November, 2026

Greetings for the season of Thanksgiving



Autumn leaves must fall….. I hear an old melody reaching out from the mid-60s which is, ironically, titled 'The Summer Song'. And, as I sit here in the upstairs office looking out toward damp, gray skies with the last bit of dull color hanging on, watching our large oak shed its canopy, thankful that the bumper crop of acorns are finally swept away, I also feel the pull to the next season and the excitement of upcoming holidays spent with family and friends. Some of us feel the pull of the growing season throughout the year, whether it is winter sowing, clippings of coleus in glass containers and saving garden treasures to rest in sunny windows. I used to keep a bright hibiscus through the winter just for that continual pop of radiant color. Hopefully, you are all nearing the end of autumn clean-up and filling in with your bulbs for the spring. However, come spring, I will be wishing I had been a little more dedicated in putting those certain sections of the garden to sleep. More about that next year…. Let's not get too far ahead of ourselves, there is still plenty to celebrate now!

Dates to Remember:

November 20th - Festival of Lights (Springfield on the Move) at the Great Hall, 6 to 9 pm

November 30 – December 4 - CHRISTMAS POP-UP MARKET WEEK at the Congregational Church

December 9th - Christmas Luncheon @ The Inn at Weathersfield

December 12th - Springfield's Winter Market - Inside the Great Hall, 9 AM to 2 PM

January 20th - Winter Board Meeting @ Nolin Murray Center

CHRISTMAS POP-UP MARKET WEEK

Here is a quick re-cap of the week's activities that begin in a little over 3 WEEKS!!!!

Prep Activities:

GREENS: If you have volunteered to contribute to the greens, please watch for an email from Barb Riotte for information on when and where they should be delivered.

WORKSHOP SPACE: Pat Townsend is overseeing the floor protection and table layout prior to 9AM Monday morning. We need 2-3 people to help us tape down the floor covering to be there around 8 am.

Monday, November 30th 9 AM – Wreath Workshop and Moving Day

ACTIVITY: Fun begins at 9AM until finish! There will also be a crew moving the supplies and displays from storage at Park Street School (weather permitting**)

HOSTESSES: Barb Lacey, Pat Townsend and Bonny Andrews

LUNCH: Soup Day Soup and bread provided

NOTE: Wreaths will be distributed among members to be stored in cars, cool barns and garages until Thursday.

Tuesday, December 1st – No activities on this day ** unless weather interferes with moving plans for Monday.

Wednesday, December 2nd 9 AM - Creative Workshop

ACTIVITY: This is the day we make and decorate the famous Boxwood Trees and centerpieces

HOSTESSES: Sandy Peplau and Ann Herrick providing breakfast treats

LUNCH: BYOBL (Bring your own bag lunch!)

Thursday, December 3rd 9 AM - Creative Workshop and Set up Christmas Shop

ACTIVITY: Decorate the wreaths and anything left from previous day.

HOSTESSES: Debbie Smith and Mari Csiszer

LUNCH: Pizza Day! Pizza will be delivered and provided by the Garden Club

THIS IS ALSO CLEAN UP DAY. ALL THE CREATIVE SUPPLIES WILL BE DELIVERED BACK TO THE PARK STREET STORAGE.

Friday, December 4th 9 AM–3 PM CHRISTMAS POP-UP MARKET DAY

If you would like to help with the sales that day, please contact Bonny Andrews.

We have moved the hours this year to allow time to have the space ready by 4pm for kickoff of the Springfield Downtown Holiday Celebration. The kiddos start showing up right away to have their maps stamped and grab their cookies and cocoa!!
(The following Monday is a final clean-up option).

Please remember to bring your tools and label them in case they end up in Lost & Found:

- Garden clippers
- Wire cutters
- Needle nose pliers
- Hot glue gun (*club provides glue sticks for larger sized guns*)
- Craft scissors
- SGC apron
- Light work gloves

Some people will bring a chair/stool for high tables

SANTA CLAUS CLUB SIGN-UP

Sandy just sent out the email with the list of names for the Santa Claus Club. As of today, I think the list has been fully accounted for. The gifts can be dropped off at the Congregational Church two days during Pop-up Market, Monday or Wednesday between 9AM – 1PM.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON - Wednesday, December 9th at 11 AM.

Be on the lookout for an email very soon regarding menu choices, with an RSVP deadline of November 25th.

The cost to members is $35.00 per person.
This luncheon is also a nice opportunity to write a separate check for your dues.

Active membership: $30.00
Supportive membership: $45.00

Meals on Wheels – We are in need of clean small cat food cans. If you can help, please email Therese Burton at tabmagic@yahoo.com

I always look forward to spending time with you all during Pop-Up week. While we view this as our main fundraiser for the year, it is another way to share our love of all things gardening with our community. And how much fun is it watching our buyers line up, anxiously waiting to come in for first choice of wreaths and boxwood trees.

As always, even if you cannot commit to the week's activities, we hope you stop by to say hi, admire the beautiful creations, grab a snack and enjoy the festive spirit.

Talk soon,
Adrienne