

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XVII No. 9

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

September 1, 2017

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz?

September question: Early settlers went to a lot of work and bother to produce potash. For what purpose was the potash produced?

August question: At least five early Litchfield families had names derived from occupations. How many can you name? answer: Cook, Potter, Miller, Baker, Cooper.

To read more about the history of Litchfield go to

The Creators 4H group: we will be selling drinks and baked good at the Litchfield Fair to raise money for out projects and community service. Please come visit, we are one the end of the expo building near the picnic tables. We also will be starting our new year on Oct 9th. Come and see use make slim and lava lamps. We will have registrations at this time too, 5 to 18 year olds, new members pay 25.00 for year. Two times a month for 9 months October to June. For

Tacoma Lakes Quilters: We invite you to our Grand and Glorious Quilters yard/craft sale. Saturday, September 23rd 10am to 4pm at the Litchfield Sportsman Club, 2243 Hollowell Litchfield Rd, Litchfield Me. 30 tables - homemade items, fabric, patterns, books notions, and baked goods!

Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop-If the budget can't handle any more back to school shopping, come see what we have for kids' clothes to round out their needs at reasonable prices. Great looking items, well known brands, lots of sizes and colors. Items available now for late summer and early fall. Changeover to late fall and winter scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 12, and Wednesday, Sept 13, 7:00 PM. Volunteers very welcome! Get first choices on some terrific stuff! Mark your calendar!

September -Senior Corner

Closed on Monday, September 4--Labor Day.

Friday 9/8 Senior Day at the Litchfield Fair, **The Carol Bailey String Band** will be performing at 2 p.m.; and the **Litchfield Senior Steppers (line dancers)** will perform at 3:15.

Thurs. 9/28 at 10 Applewald Farm - apple picking, maze walk, gift shop and bakery. Bus from Sportsmen's Club @ 9:45. Call or stop into the Senior Center for info or to sign up.

Awareness through Movement classes are at 9:30 Friday 9/1, 15, 22, 29.

Bowling will be on Thursday, 9/7 at 1-7-10 lanes in Augusta. Call for carpooling and leave at 12.

The book club meeting is on Wednesday, 9/13 at 12:30 and will be held at the Senior Center. The book to be discussed is "Sweet Water" by Christine Baker Kline.

Making cards with Anne Thompson at Wed. 9/20 1 to 3. Join us for a fun afternoon using your imagination in crafting your cards.

On Friday 9/22 at 9:30 join Nancy Beal for a short film on making your house "sale" ready.

Potluck lunch and celebration of September birthdays is on Friday 9/22 at 12.

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

Music practice Wednesday at 10 on 9/13, 9/20, 9/27.

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

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

The Seniors Advisory Committee meeting is at 10 on Tuesday 9/19.

The "Roadrunner" trips are **Monday 9/4 - a trip to Windsor Fair** - bus leaves Sportsmen's Club at 10. **Thursday 9/14 - a trip to Boston via Amtrak.** We will leave from Brunswick on the 7 a.m. train. Enjoy a day in the city, lunch on own. Bus leaves from Sportsmen's Club at 6 a.m.

Flu shot clinic put on by Rite Aid Pharmacy at 10-12 at the Center on **Friday 9/29.**

Reminder: Exercise equipment available for use 9-4 Monday and Friday; 9-12 Wednesday

Upcoming trips: - **Fri. Oct. 6** Senior Expo at Sunday River; **Thurs. Oct. 26** Hollywood Slots or Oxford Casino; - **Tues.**



Conservation Commission - Join the Conservation Commission/Friends of the Litchfield Landscape for a **Walk in the Woods** on Sunday, September 17, 1-3 pm and learn the basics of **Plant Identification** to add to your understanding and enjoyment of the woods. We will meet at the parking area on the Old Lunts Hill Road, in from the Pine Tree Road a short way, on the right. We will walk south on the snowmobile trail to the Town owned land as time permits and see what we can see. You might bring a pencil/pen and an old phone book *or* newsprint/ newspaper and a heavy book to press and label some leaves of the plants you have begun to learn. You might bring a camera, a magnifying hand lens if you have one. Dress for the weather (and the ticks); we will go if it is raining lightly but not if

Litchfield Fair—Friday, Sept. 8 through Sunday, Sept 10. Come experience what a fair should be!



