

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XVIII No. 1

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

January 1, 2018

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

January question: Toothaker Corner was located at the intersection of what two present day roads?

December question: The "Libby Mill Stream" of early Litchfield Records referred to what present day stream? **Answer: Potter Brook** To read more about the history of Litchfield go to

WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

Kennebec Land Trust Outing Club Snowshoe at Holman Conservation Area - On Friday, January 19, 2018 at 9:30 am join Kennebec Land Trust (KLT) staff for a snowshoe at the Holman Conservation Area in Litchfield. This conservation area protects 75-acres of reclaimed land. Today beautiful tree-lined paths are dominated by birches, quaking aspen, balsam fir, and northern white cedar. This is the first KLT Outing Club event of 2018. We will have snowshoes available if you don't have your own pair. Call the KLT office at 377-2848 or email Kbrewer@klt.org with any questions, but no registration is required. The KLT Outing Club hosts walks or other outings on a (mostly) monthly basis. All ages are welcome. Join us to get outside and connect with other outdoor enthusiasts. Location: Melanie Road off of Upper Pond Road in Litchfield.

Smithfield Plantation - The Smithfield Plantation Board of Trustees has an opening. If anyone is interested in joining this 5-member board that oversees the care and activities at Smithfield Plantation. Please submit a letter of request to the selectmen.

RSU4 School News

The next Primary Parent Party will be held at Sabattus Primary School on Tuesday, January 16th from 6 - 7 p.m.

Oak Hill High School's Drama Club will be doing Disney's "The Little Mermaid"! Performances will be held on Friday and Saturday, January 19th and 20th - at 7 p.m. and on Sunday, January 21st at 2 p.m. Admission is \$5 for students and \$8 for general admission.

Parent/teacher conferences will be held at Carrie Ricker on January 25th and 30th. For more info call Keli Terry at 268-4136.

Monday, 1/15/18 - no school - Martin Luther King birthday

Monday, 1/22/18 - no school - district wide workshop day

Friday, 2/2/18 - Flex Workshop Day - no school for Pre-K through grade 5. Oak Hill Middle and High School will have classes as usual.

Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop

January specials: All kids clothes, including great winter coats and ski pants for vacation sliding, are 25 cents per item! Gentlemen, buy a pair of pants for \$1.00 and get a shirt free! Ladies, buy a pair of slacks or jeans and get a blouse or sweater free. Woo-hoo! Happy New Year!

Senior Center Corner

January

The Center will be closed on 1/1/18 and Martin Luther King, Jr. day 1/15/18.

Bowling will be on Thursday, 1/11 at 1-7-10 lanes in Augusta. Leaving at 12, call 441-9005 to carpool.

The book club meeting is on Wednesday, 1/10 at 12:30 at the Center. The book to be discussed is "Shoot like a Girl" by Mary Hagar.

The pot luck lunch and celebration of January birthdays is Friday, 1/19.

Line dancing instruction Mondays at 9:30-11 for beginners and advanced. Aerobics classes on Wednesday and Friday at 8:30-9:30.

The Carol Bailey String Band music practice is at 10-12 on Wednesdays. Come and join us for a fun time. On Wednesday, January 31 the band will be at the Libby-Tozier Elem. School at 10 for a short program.

Awareness through Movement exercise lessons are at 9:30-10:30 on Friday 1/6, 13, 20, and 27 with Lindsay Nelsen.

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 Monday 1/8 & 22, 10-1.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting has been changed to 10 on Thursday 1/18.

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

Please stop in to the Senior Center for more information a cup of coffee or tea and check out our books (paperback & hard cover), or work on the 1000-piece puzzle. We also have DVD's, VHS tapes and books on tape available. We would like to meet you.

