

Litchfield Institute plans a wide variety of programs

BY BETH FLECKENSTEIN

The newly conceived Litchfield Institute will probably hold its first public activity in November, according to President Richard Nolan.

"There are several things jelling now," Nolan said. "Everything from an organ recital to a workshop or seminar on grief." He also mentioned other topics on the group's future agenda: a public series on medical topics by physicians, an art exhibit, an organ recital, a tour of Litchfield, England, a concert, a seminar on the nursing profession, a seminar on community support groups and professional seminars on a variety of topics.

The Institute will invite professionals who are fellows of the organization to provide programs for the public. For instance, Advisory Board Member Rosemary S. Moran is the director at St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing in Waterbury. Moran may offer a Laurel Cable televised program explaining nurses' education, said Nolan.

"(Or), a group of lawyers might get together and offer a public forum on practical law," he said.

Concerts, recitals and poetry readings are all in the cards as Institute-sponsored activities.

The Institute is also a way for people of similar intellectual interests to come together and share ideas.

"It's almost like a free university," Nolan said. "But it's by invitation only. That's only a matter of establishing and maintaining quality."

One stipulation to fellowship designation is one "must be recognized by one's peers".

All Institute activities must go through the advisory board made up of a cross section of community people. Authors, teachers and politicians are some of the occupations of the first board's members.

Litchfield First Selectman Charlie Dobos is on the advisory board as are author Madeleine L'Engle and attorney William Liedlich.

"I'm excited about it (the Institute)," said author and advisory board member Miriam Anne Bourne whose husband Russell Bourne (an editor) is also on the board. "It is a good way to bring people of similar interests together."

"There are enough people with production (publication) behind them to give the Litchfield Institute a rosy hue," said board member Edward Raymond.



Staff photo by BETH FLECKENSTEIN

Litchfield Institute President Richard Nolan

stitute)," said board member Jane Schick of the Litchfield Council of the Arts.

"The greatest part about the whole thing is there's no one specific thing to go for - it's so wide-open," she said. "My thing is to get people talented musically, theatrically and in dance. To show people how to lay the groundwork to make a career for themselves."

"The possibilities...are so broad that I can't even envision where they could lead," Nolan said. "It (Institute ac-

tivities) depends on the ideas and initiatives of the fellows."

The Institute will not work out of any specific office or building.

"Wherever the event is occurring, there is the Litchfield Institute," Nolan said.

"It allows for the creativity of fellows to blossom - blossom in the diverse group of offerings.

"The enthusiasm for this has been gratifying. Everybody is doing it out of a sense of wanting to but not having to," Nolan said.