

The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

December 18, 2015 • Volume XI, Number 18



See the collage of PHS sports in 2015 on page 6.



Dr. Peter Eeg, Fran Ichijo of Hope Garden Ballet, and Lucille DeGabbabrown of Franklin Press proved that being a member of the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce can be a whole lot of fun. See Civic Groups on page 14.



Gina Beck entertained in the park. Music was a big part of the town's summer program. See Festivals and Events on page 19.



2015 Year in Review

By John Clayton

By John Clayton

2015 in the *Monocle* began as it so often does with sad headlines noting the passing of the Rev. Lewis McDonald, former pastor at (Poolesville) Memorial United Methodist Church, and Peter Hitchen of Barnesville, a Joint Master of the Potomac Hunt, raconteur, bon vivant, and all around fascinating person.

Poolesville vultures continued to wear out their welcome. As the winter rolled on, vultures continued to be discussed in commissioners' meetings and they even got their own blog, courtesy of the town. Is this a friendly community or what? Also in the cold of February, Garden columnist Maureen O'Connell wrote about spring, providing a measure of hope. A bear was photographed raiding birdfeeders, reminding once again that we are the intruders.

Spring seemed a little closer when the Poolesville High School boys' and girls' Swim and Dive teams both won statewide honors by wide margins. The WUMCO Board of Directors announced an appreciation dinner to be held later in the year to celebrate Jane Stearns, longtime head of WUMCO. The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce honored retiring secretary Maggie Nightingale and presented their annual Community Service Award to Tom Kettler.

As winter dragged on, The Sugarloaf Citizens' Association observed their forty-third year of advocating for the Ag Reserve. Longtime Dickerson farmers Peggy and Arthur Johnson were named to the Maryland Dairy Shrine, and the Poolesville Community Garden, a true community effort spearheaded by Poolesville Presbyterian Church and Poolesville Green, kicked off its second growing season.

In April we sadly reported on a barn fire at Nothing Fancy Farm where pigs and piglets belonging to 4H members were lost. The PHS wrestling team placed five wrestlers in the state tournament, and the Poolesville bear, tiring of bird seed, raided beehives.

A commissioners' meeting was threatened to be overrun by dogs and



2015: Nature Fought Back

dog owners testifying in favor of a dog park. Over the Memorial Day weekend seven heretofore lost local soldiers of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 were honored at Monocacy Cemetery. The Capitol Polo Club prepared to host America versus England at their club grounds on Hughes Road. A DNR rep spoke about bears at the Izaak Walton League, and we forgot about the vultures.

The new Dollar General store prepared to open, heralding a new retail boom in the Upcounty, and Sugarloaf Regional Trails welcomed Native Americans to a dedication ceremony at the Monocacy Aqueduct. PHS student Ron Domingo aced Sugarloaf Citizens' Association's first essay contest, the Capitol Polo Club's Ladies Invitational helped keep the Upcounty classy, and Dave Murray stepped in as the new PHS football coach. The UMAC 10U baseball team won the state title again, and St. Mary's in Barnesville cooked chicken as only they know how.

In August St. Mary's put a new cross on their new steeple. It's only their second cross in 114 years, an event we will revisit in our August 10, 2129 issue. In other Barnesville church news, Barnesville Baptist Church Associate Pastor Danny Moore took over for retiring Pastor Randy Gilliam.

Poolesville Day was of course wonderful in all ways, and the Poolesville

Dog Park was "Woofficially Approved." Three athletes and two coaches were inducted into the PHS Hall of Fame.

Also in October, *Monocle* readers had some second-hand encounters with Pope Francis. Barnesville School of Arts and Science student Lucy Walton was one of five local children selected to meet the Pope, and Fr. Keven O'Reilly of St. Mary's provided us with the best up-close original photograph we have ever run of a world-famous person.

Helping Hands turned out over forty volunteers to spruce up Jane Stearns's house, seven PHS student-athletes earned college scholarships, and the Monocacy Lions celebrated their seventy-third year with a charter night dinner, where they also feted Lion Edwin Brown as the longest serving Lion anywhere.

And in our last regular issue of the year, we observed the passing of internationally-known local publisher and luminary Austin Kiplinger, who supported many groups that have contributed richly to the celebration and preservation of this area.

We all hope that you had a good 2015, and that your 2016 will be even better. We are grateful to our advertisers and our readers for making it possible for us to produce the *Monocacy Monocle*.



Family Album



MOM's little bike gang held their very own parade this past summer.



