The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXVI No. 11 A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine November 1, 2026

LITCHFIELD FIRE & RESCUE

From all of us at Lit. Fire and Rescue we would like to THANK YOU for all the wonderful deserts and pies that we received at our booth for the LITCHFIELD FAIR. Our hearts are full from the love and support we received for all our special events that we do. We will be doing our own TRUNK OR TREAT on October 30 (Friday night) at Central Station from 5PM to 7PM. Anyone wanting to decorate a Trunk and join us please contact Julie at (207)-844-0575. We are looking for donations of candy also.



RSU 4

Parent teacher conferences: Oak Hill Middle School – Nov. 4 from 3:30 – 6:30; Carrie Ricker – Nov 18 from 1:30 -7 All schools will be closed on November 11 in observance of Veteran's Day. Thanksgiving break will be Nov. 25 through Nov. 27 – Happy Thanksgiving.

LITCHFIELD SENIOR CENTER

Center Phone # 446-6275

CENTER IS CLOSED ON THE 11TH AND THE 26th-27TH FOR VETERANS DAY AND THANKSGIVING

The Senior Center will be open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays **9-2** or when the flag is out.

Mondays and Fridays we have Aerobic & weightlifting from **8:30 -9:30**. Join in the indoor exercise or use the exercise equipment. On Fridays we offer Cribbage **at 9:39-10:30** or longer. Bring a partner or call to see if there are people playing. At **10-3** there are card games going on. BYO lunch is for noon. **Potluck / November birthday celebrations on 20th**. Bring a dish to share. We will also have a representative from **AARP** to talk about fraud.

On Mondays we offer knitting and crocheting with Sharon Thibault **at 9:30-10:30.** This is welcome for all that want to just knit or crochet or learn how. **Grammie's Mitten Tree** was a big hit with the pre-k kids' classes, and the school wants us to do it again next year, for this we make mittens that are 5in long beyond the cuff to give out. If you would like to donate mittens, you can take them to the center.

Qigong will be held **at 9-9:45 at Sportsmen's Club** on Wednesday's as long as weather permitting.

Book Club will meet on the 16th at 1pm. The book to be discussed is "Kitchen House" by Kathleen Grissom.

Line dancing will be performing at Mount Joseph on the 16th at 10:00 am. They will be practicing every Monday from 9-11 if weather agrees.

Carol Bailey String Band will be practicing at the Sportsmen's Club from 10 am to noon every Wednesday if weather permits. for their first Christmas concert will be at Young at Heart Seniors in Whitefield at 1:00 on the 18th of November. They invited us to come at 11:30 to have Thanksgiving lunch with them.

Senior advisory committee will meet on the 19TH at **1 pm.** The book club be at 1 pm on November 16th. Book is "Theo of Golden" by Alan Levi.

The Gardening Club will not be meeting in November and December. Due to Holiday season.

Sewing classes are on Mondays Nov. 2nd and 16th at 10:30. We ask that you give a donation to the center. We would like to have a sewing day for all interested. If you would like to participate, call the center and leave name phone number and date/time that would work for you. Enough interest we may do more than one day. Also like to bring back the game night or day. Call center if interested with time/ days that work.

Sand for Seniors has started. If you need sand for the winter call the Center and leave name & address for the delivery.

You can look up our Facebook page: The Litchfield Senior Center News and activities and we have a web page through the town of Litchfield Maine.

HISTORIAL SOCIETY TRIVIA QUIZ

The Lewiston, Augusta, and Waterville Street Railway crossed Litchfield in 1908 connecting what two towns? Answer: East Monmouth and West Gardiner A heartfelt thank you to George Rogers and Christine Stenberg for having provided the history of Litchfield for the **HISTORIAL SOCIETY TRIVIA QUIZ** in the Sodalite for many many years. Due to retirement this will be the last bit of history submitted. Thank you Thank you Thank you!

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Great shopping opportunity. Fresh merchandise made everyone happy in October. Can't wait for you to see it in November. You DESERVE this! Pack up some of the things you've gotten tired of and donate them. It'll make room in your closets and justify getting new ones! Works for me!

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

Gardens are winding down but the donations this summer have been OUTSTANDING! Thanks to everyone who shared their bounty! Now we are getting ready for Thanksgiving. If you'd like to sponsor a dinner for a family, please send $40 to the Litchfield Food Bank, P O Box 306, Litchfield, Me 04350 or drop off your donation at the Town Office and I'll pick it up there. Many thanks.

