



EMERGENCY B·Y·T·E·S



Chicago Veterinary
Emergency Services
ER
Open Nights, Weekends & Holidays
773.281.7110

News and information from the Chicago Veterinary Emergency Services

Spring 2009

Meet Our Doctors

Laura Beyer, DVM, grew up in Grand Blanc, MI and earned her veterinary degree at Michigan State University. Her upfront and honest approach with pet owners helps them to make educated decisions about their pet's care. Dr. Beyer loves not only the pace of emergency medicine, but also the variety of cases she sees here at CVES. For her, the most rewarding part of emergency medicine is watching a patient go home happy and healthy.



Dr. Beyer

Nathaniel Cook, DVM, is originally from Evanston, IL. Dr. Cook received his veterinary degree from North Carolina State College of Veterinary Medicine in Raleigh. Using his practical and forward-thinking approach, Dr. Cook tries to come up with innovative ways to treat his most difficult cases. He finds emergency medicine to be exciting, and sometimes overwhelming, but always worth it for the continuing education it gives him and the opportunity to experience every aspect of veterinary medicine. As someone who enjoys working with both animals and people, Dr. Cook tries to treat every patient and every client as he would want to be treated. Most of all, he loves seeing a patient improve and witnessing the bond between a pet and his or her family.



Dr. Cook

Dylan Frederickson, DVM, began his veterinary journey on a small dairy farm in central Wisconsin. He was inspired to pursue a career in veterinary medicine while watching the veterinarians who treated his family's farm animals. He saw the difference they were able to make in the lives of those animals, while at the same time easing the concerns of his family. This path led Dr. Frederickson to a degree from the University of Wisconsin. He believes in a collaborative approach to medicine, working with his colleagues whenever possible. Using systematic and thorough methods, Dr. Frederickson couples common sense with innovation. He enjoys emergency medicine for the diversity of cases, the intensity, the hands-on intervention, and the challenge of working toward solving the immediate problems of the patients he sees.



Dr. Frederickson

Jerry Klein, DVM, was born in Morocco and moved to Cleveland, OH when he was five. Dr. Klein went on to study veterinary medicine at Ohio State Veterinary School, where he earned his degree. Dr. Klein loves the adventure of working at CVES. He treats each client as if he or she were a friend and is as straightforward with them as possible. He believes an informed decision is the best decision. Knowing that emergencies can often force owners to make very tough choices, Dr. Klein is pleased when those tough decisions lead to a happy result.



Dr. Klein

June LaFave, DVM, comes from Absecon, NJ. She received her degree from the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. LaFave loves the interesting caseload she sees come through the doors of CVES. She also loves being there for pets in need. As our Medical Director, she believes in teamwork and maintains a level of professionalism and respect toward all the people with whom she comes in contact. An unbelievably hard worker, Dr. LaFave feels communication is key in all aspects of her job as a veterinarian. When she can help a critical patient recover from illness and be reunited with his or her owner, it makes all the effort worthwhile.



Dr. LaFave

Ingrid Manhart, DVM, is a native of Libertyville, IL. For as far back as she can remember, she has wanted to be a veterinarian. Dr. Manhart attended Ross University, where she earned her veterinary degree. She then spent a year at Oklahoma State University doing her clinical studies. When presented with a new case, Dr. Manhart finds the root of the existing problem, and then works with the owner to determine the best possible treatment plan for that patient. As someone who works well under pressure, she enjoys the atmosphere of the ER and the variety of cases that come through the door. In addition to helping the sick pets we see here, Dr. Manhart is happy to work alongside such a great staff.



Dr. Manhart

Stacia Volbrecht, DVM, grew up in Fall Creek, WI. From the age of five, Dr. Volbrecht knew she wanted to be a veterinarian. She received her degree from the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine. Finding that she really enjoyed the excitement of the emergency room, and the mystery of what each shift might bring, she decided to follow a career in emergency medicine. Dr. Volbrecht finds it extremely gratifying when proper treatment allows an extremely ill patient to go home with his or her tail wagging.



Dr. Volbrecht

State-of-the-Art Ultrasound

CVES is extremely proud and excited to announce the addition of our new, state-of-the-art GE Logic e ultrasound machine. The unit's amazing functionality, portability, and brilliant image quality is a welcome addition to our diagnostic services. This cutting-edge technology will allow us to better meet the needs of our patients and referring veterinarians!



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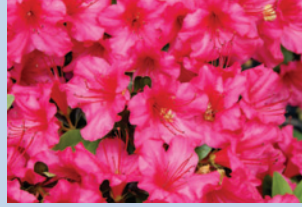
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Emergency Bytes is published by Chicago Veterinary Emergency Services (CVES). The only after-hours animal emergency facility in Chicago, we provide the highest quality emergency medical and surgical care when your regular veterinarian is closed. Fully staffed with veterinarians and technicians who are specially trained and experienced in handling animal emergencies, we are just a phone call away!

