

Paws-It!

Washington Ferret Rescue & Shelter

Volume 26 Issue 1

Home Sweet Home

On May 27, 2006 WFRS moved to its new location in Kirkland, which it shares with the new Eastside Avian & Exotic Animal Medical Center. Megan Reuther, the shelter's director, and an army of 15 volunteers efficiently executed the move and helped to unpack the ferrets' little valises. All the sweet fuzzies handled the move without even a single tummy ache!

By Sunday, May 28, most of the shelter's possessions had been unpacked. Many items that weren't sold prior to the move, but that were no longer needed had been disposed of in order to fit into the smaller location. "Our storage shed is packed with cages that need new homes, but the rest of the shelter fits pretty nicely into the scaled down space," said Megan.

Since the new location is smaller, the on-site shelter volunteer requirements are one volunteer during the week and two to four volunteers per shift on Saturday. "We had to raise our age restriction to 16 years and older and have asked that volunteers sign up for a shift online

at www.furrylogic.org/app/calendar.html instead of just showing up. The space is too small to accommodate that many people at once," Megan stated.

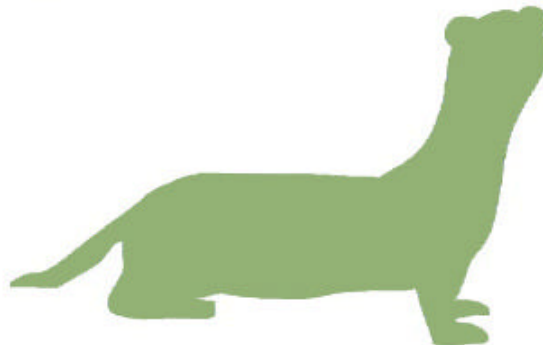
If you're concerned about the ferrets being in tighter quarters, don't be. Their play time has been greatly increased. Their new home allows

Written By: Christine Auda

for five playpens to be out at once, which translates into plenty of fuzzy gymnastics. Even better, perhaps, is the extra lovin' the ferts get during the day, especially from Kim Murphy, the clinic's office manager/vet assistant.

The new space has generated positive feedback. Most volunteers like the feel of the place and are excited to have the shelter closer to where they live. Although some would have preferred a larger space, having on-site vet care is a worthwhile trade-off.

"Having vet care close at hand is wonderful for our ferrets. Medical conditions are getting noticed and treated sooner, rather than stockpiling for later in the week," Megan said. We love having Dr. Johnson-



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How to Contact Us!

Shelter Voicemail:
206.442.2025

Shelter Email:
washingtonferret@yahoo.com

Website:
<http://washingtonferret.org>

Delaney & Dr. Kamaka around to discuss any medical issues, and both of them, in turn, like having us there for a “fuzzy fix” in the middle of the day.”

When asked how the new home differed from the Bothell location Megan said, “The new space feels more customized to us. We’ve painted it the color we liked, picked a floor to match and have a lot of freedom to dress it up as we please. The place has a real positive feel to it now.”

Since the move, 29 ferrets have been taken in, 16 have been adopted out and seven found permanent foster care. “We typically have a rise in surrenders this time of year, which is proving to be the

case again this year. Adoptions seem to be pretty steady,” said Megan. In addition, both Eastside Avian & Exotic and the shelter have swapped referrals already, which Megan had anticipated. That’s great news for a shelter in transition.

So what’s on the horizon? Megan hopes to begin monthly classes on ferret care sometime in the fall. In the meantime, come on down and check out the new digs during regular shelter hours on Saturdays from 10 A.M. – 4 P.M. at: Washington Ferret Rescue & Shelter (Eastside Avian & Exotic Animal Medical Center) 13603 100th Ave NE, Kirkland, WA 98034, 206-442-2025.

While you’re there visit the storage shed with Rick & Rhonda. They’ll help you find just the right cage for your new cuties! They have spent quite a bit of time organizing & re-organizing that space to make it easier to actually find things in there.



What’s New?



