

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XVI No. 11

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

November 1, 2016

Historical Society of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

November's question: The Toothakers were a prominent family in early Litchfield. The name had nothing to do with a trip to the dentist. What was its derivation?

October's answer: Hornbeam—the very hard wood commonly called “iron wood”—was used by early settlers for wagon wheel hubs and mallets.

FMI: www.historicalsocietyoflitchfieldmaine.org

Litchfield Community Food Bank

We invite you to consider donating for the Thanksgiving Dinner Boxes for Food Bank-eligible families. These boxes enable families to have a wonderful Thanksgiving Dinner. We appreciate your contributions to them. Also, thanks to several farmers and gardeners who have made some great donations of produce to the Food Bank this year. It has contributed greatly to the fresh and nutritious food we offer to our neighbors who need some assistance.

FMI: Call Rayna, 582-4098.

Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop

We have three racks of gently used jeans for ladies, sorted by size. Great choices!

Men's shirts and pants are just waiting for you! Fall and winter clothes are coming out and looking great. Come see for yourself. Interested in volunteering? There are some 9 a.m.-noon, Sat. slots available.

FMI: Call Rayna, 582-4098.

Recreation

Youth Recreation is accepting basketball registrations. The program is open to children ranging in age from preschool (4 years old) to 4th graders. This program runs from the end of Nov. to the middle of Feb. Registration cost is \$30/child. We will accept registrations until Nov. 14.

FMI: Contact the town office, and ask for Tiffany.

See the Recreation page on the town website (www.litchfieldmaine.org) for a registration form.

Creators 4-H

Nov. 6 and 20 meetings at Libby-Tozier School, 3:30 p.m. Come join the fun. We do crafts and science.

FMI: Call Lori, 754-3931.

Senior Center Corner

466 Academy Road (next to Libby-Tozier School), Tel.: 215-4595; or Pat, 441-9005

Open: Every Mon. and Fri., 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Every Wed., 8:30 a.m.-noon

Closed: Fri., Nov. 11 (Veterans Day); Thu.-Fri., Nov. 24-25 (Thanksgiving Day)

Bowling, 1-7-10 Lanes, Augusta, Thu., Nov. 17, 12:30 p.m. Call 441-9005 to car pool. Meet at noon.

Book Club, Wed., Nov. 9, 12:30 p.m., at the Senior Center. Book: *The Wedding Gift*, by Marlen Suyapa Bodden.

Christmas Cards—Come in and decorate cards with Anne Thompson, Wed., Nov. 16, 1 p.m.

The pot luck lunch and celebration of **November birthdays** is Fri., Nov. 18.

Line dancing instruction (beginner and advanced) Mon.'s at 9:30 a.m.

Aerobics on Wed.'s and Fri.'s at 8:30 a.m.

Music Practice for The Carol Bailey String Band & Chorus is Wed.'s, 10 a.m., Nov. 2, 9, 16, and 30; none on Wed., Nov. 23.

Feldenkrais Awareness Through Movement Method Exercise Class, Fri., Nov. 4, 9:30 a.m.

Cribbage tournament is on Fri., Nov. 4, 1 p.m., \$3 participation fee.

Cribbage Games for fun on Mon.'s, 11 a.m., and Fri.'s, 10 a.m. Bring a lunch and stay in the afternoon on Mon.'s for **bingo**, and Fri.'s for **cards**.

Thrift Shop open first and third Mon.'s, 10-11 a.m.

Seniors Advisory Committee, 10 a.m., Tues., Nov. 15.

November Roadrunner Trips:

Thu., Nov. 10—Christmas Tree Shop, Portland Mall, and lunch at the Country Buffet. Leave at 8:30 a.m. from Sportsmen's Club.

Tue., Nov. 22—FEZtival of Trees, Lewiston. Time to be announced.

REMINDER: Exercise equipment available for use 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Mon.'s and Fri.'s; 9 a.m. to noon, Wed.'s.

Stop in at the Center or call for more information, a cup of coffee/tea, and activity/trip sign up. Check out our books, or work on the 1,000-piece puzzle.

Something New—A Wii Game has been donated to the Center, along with additional games, i.e. boxing, racing, hunting, golf, tennis, bowling, etc. Come in and try it out!! A good winter activity for men and women of all ages, standing or sitting as needed.

Town Manager

As discussed in last month's column, a **Special Town Meeting** was held on Tue., Oct. 11, 2016 at Libby-Tozier School to vote on the two proposed ordinances relating to the recall of elected town officers. At that meeting, the first proposed ordinance—the citizens' petition ordinance—was voted down. The second ordinance—the select board's competing ordinance—was adopted, and went into force immediately.