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Spring Safety Tips

- The Easter lily, azalea, amaryllis, and other plants are toxic and even potentially lethal to cats. Lily-of-the-valley can also be cardiotoxic to both dogs and cats.
- Chocolate is toxic and can even be deadly for your pets, so make sure that all chocolate products are kept out of reach.
- Fertilizers and pesticides can be very harmful and even deadly to pets, so be sure to keep these products away from pets. Try to keep dogs from ingesting a lot of grass. If there is a chance that chemicals were applied to or have blown onto the grass, keep pets away from it.
- Make sure you are giving your pet a monthly flea and tick preventative. It is very important to read product labels carefully on all flea and tick medications as the misuse of such products can lead to acute toxicity in them. It is important never to use a dog product on your cat, or vice versa.
- Check with your veterinarian to see what he or she recommends in terms of heartworm prevention. Heartworm disease is transmitted by mosquitoes and can be fatal.
- Dogs can have severe allergic reactions to insect bites. If you notice your dog



Azaleas and other plants can pose a danger to both dogs and cats.

becoming acutely swollen in the muzzle, or developing hives, it is best to get him/her treated as soon as possible. If left untreated, the inflammatory response can cause severe illness and respiratory distress.

- Make sure that your dog always wears a collar and current ID tags that include your phone number. Please keep your canine companions on a leash when enjoying the warm weather.
- Bite wounds are one of the season's most common emergencies. Make sure your pet's rabies vaccination is up-to-date in case of such an encounter.



Make sure you are giving your pet a monthly tick and flea preventative.

- Never leave your dog out in the sun too long. Dogs can get sunburned, just like people. Provide lots of shade for your pet, and always provide plenty of cool, clean water to prevent dehydration.
- Pets traveling in pickup trucks should ride in the cab or in a secured crate in the bed of the truck, not in the truck's open bed. If your dog rides in the back of the truck and you stop suddenly, swerve, or are hit by another car, he or she could be thrown from the truck and into traffic.
- Maintain a moderate temperature in your house and leave cool water for your pets.
- Avoid leaving windows and doors open; a determined dog can easily tear through a screen. If you do leave windows open for ventilation, have strong screens in place to prevent escapes and falls.
- Keep pets away from mouse, ant, and roach bait or traps.

The Healing Power of Nutrition

By Dr. June LaFave

Nutrition is a key element in the recovery of the ailing animals we treat at CVES. Yet many of these patients are unwilling to eat due to their primary illness or injury.

By understanding how crucial nutrition is for our sick patients, we can better meet their needs. For example, did you know that negative effects on immune function are detected four days after food deprivation? How can we expect our patients to improve if they are digesting their own tissues during recovery?

Tissues need adequate blood flow, oxygen, and FUEL to survive. Most sick pets are unwilling or unable to take in adequate nutrition. They may be in the hospital being treated very aggressively with medications, IV fluids, surgery, oxygen, etc., but many are anorexic. Providing proper nutrition can be just as vital to these patients as all of the other interventions put together.

Nutritional support is necessitated if there has been recent weight loss of more than 10% (not accounting for dehydration) or a history of anorexia for more than three to five days. Providing nutritional support early in the course of therapy can speed healing and can lead to a quicker return of function with fewer complications. Faster healing may then result in a shorter hospital stay!

For patients who are unwilling to eat on their own, CVES can easily and safely provide nutrition through two types of feeding tubes. For short-term (less than seven days) needs, we can place a nasoesophageal tube (NE tube). An NE tube is placed through the nose, into the esophagus, and ends just before the stomach. These tubes are great as they can be placed non-surgically and with minimal or no sedation. They require a specially formulated liquid diet and necessitate that the patient be hospitalized while the tube is in place.

Esophageal feeding tubes are appropriate when a longer-term feeding solution is necessary. We work closely with the pet's regular veterinarian to provide this nutritional support. This tube is surgically placed in the cervical (neck) region, and like the NE tube, ends just before the stomach. The procedure takes less than five minutes. A patient can go home with an esophageal tube in place, and owners can continue to assist in meeting their pet's nutritional needs. Both NE tubes and esophageal tubes are great for patients who are not vomiting nor eating on their own.

For our vomiting patients, or those with severe ileus (a functional intestinal obstruction), we are able to provide intravenous nutrition via a product called Procalamine. This is a basic source of partial nutrition, meaning it provides 3% amino acid, 3% glycerol solution, and electrolytes. It does not provide 100% calories or dietary needs (i.e., does not contain fats or trace minerals), but will supply 25-30% of a patient's daily calorie needs. This is a great new resource we can provide to our patients.

CVES is very excited to be able to better meet the nutritional needs of our patients! We are amazed at how well patients have responded so far. We look forward to assisting our critical patients with this life-saving care!