

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XVII No. 10

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

October 1, 2017

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz?

September question: *October question:* Early Litchfield's neighboring town of "Pond Town" preceded Litchfield by nearly a decade. At least two present day towns were originally part of "Pond Town". Can you name them? **September question:** Early settlers went to a lot of work and bother to produce potash. For what purpose was the potash produced? Answer: fertilizer. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to www.historicalsocietyoflitchfieldmaine.org

AARP Speaker - Are we an age friendly community? Saturday October 7th, 10:00 to 11:00, at the Senior Center. The Litchfield Community Action Coalition has invited Patricia Oh from AARP Maine to discuss issues about age friendly communities. This model for livable communities follows the world health organization (WHO/AARP) network of age friendly communities and provides a road map for communities to support healthy aging which in turn improves the well-being, satisfaction and quality of life for all residents of all ages. AARP announced that Maine leads the nation in this effort with a total of 40 towns and communities joining the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities (NAFC). Please join us for coffee and refreshments at 10:00 and speaker/discussion at 10:15, October 7th at the Senior Cen-

Litchfield Community Park is open for fall hiking! The gates are closed for the season but there are two walking entrances. You may enter at the main gate on Park Lane and from the Litchfield Townhouse Parking lot next to the town office. Look for the signs! This year has been busy with trails being marked and extended, the brush and debris cleared by Larry Nadeau and Richard Lane, Lindsay Nelson targeted invasive plants, RSU#4 students cleared trail entrances and cut brush, L.R. Nadeau put in a parking area and Richard Taylor cleared berms and brush to make the picnic area safe and visible. We still have lots of manual labor to do and the Conservation Commission invites you to join us. Bring a picnic, your children to explore the



October, 2017 Senior Center Corner

The Center will be closed on Monday, 10/9, Columbus Day

The Litchfield Senior Steppers (Line Dancers) will be performing at Farwell School, Lewiston during their Pumpkin Fest celebration at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 15

Bowling will be on Thursday, 10/12 at 1-7-10 lanes in Augusta. Call 441-9005 for car-pooling, leave at 12.

The book club discussion meeting is on Wednesday, 10/11 at 12:30. The book to be discussed is "The Paris Wife" by Paula McLain.

Making Christmas cards with Anne Thompson, Wed. 10/18 at 1 p.m. Come join in the fun and use your imagination in crafting your card.

The pot luck lunch and celebration of October birthdays & the 13th. Anniversary of the Senior Center is Friday, 10/20.

Halloween Party - Friday Oct 27 at 1, costumes optional, food, games, prizes, FUN!!

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

Feldenkrais Method Awareness Through Movement class with Lindsay Nelsen, instructor. Fridays, 10/6,13,20,27 at 9:30-10:30.

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

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

The Seniors Advisory Committee meeting is at 10 on 10/17.

The "Roadrunner" trips are Friday, Oct. 6 Senior Expo at Sunday River, leave at 6:30 a.m. from Sportsmen's Club; Sunday, Oct 15 the Litchfield Senior Steppers perform at the Pumpkin Fest at Farwell School, Lewiston; Thursday, Oct. 26 Oxford Casino, Leave at 8:30 a.m. from the Sportsmen' club. Thurs, Oct. 31 Trip to Salem, Ma., home of witches and goblins, costumes optional, Leave at 8 a.m. from Sportsmen's Club.

Upcoming trips for November - Nov. 14, Christmas Tree Shop, Portland Mall, Buffet lunch. Bus leaves Sportsmen's Club at 8:30; Kora Temple Christmas Trees, Lewiston, date to be announced.