The Relay for Life summer events bring together hundreds of concerned citizens each summer.



Is that my leg or your arm? Twister on the lawn is so much fun during Fridays on the Commons.



An ecumenical group of youth from various local churches walked the Stations of the Cross on Whalen Commons last Lenten season.



Attendance at town meetings does not usually result in a crowd this big.



Some of Poolesville's bravest and finest.



Some students just cannot stay out of trouble.



Parades in Poolesville have a very long history.



Kids from some of the newest homes in Poolesville enjoyed one of the world's oldest games: A snowball fight.



Poolesville Day's parade bands are just a part of the big day's entertainment.

Feeling blue this season?

You're not alone...

The holidays are a hard time for many people. Whatever your reasons, you are invited for a time of prayer and safe space to struggle or to support those who are struggling.

Blue Christmas Worship

All Are Welcome...

Sunday, December 20th, 4 pm.

Dickerson United Methodist Church

20341 Dickerson Church Rd, Dickerson MD 20842

Fourth Annual Caring Community service serving Dickerson, Tuscarora, Buckeystown, and surrounding areas.

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Christmas Eve: 4:30 pm (Children's Pageant) / 7:30 pm / 10:30 pm (Choral Prelude at 10 pm)

Christmas Day: 9 am / 11 am

New Year's Eve: 4:30 pm

New Year's Day: 10 am

St Mary's Catholic Church

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David Cahoon, Deacon



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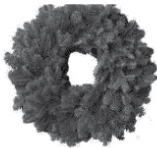
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Entertainment Schedule

December 11: DJ Slim Pickins

December 12: Brian Jamison

December 18: The Colliders at 8:30 p.m.

December 19: Surprise Guitar soloist!

OPEN CHRISTMAS

December 26: DJ Slim Pickins

December 31: FABULOUS FUN NEW YEAR'S PARTY!!!

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7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

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Keeping an Eye on Local News

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Top News of the Year



Soldiers, previously unknown, from the American Revolution and War of 1812 were discovered at Monocacy Cemetery.



The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce honored Tom Kettler with its annual community service award, and Maggie Nightingale received a lifetime membership upon her retirement as secretary.



Grace Sheppard was selected Grand Marshal.



The Dollar General grand opening resulted in a long line of customers.



Peter Franchot visited town government and business leaders on a walking tour of Poolesville. Here he is with the Jamison family of Charles Jamison Real Estate.



The Piscataway-Conoy Native Americans visited the Monocacy River after a hiatus of nearly three hundred years.



St. Mary's carpenter, Deacon David Cahoon, was selected to make the customized furniture for Pope Francis's Washington, D.C. visit. His work included the altar chair, altar, lectern, as well as another eleven pieces of furniture that now reside in the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in D.C.



A barn fire caused heartache and disruption for our local 4-H families.



The Town of Poolesville passed a new closed garbage container regulation in an attempt to stem its vulture problem. Here a vulture does its best to imitate an eagle spreading its wings atop the American flagpole.



Multiple reports of a bear in the Poolesville area stirred up the pages of Facebook. Photograph by Tom McCartin.



The 2015 winter was one of the harshest to which Brian Johnson walking his dog on the first day of spring can attest.

Poolsville High School Sports...



Boyd's Presbyterian Church Christmas Eve Services



7 pm – Candlelight Family Service
9 pm – Candlelight Traditional Service
11 pm – Candlelight Communion Service

Pastor Eyde Mabanglo
19901 White Ground Road
Boyd's, MD 20841

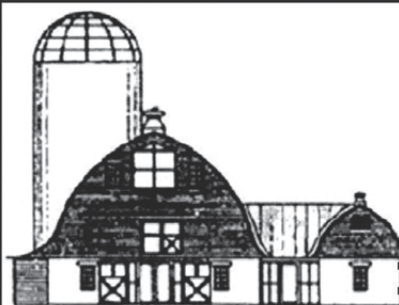


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SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER December 2015

"Protecting our rural legacy"

How to contact us:

*Sugarloaf Citizens' Association
Beth Daly, President*

*Linden Farm, 20900 Martinsburg Road
P.O. Box 218, Dickerson, MD 20842*

Visit our Web site: www.sugarloafcitizens.org

Seasons Greetings!