LITCHFIELD SNOWMOBILE CLUB

As winter gradually approaches, the Litchfield Snowmobile Club will be busy this month with trail work, which involves removing fallen trees/branches blocking the trails; repairing/replacing bridges; trimming back bushes/branches; and staking signage before the ground freezes. If you have snowmobile trails on your property, please let the club know if you notice any trees blocking the trail, or have any other concerns, since there are miles and miles of trails, many that are difficult or too far to access by foot, and only a few of us to do the work. We aim to meet every Sunday @ 9am at Dan Field's place (chicken barn in front of Carrie Ricker) where tools and supplies are provided before we disperse to various trail locations and work until 12pm. Any help would be greatly appreciated!! If interested, please contact Dan Fields (trail master) at (207)402-2977, or Ken Holt (Pres) at (207) 485-4241. Our next club meeting, which is also the only meeting this month, is on November 12th at 6pm at the Academy Building (466 Academy Rd). We hope to see you there! We welcome and encourage snowmobilers that ride the trails in Litchfield to join our club, so we can continue having awesome trails! Happy Thanksgiving!

LITCHFIELD TRANSFER STATION

November is at our doorstep and with it, cold weather. Brrrrr. We said last month we would report the total items taken out of the Swap Shop. It is 10,281 items. These are items that didn't go to landfill. Many thanks to the residents who supported this. We must remind the residents to be vigilant in where they put their recyclables. Make sure that only glass jars go in the glass container, only tin cans go in the tin container, no plastic bags in the plastic container. Thank you for you attention in the matter. We will be closing the leaf and brush piles around the first of November. It is weather dependent. We will keep everyone apprised as to the situation. We must remind everybody that the speed limit is only 5 MPH Please be mindful of your speed. Thank you.

TOWN CLERK'S CORNER

State General Election and Referendums-Voting will take place for the upcoming general election on Tuesday, November 3rd, 2026 at the Sportsmen's Club, 2261 Hallowell Road, Litchfield. Polls will be open from 8 AM – 8 PM. Information about the questions appearing on the ballot can be found at https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/upcoming/index.html Look for the Citizen's Guide to the Referendum Election.

Litchfield Academy Trustees Vacancy - If you are interested in helping to provide stewardship and preservation of the historic Litchfield Academy building, a position is open on the Board of Trustees. This position will be filled by appointment and will be up for election in June. Please contact the town office for information on how to apply.

2027 Dog Licenses - You may now license your dog(s) for 2027 at the Town office beginning October 15th or online at https://www1.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/dog_license/index.pl. If rabies vaccinations are due, please bring a copy of the new vaccination. To avoid a late fee your dog must be licensed by January 31, 2027.

Snowmobiles -Snowmobiles may now be registered at the Town Office, or online at https://www.maine.gov/ifw/atv-snowmobile/index.html.

Fuel Fund- We're fortunate to have many generous businesses and individuals in and around Litchfield contributing to the town Fuel Fund. Cobbossee Colony golf course has hosted a joint fundraiser in the fall for many years which has been a foundation of the Fund. And Litchfield Friends and Neighbors, an informal local group, began raising money for the fuel fund last winter. They wanted to let you know that in September and October this year the wonderful people who donated at the Transfer Station and Gowell's Shop N Save bucket fundraisers contributed a total of $2,075 to help those in need keep warm this winter, thanks to you all!

Applicants for local heating assistance must first contact KVCAP for an appointment before coming to the Town Office. Contact KVCAP by calling 1-800-542-8227, Ext. 1500, or (207) 859-1500 to schedule an appointment. You can also go to the KVCAP website (www.kvcap.org). Click "For the Home," and select "Heating Assistance" to book an appointment. Information is available in the Town Office.

Tips for keeping warm and reducing your bills: use microwavable rice or corn bags and/or plug-in hot water bottles to heat the body rather than the room; turn down the furnace in empty rooms if possible and heat the room you are in; use thermal-insulated blackout curtains if possible; and set the thermostat to a lower temperature while you are not home.

Drought is still a concern: If you have a dry well, consider reporting it to help the State understand the extent of the problem. Go to www.maine.gov/mema and click on "Drought Task Force" under Featured Resources.

The Town Office will be closed on the following dates: Tuesday, November 3rd for the State General Election and Referendums; Wednesday, Nov. 11th in observance of Veterans Day; and on Thursday, Nov. 26th for Thanksgiving.

