

SPRINGWATER PARTY LINE

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by Katherine J. T. Humphrey

Katherine kjth@allwesterntrees.com

The saying goes – “absence makes the heart grow fonder”. If that is true, we should all be cultivating a new found appreciation and fondness for our family, friends, and community. When we are able to return to activities at our Springwater Webster’s Crossing Churches, Historical Society, Fire Department, American Legion, Larry Canute Memorial Park grounds, Eateries, Work Places (including Schools) and more, may we never again take for granted what used to seem commonplace: the ability to physically go to a meeting, sit next to a friend to chat, shake someone’s hand, attend a church service, hug someone, hike with our Springwater Trails group, work next to someone and not worry about distancing, give a presentation, or not wear a mask. Let us hope our time apart will strengthen our connection to each other and make our hearts grow fonder.

If you are like me, you might be wondering who is actually doing the Springwater American Legion, Kern Robinson Post #905, Cemetery Honors Commemoration on Memorial Day, Monday morning, May 25 at 10 cemeteries (listed elsewhere). Knowing who to ask for the information is the key to finding out. Luckily, Pat Willsea, one of Springwater Town Council members, was able to give me the following: Rifle Squad: Kenneth White, Jake Mastin, Kenneth Kline, Paul Holubeck, Brandon Mastin; Honor Guard: Jerry Jobson – Commander, Scott Standish, Bill Morgan, George Johnson, and Greg Booth. Mark Walker will read the list of Veterans flagged at each cemetery by other volunteers; Wyatt Mastin, Henry Caskey and Charlie Caskey will take turns reciting the well known poem “In Flanders Field” by John McCrae. David Caron will play taps. The chaplains that have been requested to take part are Pastors Dawn Merritt from Springwater United Methodist Church, Dorothy Hotchkiss from Webster’s Crossing United Methodist Church, Cheryl & Rob Parker from the Lighthouse Wesleyan Church, and Nathaniel Ferguson from the Springwater Church of the Nazarene. Many thanks are extended to these and all the other volunteers behind the scenes that make our Memorial Day special in Springwater. Remember to say thank you when you see those beautiful American flags flying as you drive through town. We cannot thank our veterans, our military, and their families enough for helping to keep America safe and free.

LLCA volunteers are working to beautify their environment. Despite the health crisis, volunteers from the Little Lakes Community Association have envisioned and started the process of beautifying the front of their center in Hemlock. Richard Shearer, an artist whose studio is in the building, contributed to the effort by designing a sculpture to be placed under the sign on the building, as well as the beddings of perennials to surround it. Richard, who is also a landscape designer, obtained donations of plants from Oriental Garden Supply on W. Bloomfield Road in Pittsford. Volunteers prepared the garden beds and planted the perennials and a service berry tree at the corner of the building. When the planting is completed and it is appropriate to have an outdoor gathering, LLCA plans to formally dedicate the sign and its accompanying “fountain-like” sculpture.

From Springwater United Methodist Church, Pat Granger writes “This week Pastor Dawn went by the 1989 United Methodist Church Order of Worship and the 1992 United Methodist Book of Worship. It is interesting how the Order of Worship changed from time to time. This week she wrote about what happened in the scripture of Acts 16: 11-40. Paul and Silas were accused of advocating a lifestyle good Romans could never accept. They were beaten and put in jail. While in jail they sang praises to God without fear of the Roman system, domination, intimidation, or of the gods that were worshiped. That night there was an earthquake of liberation, not destruction, releasing the prisoners. But because they knew what would happen to the jailer keeping watch over them they did not leave the jail. They stayed there. Through Paul’s invitation the jailer learned about true freedom, grace, and peace through Christ and the jailer became liberated and transformed. Pastor Dawn also shared with us one of her devotionals that asked, “Imagine what it would be like to be part of a “liberation movement in your town, city, or country?” She wrote that we can keep praying while singing praises to God, trusting in His plan. Let’s all try doing that and see what happens with having to go through this pandemic. I have praise and that is I put one of my classmates on the church’s prayer chain because he came down with the coronavirus and I am happy to report he is well and back to work. Please continue to use safety precautions, especially with Memorial Day weekend coming up. Everyone stay safe and have a good week.

The Springwater Community Food Pantry still remains open on Saturday mornings from 9 to 11 AM. If you have any questions please call Teresa Langhorn at 585-245-1223.”

