

# The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XVII No. 12

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

December 1, 2017

## Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

**December question:** The "Libby Mill Stream" of early Litchfield Records referred to what present day stream?

**November question:** In the 1840's hundreds of Litchfield residents belonged to, "Washingtonian Societies". What was the avowed purpose of these Societies? answer: Prohibition of alcohol consumption. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to

[WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org](http://WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org)

## Calling All Stray, Barn, & Feral Cats



Community Spay-Neuter Clinic of Topsham is offering FREE Spay/Neuter and Rabies Vaccination. Ask about their Free Trapping Services, with Return or Placement for Adoption. For more information please call 297-721-8395 and ask about the Community Spay-Neuter Clinic (Open to all Litchfield Residents)

## LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Since the storm and power outages prevented readers from getting the Sodalite in time for "Buck-A-bag" last month, it is being offered again on the following Saturdays- Dec. 2, 9 and 16. Bring a paper grocery bag to fill for a buck or a reusable grocery bag to fill for \$2. We'll be closed Dec 23 but open for Dec 30 so come in for a festive New Year's Eve outfit. We have some interesting bling.

## Litchfield 4H Creators

Will be meeting on December 11th at 5:00 pm at Carrie Ricker School. We will be making tree ornaments and we be having a small Christmas party. We will not meet again until the second Monday in January. For more info call Lori at 745-



## SENIOR CENTER CORNER

### December, 2017 Senior Center Corner

The following are dates and places that The Carol Bailey String Band will perform Christmas concerts: Friday, Dec 6 Schooner Estates, Auburn @ 10 a.m. and @ 1 p.m. Sarah Frye Home, Auburn; Wednesday, Dec 13 Libby-Tozier Elem. Schl @ 10 am.; Saturday, Dec. 16 Hope Baptist Church, Manchester @ 2 p.m. This is a free concert open to the public; Wednesday, Dec 20 The Woodlands, Hallowell @ 11 a.m. and @ 2 p.m. at the Alzheimer's Care Center, Gardiner. These are all free concerts.

Bowling will be on Thursday, 12/14 at 1-7-10 lanes in Augusta. Call 441-9005 for carpooling, leave at 12. The annual Christmas Party will be at 1 p.m. Friday 12/15, Bring a gift \$5-\$10 for exchange to put under the tree. The Carol Bailey String band will perform Christmas music.

Line dancing instruction Mondays at 9:30 for beginners and advanced.

Aerobics classes are Wednesday 12/13, 27 only, Fridays at 8:30.

Music practice on 12/13 only in December due to concerts.

Feldenkrais Awareness Through Movement Method exercise class at 9:30 contact leader Lindsay Nelsen @ 268-4569 for schedule.

Cribbage games for fun on Mondays at 11 and Fridays 10. 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 9 on Tuesday 12/19.

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

**Coming up in January:** Book Club meeting Jan 13 to discuss "Shoot like a Girl" by Mary Hagar; Making cards with Anne Thompson Jan 17.

If RSU 4 schools are closed due to bad weather, the Senior Center will also be closed.

Please stop in to the Senior Center for more information, a cup of coffee or tea and to sign up for the activities.

The Center is located at 466 Academy Rd. next to the Libby-Tozier Elementary School. The telephone number is 215-4595 or call Pat @ 441-9005

### RSU 4 NEWS

There will be a concert at Oak Hill Middle School on Tuesday, December 5th. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be held in the gym. A concert will be held at Oak Hill High School on Thursday, December 7th. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be held in the auditorium. The Oak Hill Middle School Drama Club will be performing "Mr. Toad's Mad Adventures" on Friday, December 8th at 7 p.m. Ticket prices are \$4 for general admission and \$2 for students. The "It's Almost Winter" concert will be held at the Carrie Ricker School on Tuesday, December 12th, at 6 p.m. This will feature the 5th grade band and chorus and all of 3rd grade. Snow date: December 14th. There will be a concert at Libby-Tozier School on Thursday, December 21st. Performances will be done by grades 1 & 2. This concert will begin at 6:00 p.m. The schools in RSU4 will be closed from 12/23 - 1/1/18. School will resume on Tuesday, 1/2/18.

### Litchfield Fire & Rescue Central Station 2407 Hallowell Rd



Come join Santa for breakfast on Saturday, December 9, 2017 (Snow date: Sunday Dec. 10) from 8am to 11am. Write a letter and have some fun! Adults \$5/ Children Free



The town's first Town House was built on the Hallowell Road at a cost of \$400 and served as the town meeting site and office until 1973, when the new Town Office was constructed on the present site. Prior to 1841, town meetings were held in Daniel Nickerson's house from 1795 - 1813, then in the North Litchfield Baptist Meeting House from 1813 - 1840, and in 1841, the Free Baptist Meeting House. From 1842 to 1973, town meetings were held in this building. The Historical Society of Litchfield presently uses the building as a museum.

