

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XX No. 8

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

August 1, 2020

All activities and meetings may be postponed until after the Covid 19 Pandemic has passed. Please call your contact for each specific activity or meeting for more information.

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

August question: If an early settler of Litchfield said that an animal, "wasn't worth its salt" what did that mean? **July question:** The vast majority of workers in early Litchfield were paid in barter, not cash. What would have been a typical daily wage for those paid in cash? Answer: Fifty cents a day To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyOfLitchfieldMaine.org

LITCHFIELD FIRE AND RESCUE

Litchfield Fire & Rescue is offering a great program for anyone interested in purchasing a reflective numerical address sign for your mailbox or home. This reflective blue sign will have yellow numbers on one or both sides, vertical or horizontal. Numbers are 3" and the sign itself is 6" x 18". A sample display will be available at the fire station and town office. Signs are priced at \$20.00 and orders can be placed starting now at the Town Office or Gowell's Shop & Save. Starting July 11th, you can pick up your sign at the station or come in to have one made. Hours will be Saturday and Sunday mornings between 8-10am. Any questions regarding this program, please call Tina Gowell at 485-5565. Signs are available for local residence as well as out of town residence. Need help installing? We would be glad to help.

Tacoma Lakes Association

Covid or no Covid, the Tacoma Lakes Association is determined to continue our efforts to maintain the water quality, and beauty of our lakes. The boat inspection team may set a record for the number of boat inspections this summer, as the Woodbury launch has been extremely busy. The certified inspectors are doing a great job inspecting boats as they prepare to enter the lake, as well as upon their exit. Any traveling boaters can help by making certain their boat is free of any plant material before entering the lake. Out plant patrol has been focusing on Sand pond this summer, sometimes working in smaller groups. To date, no invasive species have been located. With the increased boat traffic this summer, everyone can help by contacting us should you see some suspicious plant life. If anyone has any questions, concerns, or wants to be involved in our organization, please contact me anytime at either 268-2070 or 240-6539. Jim Adams

Senior Center

The Litchfield Senior Center is going to open on August 3rd at 9 a.m.

The Center and various activities is open and available to all. When we open, your attendance is a personal choice. **Masks will be provided as well as temperature checks if desired.**

The hours are Monday & Friday 9-4 and Wednesday 9-12, subject to change. Telephone numbers: 215-4595, 268-4237, 441-9005.

Because of social distancing we are going to have some of our activities at the "Red Barn" at the Litchfield Fairgrounds.

Line dancing will begin on Monday 8/17 at the "Red Barn" 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. for beginners and advanced. The Center will not be open until 12.

Tai Chi will begin on Wednesday 8/5 at the "Red Barn" at 9 a.m. & **Music practice** for the Carol Bailey String Band afterward on Wednesday 10 to 12. The Center will not be open.

No Aerobics at this time.

The Feldenkrais method awareness through movement class with Lindsay Nelsen (268-4569) will not be run at this time.

Games for fun on Mondays at 10-4 8/3 & 8/10; at 12-4 on 8/17, 24, 31 and Fridays 10-4. Bring a lunch and snack.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting is at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday August 20. Please note the new time.

Picnic get together at Woodbury Pond Park on Tuesday August 25 at 11:30 - bring your own chair, lunch, beverage, snack, bathing suits. No charge for Seniors. Weather permitting.

Because of the Covid-19 virus Road R unner trips have not been set up - please check with the Senior Center for any trips that may be able to be scheduled. Book club meeting, making cards with Anne Thompson and the Potluck lunch have also not been scheduled at this time.

Reminder: At this time Exercise equipment is available for use 12-4 Monday and 9-4 Friday.

Transfer Station

July was a month of construction at the Transfer Station: Construction company will grade gravel in front of the HazMat/Swap Shop building so that rain water will run away from the front of the building rather than into the building. Lake Litchfield will disappear after grading that area and the road to the leaf area. There will be a ramp constructed on the roadway near the leaf area so the frontend loader can get high enough to dump leaves into a high walled trailer that will transport the leaves. Our next project will be to dig a ditch from the Transfer Station office, going around the back of the Swap Shop building and then to the HazMat trailer. Electrical conduit and wire will be put into the ditch so as to have electricity and lights in the HazMat trailer. I would like to thank the citizens, Town of Litchfield Selectmen and employees for their support of the Litchfield Transfer Station. We had a great Town Meeting!

Litchfield Broadband Committee

The Litchfield Broadband Committee would like to thank everyone that attended the July town meeting for supporting our efforts to bring better internet and more options to the residents of our town. We have been a very busy committee and have the following updates for you: *We have secured a planning grant for \$8250 from ConnectME with \$8250 town matching funds to define where our broadband gaps and coverage are in town. *We are presently applying for a \$15,000 Maine Community Foundation grant and hope to help the Senior Center and Town Hall get updated technologies to improve communications and access. We are looking to define new areas for hotspots and towers for more internet providers to bring services to us. *We continue to work with surrounding towns to enhance services that will be offered to our region. With a regional approach, we can be more financially attractive to Internet Service Provider (ISP) vendors. We have also started to reach out to our school district to ensure we are all moving in the same direction to ensure that our students have access to the internet for education/homework. With Covid 19 and all the uncertainty surrounding the upcoming school year, we want to offer the support of our committee to their efforts. The committee is always looking for feedback and additional members to assist us. If you are interested in joining our group or have comments, please reach out to Larry Bell, Chair at lbell248@gmail.com <lbell248@gmail.com>

Town Clerk's Corner

Job openings:

- There is a part-time position open at the Town Office for a Code Enforcement Office Assistant with potential to train as backup Code Enforcement Officer.
- There is also a part-time staff position open at the Town Office for a Deputy Clerk / Deputy Treasurer. A job application is located on the home page of the Town website (www.litchfieldmaine.org). Contact the Town Office at 268-4721 for more information.

