

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXV No. 8

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

August 1, 2025

HISTORIAL SOCIETY TRIVIA QUIZ

August question: In 1814 a cording and fulling mill was established in Litchfield. Such mills were connected to the production of what product? **July question:** In 1875 The Patrons of Husbandry first organized in Litchfield. What is a more common name for this organization? **Answer:** The Grange To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

LITCHFIELD TRANSFER CENTER

There were days between summer flies and August dies. **Our last Sunday this summer will be August 31.** Things are running pretty smoothly here at the Transfer Station. Please watch your speed in the facility. It is 5 MPH. The swap shop is doing a brisk business. Stop in and see what treasures might be awaiting you. A thank you to the volunteers. Please be aware of what you are putting in the recycle containers, such as only numbered 1-7 plastic in the plastic container. Remember the phone number at the Transfer Station is now 268-2032. Stop in and say hi!

Litchfield Recreation

Fall soccer registration is underway and the deadline is fast approaching. Registration runs until Aug 8th and can be done through the SportsEngine app (the link is on our Facebook page). We need coaches and referees, so please consider helping this season. Referees earn a stipend and credit for Community Service. **The Snack Shack** is coming along. When it is complete we will be able to sell snacks and beverages at the games. We will need volunteers to attend the stand and ask parents, guardians, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc to pitch in an hour or two each season. **The outdoor pickle ball** season down at the Veterans Memorial Field is in full swing. We have an excellent surface and all the equipment to play, just come on down and join the fun. Open play is Tues, Thurs and Sat mornings from 8:30-10:30 am.

Woodbury Pond Park

Woodbury's reparations are underway. The roof to the changing rooms has been repaired and replacements for the picnic tables, fire pits, volleyball net and playground equipment is in process. We need assistance with removing the bricks of the old fire pits. They could function as clean fill for anyone who needs some, but you would just have to come pick them up. Contact Sue at woodburypond-park@gmail.com to make arrangements for pick up. **For folks who have been using the park and have seen "poop" on the beach and lawn area, it is goose poop, and not dog poop. If you do see dog poop on the beach, please let the attendant know. We allow dogs in the park during off hours; however, if people don't clean up after their dogs, then we will have to change our policy. Presently, it's the geese who have been making a mess and we are setting up deterrents for them. ***We will be posting on our Facebook page in the mornings if the park is going to be closed due to inclement weather. We go by the forecast and that can be rather inaccurate at times here in New England. If the park is going to be closed due to the weather, but it ends up being nicer, you are still welcome to park up at the top by the gate and walk down. ****The park closes Aug 24th for the season; however, we are going to try to be open weekends only until Sept 7th.

LITCHFIELD SENIOR CENTER

Center Phone # 446-6275

The Litchfield Senior Center is open and available to all, no fee to attend. "Aging is more fun when you share it." *If the flag is out at the Center, come on in. All dates and times are subject to change.*

Line Dancing instruction for all on Mondays 9:30-11 at the Sportsmen's Club, except on August 4 & 11: **The Senior Steppers (Line Dancers) will perform at Russell Park Rehab Living Center, Lewiston at 10 on August 4; Schooner Estates in Auburn at 2:30 on August 11.**

The Senior Center will open 8:30 to 9:15 on Mondays for indoor walking with Dian; 9:30 for Tai Chi/Qigong exercises with Sharon Thibault & Paula Bonarrigo and friends.

The Senior Center will open 11:30 to 2 on Mondays after Line Dancing, come in for exercise, cards or check out the books or puzzles. We have new puzzles and books coming into the Center all the time. The Center will be open on Wednesdays August 6 & 20 from 9:30 to 12:30.

The Carol Bailey String band will be giving concerts over the summer, on August 13 they will be at the Alzheimer's Care Center, Gardiner at 10 am; August 27 they will be at the Richmond Senior Center for an outside concert in the gazebo at 11 am., weather permitting.

Come to the Senior Center for morning exercise with Dian & friends on Fridays 8:30-9:15. Join in the indoor walking, or use the exercise equipment. Stay for cards at 10, BYO lunch at noon and then more cards and games in the afternoon. Pick out books and/or puzzles to take home.

Pot luck lunch and celebration of August birthdays at 12 on Friday, August 15.