Like many prior years, 2015 was a busy year for our volunteer team. Sugarloaf Citizens Association (Sugarloaf) took action and met challenges on many different fronts, including:

Public Easement at Greentree Farms (formerly Barnesville Oaks) on Peach Tree Road. Sugarloaf testified before the Planning Board on the importance of keeping the original terms for the Greentree Farm development and opposed replacing "easement" with "covenant." This is a dangerous precedent, and Sugarloaf will work with EPIC and other concerned organizations to appeal the decision.

Second Potomac Bridge Crossing. Governor Hogan recently decided to take another look at the feasibility of a second crossing. Sugarloaf and other community stakeholders—as well as Montgomery County elected officials—met with Maryland Transportation Secretary, Pete Rahn, to present research that demonstrates how another bridge crossing will not resolve traffic congestion and to advocate to instead explore widening the American Legion Bridge and public transit alternatives.

Broadband Access. High speed broadband access is no longer a luxury—it is a necessity and widely considered an essential, core utility. Sugarloaf and other Ag Reserve stakeholders are working with county officials to expand broadband access well beyond the current pilot program to benefit all in the Ag Reserve—farmers, home-based businesses, students, and residents.

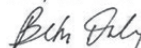
Ten Mile Creek Sewer Proposal. Sugarloaf was one of the earliest members of the Ten Mile Creek Coalition (TMC) and supports Friends of Ten Mile Creek as they work to convince the WSSC to install environmentally-friendly sewer technologies in this sensitive watershed in Clarksburg.

Inaugural Creative Essay Contest. Sugarloaf partnered with Poolesville High School (PHS) educators to design and rollout an essay contest about how living and/or attending school in the Agricultural Reserve impacts the PHS students' lives. Ron Domingo, a PHS Senior, was declared the winner. Check out Ron's winning essay @ sugarloafcitizens.org.

None of this would have been possible without your support. From its inception nearly 43 years ago, Sugarloaf has been an all-volunteer organization, but it sometimes takes more than sweat to get the job done right. Land use attorneys, environmental experts, and communication tools to mobilize and inform supporters cost money. And we would not have realized the successes of this past year without investing in that expertise.

So, we thank you for your generosity in the past, and ask you to join us to help preserve the rural legacy of the Agricultural Reserve going forward. Updates on our activities and how to join and contribute to Sugarloaf can be found on our website @ sugarloafcitizens.org.

Warm wishes to you and your loved ones this holiday season!

Beth Daly 

President, Sugarloaf Citizens Association

Paid Advertisement

Things To Do

December 19: Live Nativity Performance!

A large cast of 32 youths and adults will stage the traditional nativity scene on the front lawn of Poolesville's *Memorial United Methodist Church*. This special walk-through exhibit includes live animals and is sure to delight youngsters and adults alike. Visit this wonderful scene of Christ's birth and then enjoy the fellowship inside where the church will graciously provide free refreshments. 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

December 20: Santa Rides through Poolesville

Santa Claus will join the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department in making his annual ride around town. To give the reindeer a rest before the big night, watch for Santa riding high on top of one of the fire trucks instead. Listen for Christmas music as he approaches. Santa helpers from the fire department will be handing out candy canes. Remember, Santa believes in safety first, so, parents, keep your children on the sidewalk. He will accept cookies but only when the truck is at a full stop. His ride starts at 5:30 p.m.

December 21: Poolesville Commissioners' Meeting

Town Hall. 7:30 p.m.

December 22: Wrapping for a Cure

Christmas "Wrapping for a Cure" event at *Bassett's* restaurant. Sponsored by Team Neverland of Poolesville Relay for Life. Photo opportunities with Santa, so bring your camera. Donations to benefit the American Cancer Society. 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Have an event?
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Send your details to:
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CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY
OPEN NEW YEAR'S EVE: Make reservations early
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Youth and Student Activities...



Young Life Christian organization.



Honorees at the Poolesville Basketball Association's annual award ceremony.



Scouts from Troop #496 marched in the Poolesville Day Parade.



The Poolesville Athletic Association's annual awards day reflects the large number of youth participants in the exciting program.



Young scouts.



Poolesville Falcons U14, MSI recreational soccer team had a 8-0 record for fall 2015. From the top left: Mark Esser (coach), Ben Kovich, Ethan Tievy, Tim Kasner, Oriol Guitart, Bill Carney (coach). Bottom row from left: Cameron Carney, Keegan Morrison, Patrick O'Connell, Brad Blair, Joe Esser, Josh Widenhofer, Josh Davis. Not pictured: Shaun Bolten, Chase Hillegas, Conner Sorrell, Luis Guillen, Owen Horrigan, and Killian Carney (assistant coach).



