

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XVII No. 5

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

May 1, 2017

Historical Society of Litchfield Trivia Quiz:

May question: The intersection of the Richmond Road and the Dead River road was formerly called what "corner"?

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? answer: A - Teacher's Salary, C - Cost of wood to heat the school, B - Teacher's Board.

To read more about the history of Litchfield go to

WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

Summer Nature Day Camp- Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed is offering a summer nature day camp to any 4th, 5th, or 6th grader. There will be swimming, fishing, hiking, geocaching, exploring and more. Weeks of July 17-21 and July 31—August 4. Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30. Contact the friends at 621-4100 or Cami at cam1@watershedfriends.com

Annual Girls State Supper—The American Legion Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting our Annual Girl's State Supper on Saturday evening, May 13th from 4 to 6 PM. We support junior high school candidates from both Litchfield and Wales every year. Please come and meet this year's candidates!! We will be serving beans, hotdogs, ham, roles, casseroles and desserts,. Tea, coffee and punch will also be served. We request a donation to support this wonderful program!! The friends they meet and make will be lifelong as they learn about our government and how it functions. Please come and enjoy a fun evening with our candidates!!

Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop-It's official! Spring has arrived along with some great clothes for women, men and children. Most of the treasures are on display and we'd love to have you come see them. Bring a friend and see what bargains we have to freshen your spring and summer wardrobe. If you have donations of clean, gently used clothing, you can bring them whenever we are open. See the calendar for dates and hours.

RSU4 School News - The Carrie Ricker Drama Club will perform the play "**Peter Pan**" on Friday, 5/5. It will begin at 7 p.m.

There will be a "Spring is Finally Here" concert at Carrie Ricker on May 11th. At 6 p.m. the 5th grade band and chorus will perform as well as the entire 4th grade. At 7:15 p.m. all of grade 3 will have their concert.

There will be screenings for incoming Pre- Kindergarten and Kindergarten students on May 16th and 17th, These will be held at Sabattus Primary. For more information you can call 375-4515 (Sabattus Primary) or 268-4137 (Libby-Tozier).



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., May 29 (Memorial Day)

May 2017 Senior Corner

The Senior Center is **closed on May 29** – Memorial Day!

The Carol Bailey String Band is performing on Wednesday, May 3 at the Sarah Frye Home, Auburn @ 1 p.m. Leave from the Sportsmen's Club at noon.

Awareness Through Movement class is 9:30-10:30 on Friday, May 5, 12, 19 & 26 with instructor Lindsay Nelsen.

Join us for Bowling on Thursday, May 11 at 1-7-10 lanes in Augusta at 12:30, call 441-9005 for car-pooling.

The book club meeting is on May 10 at 12. The book to be discussed is "At the Water's Edge" by Sara Gruen.

Making cards with Anne Thompson - *Thinking of you; Mother's Day; Get Well* - May 10 at 1

The pot luck lunch and celebration of May birthdays is Friday, May 19.

Line dancing instruction Mondays at 9:30 for beginners and advanced. **Aerobics classes** are Wednesday and Friday at 8:30.

Cribbage games for fun on Mondays at 11 and Fridays 10-12. Bring a lunch and stay for cards in the afternoon.

The thrift shop is open the first and third Monday 10-11.

Join us for music practice at 10 on Wednesdays. If you like to sing and/or play an instrument come and join in the fun.

The **Seniors Advisory Committee** meeting is at 10 on May 16 at the Senior Center.

The "**Roadrunner**" trips for May are **Thursday, May 25**-Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens in Boothbay. Leave from the Sportsmen's club @ 9;

Wednesday, May 31 - Lakewood Theatre - "Arsenic and Old Lace" @ 2, Lunch at Ken's Restaurant, Skowhegan. Leave from Sportsmen's club at 10:30.

Please stop in to the Senior Center for more information, a cup of coffee or tea and to sign up for the **trips & activities**. Check out the puzzles & books.

Town Manager-As we wrap up the final 2017-18 Municipal Budget I would like to remind you of the upcoming Town Elections and Annual Town Meeting. The Town Elections will be held on June 13, 2017, at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club from 8:00 A.M to 8:00 P.M. You will be voting for Selectmen, RSU 4 Board Member, Budget Committee Member and Litchfield Academy Trustee. The Annual Town Meeting will follow on June 17, 2017 at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club beginning at 10:00

First Responders Class - Litchfield First Responders are holding a First Responders Class for all interested people. The tentative schedule will be to meet every Tuesday from May 16 through June 28 from 6:30pm-9:30pm and a couple of Saturdays—June 10—24 at the Litchfield Fire & Rescue Department. Cost is \$350.00 and the cost of the book \$75/\$100. Possible scholarships may be available. If you would like to make a donation towards a scholarship for a local citizen of town, please make a check out to LFA (Litchfield Firefighters Assoc.) Please contact Tina Gowell at 485-5565 as soon as possible to sign up.