RSU 4 News: We are excited to announce that the Oak Hill Adult & Community Education program will be offering a **FREE** Literacy Opportunity in our community! Story Time Adventure Hour's will be targeting children at the 2-4yr old age range, not yet enrolled into the district preschool program. During these Story Time Adventure Hours, an Adult Education Instructor will be providing family literacy techniques to use in your own home and daily routines, reading a special themed story each month and reiterating comprehension with a hands-on activity for each child! Each child leaves with a copy of the book used during Story Time Adventure Hour! Registration is required so that we can prepare accordingly. There is a minimum of 4 children required to hold the class and a maximum of 10 for each class. Registration is online at sabattus.maineadulted.org or by phone: (207)375-6605. Pre-Registration allows us to plan accordingly with books and materials. Upcoming Story Time dates:

10/12 – at Libby-Tozier School – 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
 10/16 – at Sabattus Primary School – 8:30 – 9:30
 10/23 – at Sabattus Primary School – 8:30 – 9:30
 10/ 26 –at Libby-Tozier School – 8:30 – 9:30

The Creators 4H meeting will be held on the 9th at 3:00 pm at Carrie Ricker school. This is due to the holiday; the meeting will be held outside. Our next meeting will be Oct 23rd at 5:00 pm in the cafeteria at Carrie Ricker. We will meet twice a month the second and fourth Monday. For more info call Lori at 754-3931.

The 4H Leader's Association is having a craft fair/ vendor fair on Oct. 21 from 10 to 3. Come shop for Christmas or for yourself. We will have a raffle table, also with items donated by each vendor. All proceeds will go to scholarships for camps and education trips for the Kennebec County area 4H kids. For more info call Lori at 754-3931.

Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop—Many thanks to the folks who helped with the changeover to fall-winter items. While there's still a few boxes to empty, I think you'll be pleased with what is offered. Come check out the great sweaters and tops, boots and shoes, jackets and coats. A few kids snow



Towns Manager/Clerk's Corner:

Website New Look – Our town website (Litchfieldmaine.org) has been updated. We hope you'll enjoy the new style and more easily find the information you're looking for.

Credit/Debit Cards Accepted – Credit/Debit cards are now accepted for payments at the Town Office. The 3rd party vendor collects a fee for transactions. The fee is \$1 for payments \$40 and under, and 2.5% for payments over \$40. If you wish to use a credit card we will let you know the fee prior to completing your transaction, so you have an opportunity to change your mind if the fee is too high.

Online Auto Registration – You may now renew your auto and trailer registrations online (in addition to Boats, ATVs, Snowmobiles, and Dog Licenses). Go to <https://www1.maine.gov/online/bmv/rapid-renewal/> or link from the town website (Litchfield.org) on the right side under "Popular."

Rabies Clinic – A rabies clinic is scheduled for Saturday, November 11th from 8:30 – 11 am at the Litchfield Fire Station. Cost will be \$20 per animal, which includes a \$5 donation to the Litchfield fuel fund.

Volunteers are needed to serve on the Litchfield Recreation Committee. Please email/mail/call the Town Office if you are interested.

Upcoming meetings at the Town Office–

Recreation Committee, Oct 2nd, 6:30 pm;
 Litchfield Planning Board Oct 5th, 6 pm;
Litchfield Board of Selectmen, Oct 9th and 23rd, 6:30 pm;
 Conservation Commission, Oct 9th 6:30pm;
Historical Society Oct 16th 6:30 pm;
 Budget Committee, Oct 16th 6:30 pm;
Road Committee, Oct 23rd, 6:30 pm

Kennebec Land Trust—The land trust accreditation program recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. The Kennebec Land Trust is pleased to announce it is applying for accreditation. A public comment period is now open. The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance, conducts an extensive review of each applicant's policies and programs. The Kennebec Land Trust seeks accreditation to ensure that its practices meet or exceed the nationally recognized best practices

The Commission invites public input and accepts signed, written comments on pending applications. Comments must relate to how The Kennebec Land Trust complies with national quality standards. These standards address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust. Full list of standards.

To learn more about the accreditation program and to submit a comment, visit www.landtrustaccreditation.org, or email your comment to info@landtrustaccreditation.org.

