

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XVII No. 4

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

April 1, 2017

Historical Society of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

April question: Early Litchfield schools had three major expense items: A. Teacher's Salary, B. Teacher's Board, C. Cost of wood to heat the school. Can you put them in order from smallest to largest?

February question: If your ancestor had lived in Litchfield's Thurlow neighborhood on what present day road would they have lived? answer: the Ferin Road
To read more about the history of Litchfield go to www.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

RSU SCHOOL NEWS

If you have a child that will be age 4 by October 15th (for Pre K) or age 5 by October 15 (for Kindergarten) please contact either the Sabattus Primary School (375-4525) or the Libby-Tozier School (268-4137) to get the information to register your child. If your child is currently attending a RSU4 Pre-K program, there is no need to re-register him/her or have him/her screened.

There will be a PTA meeting on Monday, 4/10, at 6:30 p.m. It will be held at Oak Hill Middle School. Oak Hill High School will host an All District Band Concert featuring the bands from grades 5-12. Each group will perform separately and then do one piece together. This will happen on Tuesday, April 11th, at 6:30 p.m.

The Carrie Ricker Drama Club will be doing the play "Peter Pan". Show times are Friday, 4/28 at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, 4/29 at 2 p.m. The performance will be held in the cafeteria at Carrie Ricker.

Spring Nature Day Camp with Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed

The Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed's 11th annual Spring Nature Day Camp will be held during April school vacation week at the YMCA Camp of Maine on Cobbossee Lake in East Winthrop.

Two 2-day sessions will be offered: Tuesday and Wednesday - April 18 & 19, 2017 and Thursday and Friday- April 20 & 21, 2017. Both sessions, open to children in grades 3-5, will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day, and include a mixture of fun indoor and outdoor activities that focus on the natural world, including geocaching, fishing, hiking and exploring pond, stream and forest habitats.

Early bird registration special of \$80/pp until April 5th! After April 5th, camp registration for each 2-day camp session is \$90/pp and includes the use of all equipment and daily afternoon snack. Limited scholarships are available! Early registration is highly recommended as space is limited. Registration forms can be downloaded at www.watershedfriends.com
FMI, contact Cami Wilbert, Education & Programs Coordinator at 621-4100 or camil@watershedfriends.com

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: Mon., April 17 (Patriot's Day)

Bowling, 2 pm, Wed. 4/12 at 1-7-10 lanes, Augusta. Call 441-9005 for carpooling.

Book Club, Wed. 4/12 at 12:30pm, Senior Center. "Commonwealth" by Ann Patchett.

Pot luck lunch and celebration of **April birthdays** is Friday 4/21.

Line dancing instruction, Mondays, 9:30am beginners and advanced.

Aerobics/Bokwa classes, Wed. and Fri. at 8:30.

Carol Bailey String Band concert schedule: Wed. 4/5-Montello Heights, Lewiston

1 pm; Thurs. 4/13-Arch Beta Apts., Augusta 2 pm; Wed. 4/19-Schooner Estates, Auburn 10 am; Clover Manor-Auburn 2 pm; Wed. 4/26-Families Matter, Hallowell City Hall 10 am; Maine Veteran's Home, Augusta 2:30 pm; Wed. 5/3-Sarah Frye Home, Auburn 1 pm

Awareness through Movement class, 9:30am, Friday 4/21 & 28 only.

Cribbage games, Mondays, 11am, Fridays 10am-12pm. Bring a lunch and stay for bingo on Mondays in the afternoon & on Friday cards.

Academy Thrift Shop is open the first Monday 4/3 in April only.

Senior's Advisory Committee, 10am, Tuesday 4/18.

REMINDER: Exercise equipment available for use 9-4 Monday and Friday; 8:30-12 Wed. Come in and use the equipment here, save a trip to Lewiston or Augusta.

First trip for 2017 - Oxford Casino, Thursday 4/27
We are still **looking for another large flat screen TV**.

Coming in May - making **Mother's Day-Birthday-Thinking of you cards** - Wednesday 4/10 at 1 p.m.

Please stop in to the Senior Center for more information a cup of coffee or tea. Come and get a book (paperback & hard cover), or pick up a puzzle - we have a good variety of sizes.