Litchfield Community Action Coalition—Litter, Laughter, and Lunch, Saturday May 6th - The Litchfield Community Action Coalition is sponsoring a roadside clean-up and lunch. Come out and celebrate Litchfield! Citizens who want to work together in crews will meet at the fire station at 8 am on Saturday morning. We will pick up roadside trash, including bottles, cans, plastic bags, and cups, but not large items that require tipping fees, such as tires. Any money from recyclables will go the Litchfield Conservation Committee who have generously helped fund the event.

A celebratory lunch will be held afterward at the Litchfield Fire Station from 11:30 to 1:30, rain or shine. It's free! It's spring! So please come out and enjoy some refreshments in the company of neighbors. Be a part of the clean-up and sign the 2017 Roadside Clean Up Honor Roll at the event to be eligible for free passes to the Applewald Farm Fall Corn Maze, generously donated as a thank you to clean up participants (first come, first serve). If you can't join the Saturday event but would still like to participate, pick up trash the week before. Please call David Blocher at 212-5900 so he can mark off the roads you cleared before May 6. Hoping you all can pitch in as "many hands make light work"!

Woodbury Pond Park Attendant Positions Available-We are accepting applications at the Litchfield town office now for Woodbury Pond Park attendant positions. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and must be willing to work weekends.

Recreation Department - A big thank you to our sponsors for this baseball season, they are Litchfield Fuel, Augusta Natural Gas and Taylor Rental.



Clerk's Corner -RCAM Gardening Services-We can help you grow and preserve your own food. We can provide seeds, seedling distribution (see below dates), container gardens, composting, site visits, workshops and more. This is offered to people experiencing financial hardship. Please bring 3 months proof on income for all household members, such as; photo id, current utility bill, etc. Sign up date is May 2, 2017 at the Litchfield Town Office from 1pm -2:30pm. Call Ellen at RCAM at 524-5095 to sign up for an appointment if you are unable to make any of these dates.

2017-Nomination Papers for the following positions are due May 1, 2017 by 6:00pm: **Selectman, School Board Member, Budget Committee** and **Academy Trustee**.

Kennebec Land Trust's Spring Programs-

Fiddlehead Walk and Talk, Capital Area Sunday, May 7, 2:00 PM Learn how to properly identify and sustainably harvest and cook Ostrich Fern fiddleheads in this program. Part of the program will be outside, so bring your boots! Led by Dave Fuller, an Agriculture and Non-Timber Forest Product Professional with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. His past research has included a study on the effects of harvesting fiddleheads from wild fern stands. Space is limited so please RSVP soon (377-2848 or reply to this email), no later than Tuesday, May 2. The program will be in the capital area-the exact meeting location will be shared when you RSVP.

2017 Lyceum Field Trip:

Torsey Pond Nature Preserve Bird Walk, Readfield Saturday, June 10, 8 AM We will look for breeding birds in the Preserve woods and for wetland birds at the Preserve's duck blind. Ninety-nine species of birds have been documented at this preserve. Will we find the hundredth species? Potential birds include various warblers, Virginia rail, swamp sparrow, sandhill crane, hermit thrush, and scarlet tanager. FMI contact 377-2848

Tacoma Lakes Association -Did you know our annual membership fee is only \$15? Did you know you do not have to be a lake front property owner to become a member? Anyone who cares about our beautiful lakes can be a member. We are an organization devoted to the health of our lakes through conservation and education. Our officers and directors are all volunteers who work year round to help insure our spectacular lakes remain healthy, and pristine. Our group monitors all of the marking buoys on our lakes to allow for safe boating. Our members participate in milfoil awareness training programs, and our plant patrol team is active throughout the summer months inspecting our lakes for milfoil, and other invasive species. Our boat inspection program at the public boat launch continues to be a success, with trained inspectors making certain no visiting boats introduce invasive plants to our lakes. Our group has been instrumental in continuing maintenance work on the dam which is critical to maintaining a consistent water level for our lakes. Our diligence discovered damaged fencing at the dam this past winter, and repairs are underway. My goal as President this year is to increase our memberships. For only \$15 per year, you can help us continue the work we do to monitor the quality of our lakes. Having a group of lakes, with the level of quality we enjoy is a benefit to all who live in our communities. Our local economy grows during the summer months due to the many camp owners, and their families. Membership forms are available on our website at tacomalakes.org, and will be out in the spring newsletter later this spring. If you have any questions, concerns, or any feedback feel free to contact me.

