

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXVI No. 9

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

September 1, 2026

LITCHFIELD TRANSFER STATION

Summer flies and August dies as September is here. With the fall approaching our attention turns to closing things up. The Swap Shop is still doing a brisk business. We will stop taking items in the Swap Shop on Saturday September 19th. We will be closing the Swap Shop on Saturday October 3rd. Please keep these dates on your calendar. No items will be accepted after Saturday September 19th. We are still waiting for DEP's approval for us to proceed with our planned improvements here at the Transfer Station. Many THANKS to the residents who stop and check in with the attendants. It eases our anxiety. With the Swap Shop being open, we must remind everyone about watching their speed. It is only 5 MPH. Our phone number is 268-2032.

PLEASANT POND AND COBBOSSEE CONTEE STREAM PROPERTY OWNERS

Repairs to the New Mills Dam are scheduled for early October 2026. The repairs require a temporary water level reduction of approximately 3 feet for 2 to 3 days. This is 1 foot below the normal winter drawdown level that usually commences each year in October; however, *this year the drawdown will be completed by early October*. This means that property owners may need to consider pulling their boats and docks earlier than usual. Specific dates will be announced as soon as the information is available on the Pleasant Pond-Cobbosseecontee Stream Lake Asso. (PPCSLA) website <https://ppcsla.org/new-mills-dam/>, <https://ppcsla.org/new-mills-dam/>>, the PPCSLA Facebook group page; <https://www.facebook.com/groups/773046116747679/>; <https://www.facebook.com/groups/773046116747679/>, and on various community newsletters and bulletin boards. During this drawdown, the Town of Litchfield will be totally replacing the two existing boat launches on Thourofare Road. The boat launches will be unavailable for approximately 1 week for hauling out or launching boats. Please check our website for updates <https://ppcsla.org/new-mills-dam/>; <https://ppcsla.org/new-mills-dam/>

LITCHFIELD RECREATION COMMITTEE

Soccer season is upon us! Check out our Facebook page for more information. Open for children from Pre-K up through grade 6, we can't wait to see you out on the field! Practice schedules will be posted soon. Games on Saturdays. **New this year** We are keeping it local! Our K/1 division will be exclusively playing our friends in Sabattus on a rotating schedule. **Litchfield Fair**-Our Rec Department will be hosting a cornhole tournament at the Litchfield Fair! There will be both a casual and pro division and cash prizes! Come see us at the fair. We are looking for volunteers to help. This is a great way for our soccer parents to meet their volunteering requirement! **Business Sponsorship**-Business sponsorships are now open for 2026-2027! We made incredible progress last year with installing the new field and replacing our scoreboard. This year we are working on fundraising for benches and bleachers, as well as a covered area for picnic tables. Keep an eye on the FB page if interested in sponsoring!

LITCHFIELD SENIOR CENTER

Center Phone # 446-6275

The Senior Center will be open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9-2 or when the flag is out. Come in for exercise, cards, or check out the books and puzzles we have. New arrivals all the time. We also have working laptops to use during center hours.

Mondays and Fridays we have Indoor exercise 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 / September birthdays celebrations on 18th.** Bring a dish

On Mondays we offer knitting and crocheting with Sharon Thibault at 9:30-10:30. Everyone is welcome. **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 the senior center, then a prom-to band practices 10-11 every other Wednesday when the band is not performing. Check our calendar for dates. They will be back at the **Sportsmen's Club on October 7th.**

Line dancing will be practiced on Sept. 14th & 28th at the Sportsmen's Club at 9-11. On the 11th they will be performing at **The Litchfield Fair at 2:15.** On the 21st at The Alzheimer's Center & Rehab in Gardiner. **Carol Bailey String Band** will be performing on the 11th at **The Litchfield Fair at 1pm** and on the 23rd they will perform at **Schooner Memorial Care at 10:30**

Senior advisory committee will meet on the 14th at 1 pm. The book club will meet on the 21st at 1 pm. The book to be discussed is "The Academy" by Elin Hildebrand, Pick up the book at the Gardiner library or the Monmouth Library.

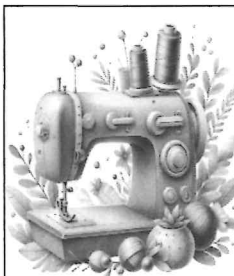
The Gardening Club will meet on Sept 9th at 1 pm. Meet at 223 pine tree rd. at 1 then going to 105 Ridley lane at 2pm for "messes and successes". You can go to both or just 1. Come and get some ideas and help with flowers or veggies.

Trips for the month are to North Conway for shopping trip on the 24th. Planning on leaving the Sportsmen's Club by 9:30 am. The bus holds 14 passengers plus driver.