November Community Calendar

1 Sun	
2 Mon	
3 Tue	***VOTING*** **at Sportsman's Club-8am to8pm** **Town Office Closed due to Voting** **Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers Meeting**, 6:00pm
4 Wed	**Lit Food Bank**—4pm-6pm;, 56 Plains Rd **Lit. Planning Board**—6:30pm; Town Office
5 Thur	**Lit. Food Bank**—10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd
6 Fri	**Town Office closed** **Transfer Station**—8am –4pm
7 Sat	**Transfer Station** - 8am-4pm **Academy Thrift Store**—Open 9am-12pm **Lit. Sportsman's Club**-Public Supper & Jam Supper 5p-6p; Jam 6:30p—8p
8 Sun	**Lit. Sportsman's Club**-Country Sunday 12 to 4 Celebrate the Veterans! $8.00
9 Mon	**Lit. Selectmen's Meeting**; 6:30pm, Town Office-zoom available-see website
10 Tue	**Lit. First Responders**-6pm, Central Office
11 Wed	**Lit Food Bank**—4pm-6pm, 56 Plains Rd **Lit. Sportsman's Club Meeting**-6pm Fuel raffle - $5.00 per ticket for $300 toward winter fuel, winner to be drawn at the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Tickets are available for purchase at any club function. 
12 Thur	**Lit. Food Bank**—10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd **Lit. Snowmobile Club**-6pm; Senior Center
13 Fri	**Town Office closed** **Transfer Station**—8am –4pm
14 Sat	**Transfer Station** - 8am-4pm **Academy Thrift Store**—Open 9am-12pm
15 Sun	

16 Mon	**Lit. Fire & Rescue Association**-6pm, Cen.Sta. (All welcome to attend)
17 Tue	**Lit. Fire & Rescue Meeting**-6pm, Central Sta
18 Wed	**Lit Food Bank**—4pm-6pm, 56 Plains Rd **Lit. Budget Comm.**– 6:30pm, Town Off. **Lit. Road Comm.**-6:00pm
19 Thur	**Lit. Senior Comm**-1pm, Senior Center **Lit. Food Bank**—10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd
20 Fri	**Town Office closed** **Transfer Station**—8am –4pm
21 Sat	**Transfer Station** - 8am-4pm **Academy Thrift Store**—Open 9am-12pm **Sportsman's Club Christmas Craft Fair**—9 to 1 Tables still available, $20. contact Carol Royer 207 622-5471
22 Sun	
23 Mon	**Lit. Selectmen's Meeting**; 6:30pm, Town Office -zoom available-see website
24 Tue	
25 Wed	**Lit Food Bank**—4pm-6pm, 56 Plains Rd **RSU#4 Board Meeting**-6:30pm; Central Office **American Legion William R. Bold** Post 181-6:30pm; 798 Lewiston Rd. West Gardiner
26 Thur	
27 Fri	**Town Office closed** **Transfer Station**—8am –4pm
28 Sat	**Transfer Station** - 8am-4pm **Academy Thrift Store**—Open 9am-12pm
29 Sun	
30 Mon	

The Litchfield Sodalite
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sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org
www.litchfieldmaine.org
Open: Mon.—Wed.: 8:00 a.m.—4:00p.m.
Thurs.: 8:00a.m.-6:00p.m.
Closed: Every Fri.

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BOX HOLDER

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Conservation Commission News

Let's visit the Community Park – There is a new book on the story trail about a bear who discovers falling leaves! What does he think of them? Take a walk on the Redpole trail and find out, while exploring other trails as well. Also, did you know that more than a thousand volunteers headed out on the water and surveyed more than 400 lakes across the state from 7 to 7:30 am on Saturday July 18? This year was the 43rd annual loon count through Maine Audubon. Results are still being counted. A note for those who love the north Maine Woods: Last month, the U.S. Department of Agriculture filed to rescind "in its entirety" the national 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule, which prohibits road construction, logging and mining on about 30% of lands managed. These areas are home to several bodies of water, and the forested ecosystem provides valuable habitat for a range of plants and animals, including several rare, threatened or endangered species, including golden eagles and peregrine falcons. The reason given for the decision to rescind is that without roads there will be no way to control wildfires. However, most wildfires occur in areas where there are roads, places where people are able to interact with the environment. It's also important to note that the Forest Service already has in place plans to fight fires should they occur in these old growth forest areas. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule actually protects rather than endangers the environment.

Dec. Issue Deadline: Nov. 20, 2026 5pm Deliver material in any of the following ways: email: **sodlite@litchfieldmaine.org; *U.S. mail to:*** *Town Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd. 04350* **Hand deliver to:** Town Office 2400 Hallowell Rd.