May 2017 Community Calendar

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|--------|---|---------|---|
| 1 Mon | Academy Thrift Store , 10a.m.-11a.m.
Recreation Comm , Town Office, 6:30pm
RSU 4 PTA , OHMS, 6:30 p.m.
Order of the Eastern Star , 7:00PM, Masonic Building | 16 Tue | Senior Advisory Comm. , Center, 10am
Masons-Masonic Hall , 7:30pm
Fire Rescue Station clean-up , 6:00pm
Fire/Rescue Assoc. , Station, 6:30pm
Fire/Rescue Meeting , Station, 7:00pm |
| 2 Tue | Fire/Rescue Officers Mtg. -Fire Station, 6:30pm | 17 Wed | Road Committee , Town Office, 5:30pm
TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m. |
| 3 Wed | TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30p.m. | 18 Thur | |
| 4 Thu | Planning Board Meeting , Town Office, 6:00 p.m. | 19 Fri | Town Office , closed
Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. |
| 5 Fri | Town Office , closed
Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. | 20 Sat | Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Academy Thrift Store , 9a.m.-noon
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. |
| 6 Sat | Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Academy Thrift Store , 9a.m.-noon
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. | 21 Sun | Litchfield Food Bank , LCCC, 12:30-2pm |
| 7 Sun | | 22 Mon | Select Board Meeting , Town Office, 6:30pm |
| 8 Mon | Select Board Meeting , Town Office, 6:30p.m.
Sportsmen's Club Meeting , Sportsman's Club, 7:00p.m. | 23 Tue | |
| 9 Tue | First Responders Meeting , Station, 6:30pm | 24 Wed | Franks&Beans , Legion hall, 6:30 p.m.
American Legion Post 181 , Legion Hall 7pm
TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m.
RSU 4 School Board , OHHS, 6:30 p.m. |
| 10 Wed | TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30p.m.
RSU 4 School Board , OHHS, 6:30 p.m.
Conservation Comm -Town Office, 6:30pm | 25 Thur | Fair Directors , Sportsman's Club, 7:30pm |
| 11 Thu | | 26 Fri | Town Office , closed
Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10 a.m.-2p.m. |
| 12 Fri | Town Office , closed
Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m | 27 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. |
| 13 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.
Amer. Legion Ladies Aux , Legion Hall, 10am | 28 Sun | |
| 14 Sun | | 29 Mon | Town Office Closed , Memorial Day Holiday
9:00am Memorial Day Parade –begins at Central FireSstation to Plains Cemetery. |
| 15 Mon | Budget Committee , Town Office, 6:30 p.m.
Historic Preservation Comm , Historical Society 7:00, Town Office Basement
Historical Society Meeting , Town Office at 7:00PM | 30 Tue | |
| | | 31 Wed | TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m. |

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 4. Newsletter Deadline, Road Committee-Invasive Plants

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The Litchfield Sodalite
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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.

June Issue Deadline: May 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 Hallowell RD

Road Committee: Invasive Plant of the Month: Multiflora Rose

Is a fragrant rose invading our ecosystem a problem? Yes! The Multiflora (or many-flowered) rose has up to 15' long arching, abundantly-thorned canes that will sprout when they contact soil and send up a new plant, forming impenetrable thickets and crowding out other plants. It is everywhere, roadsides or the forest understory, moist or dry, sun or shade. (Be careful when approaching as the branches snag clothes and hair and are quite painful.) Then there are the seeds: those many 1" June flowers turn into many 1/3" red fruits late summer and are dispersed by birds, especially the mockingbird, cedar waxwing and American robin. A single plant can produce 500,000 or more seeds, which can remain viable for 10-20 years in the seed bank. Why did people bring it here? Rosa multiflora was introduced in 1886 from Japan to the United States as rootstock for cultivated roses. From 1930 to 1960 the U.S. Soil Conservation Service advocated its use as a component of living fences and erosion control plans. As late as 1960 its planting was still encouraged for wildlife food and cover. Control: as always, EARLY DETECTION and RAPID RESPONSE. See Maine Cooperative Extension bulletin #2509 for details; search online or call the number below. Japanese Knotweed update: <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/gotpests/weeds/japanese-knotweed.htm> If you have pernicious Knotweed you want to control you can develop a contract with the licensed spray applicator spraying the Town roads right of way next May/June. For information email litchfieldroads@fairpoint.net or call Lindsay Nelsen 268-4569.

