

# The PAW Print

News for the families of our animal friends



## Checking lumps and bumps

By Dr. Alisa M. Powell and Dr. Laura H. Strong

Petting our dogs and cats is a great way to demonstrate our love and affection for our furry friends. Running your hands over your pet's fur and skin can also be a lifesaver.

Not every lump or bump we encounter will be a life-threatening tumor, but any abnormality should be checked out by a veterinarian. **Lumps on animals can be benign cysts, scar tissue, moles, benign tumors, or even cancer.**

If you find an abnormal bump, please bring your dog or cat in for an exam. If a growth is irregular or in an unusual location, we may recommend **further diagnostics and/or surgical removal**. Early detection and intervention is the key to good health. Smaller masses are easier to remove, and cancerous masses removed early are less likely to spread to other organs.

Frequently, the only way to assess risks is to remove the underlying mass or some cells from the mass and examine that tissue under a microscope – a procedure referred to as a **biopsy or histopathology**. This is necessary to determine if the lump is cancerous or could cause future concern. Biopsies also help us determine what, or if any, other medical recommendations can and should be made.

So, if you feel a new lump or bump on your pet, please have it checked out. Sometimes, small bumps can be big problems and big bumps can be little concern, but **an early exam and diagnostics may save a life**. Call us today if you've worried over anything big or small.



**Gunny Leist (shown with his person, Sam), had a small lump that appeared benign. A biopsy revealed cancerous cells that were surgically removed by Eastside's team. Gunny's family saved his life through early intervention.**

## Vaccinations decrease the spread of H3N8

By Dr. Andrea Parks

Canine influenza, named H3N8, is a new virus that most commonly infects dogs housed with other dogs or that have come into close contact with other dogs. It is **extremely contagious among dogs**; this canine influenza does not discriminate between breed, gender, or age. Once exposed, ALL dogs are infected.

There is no evidence that the H3N8 virus can be transmitted from dogs to humans, but dogs can be infected through other canine respiratory secretions, contaminated objects, and/or by people handling infected dogs and then uninfected dogs. We can test your dog for infection by collecting a blood sample.

### Because H3N8 is a new virus, dogs have no immunity against it.

Twenty percent of infected dogs do not show symptoms but remain a source of infection to others; the remaining 80 percent of dogs may have **symptoms such as a cough, yellow-green nasal discharge, and/or a high fever**. Because this is a virus (not a bacterial infection), there is no magic drug to treat or cure it; we can only address the symptoms.

While we have documented no cases of canine influenza (to date), we **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** this vaccine. If your pet is around other dogs and/or is receiving the Bordetella bronchiseptica vaccine, he/she should be vaccinated for H3N8. Ask your Eastside vet if this vaccine is right for your companion.

*NOTE: Clients who are up-to-date on annual wellness exams at EAH may call for a vaccine administration time with our Registered Veterinary Technician, Mary DeHart. There is no office visit fee if pets have previously had their annual wellness visit.*



**Eastside receptionist Gina Jones pointed out our canine influenza poster.**

## Ways to decrease the spread of the H3N8 virus:

**Vaccinate your dog!** – the canine influenza vaccine is given as one shot initially, then again in three weeks, and then through only one shot annually. This vaccine does not prevent infection, but decreases the severity/duration of the illness.

**Wash your hands** – frequent hand washing helps eliminate germs that can harm both you and your dog.

**Sanitize** – sanitizing areas that dogs frequent helps decrease risk of infection.

**Isolate infected dogs** – do not let infected dogs come into close contact with other dogs.

**Awareness** – get the facts about H3N8 at Eastside, and talk to other dog owners.



## On My Mind

I am shocked and saddened, but not completely surprised, about the **recent human death** from rabies in Clark County. The news story reported that tests done by the federal Centers for Disease Control show the infection came from a bat.

In a recent memo distributed to veterinarians by the Indiana Board of Animal Health, it was noted that the number of **rabies-positive cases in bats** in the state of Indiana has **greatly increased** during 2009. Bats are an important part of our ecosystem but rabies continues to be a threat to humans and animals alike.

### Of particular concern to the vets at Eastside are indoor cats.

Many indoor cat owners believe that their pet is not at risk for contracting rabies, but this is an unfortunate misconception. Our professional resources continue to **report cases of indoor cat households being exposed** to rabies via bats getting into the attic, as well as through accidental escapes to the outside world. Why would you even take the chance? The potential health risk of a household exposed to rabies is alarming. At a minimum, the red tape and official paperwork involved is a nightmare.