Like to learn how to sew? The center is starting learning to sew classes in the fall on Mondays in the afternoon. Call the center for info. **You will need your own sewing machine.** 1st class

will be September hour. The center

tions for sewing good condition use for doing sewing. You can look up The Litchfield Senior activities and we through the town for info or updates



28th at 10 am for 1 is looking for donamachines that are in and not that old to ing classes.

our Facebook page: ior Center News and have a web page of Litchfield Maine or you can call us.

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Need a few more items to get your kids set for school this year? Come check out what we have at the Thrift Shop on Saturday morning. If you have clothes your kids have outgrown, donate them to benefit some other kids! Seasonal change-over will happen in early October.

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

The clients of Litchfield Food Bank received anniversary gifts in August from members of the Litchfield Plains Baptist Church and the community marking the second anniversary of the Food Bank in it's own building. Thank you to the participants who made this possible! The Food Bank originally opened March 3, 2019 to serve the residents of Litchfield. We have appreciated the support of the community for all this time. Fresh local eggs and produce are delivered to our door every week. We love local! Thank you.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Once again, many talented young people with the Maine Conservation Corps (MCC) helped the Conservation Commission volunteers care for the Litchfield Community Park in August. The years of caring for different places in the park continue to pay dividends. One MCC leader said, "this place is beautiful" with the goldenrod blooming in the Central Commons area. You might wonder how the MCC works. The Conservation Commission is the sponsor and we have responsibilities to them, primarily education. When a team arrives, we teach the basics of plant identification and continue to reinforce that knowledge all day long when discussing why a trail could be placed in an area and what plants to keep and which plants to remove. A red oak, for example, is a long-lived tree and a grey birch is a 'nurse' tree which grows quickly in the sandy soil of the gravel pit area of the Community Park and then falls over and rots to improve the soil. We also demonstrate the basics of pruning, the how of pruning outside the branch collar so the tree closes off the wound and the strongest shape of a tree, a central leader and roughly L-shaped crotches; what to do with trees that remain. Go to litchfieldmaine.org and under the "Outdoor" tab you'll find the 2022 map of the Community Park, with trails and other features. Explore off trail if you want to see some different areas under construction.

LITCHFIELD SPORTSMANS CLUB

Craft Fair Saturday November 21, 9a - 1p; Litchfield Sportsmen's Club—Tables \$20ea Contact Carol Royer-622-5471

LITCHFIELD FIRE & RESCUE ASSOCIATION

Litchfield Fair - To all Litchfield's great bakers! We are in need of pies for the Litchfield Fire and Rescue booth at the fair. Please, please, please please for information contact Tina Gowell at 207-485-5565. We can make a plan for pickup or drop off. Also, we are looking for anyone that would like to volunteer a couple hours in our booth to help us out.

AMERICAN LEGION WILLIAM R. BOLD POST 181

Next meeting is Aug. 26, 2026 at 6:30pm at the new Post building at 798 Lewiston Rd. West Gardiner.

TOWN CLERK'S CORNER

Eligibility for Maine's Affordability Program – a \$300 check from the State An individual may be eligible to receive a \$300 Affordability payment if they: 1. Filed a 2025 Maine individual income tax return as a full-year Maine resident **by October 15, 2026**; 2. Reported federal adjusted gross income for tax year 2025 of less than: a. \$100,000 for married taxpayers filing jointly or qualifying surviving spouses; b. \$75,000 for head of household filers; or c. \$50,000 for single filers or married individuals filing separately; and 3. Cannot be claimed as a dependent on another taxpayer's 2025 tax return.

This Year's Property Taxes - 2026-27 tax bills will be mailed in late September, with the first payment due October 15th. If you want to make smaller more frequent payments throughout the year we accept payments any time.

Last Year's Property Taxes - If you receive a "30 Day Notice" in the mail it means you have taxes remaining from last year can still get them paid in time to avoid the additional cost of having a lien on your property. Whether you forgot a payment, or are having financial difficulties, if you have any questions or concerns about the lien process, please don't hesitate to give us a call at (207) 268-4721 or stop by the Town Office.

Town Office Will Be Closed November 3rd – Voting Day - Voting for the Tuesday, November 3rd, 2026 election will take place at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club located at 2261 Hallowell Road from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Requests for absentee ballots are being accepted now. Ballots will be mailed out by October 5th, or as soon as they are received, and early voting will also be available at that time.

Home Heating Assistance – Please don't wait until you run out of fuel! Applicants for the KVCAP Fuel Assistance Program should contact KVCAP directly by calling either 1-800-542-8227 ext. 1500 or (207) 859-1500 to schedule an appointment. Applicants may also access the KVCAP website (www.kvcap.org) click "For the Home", and select "Heating Assistance" to book an appointment online. Information is available at the Town Office.