Members and coaches of the PAA youth football league at their annual summer training in Whalen Commons.



Poolesville Girl Scouts.

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Garth Seely taught the kids at PES the value of being good stewards of Earth.



Sometimes the time is right to go nuts, yell, scream, and just plain carry on. A good time to do so is at a pep rally.




*It's all happening at the Cug!
I do believe it, I do believe it's true!*

December 17: **Seven Locks Brewing Release Party**: Come out and sample some fantastic beers from Maryland and Montgomery County's newest production brewery in Rockville. Representatives from the brewery will be present to answer questions, and five of their beers will be pouring all night at unbeatable prices.

December 18: **Maryland Brewery Tap Takeover & Ugly Sweater Holiday Party**: Come out and get in the Holiday Spirit as we will fill all twelve of our draught lines with the best Maryland beers you can find. Wear your ugly Holiday sweater for prizes and high fives. Representatives from all breweries will be present to answer questions, including Poolesville's own Eric Gleason, with gifts for the Holiday season.

December 24: **Closing Early** – Stay tuned for adjusted hours

December 25: **Closed** – Merry Christmas!

December 31: **Cugini's Fabulous Fun New Year's Eve Party**

January 1: **Closed** – Happy New Year!

January 7: **Goose Island Tap Takeover** – Come out and sample some of the finest brews Goose Island has to offer. We will fill our draught lines with Chicago's finest suds, and we'll have some huge surprises on draught for the night.

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2015 Christmas at PPC

Dec. 20: 10:30 a.m. Children's Christmas Pageant

Dec. 24: 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

All invited to worship every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

9:15 a.m. – Sunday school for Pre-K to Adult

11:30 a.m. – Fellowship with refreshments

Invitation to Meditate

During Sundays in Advent we are providing the sanctuary as a place of solitude. You are **WELCOME** to come between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. to recharge your spirit.

Poolesville Presbyterian Church

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In the frosty midwinter,
a stable place sufficed
The Lord God incarnate,
Jesus Christ divine.

PHOTO BY KATIE HANNA

Religious Groups...



The Rev. Ann Ritonia was officially installed as the rector at St. Peter's. Sharing in the event were friends and area clergy: Rev. Stephen Hagerty, Presbyterian Rev. Derek Longbrake, Father Vincent Rigdon of Our Lady of the Presentation, Rev. Ann Ritonia, Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde, Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C., and Baptist Rev. Jennifer Singh.



Sweet Nativity at Our Lady of the Presentation Catholic Church.



Poolesville Baptist Church packaged thousands of meals for the world's hungry through the Stop Hunger Project.



Memorial United Methodist Church hosted many dinners throughout the year.



St. Mary's stellar community dinner, the annual summer chicken barbeque and festival.



Barnesville Baptist sponsored the top-rated folk band Gold Heart at its popular pig roast.



Poolesville Presbyterian Church sponsored the development of the community garden park.

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Civic Groups...

Former State Senator Jean Roesser joined in a salute to WUMCO's Jane Stearns.



The Sugarloaf Citizens' Association's 43rd annual meeting in Dickerson.



Craig Cummins, Glenn Tallia, and George Coakley volunteered to fix up WUMCO's Jane Stearns's home.



Covanta's Mark Friedman made a presentation of its facilities at one of Poolesville Green's many public educational programs.



Poolesville High School volunteer docents were able to open the John Poole House and the Old Town Hall Bank Museum most weekends in 2015.



Bethesda-Chevy Chase Izaak Walton League's annual open house included a demonstration of the talents of hunting dogs.



Poolesville's Jeffers-Daniels American Legion Post #247 at the 2015 Veterans Day remembrance at Whalen Commons.



Members of the Monocacy Lions Club, Danny Yates with Nancy and Peter Gallo, greet the visitors on Poolesville Day.



The Odd Fellows Lodge #97 specializes in hosting community dinners.



Madison Fields, an equestrian center used to help persons with autism, held an open house for the Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce.



The Montgomery Countryside Alliance drew a large crowd at its summer festival.



Poolesville Area Senior Center's Kim Bailey and Carol Repass are all smiles during Poolesville Day.



The Poolesville Military Support Group's motorcycle escort for its annual outing for wounded warriors had more than one hundred participants.

