

SPRINGWATER PARTY LINE

27 December 2018

by Katherine J. T. Humphrey

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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. For us, it is truly a blessing to work on a farm that brings joy to the community at Christmas. Being grateful, thoughtful, and helping others can bring joy to gloomy situations. May your New Year be filled with love and hope.

Many thanks are extended to all who participated in any way at the Webster's Crossing United Methodist Church Spaghetti Dinner and Music Jam by donation on Thursday, December 20. Regular and new people made the experience enjoyable. The next one will be on the fourth Thursday of January. Fourteen years of monthly Spaghetti Dinners have now passed and we are going into the 15th year of doing this monthly. Our appreciation to Anna for making the delicious Carrot Cakes and to Sylvia for making 2 cakes with Chocolate the most popular, to Gladys who furnishes pies; thanks to all the Yarger and Martindale families and their offspring, and any volunteers I have not mentioned. Try not to miss hearing another great message through Pastor Dorothy Hotchkiss by coming to Sunday services at Webster Crossing at 9 AM in 2019.

For those looking to learn an old skill in a new way, Cornell Cooperative Extension is planning to feature another three day, two night set of Home Food Preservation Programs in 2019 across the state. Contact your county extension office for dates. For those who cannot afford the time away from home, the University of Idaho Extension invites you to enroll in Preserve@Home, an online food preservation class to teach individuals how to safely preserve a variety of foods. Participants learn how to produce high-quality, preserved foods and the science behind food preservation and food safety. The registration deadline is Monday, January 14, 2019. The first lesson of the 6-week course opens online on Thursday, January 17 at 1 PM Mountain Standard Time (MST). Each lesson includes online text (that can be downloaded and printed), online bulletin board to facilitate participant discussion, and a real-time weekly chat to interact with classmates and instructors. The weekly online chat session for the first lesson will be on Thursday, January 24 from 1:00 to 1:45 PM MST. Topics to be covered include: Foodborne Illness – causes and prevention, Spoilage and Canning Basics, Canning High Acid foods, Canning Specialty High Acid Foods – pickles, salsa, jams, jellies, etc., Canning Low Acid Foods, and Freezing and Drying. Supplemental materials will include materials on planting varieties for food preservation, cold storage and root cellaring. The cost is \$35 plus the cost of supplemental materials. Many of the supplemental materials are available free, online. Class size is limited. For more information, contact Laura Sant at 208-852-1097 or lsant@uidaho.edu.

Because this column is being produced before Christmas, but will be published after Christmas, the Springwater News and the Webster Crossing News from this week will be

in the next column. May your holiday time be the very best and we'll be in touch in the New Year.

The Springwater Community Food Pantry will be open on December 29th from 9:00 to 11:00 AM and closed again on Wednesday, January 2nd. It will reopen on Saturday, January 5th, corrected Pat Granger. Teresa Langhorn has announced the Winter 2019 Food Link deliveries. These are open to anyone in need of food and will be distributed at the Springwater Fire Hall starting at 10 AM until gone on Saturdays, January 12, February 23, March 23, and April 20. Call Teresa to volunteer if you are able to help distribute the food on any of these days. We are looking for donations of venison. The venison has to be processed by a USDA approved facility and wrapped with the date stamped on the package. If you might know of anyone to contact, please call Teresa at 585-245-1223.

If you have a desire to use or learn woodworking skills by making an Adirondack Wall Shelf, consider doing so at the Little Lakes Community Center. On the evenings of Thursday, January 3; or Friday, January 4; or Tuesday January 8, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM, Jim Kennedy from the Finger Lakes Community Woodshop is offering his class at the Little Lakes Community Center (Old Hemlock School), 4705 S. Main Street, Hemlock, NY, 14466. The cost of the class is \$30, which includes materials. The class size is limited to 10 people (maximum). Students must sign up by December 28, 2018. To register, email FLCommWoodshop@gmail.com or call Jim at 585-704-2754. Go to the LLCA website for more information about the Little Lakes Community Association events.

Mark Hopkins, President, Springwater Trails, Inc., shared that Springwater Trails took Sunday, December 23rd off as a holiday and time for families to hike on their own. All hikers are invited to join the group on Sunday, December 30th at 2 PM for a hike in East Springwater with a party at John's afterwards and again for a bonus hike at Canadice Lake on Tuesday, New Year's Day at 10 AM. Please check out our Christmas card on the [website](#). It is a rerun of our 2012 card and should remind you of many good memories. The extra hike on Tuesday is one of dozen's of hikes across the state celebrating the New Year and the many outdoor opportunities on public land. Headbands will be available to commemorate the occasion. Additional hikes can be found on the DEC website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/112174.html>.

All Western Evergreen Nursery & Christmas Tree Farm acknowledges all the good wishes for a successful year in 2018. Many thanks go to all our customers. The young people that worked on the farm are now on vacation from work until April when the work begins once more to culture beautiful trees for 2019. The winter months are a time for doing the paperwork and planning that goes into farming and to attend state meetings of the Christmas Tree Farmer's Association of NY to hone our skills.

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

Birthdays:

December 27 – Phillip West, Terri White, Morgan Hoppough

December 28 – Amy Goodwin,

December 29 – Larry Lippincott, 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

Anniversaries: Congratulations!

December 31 – Ed & Sandra Freas #51