### Town Manager/Clerk's Corner:

**Thank You**—We would like to thank those residents who volunteered their time at the Emergency Shelter during the recent extended power outage. The Litchfield Emergency Shelter at Carrie-Ricker Elementary School was open from 8am – 8pm during the first four days of the outage, while most of our residents were without power. During this time showers were available and volunteers cooked and served evening meals. Litchfield was one of the hardest hit towns in Maine with many of our roads closed to through traffic, and some residents were without power for over a week.

**Food Bank News**—Since the closure of the Litchfield Food Bank, those residents in need have been able to get assistance at Loaves and Fishes in Sabattus. If you find yourself in need, or alternately would like to make a donation, Loaves and Fishes is located at [61 Lisbon Rd, Sabattus, ME, 04280](http://61LisbonRd.Sabattus,ME,04280), ph. 375-8399.

**Dog Licenses**—Don't forget to license your dog (must be completed by January 31st to avoid a late fee). Stop by the Town Office or register online through the link under "Online Registrations" on the town website home page [www.litchfieldmaine.org](http://www.litchfieldmaine.org), or at [https://www1.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/dog\\_license/index.pl](https://www1.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/dog_license/index.pl).

**Fishing/Hunting Licenses**—2018 hunting and fishing licenses will be available after December 1st.

**Town Committees** -Thank you to those volunteers who are serving our town committees. If you are interested in being a member of our Recreation Committee (several positions are open), or serving as an associate member of the planning board, please contact the Town Office (268-4721).

**Office closures:** The Town Office will close at noon Dec 21st for our employee Christmas party, and will also be closed on Monday, Dec 25th for Christmas, and Monday Jan 1st for New Year's Day.

**Upcoming meetings at the Town Office**— Recreation Committee, Dec 4th, 6:30 pm; Litchfield Planning Board, Dec 7th, 6 pm; Litchfield Board of Selectmen, Dec 11th (no meeting on the 25th, or Jan 1st), Jan 11th, 6:30 pm; Conservation Commission, Jan 11th, 6:30 pm; Historical Society Dec 18th 6:30 pm; Budget Committee, Dec 18th 6:30 pm.