"Thank You!!!" to all the golfers/sponsors who participated in the annual Monmouth/Litchfield Fuel Assistance Golf Tournament held at Cobbossee Colony Golf Course. Approximately \$2,754 was given to the **Litchfield Fuel Fund** for use in the upcoming winter season. That amount will go a long way to helping Litchfield families keep warm this winter. Again, your participation is appreciated.

Public Works is completing winter preparations by putting up winter salt/sand in the sand shed.

The Town Manager attended a 1-day training class covering **municipal law**. This includes any new laws and regulations which have been adopted since the last class.

Reminder—All are welcome to attend **Select Board meetings**. Come and see how town government operates.

Tacoma Lakes Association

We are excited that TLA has found a home in the historic Litchfield Academy Building.

Renovations are underway. To date, officers and directors have applied fresh paint to walls and window trim and removed carpeting. Existing woodwork/shelving will be cleaned and polished. New flooring will arrive and be installed soon. Once flooring is installed area rugs will be put in place, and the search will begin for office furniture. "THANK YOU" to the generous individual who donated a computer and printer to the space.

This space will provide TLA with much needed storage space for our records and a "home of our own" in which to have our meetings. More importantly, TLA anticipates being open to the public a partial day per week providing information on the history of the lakes and important literature regarding issues that affect the future health of our wonderful and beautiful lakes. TLA looks forward to seeing you all soon in our new home.

FMI: James Adams at jadams13@gmail.com; website at <http://www.tacomalakes.org/>; or like us on Facebook.

Community Holiday Craft Fairs

The following organizations and businesses will be holding holiday craft fairs on Sat., Nov. 19:

Sportsmen Club, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Local crafters; lunch available.

Plains Baptist Church, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Local crafters; cookie walk; lunch available.

Applewald Farm, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (also Sun., 9 a.m.-2 p.m.) Free hot cider; local crafters; collectibles, rustic décor, baked goods, winter vegetables, free door prizes.

RUS4 PTA at Oak Hill MS, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Crafters and vendors; raffle prizes; baked goods, soup and chowder.

Clerk's Corner

Don't forget the **office is closed** on Thu., Nov. 24, for Thanksgiving Day.

General Election and Referendum Voting will take place on Tue., Nov. 8, 2016, from 8 a.m.-8 p.m., at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club.

The six ballot questions that will appear on the referendum ballot (in the order they will appear on the ballot) are listed below:

Question 1: Citizen Initiative

Do you want to allow the possession and use of marijuana under state law by persons who are at least 21 years of age, and allow the cultivation, manufacture, distribution, testing, and sale of marijuana and marijuana products subject to state regulation, taxation and local ordinance?

Question 2: Citizen Initiative

Do you want to add a 3% tax on individual Maine taxable income above \$200,000 to create a state fund that would provide direct support for student learning in kindergarten through 12th grade public education?

Question 3: Citizen Initiative

Do you want to require background checks prior to the sale or transfer of firearms between individuals not licensed as firearms dealers, with failure to do so punishable by law, and with some exceptions for family members, hunting, self-defense, lawful competitions, and shooting range activity?

Question 4: Citizen Initiative

Do you want to raise the minimum hourly wage of \$7.50 to \$9 in 2017, with annual \$1 increases up to \$12 in 2020, and annual cost-of-living increases thereafter; and do you want to raise the direct wage for service workers who receive tips from half the minimum wage to \$5 in 2017, with annual \$1 increases until it reaches the adjusted minimum wage?

Question 5: Citizen Initiative

Do you want to allow voters to rank their choices of candidates in elections for U.S. Senate, Congress, Governor, State Senate, and State Representative, and to have ballots counted at the state level in multiple rounds in which last-place candidates are eliminated until a candidate wins by majority?

Question 6: Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$100,000,000 bond issue for construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities, equipment and property acquisition related to

Special Small Business Event

If you have a Litchfield business that would like to be part of a special "Small Business Saturday" event on Sat., Nov. 28, please email Cynthia (Applewald Farm) at applewaldfair@gmail.com; or call 268-9276.

Board Needs

Both the Planning Board and Appeals Board are in immediate need of members, associate members, and secretaries. If you would like to serve in one of these positions, please send a letter of interest to the Town Manager.