Do you need a birthday, graduation or anniversary present? A present that would go over well is the purchase of Robin Nesting Boxes (\$20) or Bluebird Houses (\$20) to benefit the Springwater Webster Crossing Historical Society. Both are available from Pat Willsea by calling 585-669-2376. Another idea is to give a membership in the Society which carries the satisfaction of knowing that you are doing some small thing to preserve artifacts and historical stories of the Town of Springwater. And a third idea is to check out The Springwater Webster Crossing Historical Society Bake Less Bake Sale. You don’t have to bake and you don’t need to purchase any baked goods. Instead, the Society requests that you consider donating to SWCHS the amount you might have spent baking or buying baked goods by sending donations to the Springwater Webster Crossing Historical Society, PO Box 68, Springwater, NY 14560. As soon as it is safe to open the Museum, resume programs and our annual fundraisers, the Society will do so. The Society appreciates the generosity of the community.

The Springwater Trails group is coming closer and closer to a time we can once again be together on a hike. The decision was made to kayak this week on Sunday, May 24, by meeting at Hemlock Lake. The group wants to encourage prudent social separation until the governor recommends otherwise so will be planning on plenty of boating and bicycling over the next few months as a natural way of operating as a group and keeping well separated. The group would like our hikers to carry masks for the times when we do gather to talk as a group, but doing anything strenuous while wearing a mask isn’t going to work. Our hikes during the pandemic will be “in-and-out” hikes, and we will avoid car sharing and the shuttling of cars to pick up at the far end of a one way hike.

The group will meet at the parking area near the north boat launch 20 minutes before a 4:00 PM start time. For those who choose to walk there's Rob's Trail running south along the shore of the lake and up Rob's Trail that isn't suitable for normal bicycling, though dedicated mountain bikers are welcome to try it. Boaters will head south along the eastern shore from the launch for 2-3 miles, depending on the conditions and the speed of the paddlers. After 1 hour they will turn back to the launch along the western or eastern shore. Hikers will walk south along the lake to the bench or as far as they wish, and then turn back after an hour. The Social at the end of the hike will be at the picnic tables at the north end of the lake and each hiker can deal with his or her own lunch box. The directions are NY15A south of Hemlock, NY turn west onto Rix Hill Road then immediately left onto Boat Launch Road. The launch and parking area are 1.1 miles south.

By logging into the HemlockandCanadiceLakes.com website, and clicking on "columns" and then on Pastor Dorothy Hotchkiss' column where she is sharing both a Wednesday and a Sunday message, you will enjoy some good food for thought. Thanks to Rick Osiecki, webmaster for the site, there is plenty of history of the area to pursue as well.

Now is the time to think about gardening and there is no shortage of people in our Springwater Community that are in the business of plants, both flowers and vegetables and more. Last week I mentioned Fruition Seeds in Naples, NY at 7921 Hickory Bottom Road, 585-374-8903 as a place to frequent. However, Hu-Gen Farms, 8284 Carney Hollow Road (County Road 60) in Springwater at 585-669-2773 has a wonderful assortment, as does Steuben Landscaping 585-728-3500 on Route NY-415, just outside of Wayland 14572 with all manner of plants, vines, garden décor, and landscaping services. If you are looking for wild perennials native to our area, contact Ellen Folts 585-750-6288 at Amanda's Garden at 8030 Story Road, Dansville 14437.

The Lagom Landing class of 2019-2020 is about to graduate. This class includes three unique young people, John, Natalie, and Noah. If you would like to send them graduation congratulations, do so before May 30th to Lagom Landing, 7966 Reed's Corners Road in Sparta, 585-727-1687.

Do share your stories and thoughts – contact me at kjth@allwesterntrees.com or by phone at 585-669-2659.

Happy Birthday to:

May 21 - Stephanie Ann Grimsley, Brenden O'Neill

May 22 – Jose Otero Tripp, Katelynn Teed

May 23 – Sabrina Motzer, Karen Wheaton

May 25 – Jan Longacre

May 26 – Logan VanScooter

May 27 – Mary Brooks, Fred Kitson, Nancy Healy

May 28 – Ralph Hamilton

Happy Anniversary and congratulations to:

May 21 - Brian & Wendy West #26; Rob & Renee Pauline; David & Tina Schleuter

May 24 – Howard & Bonnie Harris #28

May 25 – Scott & Terri White

May 26 – Mike & Dianne D'Ambria #57, Mark & Linda Hopkins #41