Veterans and Seniors

You are invited to a Holiday luncheon on December 31, 2017 at the Litchfield Fire & Rescue Station at 2407 Hal-lowell Rd from 11am to 2pm. Please contact Tina Gowell to RSVP at 485-5565 or email at 1fd900@yahoo.com

4H - The Creators we will meet on January 8th and the 22nd. Plan on doing recycled cards and glitter jars. The meeting time is 5 to 6:30pm at Carrie Ricker School. For more info call Lori at 754-3931

Litchfield Transfer Station

Please be advised that the Litchfield Transfer Station Single Source recycling operation will begin the week of JANUARY 12TH & 13TH 2018 (WEATHER PERMITTING).

This operation consists of citizens bringing their plastic, glass, tin, and paper to the Transfer Station in clear plastic bags. These bags will be placed in a forty-yard octagon shaped roll off container that is attached to a compactor. This will allow us to quadruple the amount of these recyclables in one container. Recycling citizens will be provided one roll of clear plastic bags (10 bags). Clear plastic bags can be purchased at Gowell's Shop & Save, located on Rte 197 in Litchfield.

Only clear plastic bags will be allowed for the Litchfield Single Source Recycling.

Cardboard will be placed in another forty-yard octagon shaped roll off container. The cardboard container will be open at one end and the citizens will take cardboard into the container and they will stack the flattened cardboard at the rear of the container. As the cardboard stack fills to the top of the container, the next stack will be started in front of the last stack, repeating this process till the container is full. We are in hopes that the simplification and quickness of this recycling process encourages more Litchfield citizens to participate in recycling.

Town Manager/Clerk's Corner:

Snowmobiles can be registered at the Town Office, but also can be purchased **on line with a credit card through the link under "Online Registrations"** on the town website on the right-hand side-bar (www.litchfieldmaine.org). Also, dogs must be licensed by January 31st to avoid a late fee of \$25. **Office closures:** The Town Office will be closed on Monday, Jan 1st for New Year's Day, and Monday, Jan 15th for the Martin Luther King, Jr holiday.

Winter is upon us and our plows have been operating. Our drivers routinely push the snow back at the edge of the road to accommodate snow from future storms, so having your mailbox installed properly is important. For reference, here are the general United States Postal Service Requirements for Curbside Residential Mailboxes.

- **Mailboxes** must be placed 6 to 8 inches away from the curb or shoulder edge; the slot or door must be 41 to 45 inches from the ground (45" being preferable in rural locations).
- **All manufactured mailboxes** must meet the internal and external dimension requirements of the USPS.
- **Curbside mailboxes** must be placed on the right-hand side of the road and facing outward so that mail carriers can access it easily without leaving their vehicle.
- **The box or house number** on a mailbox must be represented in numbers that are at least 1 inch tall, and they must be positioned on the front or flag side of the box.
- **Curbside mailbox** posts should be buried less than 24 inches deep and made from wood no larger than 4 inches high by 4 inches wide. Steel or aluminum pipes with a 2-inch diameter are also acceptable.
- **Newspaper receptacles** may be mounted on the same post as the mailbox, but they must not contact the mailbox directly or be supported by it.

William R. Bold Veteran Legion Post 181 - The Eagle Scouts held a flag disposal ceremony at the American Legion post on Veterans Day. As they were placing flags into the fire pit, a photo, ribbon, and other items fell from one. It was a casket flag in dire need of proper disposal but the contents were saved. The ribbon is for the *American Campaign Medal*, awarded to any member of the Armed Forces who served in the *American Theater of Operations* during the period from *December 7, 1941 to March 2, 1946*. Knowing this, it is safe to say that it is believed this person served during World War I. We are trying to re- (picture, ribbons) to any family member who would like to have them do find out who the family is, we would like to give them a replacement flag from the



Veterans Cemetery. Please contact Sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org or call the Town Office.

Please read! Help return these items found.