Rabies is a viral disease most often transmitted through a bite from an infected animal. **It attacks the brain and central nervous system** and, **if untreated, can lead to paralysis, and ultimately death.** With the report of a human death right here in Clark County, none of us should be lulled into thinking that rabies is no longer a threat. This disease is NOT extinct and should not be taken lightly.

**State law in Indiana and Kentucky requires that all dogs, cats, and ferrets be vaccinated for rabies.** While it's not a law yet to have horses vaccinated, remember that they have even more outdoor exposure to bats, so we also HIGHLY recommend getting your hooved friend vaccinated. Please protect yourself, your family, your pet, and our community. Vaccination of the pet population is widely effective in minimizing the risks of human exposure. Please vaccinate today.

Best regards,  
**Laura Strong, DVM**  
Owner/  
Hospital Director

**Honey (on shoulders) and Peachy Martin, both indoor kitties, visited us with their person Greg for annual rabies vaccinations.**



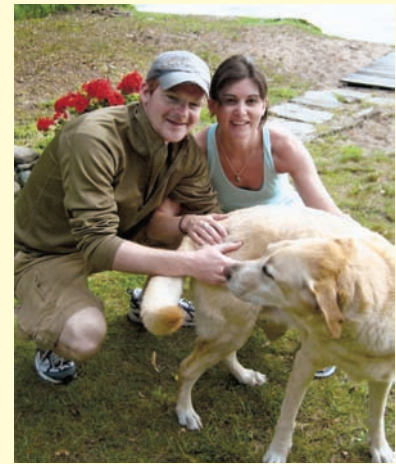
## Professional Spotlight

*In each issue, we feature one of our 40 dedicated Eastside team members. This winter, we're throwing the spotlight on **Dr. Lindsay (Borcherding) Miller:***

Dr. Miller was born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio, where her family still lives. She earned a bachelor's degree in French and biology at DePauw University, and studied in Strasbourg, France for five months after graduation. When she returned to the states, she worked as a veterinary assistant/kennel tech/receptionist in Lawrenceburg, Indiana, before entering the Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine in 2002.

Her interests in exotic animals and wildlife medicine led to internships at the Cincinnati and Colorado Springs Zoos, as well as work in Alaska with sea otters for the U.S. Geological Society. In her senior year at Purdue, **Dr. Miller realized her true veterinary calling was with small animals and the clients who own them.** After graduation, she worked for three years as an associate veterinarian in Cincinnati before joining us at Eastside in 2009.

Dr. Miller and her husband live with their 10-year-old Lab, Zoe, along with cats Belle, Frankie, and Marvin. Naturally, Dr. Miller says she is a Bengals fan, but since her husband prefers the Colts, they report that Sundays are interesting. In addition to an interest in spectator sports, Dr. Miller can be found running, biking, boating, swimming, and skiing, as seasons permit. She also continues to support organizations that work for wildlife conservation, particularly the Morris Animal Foundation, which studies diseases that affect house pets, horses, and wildlife.



**Dr. Lindsay Miller, pictured with her husband, Dr. Keith Miller, and their 10-year-old Lab, Zoe.**

Dr. Miller's professional interests include emphases on nutrition, endocrinology, and puppy education. She's a proponent of animal prescription diets and believes nutrition plays a big role in preventing and treating diseases in our cats and dogs.

We are more than pleased to have her with us, and excited for Dr. Miller and her husband, Keith, who were just married this past October. After moving to Louisville, Keith began a general surgery residency at the University of Louisville. We wish them both the very best.



## Veterinary Health Care Services

### Wellness Services

- complete wellness examination
- puppy/kitten wellness programs
- senior wellness programs
- nutritional counseling / weight loss programs

### Internal Medicine

- trauma and critical care
- diagnostic testing
- radiology
- ultrasonography
- screening for hypertension and glaucoma



### Surgical Services

- elective sterilization procedures (spay/neuter is part of responsible pet ownership)
- tumor removal/biopsies
- declawing
- urinary tract (removal of bladder stones/biopsies)
- orthopedic (fracture and ligament injury repairs)
- reproductive tract (c-sections, prostate)

Many surgical services are performed with state-of-the-art laser equipment. The usage of this technology minimizes pain, bleeding and improves patients' recovery time.

### Dental Services

- dental cleanings and wellness programs
- dental surgical procedures
- digital dental radiology



### AAHA accreditation

Eastside Animal Hospital is the closest AAHA-certified animal hospital to downtown Louisville and the only AAHA-certified hospital in Clark County, Ind. AAHA accreditation means that we voluntarily adhere to more rigorous standards, set by a board of peers, and we are reviewed on a regular basis.