Save the date: Oktoberfest—Sunday, September 3rd from 1pm-6 pm, rain or shine. Please come out and join us at the second annual Oktoberfest! The NW School of Aviation is hosting a BBQ benefiting the Washington Ferret Rescue & Shelter. The event will feature German brews, German sausages and a host of other yummy things. Feel free to also bring your own treats to add to the pot-luck! And please bring some extra pennies to spend at the raffle table and silent auction too! There will be ferret & non-ferret items for bit. Visit the page below to see some of the items available this year. Hella (frettchen@earthlink.net)

is now accepting donations for this year’s silent auction & raffle.

* www.northwestschoolofaviation.com/o_fest.php

Location, location, location! We’re all settled in our new building and are loving it. We’re now located in Kirkland at 13603 100th Ave NE, Kirkland, WA 98034. For a map & directions, please visit our webpage:

* www.waferret.com/contact.html



Pass it on: Please spread the word about the new Eastside Avian & Exotic Animal Medical Center. We’re excited to share a building with such great people and veterinarians!

www.avianexoticmedcenter.com

Welcome! We wanted to extend a big welcome to all the new volunteers that have joined us recently. Thank you all for helping make the shelter run so smoothly!

If you are interested in volunteering at the shelter & are 16 yrs old or older, please fill out an application and sign up for a shift. We can always use extra cleaners during the week.

Volunteer Application:

* furrylogic.org/app/volunteer.html

Volunteer Calendar:

* furrylogic.org/app/calendar.html

It’s that time again! We’re getting in fuzzies faster than we can adopt them out. We have a bunch of wonderful, adoptable ferrets that need new homes. If you’ve been thinking about adding a ferret to your crew, now is definitely the time! Please fill out an application & come see us soon! We’re open every Saturday from 10am-4pm.

* furrylogic.org/app/adoptionapp.html

Shelter Spending: Due to the big move and construction of our new space, the shelter's financial belt is rather tight right now. We're currently very low on money to purchase critical things like Lu-pron for adrenal fuzzies and vaccines for the general population. Would you like to help us pay down our vet bill, donate to the shelter directly or sponsor a ferret in our care? Please visit our website at www.washingtonferret.org



and check out our wonderful "Sponsor Ferrets" or make a donation through the Paypal button located at the top of our page. You can even make a donation toward our hefty vet bill at the Eastside Avian & Exotic Medical Center by calling 425-821-6165. Every dollar adds up & helps keep our operation going and allows us to continue taking in every ferret that needs us. Thank you so much!

Fascinating Ferret Facts ... How many do you know?

Written By: Robyn Haaf, RN, BS



Jills, Hobs, Kits, Sprites, Gibs – these are all words that describe a ferret's gender and breeding status.

In the fourth Harry Potter book and film, Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire- Draco Malfoy is transformed into an albino ferret.

The ferret was domesticated before the cat – possibly by the Egyptians – approximately 3000 years ago.

Ferrets are the third most popular pet in the USA and there are close to 8-10 million of the little carpet sharks.

Some ferret tails smell like grape soda!

The Latin name for ferret *Mustela putorius furo* roughly translates to stinky mouse-killing thief.

Ferrets have no inherent fear of humans. They learn to be afraid if treated badly.

All ferrets have white fur at birth.

A newborn kit is small enough to fit in a teaspoon.

Ferrets are crepuscular – they are most active at dawn and at dusk.

A small ferret can fit through a hole just over an inch in diameter – slightly smaller than a half dollar.

The TV and sound cables for Prince Charles and Lady Diana's wedding were put in place using ferrets to run the equipment through small spaces.

Ferret legging – an actual sport practiced in Yorkshire, England in which two angry ferrets are put inside a man's trousers with the cuffs tied shut so the ferrets can't escape and a timer is started.

Neither competitors nor ferrets are allowed to be drugged, drunk or unconscious and no underwear is permitted on the lucky (and brave) competitor. The winner is determined by the greatest amount of time a competitor can stand to have ferrets in his pants. The record time is five hours and twenty-six minutes.

White and albino ferrets were preferred in the Middle

Ages because they were easier to spot in the underbrush when used for hunting.

Female ferrets (jills) come into their breeding cycle in early March through late August. The females remain in heat until bred and if not bred, can suffer from bone marrow suppression from the extended heat cycle. This can lead to anemia and possibly death.

Resources:

- * www.aha.umn.edu/rar/MNANAS/ferret.html
- * www.exoticpets.about.com/cs/ferrets/a/ferrets101.htm
- * www2.tlct.ttm.edu
- * www.abc.net.au/creaturefeatures/facts/ferrets.htm
- * www.ferret.org/news/
- * www.dragonsinger.com/radluck/
- * www.ohioferret.org/ferretfacts.asp
- * www.drfostersmith.com
- * en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ferret



Ferrets Seeking Homes ...

Adoptable Ferrets

Please see the [adoptable pet list](#) on our website for current availabilities. Adoption fees are \$100 for one ferret, \$150 for two, and we have a [foster program](#) as well. All ferrets have been vaccinated against Canine Distemper & Rabies and have been spayed/neutered and descented (the latter is unless otherwise noted).

Bandit is a 1.5 year old dark sable boy and Cassidy is a 6 year old sable girl. They are looking for a home where they can remain together. Come meet these sweethearts today!

Bones & Widget could not stay in their home and have come to the shelter to be adopted. Bones is a 2 year old silver/sable boy and Widget is a 2 year old dark sable boy. They are sweet, sweet boys and would make great first ferrets for someone.



Buttons is 3.5 year old silver mitt female. She doesn't care for other ferrets, but would love a human of her own.

Chai is a cute 2.5 year old light sable female. She gets along well with other ferrets and is all set to move into a new home.

Chaquita is a 2 year old chocolate ferret. She plays well with some ferrets, but would also do fine as an only child. She's

great with people and is a wonderful little girl.

Charlie & Waffles were turned over to our shelter from Animal Control. They seem like sweethearts and we'd love to see them get into a new home.

Cicero is a cute dark sable boy and **Dip** is a sweet black mitt boy. Both ferrets are extremely nice and would make someone a fun pair. Come visit them today!

Codo (2.5 yr old silver female) & **Podo** (2.5 year old sable male) are adorable ferrets. They are UTD on vaccines, have been spayed/neutered and are all set to go to their new home.

Desi is a 4 year old sable girl. She gets along wonderfully with other ferrets and is all ready to go to a new home.

Dude is a 3 year old silver male & **Zoey** is a 4 year old sable female. These ferrets are *CUTE*. Come see them today!

Dumbo is an adorable 1 year old champagne boy with the cutest ears (hence the name). **Eyeore** is probably around 3 years old and is a very nice sable boy. They were surrendered together at a local humane society and would love to find a new home.

Elmer is a 3-4 year old dark eyed white boy and **Chloe & Latte** are both sable females that are 3-4 years old. They are looking for a quieter home with other ferrets to love. They did not come into the shelter together and can find homes together or individually.

Gimili (3 yr old chocolate male) & **Consuela** (2 year old dark sable female) were recently sur-

rendered to our shelter. They are very nice ferrets. We'd love to see them find a home of their own soon!



Isis is as cute as a button, and has a great personality. She doesn't like other ferrets, and will need to be an only fuzz.

Kiwi is a 2 year old chocolate female. She gets along well with other ferrets and is a very sweet, petite girl.

Knoxville is a 4 year old silver/sable boy and he was surrendered recently with his buddy, **Steve-o**. Steve-o is a 4 year old dark sable boy. They are friendly & sweet and are looking forward to finding a new home.

Lilly (4 yr DEW female), **Lilo** (4 yr silver female), **Sammy** (4 yr silver male) & **Chami** (5 yr sable female) were surrendered to our shelter this weekend. They are beautiful and are all healthy. We've love to see them find a new home soon so they don't have to spend much time at the shelter. Please let us know if you'd like to meet these sweethearts.

Lizzie & Fidget are five month old chocolate girls. Lizzie has bitten one of our volunteers, and the girls should go to a ferret experienced home. They love other ferrets, and have a lot of fun playing with them.

Loki (DEW, m, 4 yrs) & **Chai** (sable, f, 4 yrs) are older ferrets looking for a home. They are healthy, fat & fluffy at this time and would be great first ferrets for someone.

Marshmallow is a 3 year old albino boy & **Cocoa** is a 5 year old dark sable girl. They are a lovely pair of ferrets and would love a new home.

Mina is a feisty 3 year old chocolate girl. She likes other ferrets once she's had a chance to make sure they know who's boss. She also LOVES cats and would do fine in a home with kitties or ferrets to play with.

Nazareth (4yr old sable male) & **Valhalla** (2 year old DEW male) were recently surrendered to our shelter. They have very nice temperaments and are anxiously awaiting a new home. Come see them!

Panic is a 3 year old chocolate cutie that loves other ferrets. She'd happily join any play group!

Princess is a 5 year old dark sable girl. She would prefer to be an only ferret and is just a doll to her people.

Romeo is a 3 year old chocolate



boy. He's friendly with other ferrets & a lover with people. He'd happily join another play-group & go home with you!

Rosco is a cute 1 year old sable mitt boy. He gets along well with other fuzzies and is just looking for a new home.

Roxy & Foxy are two cute little spitfires. They are very young, but are pretty nippy and will need a ferret-savvy owner. Foxy bites when scared, and Roxy is very mouthy/nippy in general, but she's just having fun and it's simply a matter of teaching her manners. We'd love to see them go together, as they so enjoy each other's company, but they can be split up if necessary.

Scooter (lighter) & **Skippy** (darker) are 1.5 year old sable boys. They are new to the shelter, but seem friendly and good natured so far. Come see them soon!

Slink is an adorable 5 year old chocolate female. She is very sweet and has a wonderful personality. We'd love to see her get into a new home soon!

Springer is a 2 year old blaze girl and **Cocoa** is a 4 year old chocolate female. They were surrendered recently and we are just getting to know them. Come see them soon!

Tima is a 1.5 year old sable mitt girl. She occasionally bites and will require an experienced ferret home. She just arrived on Saturday & we're just getting to know her. Pictures & more info to come.

Tyson & Hannibal are large dark sable boys that came from the UW. They're still occasionally nippy, but are learning



their manners in the shelter. They'll need a loving and patient home, but should make wonderful pets.

Valentine & Bean are adorable girls that are around 1.5 years old. They have been spayed, vaccinated and are all ready to go home with you!

Vlad & Slinky are 2-3 year old chocolate colored ferrets. They would love to find a home of their own with humans to spoil them rotten. They've had a rough go of it these past few months and sure deserve a good home.

Foster Ferrets

Note: We do not charge an adoption fee for our foster ferrets, though many of them will require a vet visit (or several!) in their golden years. The Shelter provides medical care and any medications, obtained at the shelter, that your ferret will need in exchange for a monthly donation to help cover your ferret's medical costs. Even just a few dollars, once a month, helps keep our foster program running, so that we are able to continue helping elderly/ill ferrets.

Suzie (3.5 yr sable female), **Daisy** (3 yr silver mitt female) & **Lucy** (3.5 yr chocolate mitt female) were all surrendered together. They are adorable and we'd love to place them all as a big group.

Washington Ferret Rescue and Shelter
13603 100th Ave NE
Kirkland, WA 98034

We're on the Web!
www.washingtonferret.org

A 501(c)3 non-profit organization

Yes, I want to help Washington Ferret Rescue & Shelter!

Enclosed is my donation of:

- \$5.00 ()
\$10.00 ()
\$15.00 ()
\$20.00 ()
Other ()

Please make your donation payable to Washington Ferret Rescue & Shelter (or WFRS) and mail to:

**13603 100th Ave NE
Kirkland, WA 98034**

Contributions are tax-deductible under 501(c)3 regulations of the Internal Revenue Service. Appropriate receipts will be mailed for your records.

Our Wish List:

Donations of time or money are always gladly accepted & appreciated!

Hammocks, Security Cubes—homemade or store bought, we can always use hanging sleep sacks of some sort.

Wood stove pellets for litter (found at Safeway, local hardware stores, the Grange, etc.)

Cages or carriers—clean or dirty, we don't care!

Volunteers to wash laundry, scoop boxes, scrub cages and cuddle ferrets.

More foster homes! Do you have room in your home for a few extra fuzzies for a few days/weeks? Do you have any medical training or are you interested in learning? Let us know!

Ferret Food (Mazuri, Totally Ferret, Marshalls & The Ferret Store's Superior Choice)

() I am moving! Please see below:

() Yes, I know of someone else who would like to receive the newsletters.

Please send one to the following:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:
