? They will work with you to create and produce your own design.



I-Book: *Hobs, Jills & Ferret Thrills*

Michele Katen, a former FACT member and Foster Parent, has published an ibook called ***Hobs, Jills and Ferret Thrills***. Michele is a full-time artist and I’m sure the book is lavishly illustrated. Alas, the only way to view or purchase the book is through an app on the ipad. If you have one, the book is under “pets.”

Novibac Puppy-DPv. The problem with Novibac is that it is a “combo” shot—it is meant to protect against canine distemper plus parvovirus. Ferrets are not susceptible to parvo, thus you are giving them drugs they don’t need.

Of course, neither of these have been approved in the US for use in ferrets, but neither was Galaxy D and that vaccine was proved effective over years of use. (Galaxy D, of course, isn’t available anymore either.)

Novibac has the same antigen base that was used in Galaxy D, while NeoVac’s is different. I guess the only good news is that both of them are a lot cheaper than Purevax and can be purchased by shelters directly. Purevax had to be ordered by a veterinarian. If you want to read more NeoVac, their website is: www.atozvetsupply.com. Novibac is manufactured by Merck. Talk to your veterinarian about these choices and what your best options are.

NYC Refugees

All these little fur people were very thin and hungry! I’ve named ours with Tibetan names...the translations are in parenthesis. To the right is a photo of four of them. More data is available on our Petfinder.com page.

Somba (socks) - is a VERY CUTE sable mitt male, 1.5 years.

Indira (goddess of beauty) Champagne female of 1-2 years.

Cimba (small one) - Male silver, 1.5 years. Cimba has thin hair but we hope good food will improve his looks.

Kitsi (tickle) Female chocolate, 1.5 years who likes other ferrets.

Ceba (dear to hold)- A dark chocolate female, 1-2 years, who isn’t crazy about other ferrets. (Cooper bugs her so she yells a lot.

Ceba would be fine with gentler animals.)

Kipu (happy) – a male of only 6 months, we’re not sure he was originally with the others as he is pretty pudgy!

Thank You for Helping!

FACT is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. To donate, visit our site: [Make a Donation](#), or click on the purple heart to go to Paypal. Just send your gift to donation@ferret-fact.org. Hint: To avoid Paypal charging us a fee, when you click “Send Money” look for the “personal” tab and click “gift.” Thank you!



Paw Print is published by the [Ferret Association of Connecticut](#), Inc., a nonprofit humane organization dedicated to helping ferret owners, caretakers, and most importantly, the ferrets themselves.

Website: www.ferret-fact.org.

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