Upcoming Construction - Boat Ramps: Pleasant Pond will be lowered for a short time in October. At this time the boat ramps at Pleasant Pond on Thorofare Road will be replaced by our Public Works crew.

The Dennis Brook culvert replacement is complete and Dennis Hill Road is now open.

Rabies Clinic - A rabies vaccination clinic is scheduled for Saturday, October 17th, from 9-11 AM at the Central Fire Station. Cost is \$20 with \$5 going to the Litchfield Fuel Fund.

The Planning Board has changed its meeting day to the 1st Wednesday of the month.

The Town Office will be closed Monday, September 7th for Labor Day.



September Community Calendar

1 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers Meeting , 6:00pm	16 Wed	Lit. Food Bank —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd Lit Road Committee -6:00pm; Town Office
2 Wed	Lit Food Bank —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd Lit. Planning Board —6:30pm; Town Office	17 Thur	Lit Food Bank —10am-12pm, 56 Plains Rd Lit. Budget Comm. — 6:30pm, Town Off.
3 Thur	Lit. Food Bank —10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd	18 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm
4 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm	19 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm Lit. Sportsman's Club -Country Fest; 12-6; \$25 (6 performers)
5 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm	20 Sun	Lit. Sportsman's Club -Country Fest Sunday Noon to 5; \$15.00 (5 performers) <u>\$35 for week-end</u>
6 Sun	Transfer Station Closed Sundays Until Spring	21 Mon	Lit. Fire & Rescue Association -6pm, Cen.Sta. (All welcome to attend)
7 Mon	Lit. Town Office Closed 	22 Tue	
8 Tue	Lit. First Responders -6pm, Central Office	23 Wed	Lit. Food Bank —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd American Legion William R. Bold Post 181 - 6:30pm; 798 Lewiston Rd. West Gardiner RSU#4 Board Meeting -6:30pm; Central Office
9 Wed	Lit Food Bank —4pm-6pm, 56 Plains Rd RSU#4 Board Meeting -6:30pm; Central Office	24 Thur	Lit. Food Bank —10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd
10 Thur	Lit. Food Bank —10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd	25 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm
11 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm Litchfield Fair —See website or facebook	26 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm
12 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm Litchfield Fair —See website or Facebook	27 Sun	
13 Sun	Litchfield Fair —See website or Facebook	28 Mon	Lit. Selectmen's Meeting ; 6:30pm, Town Office -zoom available-see website
14 Mon	Lit. Selectmen's Meeting ; 6:30pm, Town Office- zoom available-see website Lit. Recreation —6:15pm, Town Office Lit. Senior Comm - 1pm, Senior Center	29 Tue	
15 Tue	Lit. Fire & Rescue Meeting -6pm, Central Sta	30 Wed	Lit Food Bank —4pm-6pm, 56 Plains Rd



RAIN OR SHINE!
LITCHFIELD FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION
YARD SALE!
GREAT FINDS!
GREAT CAUSE!
TREASURES!
DEALS!
FUN!
COMMUNITY!

\$25 PER SPOT
CALL TINA 207-485-5565 TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

OCTOBER 10, 26
8AM - 3PM

SHOP Support YOUR LOCAL FIRE & RESCUE!
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, Soda & Water AVAILABLE! GOOD STUFF. GREAT CAUSE.
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL FIRE & RESCUE!

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

BOX HOLDER

ECRWSS
PRSR 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



It's What A Fair Should Be Friday, Saturday, Sunday, September 11, 12, & 13, 2026

Under 12-Free! 12-17-\$5, Adults-\$10, Over 65-\$5 (Free On Friday)

Gates open Friday & Saturday 7am to 9pm, Sunday 8am - 4pm

ALL PARKING FREE! **Handicapped Parking at Plains Road parking lot.

\$25 Unlimited Ride Bracelets*!

NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL ON THE GROUNDS DURING THE FAIR SERVICE DOGS ONLY



Oct. Issue Deadline:
Sept. 20, 2026 5pm Deliver material in any of the following ways:
email:
sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org
g; U.S. mail to: Town Office, 2400 Hollowell Rd. 04350 Hand deliver to: Town Office 2400 Hollowell Rd.



Exhibits open to to Litchfield, Gardiner, West Gardiner, Richmond, Sabattus, Wales, Bowdoinham, Bowdoin, Monmouth, Winthrop, Manchester, Farmingdale, Randolph, Pittston, Dresden, Topsham, Lisbon, Lewiston, Greene, Leeds, Wayne, Woolwich and Bath.
44 Plains Road, Litchfield, ME