## December 2017 Community Calendar

1 Fri	<b>Town Office</b> , closed <b>Transfer Station</b> , 8a.m.-4p.m. <b>Transfer Station Swap Shop</b> , 10a.m.-2p.m.	16 Sat	<b>Transfer Station</b> , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> , 9 a.m.-noon <b>Transfer Station Swap Shop</b> , 10 a.m.-2 p.m. <b>Morning Star Hall</b> -Public Bean Supper-4:30-6pm
2 Sat	<b>Transfer Station</b> , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> , 9 a.m.-noon <b>Transfer Station Swap Shop</b> , 10 a.m.-2 p.m. <b>Amer. Legion Ladies Aux</b> , Legion Hall, 10am <b>Sportsman's Club</b> -Bean Supper (5pm-6pm) & music jam (6pm-8pm), \$7	17 Sun	<b>Transfer Station</b> , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> , 9 a.m.-noon <b>Transfer Station Swap Shop</b> , 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
3 Sun	<b>Country Sunday</b> – 12-4:30pm, \$5 admission, Sportsmen's Club	18 Mon	<b>Budget Committee</b> -6:30pm <b>Historic Preservation Comm</b> – 7pm, Town Office <b>Historical Society Meet</b> , 7pm, Town Office
4 Mon	<b>Lit. Recreation Comm</b> -Town Office-6:30pm	19 Tue	<b>Senior Advisory Comm.</b> , Center, 10am <b>Masons-Masonic Hall</b> , 7:30pm <b>Fire Rescue Station clean-up</b> , 6:00pm <b>Fire/Rescue Assoc.</b> , Station, 6:30pm <b>Fire/Rescue Meeting</b> , Station, 7:00pm
5 Tue	<b>First Responders Meeting</b> , Station, 6:30pm	20 Wed	<b>RSU4 School Board-OHHS</b> -6:30pm <b>TOPS</b> – Carrie Ricker School-6:30pm <b>Franks&amp;Beans</b> , Legion Hall, 6:30pm <b>American Legion Post 181</b> , Legion Hall 7pm
6 Wed	<b>TOPS</b> – Carrie Ricker School-6:30pm <b>Order of Eastern Star</b> -Masonic Hall-7pm	21 Thur	
7 Thur	<b>Planning Board</b> -Town Office—6:30pm	22 Fri	<b>Town Office</b> , closed <b>Transfer Station</b> , 8a.m.-4p.m. <b>Transfer Station Swap Shop</b> , 10a.m.-2p.m.
8 Fri	<b>Town Office</b> , closed <b>Transfer Station</b> , 8a.m.-4p.m. <b>Transfer Station Swap Shop</b> , 10a.m.-2p.m.	23 Sat	<b>Transfer Station</b> , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> , Closed! <b>Transfer Station Swap Shop</b> , 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
9 Sat	<b>Transfer Station</b> , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> , 9 a.m.-noon <b>Transfer Station Swap Shop</b> , 10 a.m.-2 p.m.	24 Sun	
10 Sun		25 Mon	<b>Town Office Closed</b> <b>No Selectman's Meeting</b>
11 Mon	<b>Select Board Meeting</b> , Town Office, 6:30pm <b>Sportsmen's Club Meeting</b> , Sportsman's Club, 7:00pm Open to all	26 Tue	
12 Tue		27 Wed	<b>TOPS</b> —Carrie Ricker—6:30pm
13 Wed	<b>TOPS</b> -Carrie Ricker School-6:30pm <b>RSU4 School Board-OHHS</b> -6:30pm	28 Thur	
14 Thur		29 Fri	<b>Town Office</b> , closed <b>Transfer Station</b> , 8a.m.-4p.m. <b>Transfer Station Swap Shop</b> , 10a.m.-2p.m.
15 Fri	<b>Town Office</b> , closed <b>Transfer Station</b> , 8a.m.-4p.m. <b>Transfer Station Swap Shop</b> , 10a.m.-2p.m.	30 Sat	<b>Transfer Station</b> , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> , 9 a.m.-noon <b>Transfer Station Swap Shop</b> , 10 a.m.-2 p.m. <b>Litchfield Sportsmen's Club</b> , 7pm-11pm, Alcohol Free Dance ages 16+, \$10/person,
		31 Sun	<b>Litchfield Sportsmen's Club</b> , 8pm-12:30am, New Year's Eve Dance ages 21+, \$15/person at door, \$12.50 w/prepaid reservations, BYOB



# BOX HOLDER

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2. Town Manager/Clerk's Report
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4. Newsletter Deadline, Road Advisory Committee

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Litchfield, ME  
Permit #2

*The Litchfield Sodalite*  
Litchfield Town Office  
2400 Hallowell Road  
Litchfield, ME 04350  
Tel.: 207-268-4721 FAX: 207-268-2196  
[sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org)  
[www.litchfieldmaine.org](http://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.

### Road Advisory Committee

For your fall and winter decorations remove the invasive Chinese Bittersweet and use native **WINTERBERRY!** Winterberry and **CHRISTMAS BERRY** are common names for the native deciduous holly whose showy bright red berries stand out in the leafless thickets we see now in the boggy areas around Town. The berries are a food source for fruit eating birds such as robins, catbirds, mockingbirds, Eastern Bluebirds, and Cedar Waxwings from the fall through winter; the fruit is not for human consumption. The plant leafs out in early spring, has small fragrant flowers in June that are a nectar source for pollinators and the butterflies American and Painted Ladies, Red Admiral, Question Mark. As with all hollies, the female flowers, those which produce the ¼" red fruit, and the male flowers grow on different plants; a male must be with 40' of a female for pollination. One male will pollinate 6-10 female plants. Consider planting low maintenance Winterberry since they are easy to grow and the berries will add much interest to your winter landscape. Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), a slow growing, upright plant, is easily grown in a variety of soils, it adapts to light or heavy soils; prefers moist, acidic soils high in organic matter. It requires full sun or part shade. The native plant is not usually sold since many excellent cultivars are available whose heights range from 3' to 12', who have more abundant fruit or larger flowers. They can be used in shrub borders, for holding banks as they tend to sucker and form colonies, along ponds and wet areas, as hedges or in foundation plantings. There are no serious pests or problems. Marilyn Dwelley in "Trees and Shrubs of New England" says, the "brilliant orange scarlet berries... seated directly on the stem ...make good Christmas decorations -- especially when added to outdoor Christmas wreaths". I hope you'll try it out.

**Jan. Issue Deadline:**  
Dec. 20, 2017, 5 p.m.

Deliver material in any of the following ways:

**E-mail**  
**[sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org)**

***U.S. mail to: Town Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd.***