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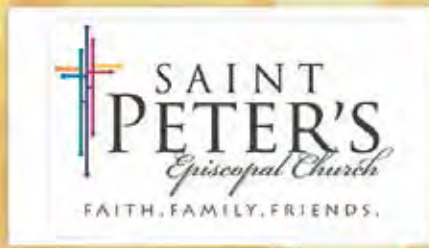
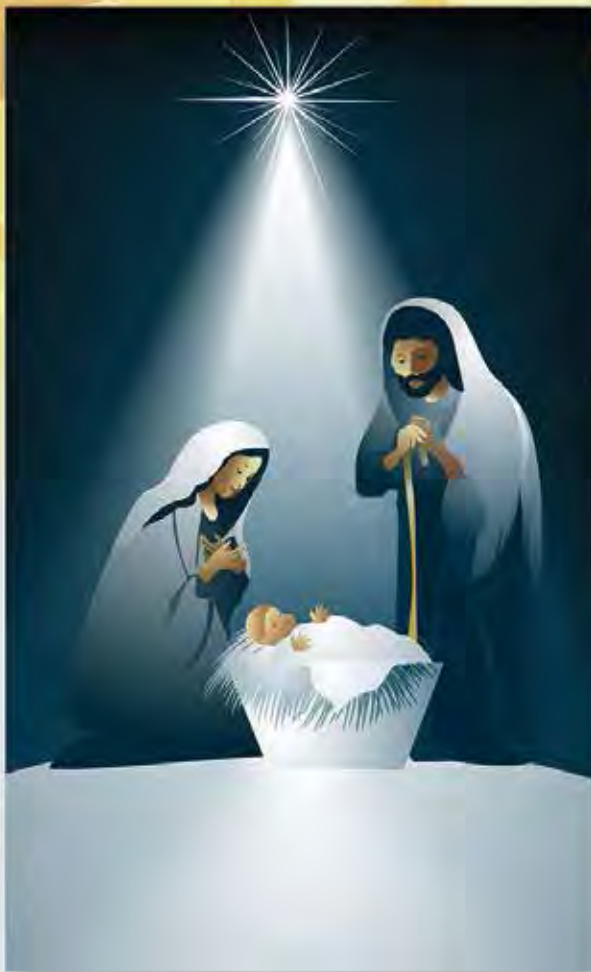
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Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Schedule

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

Festive Family Eucharist
(all ages welcome)
music begins at 3:30 pm
4 pm

Carols and Special Music
10:30 pm

Eucharistic Celebration
of the Nativity of our Lord
11 pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

Carols and Celebration
of the Nativity of our Lord
10 am

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27TH

Morning Prayer
8 am

Lessons and Carols
11 am

A photograph of a lit white candle with a flame, surrounded by red holly berries and green leaves. The background is a soft-focus bokeh of white and grey lights.

Covanta Montgomery wishes a safe and healthy holiday to all our friends and neighbors in the Upper Montgomery County Area. We are pleased to support the community efforts of WUMCO throughout the 2015 holiday season.

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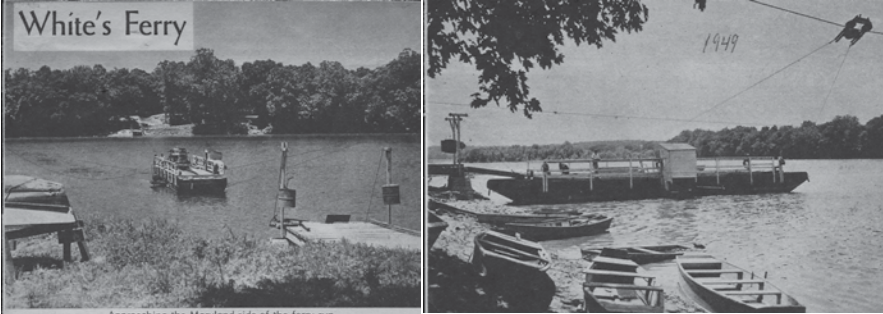
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Festivals and Events...



The PES Carnival during the summer has proven to be a great innovation for fun and fundraising.



Ten years of Poolesville Relay for Life have raised over \$820,000 for the American Cancer Society.



Friends gathered at the 2015 Spring Fest.



The Poolesville Area Chamber of Commerce's annual Business Fair.



Families joined in the fun during Fridays on the Commons.



Movie nights on Whalen Commons featured family-friendly films.



Annual Halloween Fall Festival and WUMCO Walk.



The Big Flea



The Poolesville Pep band provided entertainment during the parade on Poolesville Day.

In Remembrance...



Joseph Christopher
Ambrose



James Barrack



Allen Keith Belt



Steve Breeden



Jacquynette Porterfield
Broadhurst



Thomas Cummings Brown



Emily B. Carlin



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"Bill" Carroll



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John Martin DeReggi, Jr.