Late-Tax Notices – 30-day notices for unpaid 2019 property taxes will be mailed out the week of the 20th. If taxes have not been paid in full before that mailing, you will incur an additional processing fee to cover the notification.

Hunters, Any-Deer Permit applications must be submitted online by August 17th. The lottery drawing will be held on September 6th.

Need to contact the Animal Control Officer?

That would be Cliff Daigle, and he may be reached at (207) 215-7130. If you leave a message, he will get right back to you.

Upcoming meetings at the Town Office:

Board of Selectmen – Monday, August 10th, 6:30

Planning Board – No meeting in August

Budget Committee – No meeting in August

Board of Selectmen - Monday, August 24th, 6:30

Volunteer Positions Open:

Appeals Board-1

Planning Board-2

Conservation Committee-1

Recreation Committee-1

Board of Appeals-1

Cobbossee Watershed-1

Warden's Municipal Tally Sheet Final Totals

Total # ballots 807

Selectman – Gary Parker 652

School Board, RSU 4 – Vicki Russel* 42

Academy Trustees – Esther Slattery* 22; Elton Wade* 19

Budget Committee - Tom Wood* 28; David

Blocher* 20; Margaret Martin* 20

Winner - *Write In Candidate

Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop

Looking forward to opening in September if Maine's infection rate continues to decline. If you are desperate to shop for kids clothes, call me for an appointment and I will open for you. Rayna 582-4098

Litchfield Food Bank

Continuing our curb-side pick-up and seeing new clients almost weekly. We'd love to have your extra vegetables. We are there from 10 to noon on Wed. preparing and could receive them then or when we are open. If I need to pick them up, call me at 582-4098. Many thanks for the support we have received. We are truly blessed!

August Community Calendar

1 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store— Closed	17 Mon	
2 Sun	Transfer Station, 8.m.-4 p.m.	18 Tue	Lit. Fire Assoc & Regular Meet-6:30pm
3 Mon	Lit. Recreation Comm. (Zoom Meeting)	19 Wed	Food Bank-4p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd
4 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers- 6:30pm; Station	20 Thur	Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd
5 Wed	Food Bank-4p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd	21 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m
6 Thurs	Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd	22 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store— Closed
7 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m	23 Sun	Transfer Station, 8.m.-4 p.m.
8 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store— Closed	24 Mon	Selectman Meeting, 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information
9 Sun	Transfer Station, 8.m.-4 p.m.	25 Tue	
10 Mon	Selectman Meeting, 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information	26 Wed	Food Bank-4p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 School Board; 6:30pm-Zoom Meeting
11 Tue	First Responders Meeting-6:30pm; Station	27 Thur	Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd
12 Wed	Food Bank-4p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 School Board; 6:30pm-Zoom Meeting	28 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m
13 Thur	Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd	29 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store— Closed
14 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m	30 Sun	Transfer Station, 8.m.-4 p.m.
15 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store— Closed	31 Mon	
16 Sun	Transfer Station, 8.m.-4 p.m.		

BOX HOLDER

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

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.

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The Litchfield Sodalite

Conservation News

As we are enjoying our summer lake time to swim, boat and relax in the cool breezes, keep in mind that the clarity of the water and the health of the lakes depends on you, on all of us. Here is some helpful information from the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed. **What is Runoff Pollution?** When rain falls from the sky, it often runs downhill and comes to rest at a topographic low point, forming lakes and ponds. As this rainwater flows downhill, it often carries contaminants with it: loose soil, fertilizer, pet waste, and pollutants from malfunctioning appliances. When natural buffer zones (those are the trees and shrubs along the lake) are impaired through erosion, deforested trees, cleared lots, and poorly maintained roads, phosphorus and other harmful pollutants are able to enter the water directly. Left unchecked, these pollutants can cause unsightly (and potentially hazardous) algae blooms to grow out of control. Since the passing of the Clean Water Act of 1972, there has been a significant reduction in “point source pollution”: pollution caused directly by industrial manufacturing and energy production. Today, most water pollution is the result of “non-point source pollution”—the cumulative impact of residents and visitors of the watershed. **How can the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed help me “Slow the Flow”?** 1. Schedule a [LakeSmart Start!](#) visit. We'll discuss your concerns, and provide a plan of action. 2. Have your project completed by the Youth Conservation Corps. Let us do the heavy-lifting on your shoreline!

September Issue Deadline: Aug. 22, 2020, 5p.m. Deliver material in any of the following ways:
E-mail
[**\(sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org\)**](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org) **U.S. mail to:**
Town Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd. 04350
Hand deliver to: Town Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd

