

Free Bedding; Giving Tree Appeal & Fleece Bedding Pack Special; Seeking Vendors; Database & Shelter Conference Updates; Shelter Directory Auction, and more



**Reminder: Please do not unsubscribe** as this is the only way to communicate with Directory participants. If you want to remove your listing; add anyone to the list, or have news to share please contact us at [Help@FerretShelters.Org](mailto:Help@FerretShelters.Org).

## FREE Ferret Bedding

The loss of one of the Ferret Association supporters can provide your shelter with a gift of ferret bedding. This lady was a great lover of ferrets; she was also quite a shopper. Her passing left a **large** amount of bedding. While FACT accepted the three animals she left, our shelter director Vanessa Gruden is a sewer and our ferrets have PLENTY. Our promise to the family was to make sure the bedding was given to ferrets in need.

Most was never used, but had been stored in a basement. All were washed to ensure they are fresh & sanitary. Most of the items are fleece blankets; there are some tubes and misc. pieces, and there are some "Della Beds." These are a VERY popular pod-style bed, shown here, created by one of FACT's members, which sell

original beds came with a separate pillow; many of those have been lost. Depending on the number of requests received, we hope to be able to give you at least one Della Bed and a number of assorted blankets

FACT is donating the shipping cost in her memory. All you need to do is send a request to Vanessa at [info@ferretassn.org](mailto:info@ferretassn.org). Tell us how many shelter ferrets you normally house and a brief description of your housing arrangements (# of cages, play areas, or anything else relevant) so we can create a suitable box for you. Please send in your request promptly. We'll fill requests as best we can in the order received between shelter, work and holiday demands.



## Giving Tree Appeal

The Giving Tree front page is now linked to the Ferret Shelter Directory. There is also a front page promo on the Directory back to the Giving Tree. On both we are encouraging people to Shop at a Ferret Rescue for items to fulfill shelter requests. We plan to actively promote the Shop-A-Rescue program via social media and ask that you do the same. We feel strongly that shelters should be supporting other shelters where possible as we bear the burden from companies profiting from ferrets. Requesting commercially made bedding doesn't help ferrets - buying from others who are HELPING ferrets does!

## Giving Tree Fleece Bedding Pack Special



As noted above, Vanessa is an avid sewer, so when we received a big donation of human blankets and sheet sets, she dove right in. The manufacturer makes high-end fleece throws, blankets, and sheets that the humans LOVE! The result is a 6' tall pile of ferret bedding.

Single-sided fleece was doubled into blankets that can be folded into pouches. Double-sided fleece was hemmed into cozy blankets of at least 2' x 3'. There

blankets. Those were also hemmed into snugly blankets.

FACT is offering a **Super Soft Fleece Bedding** package shipped direct with gift card for a flat \$25. The package is featured on our store page and on Facebook as well as in FACT's winter sale flyer. We are hoping this package will be an EZ to order, reasonably priced option for your Giving Tree ferrets while the proceeds benefits FACT's shelter ferrets. So if ferret bedding is on your Wish List for the holidays, we'd appreciate if you'd consider asking for [Ferret Treasures Super Soft Fleece Bedding](#) as a "Wish" item. Thank you.

## Shelter Friendly Vendors

I am going to be populating an area under the new "Shopping" tab on the site with a page entitled "Shelter Friendly Vendors." Please send your candidate vendors for inclusion to me at [help@ferretshelters.org](mailto:help@ferretshelters.org) There is no charge for them to be included. We wanted an area for them to be acknowledged and rewarded for what they do on behalf of the sheltering community.

I am not 100% certain how the listings will be displayed. Much will depend on what you can tell me about them, how many there are and what they do - just let me know. Your help will be appreciated, thank you!

## Facebook Events on the Directory

At long last it appears that Facebook Events will automatically import from Facebook into the Ferret Shelters Directory Events page. We had considerable trouble with this plug-in from day 1. But it now appears to be resolved.