October 2017 Community Calendar

1 Sun		16 Mon	Budget Committee-6:30pm Historic Preservation Comm- 7pm, Town Office Historical Society Meet, 7pm, Town Office
2 Mon	Lit. Recreation Com. Meeting-6:30pm	17 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
3 Tue	First Responders Meeting, Station, 6:30pm	18 Wed	Road Committee—6:30, Town Office
4 Wed	Order of Eastern Star-Masonic Hall-7pm TOPS- Carrie Ricker School-6:30pm	19 Thur	
5 Thur	Planning Board - 6:00pm	20 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10a.m.-2p.m.
6 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10a.m.-2p.m.	21 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 Sportsman's Club-Bean Supper (5pm-6pm) & music jam (6pm-8pm), \$7 Morning Star Hall-Public Bean Supper-6pm
7 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 Sportsman's Club-Bean Supper (5pm-6pm) & music jam (6pm-8pm), \$7	22 Sun	
8 Sun	Country Sunday – 12-4:30pm, \$5 admission, Sportsmen's Club	23 Mon	Select Board Meeting, Town Office, 6:30pm
9 Mon	Select Board Meeting, Town Office, 6:30pm Sportsmen's Club Meeting, Sportsman's Club, 7:00pm Open to all	24 Tue	
10 Tue		25 Wed	TOPS- Carrie Ricker School-6:30pm RSU 4 School Committee-6:30, OHHS Franks&Beans, Legion Hall, 6:30pm American Legion Post 181, Legion Hall 7
11 Wed	TOPS- Carrie Ricker School-6:30pm RSU 4 School Committee-6:30, OHHS Conservation Comm-6:30pm	26 Thur	Lit. Fair Directors Meet. 7:00pm, Sportsman's Club
12 Thur		27 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10a.m.-2p.m. Sportsman's Club -Horror House (<i>not for young children</i>) – by donation, Sportsmen's Club- 6:30pm-9pm
13 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10a.m.-2p.m.	28 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. Sportsman's Club -Spook House (designed for younger children) – by donation –6:30pm-9pm
14 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.	29 Sun	
15 Sun	DECMA Songwriter Awards Show, noon-5pm, \$5, Sportsmen's Club	30 Mon	
		31 Tue	

BOX HOLDER

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- 2. Town Manager, Clerks Corner,
- 3. August Calendar
- 4. Newsletter Deadline, Road Advisory Committee

The Litchfield Sodalite
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 2400 Hallowell Road
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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.

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Invasive Plants which you can see now: The tall shrubs with reddish fruit and silvery undersides of the leaves which you can see along road sides and in other sunny, sandy areas are called Autumn Olive. They tolerate poor sandy soil conditions because they can fix nitrogen, which means to take nitrogen out of the air through a symbiotic relationship with a bacteria that lives in nodules on their roots. This 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 in the last few years were Autumn Olive. **Control** - 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. Last spring the Friends of the Litchfield Landscape and the Conservation Commission worked at the Community Park, the former Town gravel pit, an ideal habitat for Autumn Olive: sand and sun. We dug out the smaller plants that came out easily in in the moist June soil then cut down to about 12” the larger plants and covered them with HD contractor bags secured at the base with zip ties killing the plant by blocking the sun. This method will work on all woody invasive plants for those who don’t want to use herbicide. “Use herbicide treatment for eradicating larger, well established plants as cutting stimulates sprouting and leads to thicker growth.” (UMaine Cooperative Extension Bulletin #2525) Sponge herbicide applicators can be used: cut the plant down to less than 12” and just wipe the cut stems within 20 minutes. Report on removal of Purple Loosestrife: Ann Gosline and George Rogers worked with volunteers from the Kennebec Land Trust to control Loosestrife on the Webber-Rogers Farmstead Conservation Area at 586 Plains Road, where Potters Brook goes under the Plains Road and in towards Pleasant Pond. They cut the seed heads off ain to a garbage bag and then dug up the small. This invasive

Nov. Issue Deadline:
 Oct. 21, 2017, 5 p.m.
 Deliver material in any of the following ways:

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

Autumn Olive