It's What A Fair Should Be

Litchfield Firefighters Baked Goods 911

Again this year, the Litchfield Firefighters Association is asking Litchfield's Finest, bakers that is, for help with our food concession at Litchfield Fair. Last year you came through with flying colors. Thanks to those of you who contributed, we had a great year in our booth. It is our goal to do even better this year. When asked what we are looking for in the way of baked goods, our answer is always the same. We want you to make whatever is your favorite. We are known for our homemade pies so we are always looking for those, but we sell anything and everything and will be very pleased and grateful for whatever you contribute. Some of the things people look to buy from us are, our home baked pies, cakes, brownies, squares, cookies, muffins, fudge, anything you very talented and generous cooks are willing to donate. There will be sign-up sheets at the local stores for those of you who are willing to bake for us. I know that the fair will almost be upon us by the time this reaches the citizens of Litchfield. If you are willing to donate something, anything that you like to bake, please call Gerry Lebel at 215-3788 and we will make arrangements for you to drop it off. The fair this year is September 8th, 9th and 10th. The members of the Fire & Rescue Department greatly appreciate the help we have received in the past. The money we raise helps make us better able to serve you

Town Manager/Clerk's Corner:

1. Please be aware of any suspicious activity at or around the Memorial Park ballfield. The Town just paid \$450 to repair the recent destruction to the field.
 2. Volunteers are needed to serve on the Recreation Committee. High School students are encouraged to become involved with this group! All are welcome!
 3. Tax bills should be mailed out no later than Sept. 19, 2017. As a reminder the first installment will be due on Oct. 15, 2017, the second installment is due on Jan. 15, 2018; the third installment will be due on April 15, 2018.
 4. Any applicants for the KVCAP Fuel Assistance Program will need to contact KVCAP directly by calling either [1-800-542-8227](tel:1-800-542-8227) or [\(207\) 859-1500](tel:207-859-1500) to schedule an appointment. Applicants may also access their web-site (www.kvcap.org) click "For The Home", select "Heating Assistance", click the highlighted "Click Here" and book your appointment. Information is available in the Town office.
- Sept. 2017 Municipal Meetings:** Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 Labor Day, Town Office will be closed Sept. 11 & 25 – Selectmen Meeting Sept. 7 -Planning Board Sept.

Litchfield Parks and Recreation - Vandalism - We are asking for the communities help in policing our recreational areas in town. We have recently had one of the baseball fields at the Veterans Memorial fields vandalized and would like to ask the towns people to please keep an eye out and report any suspicious behavior to the police and or town office. **Youth Soccer Referees Needed** - We are always looking for knowledgeable people to referee our youth soccer games, if you are interested please notify Tiffany Caton at the Litchfield town office (268-4721). **Recreation Committee** - It's never too early to get involved in your community! We currently have openings on our recreation committee and are inviting interested high school

William R. Bold American Legion Post 181-

Please help our veterans build a new meeting place here in Town. After 70 years their current building is showing it's wear and tear. We are, again, selling raffle tickets for a chance to win a \$2500.00 Lowes card, a \$1000.00 Home Depot card, and a \$500.00 Hannaford card as the top prizes. Additional prizes include one cord of wood donated by Lance Gatcomb, one hundred gallons of fuel oil donated by Litchfield Fuel, and \$50.00 gift certificates to the Litchfield Country Store, Percy's Hardware, and the South Monmouth Market. Tickets are \$5.00 each or six for \$20.00. You may purchase your tickets each weekend from Legionnaires posted outside of the Litchfield Country Store and Gowells Hannaford or Gowells gas station, the Gardiner Service Plaza over Labor Day weekend, and during the Litchfield Fair. We are drawing winners at 6pm on Sunday, September 10th at the fairgrounds. You do not need to be present to win. For those who wish to contribute by mail, please send donations in support of our new building endeavor to William R.