**How this works:** Events posted to Facebook Community Pages can automatically post within 24 - 48 hours of being posted to Facebook. Sorry, this will NOT work for Facebook Groups. If you have a Facebook Community Page and regularly post Events please contact me at [help@ferretshelters.org](mailto:help@ferretshelters.org) so we can set you up for this to work moving forward. I need to just add your page ID to the back-end. This will give your events internet visibility for your any meetings, shows, auctions, adoption/education days, etc. The goal is to save YOU time AND allow the public to be able to search for Ferret Events on the internet - **the more events we post, the more visibility we ALL get nationally and internationally in search rankings.** It even imports any image you add to the event on FB. Check out a couple already

For those without a FB Page, we are considering adding events via the [Ferret Shelters Directory FB page](#). But I will need 2 or 3 admins volunteers willing to take on the job to post the events. We are hoping this can add significant visibility to shelter events both on FB and on the internet.

## Upcoming Auction

One Event you will see upcoming is a Ferret Shelters Directory benefit Auction that the [Ferret Association of CT Fundraisers](#) site on FB will be hosting starting the first week of November.

We no longer have any grants on the radar screen to pay for the Directory infrastructure and maintenance. To alleviate the burden on FACT's finances we are going to host a fundraising auction on FB. Please urge your constituents to attend, consider donating something if possible, bidding if something strikes your fancy, or just attending to cheer everyone else on! Thanks!

## Ferret Shelter Resources Page

Reminder: We do have a page on the [Directory under the Shelter Portal](#) tab entitled [Shelter Resources](#). The page was set up to provide shelters with a place to find useful resources. Based on the questions I keep seeing posted on FB and the FML, it appears no one sees/uses it. Please become familiar with it AND more importantly, feed me information to ADD to it!

Everyone has "sources" and information - about places to purchase items, deals, and tidbits that you would shout from the roof-tops to your peers. This is the place. At some point we will consider making the page private to Shelter Directory participants only, but at the moment, we see no reason to hide it from the public. So please share and send us a note to update or add information for others.

**One particular note:** The site for the [Ferret Canine Distemper Fund](#) site needs to be updated as we no longer have traveling ferrets to finance the fund. We do have some grant money available but it is limited. We are offering small, inexpensive magnetic calendars for sale to help raise a few dollars. They are (or shortly will be) on the [Ferret Treasures website](#) under Calendars while available. We also have them on the [fund's FB page](#).

## Database Updates

Reminder: Your user ID is shown in the email address as User ID, xxxxxx - If you receive two emails it is because you have registered with the directory under more than 1 ID. PLEASE DO NOT UNSUBSCRIBE FROM THIS NEWSLETTER TO REMEDY THE ERROR! Just email me at [help@ferretshelters.org](mailto:help@ferretshelters.org) with both id's so we can get it corrected. Let me know WHICH ID you want attached to your listing so your listing is properly configured moving forward.

Unfortunately we still can only have 1 person attached to a listing. We can, however, subscribe up as many of your volunteers/board members to this newsletter as you choose; or add them to the directory in order to publish ferret event listings.

## Annual Listing Verification

- Please review your listing to verify it is showing properly.
- Let us know if you need to make any updates.
- If you have trouble accessing your account, please contact us at [help@ferretshelters.org](mailto:help@ferretshelters.org)

## Shelter Conference Update

While we did not receive funding for a Shelter Conference last year, FACT intends to sponsor one ourselves in 2016. We have found low-cost, state of the art facilities in Hartford and will start the planning process in January. We're still working on funding that will help other shelters attend, and the facility technology means virtual attendance via Skype or video-conferencing is an option. Stay tuned!

# # #

Welcome new directory participants! Normally e-news are sent out more frequently (our last issue was in January), so my apologies for the length of this issue. Will try to be better in the future. Please see the note below about where to find our previous newsletters.

Ann Gruden  
Ferret Shelters Directory Administration  
Ferret Association of Connecticut

**Note:** Previous newsletters and surveys/results are stored under the Directory

Menu tab [Shelter Portal](#). Feel free to share the information.

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