

Paw Print Issue #19 - June 2012



14 Sherbrooke Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106-3838
www.ferret-fact.org

Distemper Vaccine Back in Stock

Merial, Inc., the company that manufactures Purevax™ canine distemper vaccine for ferrets resumed production in May. Your area veterinarian should now be easily able to obtain it to protect your ferrets. Yay!

Several of the little Brooklyn rescues we introduced in our last issue have found homes...but a few others are still looking for a safe and loving "forever home." As it is now summer, many more ferrets are arriving! Please contact us if you are interested in adopting and we'll find a perfect little furry friend - or two! - for you.

One of the VERY CUTE New Yorkers, Kipu, made an appearance at the annual Ferret Frolic in May. Kipu offered special ferret kisses for \$5 and was a big hit! But just because you couldn't come to the Frolic doesn't mean you can't get a KISS from Kipu! Our special summer fundraiser (bottom of this page) offers donors not only a special 3" x 5" magnet featuring Kipu, but an entry into a drawing for a prize.

Thank you for reading this and for your support.

Just arrived! Two little girls who need very special homes. Circe is a beautiful champagne who was found outside (I think she is 1 year old or possibly younger). She likes other ferrets but is scared and will bite. Nymph comes with a non-biting buddy, Pandora. Both Nymph and Pandora are albinos and are 4 years old. If you have no kids or fearful family members and aren't afraid to work with biters, please let us know. With patience and care, these ladies will learn to love people. "Reformed" biters can become the sweetest pets.

L. Vanessa Gruden - (e-mail: LVGruden@ferret-fact.org)
Shelter Director

Paw Print is the [Ferret Association of Connecticut's](http://www.ferret-fact.org) 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.

Flea & Tick Season is Here!

The mild winter we had in New England means that a great many diseases survived the winter. More parasites survived, too, including fleas and deer ticks. If you plan to bring your ferret outdoors this summer, a flea/tick preventative is important!

What type of flea treatment is best depends your situation. Do you plan to take your ferret outside often? Do you have cats or dogs that go in and out? Then you may want to use a topical "spot" treatment. These liquid treatments are applied on the back of the animal's neck, last for about a month, and are good for animals that will be repeatedly exposed to parasites. Make sure ALL your pets are treated. If your other pets do not go outside and you will take your ferret out only occasionally, then you can simply bathe them with a flea shampoo when you return home. You have to leave the shampoo on for several minutes once they are lathered, so it's not a fun experience for you or your ferret, but it is less invasive than using a pesticide that enters the body. Most ferrets don't like sprays and powder is pretty messy; I prefer flea shampoos.

No matter what type, make sure you ONLY use formulas that are safe for kittens! And don't use more than one product at a time.

Pesticides are designed based on the weight of the pet. If you use too much, you risk making your ferret very sick. If in doubt, consult with your veterinarian for advice.



Events

Come meet Annie, Rudy and the (in)famous Stuffie the Ferret Puppet at the Milford Petco on Sunday, June 10. We also have a volunteer, Ashley, who has information about FACT at her regular spots at the Stratford, CT Petco store. Alicia, another terrific FACT volunteer, will be soon setting up a table at the Wallingford Petco store. As soon as we have Alicia and Ashley's schedules, we'll put them on our web site.

Why visit? Petco volunteers can demonstrate ear cleaning, nail clipping and give you loads of ferret information in person. Plus we like to keep them busy so they don't start hopping around the store, knocking things off shelves and stealing people's shoes. ☺

Summer 2012 Sale

Visit [this link \(http://www.ferret-fact.org/summerspecials2012.pdf\)](http://www.ferret-fact.org/summerspecials2012.pdf) to see our summer specials! We have some great deals on pouches & t-shirts and necklaces created by our busy shelter director featuring some adorable new ferret charms, among other items. Many are available only in limited quantities, so don't wait! Here's a selection of the necklaces - they're only \$7.00 and each is different.



This snooze tube/pouch combo is only \$6.00. A great deal!



Ferret Sitting

Vacationing this summer? If you don't take your ferrets - and they love to travel! - Connecticut residents can get reasonably-priced boarding from Ann Gruden. Ann will ferret-sit in her home. Contact Ann at agruden@att.net. It's a busy time of year and she fills up fast, so

Dear Friend and Supporter:

Fundraisers often focus on stories of ill, elderly, or disabled animals that arrive in shelters. There are plenty of those sad tales, but sometimes we forget that young and healthy ferrets also need shelter.