Let's Spend this Season of Hope and Light Together... All are Welcome!

Live Nativity – Scenes from the birth of Jesus – with live animals! Staged on the church front lawn.
Refreshments will be served inside. **Saturday, Dec. 19, 7:00-9:00 pm**

Praise & Prayer Contemporary Worship Service **Sunday, Dec. 20, 8:15 am**

Christmas Eve Services (nursery care is available) **Thursday, Dec. 24**

4:00 pm - The ABC's of Christmas – An interactive, family-friendly service

8:00 pm – Lessons & Carols – Celebrate the birth of Jesus through readings & song



 **Memorial United Methodist Church**

17821 Elgin Road, Poolesville (301) 349-2010 www.pmumc.org

Sunday Worship Schedule – Every week

9:15 am – Sunday school for children and adults

10:30 am – Traditional Worship Service (nursery care is available)



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- Jaclynette Broadhurst
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- Blanche Cooke
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Important Considerations Before Getting a Pet for the Holidays

Peter H. Eeg, DVM
 Poolesville Veterinary Clinic

The holidays are right around the corner and, once again, some people will think a pet is the perfect gift for a family member or friend. A pet may represent many wonderful things in life, but it is important to emphasize that the gift is a live animal whose welfare is the most important consideration. This requires thorough and careful planning, rather than acting on impulse.

- **A pet is for life—not just the holidays.**
- **A pet's transition to a new environment can take time and should not be rushed.**
- **Do the recipient and the animal a favor by asking beforehand if a pet is wanted.**
- **If there is already a pet at home, a "meet and greet" is recommended before introducing a new one.**

Pet's Age:

A young pet requires dedication and patience, which must be impressed upon potential owners or gift givers. Days and nights can be long because of housetraining challenges, inappropriate chewing, scratching, and biting, and whimpering. On the other hand, older pets likely have some training, they know what is expected, and they often fit right into families and live very comfortably; however, they can present their own sets of challenges (unknown histories, unresolved medical conditions, unwanted behaviors).

Recipient's Age:

While pet ownership can enrich anyone's life, the recipient's age must also be considered; for example, children and the elderly can have limitations. Young children may not be responsible enough to adequately care for their new pet, so the parents must be willing to accept the responsibility. Older adults reap many benefits from pet ownership, such as companionship, but they may be limited physically (driving restrictions, impairing medical conditions).

Recipient's Lifestyle:

Successful gifting of a pet includes matching its lifestyle with the owner's. Pets usually need daily exercise as an outlet for their energy and possibly to decrease undesirable behavior, and even well-intentioned parents may have busy lives that do not include time for exercising the family dog. Older owners may not physically be able to walk any dog, small or large. What follows—the guilt he or she feels because he or she cannot provide proper care—is even worse; however, keeping a pet that someone cannot care for adequately is unfair for both the person and the animal.

Life Span:

A pet is a lifelong commitment. A dog's average life span is roughly 8-16 years; for indoor cats, it is 13-17 years. Children grow up and move away from home and sometimes cannot take their childhood pet. Elderly owners, though we hate to think about it, often pass away, leaving their pet behind.

Living Space:

Pets need space for themselves and their belongings (a yard for safe play, a bed, toys). Keep in mind that some apartments and rental homes will require extra fees for pets and may have breed restrictions.

Budget & Investment:

Pets can be costly. Cost estimates for quality veterinary care, food, toys, and a license are \$420-\$780 annually for dogs, depending on size. This does not include other recommended services such as neutering and micro-chipping.

Schedule:

A pet's transition to a new environment can take time and should not be rushed because spending time to bond, train, and set expectations is crucial. During the holidays, it is especially important to think about schedules, which may be so busy that there is no time to acclimate a new pet to its environment. On the other hand, some people may have more time during the holidays. Future events such as a new baby or travel plans that may conflict with the addition of a new pet should also be considered.

Other Pets:

Just like humans, not all pets get along. If there is already a pet at home, a "meet and greet" is recommended before introducing a new one. This should be considered before giving a new pet as a surprise that cannot be returned.

No matter the time of year, an open, honest discussion between those involved should take place before a pet is added to a household. **Do the recipient and the animal a favor by asking beforehand if a pet is wanted**—a donation to the local shelter or a volunteer opportunity may be all the recipient really wants. Gift certificates for a shelter pet are increasing in popularity because they allow the recipient to choose a pet when the time is right.



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