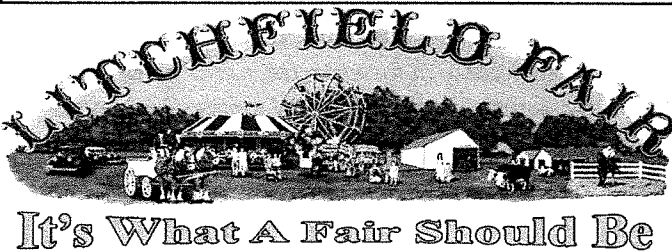
The book club meeting is on Monday, August 18 at 1 pm. at the Senior Center. The book to be discussed is "Good Material" by Dolly Alderton.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting held at the Senior Center is at 1 on Thursday, August 21.

Sign up for the Roadrunner trips – Thursday, August 7 Trip to York Wild Kingdom for a fun day. Leave at 8:30, Admission is \$18. Friday, August 15 Trip to Sawyer Memorial-Studio Two: Beatles Tribute Band leave at 6; Friday, August 22 trip to Sawyer Memorial - Don Campbell Band leave at 6. Thursday, August 28 Trip to the Windsor Fair – senior day 60+ \$5.00. Leave at 9 am.

Please note: The Senior Center can no longer take in donations of medical equipment.

Reminder: Exercise equipment available for use when the Center is open.



This year's fair will be held September 5, 6 and 7. Come join us for all of the fair favorites: Musical Entertainment, Agricultural and Livestock Events, Fun Contests, Red Neck Truck Pull, Demolition Derby, Youth Horse Show, Barrel Racing, Wee Farmers' Farm, Old MacDonald's Farm, Our Fair Museum, Fair Food (Yum!!) and so much more. We have a beautiful "Sensory Garden." Come check it out! Remember to have your exhibits to the Exhibition Hall on Wednesday, September 3, between 9 am and 8pm. or Thursday, September 4, between 8am - 9am. Admission is: Under 12 FREE, Ages 12-17 and Seniors \$5.00, Adults \$10.00. Seniors' admission is free on Friday. 3 day passes and 2025 tickets are available online at www.litchfieldfair.com. The fair book and full schedule of events are also available online. Hope to see you there! We love volunteers! We have work bees every Tuesday. We will feed you supper at 5pm and work until dark. We are a small group but we work and have fun! Come join us and see the great progress of our new Clubhouse.

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

Good News! We've ordered our Generator! The incredible support of our community has allowed us to get prepared for inclement weather and potential power failure sooner than we expected! We are very grateful. Thank you. Our kids will be getting ready for school soon. We'd love to collect school supplies for our families. Feel free to drop them off any Wednesday morning or call Rayna to make other arrangements (557-2680). Fresh local produce is beginning to come our way. Many thanks to local gardeners and eggs from local chickens.

TOWN CLERK'S CORNER

Reminder that the, the second try at passing the RSU4 budget will be on Tuesday, July 29th at the Town Office (if this Sodalite issue gets to you early). The latest numbers are a 2.2% increase to the RSU4 budget.

Late-Tax Notices – 30-day notices for unpaid 2024 property taxes will be mailed out at the end of the month. If property taxes have not been paid in full before that mailing, you will incur an additional processing fee to cover the notification. Taxes may be paid at any time and monthly payments, including pre-payments that start before you get next year's bill are an option.

If you would like to begin paying your property taxes monthly, the time to start is now, the October payment includes the months of July through October. Property owners that closed a new purchase after April 1st of the current year will (by state law) not receive a tax bill. That does not mean you don't have a payment. It means the bill was mailed to the owner of record as of April 1st. Feel free to call the town office after tax commitment at the end of September, or look online at the commitment book (www.litchfieldmaine.org) to find out what you owe.

Woodbury Pond Park Extended Season -We have opted to extend the season and Woodbury Pond Park is open from 10 am to 7 pm, weather permitting, until August 24th, and then two additional weekends (through September 7th). We have begun posting weather closures to Facebook and the town website. If the gate is closed you are welcome to park nearby and walk in at no charge.

Town Road Work - Buker Road is slated for paving at the end of July or beginning of Aug. Public Works crew is working through culvert repair, shoulder work and general road maintenance. Receipt of a new excavator with a grinder head is facilitating clearing of rights-of way that haven't been done in many years. The result of grinding is not pretty, but it is definitely efficient, and regrowth covers much of the initial effects.

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

We still have plenty of summer left and lots of summer clothes as well. Keep in mind the warmer temps into the fall means the kids won't need "winter" clothes for back to school. Bring them in for a wardrobe refresher before the back-to-school shopping is done. Let us show you how much you can save! Our seasonal changeover will be in early October.

