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On the cover: Roswell, cancer patient from Spokane, Washington, was successfully treated for lymphoma in 2008. Clients from across the nation come to WSU for the hospital’s world-class diagnostic, treatment, and surgical expertise.

www.vetmed.wsu.edu/Oncology
www.vetmed.wsu.edu
“Hope resides here.”
—Russell Lee, oncology client at the WSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital

In early 2007, Corporal Tim Baulkham of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or RCMP, knew something wasn’t right with his partner. Police Service Dog “Jack,” a black lab and 7-year veteran on the force, had been losing weight and fur, and just didn’t seem himself. After a visit to a local veterinarian, Jack was referred to the WSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital. An MRI revealed what appeared to be a very large pituitary tumor. Large tumors such as Jack’s are generally treated with low doses of radiation over 3 to 4 weeks. At WSU, radiosurgery, an innovative treatment using a one-time dose of radiation, has been used with great success. For Jack, the expedited treatment meant he could return to work sooner.

Dr. Janean Fidel, a WSU oncologist who specializes in radiosurgery, administered a single high dose of radiation to Jack’s tumor. But because of the size of the tumor, it was uncertain whether a single dose would work. After his treatment, Jack was still refusing to fetch, which had always been one of his favorite games. Cpl. Baulkham worked with him to rebuild his confidence. “After only three days, I could see he was getting better,” said Cpl. Baulkham. Six weeks later Jack returned to work.

As a narcotics detention dog, Jack’s only job was to sniff out illegal drugs. “He didn’t lose any of his senses after treatment,” said Cpl. Baulkham. “Everything came back.” Jack worked for the RCMP as a police service dog for 2 years after his treatment. At the age of 11 and after 9 years on the force, he lost the battle, but over the course of his career, Jack recovered over $60 million dollars in drugs and over $2.5 million in currency.

“Jack was the most successful specialty dog on the RCMP,” said Cpl. Baulkham, and he was recognized by the British Columbia Supreme Court as an expert in narcotics odor detection, the highest ranking they give. “Jack is a legend,” said Cpl. Baulkham. “He has saved lives and made many communities safer. I owe my life to this dog.”

The oncology service at WSU’s College of Veterinary Medicine—together with surgery, internal medicine, neurology, cardiology and radiology services—is committed to unmatched cancer care for companion and service animals, like Jack. In our Comparative Oncology Laboratory researchers and clinicians are working to improve cancer care of companion animals, while studying animal cancers as models for human disease.

But these advances would not be possible without the generosity of people who share a common value with WSU for animal well-being. Your gift can make a difference in the lives of many.

THE PEOPLE
The best professionals are trained in a face-to-face environment rich in both clinical cases and exemplary research. Scholarship support for DVM and Ph.D. students, who work side-by-side with accomplished oncology clinicians and researchers, enhances the training experience and encourages students to transition to academic positions in order to develop tomorrow’s researchers.

THE FACILITIES
Internationally recognized programs require state-of-the-art facilities as well as maintenance and operations funding best provided by endowed gifts. Rapidly changing technology must be updated regularly to allow faculty and students to conduct groundbreaking research in the fight against cancer. Efforts like these at WSU, and also at the best human medical colleges, are funded by people who understand the challenges of facing cancer and who want to make a difference.

THE PROGRAMS
In collaboration with other Washington researchers and veterinary practitioners, WSU is developing programs expressly directed at cancer care, including expanded radiation therapy, innovative radiopharmaceuticals, and transplantation medicine. These programs bring new hope of prolonged survival to dogs suffering with cancer. The Comparative Oncology Laboratory is the flagship of this research effort at the intersection of human and animal disease.

THE PROMISE
Collectively, faculty, staff, students, and donors are the critical components necessary to conduct world-class research and provide an internationally recognized center of excellence in animal cancer care and research at WSU’s College of Veterinary Medicine. Your gift can help us save lives. A donation, in any amount, will make a lasting difference for companion animals and humans with cancer today and in the future.

Specific Gifting Opportunities

These are current fund-raising goals. Gifts in any amount are appreciated.

WORLD-CLASS-FACULTY
Endowed Full Professorship (chair) ...........................................$4 million
Residency (3-year program) .................................................$120,000

FACE-TO-FACE EDUCATION
Student Research Scholarship .....................................................$50,000

STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT
Helical CT Scanner (already funded) ............................................$500,000
Radiation Suite Evolution / linear accelerator (already funded) .......$500,000
Enhanced Chemotherapy Administration Ward .......................$200,000
Bone Marrow Transplantation Facility ......................................$100,000

LEADING PROGRAMS
Comparative Oncology
Endowed Technologist ..........................................................$1 million
Endowed Research Position ....................................................$1 million
Research, equipment, and trainee support for transplantation ........$100,000

Oncology Development Fund
General clinical research, equipment, and trainee support .............$100,000