November 2016 Community Calendar

1 Tue	Fire/Rescue Officers Mtg. , Station, 6 p.m.	16 Wed	Road Committee , Town Office, 5:30 p.m. TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m.
2 Wed	TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m.	17 Thu	Litchfield Food Bank , noon-2 p.m.
3 Thu	Litchfield Food Bank , noon-2 p.m. Planning Board , Town Office, 6 p.m.	18 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
4 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10 a.m.-2 p.m.	19 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Community-wide Holiday Fairs , Sportsmen's Club, Plains Church, Applewald, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Oak Hill MS (RSU4 PTA), 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
5 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10 a.m.-2 p.m.	20 Sun	
6 Sun	DECMA Song Writing Awards , Sportsmen's Club, 12-5 p.m.	21 Mon	Academy Thrift Store , 10-11 a.m. Food Bank , Thanksgiving Dinner Box Pick-up, 2-4 p.m. Budget Committee , Town Office, 6:30 p.m. Historic Preservation Commission and Historical Society , Shorey Family Research Room, 7 p.m.
7 Mon	Academy Thrift Store , 10-11 a.m. Recreation Committee , Town Office, 6:30 p.m. Order of the Eastern Star , Masonic Hall, 7 p.m.	22 Tue	
8 Tue	Election Day All Voting at Sportsmen's Club , 8 a.m.-8 p.m.	23 Wed	TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m. Franks & Beans , Legion Hall, 6:30 p.m. American Legion , Legion Hall, 7 p.m.
9 Wed	TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m. Conservation Commission , Town Office, 6:30 p.m.	24 Thu	Thanksgiving Day Town Office , closed Litchfield Food Bank , closed Thanksgiving Dinner (free), Sportsmen's Club, 1 p.m. Bring something to share.
10 Thu	Food Bank , Thanksgiving Dinner Box Sign-up Deadline Litchfield Food Bank , noon-2 p.m. Snowmobile Club Meeting , Academy Bldg., 6 p.m.	25 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
11 Fri	Veterans Day Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10 a.m.-2 p.m. American Legion , Legion Hall, Flag Retirement Ceremony with refreshments, 10:30 a.m.	26 Sat	Public Breakfast , Masonic Hall, 7-10 a.m. Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
12 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Legion Auxiliary , Legion Hall, 10 a.m. Public Supper , Sportsmen's Club, 5-6 p.m. Music Jam , Sportsmen's Club, 6-8 p.m.	27 Sun	MCMA Christmas Country Show , Sportsmen's Club, 12-5 p.m. Bring a new unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots.
13 Sun	Country Sunday , Sportsmen's Club, 12-4:30 p.m.	28 Mon	Select Board Meeting , Town Office, 6:30 p.m.
14 Mon	Select Board Meeting , Town Office, 6:30 p.m. Sportsmen's Club Monthly Meeting , Sportsmen's Club, 7 p.m.	29 Tue	
15 Tue	Senior Advisory Comm. , Academy Bldg., 10 a.m. Fire/Rescue Station cleanup , 6 p.m. Fire/Rescue Assoc. Mtg. , Station, 6:30 p.m. Fire/Rescue Mtg. , Station, 7 p.m. Masons , Masonic Hall, 7:30 p.m.	30 Wed	TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m.



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 2—Town Manager, Tacoma Lakes Association, Clerk, Small Business Event, Boards
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 4—Newsletter Deadline, Invasive Plants, Public Works Employee Opening

BOX HOLDER

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www.litchfieldmaine.org
 Open: Mon.: 8:30 a.m.—7:00 p.m.
 Tue.—Thu.: 8:30 a.m.—6:00 p.m.
 Closed: Every Fri.

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4 The Litchfield Sodalite

December Issue Deadline: November 20, 2016, 5 p.m.
 Deliver material in any of the following ways:

- E-mail (sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org)
- U.S. mail to: Town Office, 2400 Hollowell RD

Road Committee

Invasive Plant of the Month: Shrub Honeysuckle
<https://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/loni1.htm>

Exotic bush honeysuckles can survive in sun or shade, wet or dry soils; in the sun they can grow to be 10’ tall. In our town they infest areas not mowed like the road sides and edges of fields, and have invaded intact forest understories. They have two competitive adaptations that put them on the *Considered Invasive in Maine* list: they leaf out earlier and stay green later than other plants providing photosynthetic advantage and the birds spread the seed by eating the fruit. However, the fruit is called “the junk food of the wild” for the low nutritional value, said Nancy Olmstead of the Maine Natural Areas Program. Their website connects to Cooperative Extension’s large, site-specific list of native plants to use to feed the birds and help you learn what to plant and where after you remove an invasive or otherwise disturb the ground: <https://extension.umaine.edu/publications/2500e/>.

What’s a homeowner to do? Learn what plants you have at Maine Natural Areas Program and Cooperative Extension. Early detection leads to easier control. Find the fact sheet for each plant

Invasive Plant of the Month—(cont’d.):
 and read up on how to control them at: http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/features/invasive_plants/invasives.htm

Come to the Road Committee meeting at 5:30 p.m. on the 3rd Wed. of each month at the Town Office.

Since all roads need to be ditched and graded regularly, the Public Works Department does not want to spread invasive plants.

FMI: Lindsay Nelsen—to visit and help identify—at 268-4569.

Wanted!!

Litchfield Public Works is looking for a qualified full-time equipment operator/plow truck driver with a Class B license.

If interested, please come to the Litchfield Town Office to obtain an employment application.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Litchfield is an EOE.