

SPRINGWATER PARTY LINE

28 December 2017

by Katherine J. T. Humphrey

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Greetings, friends,

This is my After Christmas letter to you. My hope is that you are having a good Holiday with family and friends and not having to deal with sickness, loneliness, or financial troubles. Being grateful, thoughtful, and helping others can bring joy to gloomy situations.

A recent article on how Iceland is successfully dealing with their youth drug problem made me think that we might be able to do the same in our community. Some of the things the people in Iceland found to be successful in the last few years include: “Teens need their ties to substances cut and ties to families and friends strengthened. Laws to curb tobacco and alcohol sales and marketing passed. Curfews for keeping teens off the streets in the early morning hours are in place. The government provides money toward programs that ensure that youth have access to activities that provide constructive companionship and skill development outside of school. Youth surveys are used to ascertain success and what is needed.” For example, we have 4-H youth activities and programs to empower parents available through Cornell Cooperative Extension, and the laws on curbing tobacco sales is one our Health Department was instrumental in pursuing.

Many thanks are extended to all who participated in any way at the Webster’s Crossing Spaghetti Dinner and Music Jam by donation Thursday, December 21. The next one will be on the fourth Thursday of January.

Springwater Trails’ have a hike planned at Harriett Hollister Park for Sunday, December 31st; however, be sure to check the website for any changes. Note that we break up into different skill levels – the Naturalists go slow enough to enjoy the identification of flora and fauna mostly on flat terrain; the Tourists go a bit faster and farther while the Climbers enjoy trekking up and down steep slopes or whatever is planned for the longest and fastest hike. Hiking is a healthy activity, especially after all the good meals we have this time of year. Further details about our hikes, stories of past hikes, and a calendar of our hikes to come are on the Springwater Trails website. Visit the site and come hike with us at every opportunity. There is no cost, though contributions by donation are welcome for trail maintenance and group activities like our socials after the hikes.

The soft opening of the Springwater Community Pantry took place on Saturday, December 16th from 9 to 11AM. Pat Granger writes: “With the snow falling and it being very cold we were very pleased that we had 8 people come in and fill out applications and qualify for assistance. We also sold some items from our bake sale and we received monetary donations. If you know of anyone that is in need that lives in the Springwater area, including Webster Crossing and Canadice, please let them know about our Pantry. There will be more information to follow in the weeks to come. If anyone has any questions they can call Theresa Langhorn at [585-245-](tel:585-245-)

[1223](#) after 3:00 PM. If you would like to send a monetary donation to the Community Food Pantry please send it to: Springwater UMC, Attn: Springwater Community Food Pantry, PO Box 207, Springwater, New York 14560.”

At the All Western Evergreen Nursery & Christmas Tree Farm we are thankful for success. We are grateful for our customers and for our family and young crew for working so hard all year from April through December to provide the labor for all the culturing needed for beautiful trees, all hand sheared with few cut ends, for a beautiful natural look. The photos being returned are amazing - beautiful individually decorated centerpieces for anchoring the season. Young people aged 14 by April 1 are encouraged to inquire about the work at the farm ([585-669-2659](tel:585-669-2659)), as any openings will be filled in late March when job interviews begin.

Please share your news with me at kjth@allwesterntrees.com or mail it to Katherine Humphrey, PO Box 217, Springwater, NY 14560.

Birthdays:

December 29 – Larry Lippencott, Robert Fox

December 30 – John Swift, Alex Decker, Rick Tripp, Jr., Eden Stephenson

December 31 – Juergen Lein

January 1 – Matt Hoppough, Alice Behnk, Jeremy Canute

January 3 – Andy Stevens, Sue Irizarry

January 4 – Nellie White, Betty Hoppough

Anniversaries: Congratulations!

December 31 – Ron & Linda Beuter, Ed & Sandra Freas #51