The adorable face above is Kipu. His name means “Happy” in Tibetan and he is big, pudgy, and only six months old. Kipu arrived with a group of ferrets confiscated from an animal hoarder.

Chloe’s owner was moving—she’d only purchased the little chocolate girl 2 months before. The owner’s attitude was blithe, but for shy & scared Chloe, this was a huge disruption in her young life.

Katie was found outside. Known at first as “Katie the Caiman,” the 12-week-old had great enthusiasm for chomping human fingers.

Coco’s story could have been tragic. He was purchased by a woman after being assured by a pet store employee that “ferrets are great with little kids!” Well, her toddler suffered a half dozen bites on his arm when bored and overcaged Coco got out one morning. Thankfully, the emergency room physician simply said “watch him for any illness” for 10 days, and 7-month-old Coco was relinquished to us.

All four of these animals found great new homes with carefully screened, committed owners. At the Ferret Association of Connecticut, we are as determined to care for these babies as we are for the oldies that arrive. Maybe a regular humane group would have found them a good home, too. Maybe a pet store would have “rehomed” them to a nice family. But most likely neither would have dedicated the extra care and training to those that needed it, ensured they got their important distemper shots before adoption, and drove to pick up the ones who needed transport. We provide an important safety net for ferrets in difficult circumstances. And YOU help us achieve that goal.

The economy remains tough and we understand if you can’t give today. So we also have a sale flyer with benefit items that might fit into your budget; purchases help our work, also. For those who are able to donate, we have two small gifts—everyone who gives \$10.00 or more will receive a photo magnet of our “happy” little friend Kipu along with a thank you card/receipt. Plus, for each \$10 you contribute, we will enter you into a drawing for a gorgeous photo print of a leaping, delighted young ferret, shown below. **Here’s to giving EVERY ferret— young or old—as happy a life as possible! Thank you!**

To donate and enter for the drawing, simply send your gift via paypal to donation@ferret-fact.org and note it’s for the Kipu Kisses Fundraiser. You can also pay via personal check - mail to FACT at 14 Sherbrooke Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. A receipt will be mailed. We can take MasterCard or Visa, too! Just e-mail us with your phone # and a good time to contact you.



Ferrets at Play Photo Print - Donor Prize Drawing

I don’t know the photographer, as it isn’t signed, but this is a wonderful, quality print, capturing a ferret mid-leap in his dance of joy. The size is 12” x 18.5” plus a 1-2” black border, as shown. It’s beautiful, printed on canvas paper and made in England. Shipped free to you, rolled in a tube. Each \$10 donation earns you 1 entry into the drawing. **ALL donations are welcome, but we’ll only award prize entries based on multiples of \$10.**

Donation acknowledgements will be sent out as donations are received. Prize drawing will take place August 1. Winner will be notified by phone or e-mail and posted on our website.

reserve space for your ferrets as soon as you know your travel plans.

Credit Union Referral Bonus

We recently changed our business accounts to [Nutmeg State Federal Credit Union](#). Nutmeg has branches in the towns of Newington, Rocky Hill, New Britain, Manchester, East Windsor, and Hartford. They are also opening an e-branch so you can do ALL your banking online! Membership is easy - you simply need to live, work, or volunteer in Hartford, Middlesex or Tolland, CT counties. Until June 30, Nutmeg is offering a special referral bonus for new members! **Open a checking account with direct deposit and YOU get \$25.** FACT gets \$25, too. That’s a sweet deal! If you are interested in joining, [e-mail](#) us ASAP and we’ll mail you one of the referral forms.

Hamsters Need Rescue, too!

And they need good new homes! With the ferrets that came to us from New York, about 3 dozen hamsters were deposited at “Hamster Whisperer” Claudie’s [Hamster Haven](#) in Westchester County, NY. E-mail claudiemail@earthlink.net or call 914-439-5250. Shown below is Melodie, awaiting a furever home! You can see some of the other adorable hammies available at Petfinder.com (search for shelter name Hop a Long Hollow and refine the search to “small & furry.” Adoption fees are only \$5 - isn’t that money FAR better spent at a shelter who will give you great, unbiased information than profiting a pet store?



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.
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