Town Manager

Office Closures—Please be aware of the following office closure in April:

Mon., April 17, in observance of **Patriots Day**



Voting-Litchfield Town Meeting—1950's

Conservation Commission News

The Conservation Commission is working with the Smithfield Plantation Trustees again this year to provide field trips for students at Carrie Ricker School. We will assist them in putting on the annual Vernal Pool Day April 28 and they will provide space for us to hold our Forestry Day event May 18. Both are for 3rd graders.

We have some trail and bench work to complete before then. Anyone wishing to join us or help with projects please contact Tim Tracy - 268-4484

BASEBALL, SOFTBALL & T-BALL

REGISTRATIONS—Litchfield youth recreation will be accepting applications for our youth baseball, softball and t-ball programs that will begin in the spring. Applications can be obtained at the Litchfield town office now through Monday, April 3rd. Applications can also be downloaded off of the Litchfieldmaine.org website. Programs will be offered for children ranging from the ages of 4 through 13 years old. The registration fee for t-ball and 8U softball are \$35 per child the fee for the older baseball and softball teams are \$50 per child. If you have any questions you may contact Tiffany Caton, Recreation Director at the town office.

WOODBURY POND PARK ATTENDANTS

POSITIONS—We are accepting applications at the Litchfield town office now through April 26th for Woodbury Pond Park attendant positions. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and must be willing to work weekends.

Clerk's Corner

Property Taxes—The third and final 2016 real estate tax payment is due April 18th. The 2014 property tax must be paid before April 6, 2017 to avoid automatic foreclosure and loss of property

2017-Nomination Papers—Nomination papers for the following positions are available at the Town Office on March 20th, 2017 and must be returned, completed with at least 25 registered voters signatures by May 1, 2017 at 6:00pm: **Selectman, School Board Member, Budget Committee and Academy Trustee.** For more information please contact the Town Office at 268-4721.

Tacoma Lakes Association

As Spring finally approaches, the officers and directors of TLA remain busy. Our new office space is nearly ready for its unveiling, grants are being applied for, and planning is underway for our annual meeting. Officers and directors will be meeting soon, utilizing our new office space for the first time. Once the snow pack melts, TLA will be installing new "Welcome To Tacoma Lakes" signs along route 126, replacing the current ones that have been in place for many years. The new signs will be complete with our enhanced logo, as well as both our website, and Facebook page information. The new signs will offer increased visibility, and an overall fresh look to the area.

Our organization cannot continue to be strong without our valued members. Our annual membership is only \$15, and if you are not already a member, but would like to help insure the future quality of our amazing lakes, membership forms are available on our website at www.tacomalakes.org. As always should you have questions or concerns, do not hesitate to reach out via e-mail, jfadams13@gmail.com, or by telephone at 268-2070.

4H - The Creators

Will be meeting on Sunday, April 2 at 3:00 pm at Libby Tozier School. We will be tie dying t-shirts.

On Wednesday, April 19th we are having a bake sale/info on gardening event at Tractor Supply in Augusta from 9am to 2 pm. Also, help support 4H by buying a Clover.

Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop

Changeover Nights - April 4 and 5. Volunteers needed and welcome. Get a first look at some great items. Shopping encouraged. Best clothing prices around!