August Community Calendar

1 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm	16 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm
2 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm Lit. Sportsman's Club -Public Supper & Jam \$10. Supper 5 to 6 Jam 6:30 pm to 8pm	17 Sun	Transfer Station , 8am-4pm
3 Sun	Transfer Station , 8am-4pm Lit. Sportsman's Club —Country Music Sunday; Noon to 4pm; \$8.	18 Mon	Lit. Recreation Comm -6:15pm, Town Off.
4 Mon		19 Tues	Lit. Fire & Rescue Meeting -6pm, Central Office
5 Tues	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers Meeting , 6:00pm	20 Wed	Lit. Road Comm. - 6pm, Town Off. Lit. Food Bank —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd RSU4-Organizational Meeting -6:30pm
6 Wed	Food Bank —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd	21 Thurs	Lit. Senior Comm. -1pm, Senior Center Lit. Budget Comm. -6:30pm, Town Off Food Bank —10am-12pm, 56 Plains Rd Sportsman's Club Floor Work Detail -Call Tom P. at 557-3409 to help,
7 Thurs	Food Bank —10am-12pm, 56 Plains Rd Lit Planning Bd —Town Office 6:30pm	22 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm Sportsman's Club Floor Work Detail -Call Tom P. at 557-3409 to help,
8 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm	23 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm Sportsman's Club Floor Work Detail -Call Tom P. at 557-3409 to help,
9 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm	24 Sun	Transfer Station , 8am-4pm
10 Sun	Transfer Station , 8am-4pm	25 Mon	Lit. Selectmen's Meeting ; 6:30pm, Town Office-zoom available-see website
11 Mon	Lit. Selectmen's Meeting ; 6:30pm, Town Office-zoom available-see website	26 Tue	
12 Tues	Litchfield First Responders -6pm, Central Station	27 Wed	Food Bank —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd RSU4-Gr K-9 First Day of School (Full Day)
13 Wed	Lit. Sportsman's Club meeting—6pm Food Bank —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd	28 Thurs	Food Bank —10am-12pm, 56 Plains Rd RSU4-Gr 10-12 First Day of School
14 Thurs	Food Bank —10am-12pm, 56 Plains Rd	29 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm
15 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm	30 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm
		31 Sun	Transfer Station (Last Sunday open for the year)

BOX HOLDER

Contents:
 1. Historical Society, Senior Center Corner
 2. Town Manager/Clerk's Report
 3. August Calendar
 4. Newsletter Deadline

ECRWSS
 PRSRT STD
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Litchfield, ME
 Permit #2

The Litchfield Sodalite
 Litchfield Town Office
 2400 Hollowell Road
 Litchfield, ME 04350
 Tel.: 207-268-4721 FAX: 207-707-8485
sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org
www.litchfieldmaine.org
 Open: Mon.—Wed.: 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
 Thurs.: 8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.
 Closed: Every Fri.

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The Litchfield Sodalite

Conservation Committee

The aquatic plant patrol is up and running and continues into September so you may see a small flotilla of paddlers combing the lakes 'littoral zone', that's where the sun light reaches the bottom and plants grow. They study through a clear bottom scope looking for the possible invasive look-alikes. Contact any plant patroller for "Quick Key", a step by step guide to the 15 possible invasive plants now in Maine so you can learn to tell the good from the very bad and inform Diane Clay, email: cl12a3y4@gmail.com Kennebec Land Trust is holding its annual celebration August 12 at 4-6:30 with hikes, lawn games and ice cream to introduce everyone to the newly protected lands where you may recreate and learn about this year's interns' research. It's free but registration needed: 207-377-2848. Help the Maine Conservation Corps improve public accessible land in town on August 11-14. Join the activities for a little or a long while: may include putting up a fence, trail work, controlling invasive plants, putting in benches. Lindsay Nelsen email: lmnelsen@fairpoint.net

American Legion Post 181 Meeting

Next meeting is August 27, 202 @ 7:00 PM at the Litchfield Central Fire Station. All veterans are welcome.

Morning Star lodge

Is hosting a **Drive Through BBQ** on August 23rd from 4:30pm to 7pm
 Join us for BBQ chicken dinner to go, with all the sides. \$15 donation for each meal. Donations also being accepted to help us with community projects. For more information reach out to us on Facebook @Morning Star Lodge #41

The Creators 4H Club

We are looking for donations of drinks and bake goods to sell at the Litchfield Fair for the group. Call or text Lori at 754-3931. Our next group meeting will not be until October for the new year.

September Issue Dead-

line: August 20, 2025
 5pm Deliver material in any of the following ways: email: sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org

U.S. mail to: Town Office, 2400 Hollowell Rd. 04350
Hand deliver to: Town Office 2400 Hollowell Rd