## Perks at Eastside

Our primary mission is to provide a stress-free, safe, healthy environment in our home away from home. We have dedicated kennel staff that truly cares about our guests' experience. In addition, ALL animals that board, groom or bathe at Eastside are given a Capstar tablet to ensure that they stay (and leave) flea-free.

## Boarding/Doggy Daycare

**Small dog hotel** – (for dogs under 25lbs.) Great for house pets who are used to a more serene environment. Movies available for viewing, and dogs are hand-walked three times a day. Fleece blankets provided. (\$14.50/night)

### Standard dog accommodations

Unusually large space for our more active, athletic guests. Total area per run is 3' x 16'. Guests have access to 12' of covered outside run space (weather permitting). Dogs do not have contact with each other. (\$14.50/night, for pets up to 100lbs, \$17.50/night for pets over 100lbs)



**Deluxe dog accommodations** – Space is great for extra-large guests or multi-pets. Area provides 50% more space than our standard run. (\$21.50/night - rate reduced for additional pets)

**Kitty Condo** – Standard 2+ x 2+ room equipped with resting bench. Movies are available for viewing and fleece blankets provided. (\$14.50/night)

**Kitty Penthouse** – Deluxe room-with-a-view accommodations. 5ft x 5ft room equipped with resting shelves and scratching post. (\$21.50/night - rate reduced for additional pets)

## Exercise & Training

**Strolls** – One-on-one leash exercise for your pet (5min/\$3.00)

**Playtime** – Individually tailored time that meets your pets' needs. Can include pool time, weather permitting. (10min/\$5.50)

**Manners Matter** – Designed for puppy and adult guests. One-on-one training in basic good behavior will include: sit, stay, down, come, and stand, as well as jumping up and door-darting prevention. (10min/\$5.50)

**Fitness Fun Package** – One-on-one athletic romps through our canine playground. Includes veterinary-supervised nutritional assessment and body condition score report. (10min/\$6.50)

## Grooming

Standard bath, brush out and pedicure performed by our kennel staff. (\$23.00 to \$27.00)

Professional clipping, bathing, and grooming performed by our groomers Polly and Carol Sue. (breed-specific quotes available)



# What's everyone BARKING about at Eastside?



## FACEBOOK FANS

– Become a Facebook fan (search for Eastside Animal) to get breaking news about new products, parasite control, and vaccinations, as well as the latest pet, staff, and vet pictures. Give us feedback online or post questions for quick answers.

## Boarding doesn't mean boring

– Enhance your dog's boarding experience with a training class while he/she stays with us. Enroll your puppy or adult dog in our "Manners Matter" classes, which teach great basics, including sit, stay, down, come, and stand, as well as jumping up and door-darting prevention.

## Does your pooch have a pooch?

– Even a few extra pounds on a dog can cause health problems. If a stricter diet and exercise aren't helping, ask us about Slentrol, a new FDA-approved drug for canine weight loss. Fit dogs live happier, longer lives – help your pooch lose his "pooch" for the holidays.



1623 E. 10th Street  
Jeffersonville, IN 47130

PRESORT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
LOUISVILLE, KY  
PERMIT #1193

## Creature Feature

Socks Mann has been coming to Eastside for all of his 16 years. He's not alone. Fellow cats Jack, Noah, Mickey, and Minnie all help keep order at the Mann house. That's no easy task with dogs Libby, Nikki, and Henry keeping things active. Socks was diagnosed with intestinal lymphoma three years ago, and was given one to two years to live. Beating the odds, Socks clearly relishes his role of "Grand-pet" of the house. Jack is a spry 11 ½ years' old, and is the official greeter of the household. For some reason, stray cats and dogs seem to find their way to the Manns, who have enough love for all of them. They've been clients at Eastside Animal Hospital since 1974, and all eight furry children strictly follow their doctors' orders. They've been great patients, and we're happy to have them.



Jack and Socks Mann pose at home with their humans Meredith and Debbie.



1623 E. 10th Street  
Jeffersonville, IN 47130  
812 282-3855  
[www.eastsideanimal.com](http://www.eastsideanimal.com)



## Directions to Eastside

### From I-65 North or South

Take Exit 1 onto Rt. 62 East (Jeffersonville). Rt. 62 is 10th Street. Eastside Animal Hospital is on the left about two miles from the I-65 exit (just past Clark County Auto Auction).

### From downtown Louisville (approx. 5 minutes from the bridge!)

Take the 2nd Street bridge and continue straight following signs for 31N and 65N. Stay to the right and exit onto 62 East (Jeffersonville). Rt. 62 is 10th Street in Jeffersonville. Eastside Animal Hospital is on the left about two miles from the I-65 exit (just past Clark County Auto Auction).