April 2017 Community Calendar

- | | | | |
|--------|---|---------|--|
| 1 Sat | Transfer Station , 8a.m.—4p.m.
Academy Thrift Store , 9am—noon
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10am-2pm
Litchfield Sportsmen's Club
Public Supper & Music Jam, Supper 5pm-6pm,
Jam 6pm-8pm, \$7/person | 16 Sun | Litchfield Food Bank , LCCC, 12:30pm-2pm |
| 2 Sun | Litchfield Sportsman's Club
Country Sunday Live Music, noon-4:30pm , \$5/
person | 17 Mon | Town Office , closed, Patriot's Day Holiday
Academy Thrift Store , 10a.m.-11a.m.
Budget Committee , Town Office, 6:30 p.m.
Historic Preservation Comm, Historical So-
ciety 7:00, Town Office Basement
Historical Society Meeting at 7:00PM |
| 3 Mon | Academy Thrift Store , 10a.m.-11a.m.
Recreation Comm , Town Office, 6:30pm
RSU 4 PTO , OHMS, 6:30 p.m.
Order of the Eastern Star , 7:00PM, Masonic
Building | 18 Tue | Senior Advisory Comm. , Academy Bldg. 10am
Fire/Rescue Station Cleanup , 6 p.m.
Fire/Rescue Assoc. Mtg. Station , 7:00 p.m.
Masons , Masonic Hall, 7:30 p.m. |
| 4 Tue | Fire/Rescue Officers Mtg. -Fire Station,
6:30pm
Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop Work
Night, Season Changeover, 6:30pm | 19 Wed | TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m.
Franks&Beans , Legion hall, 6:30 p.m.
American Legion Post 181 , Legion Hall 7pm
Road Committee , Town Office, 5:30 p.m. |
| 5 Wed | TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30p.m.
Conservation Commission , at Smithfield Planta-
tion. 6:30pm, 5 PM to help with trail work is wel-
come.
Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop Work Night,
Season Changeover, 6:30pm | 20 Thu | |
| 6 Thu | Planning Board Meeting , Town Office,
6:00 p.m. | 21 Fri. | Town Office , closed
Transfer Station , 8 a.m.—4 p.m.
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10 a.m.-2 p.m. |
| 7 Fri | Town Office , closed
Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. | 22 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. |
| 8 Sat | Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Academy Thrift Store , 9a.m.-noon
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m.
Legion Auxiliary , Legion Hall, 10 a.m. | 23 Sun | Sportsmen's Club -Country Coming Home
Show, noon-5pm |
| 9 Sun | | 24 Mon | Select Board Meeting , Town Office, 6:30pm |
| 10 Mon | Select Board Meeting , Town Office,
6:30p.m.
Sportsmen's Club Meeting , Sportsman's
Club, 7:00p.m. | 25 Tue | |
| 11 Tue | | 26 Wed | TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m.
RSU 4 School Board , OHHS, 6:30 p.m. |
| 12 Wed | TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30p.m.
RSU 4 School Board , OHHS, 6:30 p.m. | 27 Thu | Snowmobile Club Meeting , Academy Bldg.
6:00 p.m. |
| 13 Thu | Snowmobile Club Meeting , Academy Bldg.
6:00p.m. | 28 Fri | Town Office , closed
Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10 a.m.-2p.m. |
| 14 Fri | Town Office , closed
Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. | 29 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. |
| 15 Sat | Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10am.-12 pm | 30 Sun | |

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BOX HOLDER

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The Litchfield Sodalite
 Litchfield Town Office
 2400 Hollowell Road
 Litchfield, ME 04350
 Tel.: 207-268-4721 FAX: 207-268-2196
sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org
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.

May Issue Deadline: April 19, 2017, 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 Update -Invasive Plant of the

Month: Autumn Olive / Russian Olive are large woody shrubs with silvery leaves that have escaped from cultivation and are a particular threat to sunny open and semi open areas. They tolerate poor sandy soil conditions. Their nitrogen fixing capabilities can interfere with the nitrogen cycle of native communities that may depend on infertile soils and they can quickly colonize infertile soils, outcompeting native woodies that grow more slowly on those sites. They produce large amounts of fruit which are readily consumed and dispersed by the birds. They re-sprout vigorously after cutting or fire. Over time these colonies can grow thick enough to crowd out native plants. The large masses of shrubs that were removed from the 295 Litchfield Richmond exit recently were Autumn Olive. They can be seen at the new Town park and along many roads in the sandy shoulders.

Road Committee—(cont'd.)

Control – From Cooperative Extension Bulletin #2525 “The best method is to prevent them from becoming established. Plants should be removed as soon as possible if they are found newly colonizing an area. Small plants and seedlings can be hand pulled, especially when the soil is moist. Herbicide treatment is probably the best method for eradicating larger, well established plants as cutting stimulates sprouting and leads to thicker growth.” NEWS There is a new product for controlling invasives called “Buckthorn Baggie”, named after the invasive mid-size trees Common or Glossy Buckthorn. It is essentially a heavy bag placed over the stump of a cut down woody invasive, depriving it of light, resulting in death of the plant. See more at: <http://news.wisc.edu/buckthorn-baggie-kills-invasive-trees-without-chemicals/#sthash.zW00Gj5j.dpuf>