September 2017 Community Calendar

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|---------|--|---------|---|
| 1 Fri | Town Office , closed
Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. | 16 Sat | Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Academy Thrift Store , 9a.m.-noon
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. |
| 2 Sat | Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Academy Thrift Store , 9a.m.-noon
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m.
Lit. Sportsman's Club —Public Supper 5pm-6pm \$7.00 ea; Music Jam 6pm-8pm. | 17 Sun | |
| 3 Sun | Country Sunday -12:00pm-5pm, Sportsman's club \$5. Admission | 18 Mon | Historic Preservation Comm —7pm, Town Office
Historical Society Meet , 7pm, Town Office
Budget Committee -6:30pm |
| 4 Mon | Town Office Closed-Labor Day Holiday | 19 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 |
| 5 Tue | First Responders Meeting , Station, 6:30pm | 20 Wed | Road Comm—6:30, Town Office |
| 6 Wed | Order of Eastern Star -Masonic Hall-7pm
TOPS — Carrie Ricker School-6:30pm | 21 Thur | Lit. Fair Directors Meet. 7:30pm, Sportsman's Club |
| 7 Thur | Planning Board - 6:00pm | 22 Fri | Town Office , closed
Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. |
| 8 Fri | Town Office , closed
Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m.
Litchfield Fair | 23 Sat | Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Academy Thrift Store , 9a.m.-noon
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. |
| 9 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
Litchfield Fair | 24 Sun | |
| 10 Sun | Litchfield Fair | 25 Mon | Select Board Meeting , Town Office , 6:30pm |
| 11 Mon | Select Board Meeting , Town Office , 6:30pm
Sportsmen's Club Meeting , Sportsman's Club, 7:00pm Open to all
Lit. Rec Committee -6:30pm, Town Office | 26 Tue | |
| 12 Tue | | 27 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 |
| 13 Wed | TOPS — Carrie Ricker School-6:30pm
RSU 4 School Committee -6:30, OHHS
Conservation Comm -7pm | 28 Thur | |
| 14 Thur | | 29 Fri | Town Office , closed
Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. |
| 15 Fri | Town Office , closed
Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. | 30 Sat | Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
Academy Thrift Store , 9a.m.-noon
Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. |

BOX HOLDER

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3. August Calendar
4. Newsletter Deadline, Road Advisory Committee

The Litchfield Sodalite
 Litchfield Town Office
 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 Plant of the Month: Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)-That pretty purple plant in the wet ditches seen in July to September? Well, unfortunately another plant innocently brought here in the 1800's has **colonized wetland ecosystems** driving out other plants and the animal life they supports. "Wetlands are the most biologically diverse, productive component of our ecosystem. Hundreds of species of plants, birds, mammals, reptiles, insects, fish and amphibians rely on healthy wetland habitat for their survival. When purple loosestrife gets a foothold, the habitat where fish and wildlife feed, seek shelter, reproduce and rear young quickly becomes choked under a sea of purple flowers." (Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters) Why they can invade so well is twofold: a mature plant has 2.7 million seeds the size of grains of sand which are easily spread and the seed can live for a long period so they "build up a seedbank of massive proportions." (Maine Cooperative Extension Bulletin #2508) When the area is disturbed by human activity or by natural water drawdown in dry years the loosestrife population can explode. The other adaptation is an extensive perennial rootstock; mature plants can send out 30 to 50 shoots creating a dense web that chokes out other plant life.

Positive identification and early control. The two references quoted above have good plant descriptions and very detailed control methods listed. It is easy to see the plant and try to control when in bloom. Be careful not to spread it: it can give off seed as early as July so cut the flowering part over a large plastic bag as you put the flowering heads in the bag. After cutting the flowers off, small infestations can be dug out. Get a few neighbors together and work on your neighborhood invasive plant control

Oct. Issue Deadline:
 Sept. 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-

Purple Loosestrife