January Community Calendar

1 Mon	Happy New Year Town Office Closed	16 Tue	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	First Responders Meeting , Station, 6:30pm	17 Wed	TOPS -6:30pm; Carrie Ricker
3 Wed	TOPS -6:30pm; Carrie Ricker School	18 Thur	Senior Advisory Comm. , Center, 10am
4 Thur	Lit. Planning Bd -6:00p; Town Office	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 , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
6 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 Lit. Sportsman's Club ; Public Bean Supper & Music Jam, Supper 5pm, Music 6pm	21 Sun	
7 Sun	Lit Sportsman's Club ; Country Sunday, live music noon-4:30pm	22 Mon	Lit. Selectmen's Meeting -6:30pm, Town Office 4H Creators Club -5pm; Carrie Ricker School
8 Mon	Lit. Selectmen's Meeting -6:30pm, Town Off Lit. Recreation Comm —6:30pm, Town Off Lit. Sportsman's Club Meet —7:00pm 4H Creators Club -5pm; Carrie Ricker School	23 Tue	
9 Tue		24 Wed	TOPS -Carrie Ricker School-6:30pm RSU4 School Board-OHHS -6:30pm Franks&Beans , Legion Hall, 6:30pm American Legion Post 181 , Legion Hall 7pm
10 Wed	TOPS -Carrie Ricker School-6:30pm RSU4 School Board-OHHS -6:30pm	25 Thur	
11 Thur	Conservation Committee —6:30pm, Town Office	26 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.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.	28 Sun	
14 Sun		29 Mon	
15 Mon	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Town Office Closed Budget Comm -6:30pm, Town Office	30 Tue	
		31 Wed	TOPS -6:30pm; Carrie Ricker School

BOX HOLDER

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4. Newsletter Deadline, Road Advisory Committee

ECRWSS
PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
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
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.

SOME THINGS TO CONSIDER FOR THE NEW YEAR 2018

What do we want our Town to look like in the future? I'm guessing we want forests to walk, hunt in and harvest; lakes and streams to play on and fish, farmland for food and work. That's why we want to control invasive plants now. Starting with your own property EARLY DETECTION and RAPID RESPONSE to invasive species prevent the smaller amounts of today from overwhelming our forests, waters and farms over time. Join in this year to help out and have some fun and exercise. TOWN PROGRAMS. In 2017 we began to control Japanese Knotweed / Japanese bamboo with an effective spray program for the roadsides, for a large infestation around the Public Works buildings and on the same day some town residents paid privately for control on their property. We want to continue this program further. Contact the Conservation Commission or the Road Committee lmnensen@fairpoint.net now to sign up for this year's spray program for your property. Knotweed will just get bigger and bigger. And Knotweed is a huge problem once it gets into water ways. Purple loosestrife control is now on the radar thanks to Ann Goselin and George Rogers and others. We are looking to map all the areas of Purple Loosestrife in Town and work with homeowners to control. Please contact the Conservation Commission lmnensen@fairpoint.net to report on those pretty and dangerous purple plants flowering from June to September on your land in wet areas. Join a group now who are cutting them into garbage bags first (to prevent the tiny seeds from spreading) and digging up smaller plants. Manual control of invasive woody shrubs in Town forests and in the Community Park was begun in 2017. Join volunteers in spring who dig out small plants, cut down and cover large ones. Contact the Conservation Commission lmnensen@fairpoint.net In April 2017 a small planting of the low growing and spreading native woody shrub Sweetfern was planted on the steep bank next to the new Ferrin Road bridge to prevent erosion and to out compete honeysuckle which are found nearby. Look for invasive plant information on the Town website down the road a bit to see what invasives you have, find links to the Maine Natural Areas Program and learn about control. Envision your ideal Town, our public and private lands, roads and open spaces. And join in controlling the invasives today.

Feb. Issue Deadline:
Jan. 20, 2018, 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.

Oak Hill High School
class of 2018 will be doing a **bottle drive** on Saturday January 6 all proceeds benefit project graduation. You can also donate your bottles throughout the year at Billy's Bottle Barn on the Small Rd. Fmi email scottwks@gmail.com or call Scott Weeks 242-3352