

### LOCAL EVENTS

### CALENDAR

Visit us on our  Page

#### 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Kris Kringle Luncheon

Friday December 3<sup>rd</sup> 11:00am

PG Civic Centre

[www.city.pg.bc.ca/civiccentre](http://www.city.pg.bc.ca/civiccentre)

#### Maureen Washington & Daniel Cook

CD Release Saturday Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> 8:00pm

Royal Canadian Legion \$20

250.479.4680

#### Holiday Festival on Ice

Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm

CN Centre

[www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca)

#### Northern Lights Festival Seniors Tea

Thursday December 9<sup>th</sup> 4:00pm

Royal Canadian Legion

250.562.3700

#### Corb Lund & The Hurtin Albertans

Saturday December 11<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm

CN Centre

[www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca)

#### Wizard of Oz Show

Sunday December 12<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm

CN Centre

[www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca)

#### Maritime Xmas w/ the Rankin Sisters

Tuesday December 14<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm

Vanier Hall

[www.ticketmaster.ca](http://www.ticketmaster.ca)

#### R&F Museum Celebration of Lights

Sat Dec 18<sup>th</sup> to Fri Dec 24<sup>th</sup> 4:00pm

Railway & Forestry Museum

250.563.7351



## 'Tis the season for tinsel & jack frost

some helpful tips & information to ensure you & your pets stay safe this holiday season:

**GIMME SHELTER:** dogs & cats need shelter from wind and cold; ideally a place large enough to lie down in & small enough to hold body heat. Pastures should have adequate shelter from blowing winds

**ON TOP OF SPAGHETTI:** pets need ample food & access to fresh water in order to prevent dehydration, help with digestion & keep their body warm in cold weather

**TINSEL AND SAWDUST:** two years ago we surgically removed strands of tinsel from the intestines of a cat! Tinsel & pine needles will severely damage the intestinal tract & may cause death. Liquid potpourri & small ingestible decorations should be kept out of reach. Lilies are the number one flower used by florists & just one bite can cause severe acute kidney failure in cats. Mistletoe & Holly are very toxic; Poinsettias are mild

We strongly recommend kenneling or other confinement while you are out ☺

**THE TRUCK STOPS HERE:** many of us underestimate the severity of cold temperatures + wind - e.g. driving 60km/hr in -5°C = -40°C in the box of your truck; 60km/hr at -15°C = -48°C - frostbite time is less than 10mins!

**DRIVE MY CAR:** use caution starting your vehicle on cold mornings; your engine may have been a warm refuge to a small animal

**THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS:** holidays create excitement & hours spent away from home! Your pets may feel stressed/anxious when routines become altered, which may also cause unwanted behaviors (try to be patient)

**THE CHEMICAL BURN:** salt and ice melting products can be irritating to dog/cat pads. Many winter chemicals are also hazardous (radiator coolant, antifreeze): Propylene glycol antifreeze (not harmful in small amounts if swallowed) is a much safer alternative to ethylene glycol (which is very poisonous & may be found in snow globes + other ornaments)

**STRESS tidbit...** A very wise lecturer once asked his students to guess how heavy the glass of water was that he was holding. After numerous answers given from various students, he made his case: it matters little how heavy the water is, rather how long it is held. At first it may seem weightless. After an hour it would likely seem heavy; however after a day the pain would be intolerable & most likely cause your arm to ache! The longer the water is held, the heavier it becomes. The glass is a symbol of our burdens, of course - to exemplify that when we continue to carry around even the smallest burden, it is likely to become heavier & heavier until we feel as if we are no longer able to carry on. So promise yourself that whatever your burden is, right now, you will put it down. Do not take it home with you!

Some interesting and recommended ways to deal with burdens and/or view life:

- wear clothes that make you look good in case you die in the middle of what you're doing
- always keep your words soft and sweet, in case you have to eat them
- a truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour
- some days you're the pigeon... and some days you're the statue
- when everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane
- if you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague

*Lily Garden*

## wishing dr. paterson well in her travels to alberta

Dr. Jessica Paterson began work here in March of 2010. We were extremely excited to have her join our team, although we knew it would only be for a short while. Dr. Paterson is a veterinary anesthesiologist. She assisted our technicians immensely with anesthetic protocol and monitoring techniques for small & large animal surgery. She moved back to PG after 2yrs in a clinical practice in London, England and has spent the last 9 months working here with us. Dr. Paterson will be moving to Calgary, AB with her fiancé early in the new year. Dr. P plans

to work for the veterinary faculty at the University of Calgary. Small animal emergencies have kept her extremely busy during her time on call with us. There were periods of time that she went up to 48hrs without a wink of sleep, busily tending to her patients. She enjoyed her time here with us & will truly miss her team, clients & the wonderful pets as well!

Thanks Dr. P ☺☺☺



# What's happenin at Murdoch vet clinic?

join us this february for...

As the new year approaches & we try to bounce back from the hustle & bustle of the holiday season, why not take advantage of the savings during Small Animal Dental Health Month? ☺

70% of cats & 80% of dogs begin to show signs of oral disease by age 3. Domestication, poor quality pet food & unnatural diet contribute to this. Cats may experience oral disease & develop painful lesions on their teeth known as resorptive lesions. Aggressive chewers & mainly outdoor pets may be at risk for broken teeth (which causes root exposure & eventually rot, not to mention extreme pain).

RECEIVE 15% OFF + FREE BAG OF VETERINARY EXCLUSIVE FOOD + FREE TOOTHBRUSH + YOUR PET'S PICTURE IN OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER & ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE ☺

## small animal... ... dental month

# Manager's Message...



"The way to gain a good reputation, is to endeavor to be what you desire to appear" - Socrates

MURDOCH VETERINARY CLINIC HAS JOINED FACEBOOK!

VISIT OUR PAGE AND LET US KNOW HOW WE ARE DOING ...

For every 25 suggestions you make to your friends & family informing them of our Facebook page, I will put your name into our monthly draw. Email me with the number of people you suggest us to & I will enter you! Draws vary from treats to horse dewormer to pet beds and more ☺



## MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

## What you might like to know about... "RODENTICIDES"

One of the most common types of poisoning seen in veterinary clinics is ingestion of rodenticides (rodent poison). Due to many brands containing various formulations and range of colors, it is impossible to identify them based on their appearance. The most common ingredient is a long acting anticoagulant. There are three other commonly used ingredients - 1. Cholecalciferol (vitamin D3), 2. Bromethalin, and 3. Zinc/Calcium/Aluminium Phosphides:

**Anticoagulants** inhibit blood clots & lead to internal bleeding; they typically take effect within 48+ hours & symptoms include lethargy, weakness, exercise intolerance, difficulty breathing, pale gums & coughing. This poison has a prescription antidote called Vitamin K1 and there is no substitute for it

**Cholecalciferol** is the most dangerous; there is no specific antidote, it causes kidney failure & is costly to treat. Symptoms include increased thirst & urination, lethargy & anorexia

**Bromethalin** is often mistaken for an anticoagulant but is more dangerous as the toxic dose for both cats & dogs is very small. This poison affects the brain and liver & can result in cerebral edema (swelling of the brain). Symptoms include tremors, paralysis, seizures and death. These signs may be seen within 2 to 24hrs

**Zinc/Calcium/Aluminium Phosphides** may appear in mouse & rat baits but are more common in gopher baits. This poison releases toxic gas. Do not feed if you suspect ingestion. Symptoms include bloating, vomiting, abdominal pain, shock & liver damage. This poison does not have an antidote and the toxic dose is very small. Do not induce vomiting!

If you have further questions about toxic substances or would like us to write about something you may have experienced with your own pets, please email me, I am always open to suggestions! If you are using a rodent poison & want to know the ingredients, call the number on the back of the box.

## DID YOU KNOW...

THE BLACK MARLIN (A LARGE GAME FISH FOUND IN THE TROPICS & SUBTROPICS) HAS BEEN CLOCKED AT 128KM PER HOUR ☺

## RETAIL AND SPECIAL ORDER SECTION...

- ◊ Variety of medicated & non-medicated shampoo for allergies and sensitive skin great for dogs as well as horses
- ◊ Omega-3 Fatty Acid Supplements for dogs, cats and horses
- ◊ Veto Equine Fly Spray & Ecto Spray help with those pesky flies & mosquitoes
- ◊ Horse Dewormer Quest & Quest Plus, Eqvalan & Eqvalan Gold, Panacur, Exodus

- ◊ MediCal Royal Canin, Hill's Prescription Diets and Treats
- ◊ Pill Pockets & Pill Poppers help ease administration of medication
- ◊ VetLink Ear Cleaner help stay on top of bacteria and yeast
- ◊ Toothbrushes, Toothpaste & Breathalyser
- ◊ Toe Nail Trimmers & Bloodstop powder for those 'oops' trims
- ◊ Pawguard lanolin rub for dry, cracked paws & elbows ☺

*Browse our animal companion catalogue and order any items you see. Please allow 2-4 business days for delivery!*

**Closed: Saturday Dec 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th ~ Friday Dec 24th ~ Friday Dec 31st ~ Saturday Jan 1st**

DR. CHRISTINE MURDOCH, Owner & Veterinarian  
KELLY M, Registered Animal Health Technician  
CHANDRA M, Administrative Assistant  
JENA H, Veterinary Assistant

DR. B VEALE, Locum Veterinarian  
KRISTY J, Registered Animal Health Technician  
SHANNON C, Administrative Assistant  
KAYDEN H, Kennel Attendant

KELLY-ANNE H, Office Manager  
JOANNA H, Registered Animal Health Technician  
KACIE H, Veterinary Assistant  
SHELDON G, Kennel Attendant and Volunteer