

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XIX No. 8

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

August 1, 2019

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz!

August question: When researching records in early New England, dates often have two years, ie. November 1, 1722/23. Why is this? July question: Ephriam Ballard, the husband of the famous midwife, Martha Ballard, was attacked by some early Litchfield settlers. What provoked the attack? answer: Ephriam Ballard was attempting to survey Litchfield for the Kennebec Proprietors. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

Litchfield Firefighters Assc. 24th Annual Show and Shine

Sunday August 18, 2019 rain or shine at the Carrie Ricker Middle School. Car, driver and one passenger \$8; General admission \$4 per person. Over 30 classes of cars, trucks, street rods and motorcycles. Entries from 8am - 11am Awards are at around 2pm. Plenty of food, fun and sun!! FMI Scott Weeks 242-3352 or email scottwks@gmail.com

Litchfield Fair

Will be on September 6, 7 and 8th. Check our website Litchfieldfair.com. **WANTED:** exhibitions for our exhibition hall, everyone gets a ribbon and prize money for the displays. Check our book on the website to see what you can contribute. Bring items on Wednesday the 4th between 9 AM and 8 PM. This year we have lots of entertainment during the fair. Friday night we have the Redneck Truck Pull and Y Wouldn't U - a local band next to Wheelers Wee Farm, we also have senior citizens day so come and see Litchfield's senior Steppers The Carol Bailey band. On Saturday we start with Woodsman Competition, horse pulling. The 10:30 baby show where every child under 24 months gets a prize! Barrel racing in the afternoon, Drews animal show and balloon twisting. A new event in the afternoon with Litchfield Back Seat Drivers Ed class, pig scramble and racing. Popular band, Ragged Jack will be playing while the Medway keeps the children busy. Sunday morning there are more animal presentations, a Demolition Derby, Antique Car Parade followed by more children activities!

Safety Reminder

During the summer there are many pedestrians and bicyclists using our roads and bridges. Drivers please give them the required space when driving by them. Remember safety first for everyone. *(State law for passing bicyclists on all Maine roads is to have three feet of space between you and them when passing)*

American Legion William R. Bold Post 181-Our next Post meeting will be Aug 28th at 7:00 P.M. Legionaries will be out in the community soon selling raffle tickets with the proceeds to benefit our building fund. They will cost \$5 each or 3 for \$10 and 6 for \$20.

Senior Center

The Litchfield Senior Center is open and available to all, no fee to attend. The normal hours are Monday & Friday 8:30-4 and Wednesday 8:30-12, subject to change."Aging is more fun when you share it".

Line dancing instruction Mondays at 9:30 for beginners and advanced. Aerobics classes on Wednesday and Fridays at 8:30. **The book club** meeting is on August 14 at 12:15. The book to be discussed is "The Last Year of the War" by Susan Meissner.

There will be Music practice for the Carol Bailey String Band on August 14 & 28 only.

The Feldenkrais method exercise class with Lindsay Nelsen (268-4569) is at 9:30 on Fridays.

Cribbage or Unlucky 7's games for fun on Mondays at 11 and Fridays 10-12. Bring a lunch and stay for card games on Mondays in the afternoon & on Friday cards or games. On Wed 8/7 & 21 Unlucky 7's at 10-12.

The Thrift Shop is open the first & third Monday 10-11.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting is at 10am on Thursday August 22.

The potluck lunch & August birthday celebration in on Friday, August 16.

SUMMER CELEBRATION - Wednesday August 21 at 12 Cookout at noon-hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, desserts & more. Cook outside, eat inside. Sign up at the Senior Center, call 215-4595 or email litchfieldseniors@litchfieldmaine.org

Reminder: Exercise equipment and Wii games available for use 8:30-4 Monday and Friday; 8:30-12 Wednesday.

Upcoming trips: Cabbage Island Clambakes \$69.50 on Thursday, August 15; Old Orchard Beach on Tuesday, August 20.

September trips coming up: Theater at Monmouth on Sunday, September 15 at 1pm-play is "Sense and Sensibility" \$32.; Mystery ride, Tuesday, September 24;

Castle Tucker in Wiscasset on Thursday, September 12, \$7. Call 215-4595 or email litchfield-seniors@litchfieldmaine.org to sign up.

Please stop in to the Senior Center for more information, a cup of coffee or tea and check out our books (paperback & hard cover), puzzles or work on the 1000 piece puzzle.

RSU4- RSU4 - As we get ready for our first day of school on Wednesday, Aug 28, we have some changes in our Administrative Team. First, we say goodbye to Christine Lajoie Cameron (Prin. CRS), Jill Hastings (Sped Ed Director), Jarrod Dumas (Asst Prin @ OHMS) and Greg Henderson (Asst Prin at OHMS). I want to thank them all for their service to RSU4 as they all did amazing work with students and gave countless hours to these communities to better the educational experience for our students. We would like to welcome some new faces - Nancy Dwyer will be our new Sped Ed Director; Jenny Johnson will be the new Asst Principal at OHMS and Dani Finn will be the new Principal at CRS. I am excited to have these folks on board and I can't wait to see all the wonderful things they will do with our students. I hope you all enjoy the rest of your summer and that this amazing weather continues. Should you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me. Andrew Carlton, Superintendent of Schools

Litchfield Transfer Station

Attendant Dana Kilcrease has started a new full-time position at Togus V.A. He is an excellent employee and we will miss his great sense of humor and energy. Dana has been instrumental in bringing this facility into EPA compliance. The Transfer Station welcomes two new employees, who are Litchfield residents, George Noyes and John Madore. Both individuals spent an entire day at the Transfer Station during the interview process: both had positive attitudes about the operation. I didn't hold anything back, I advised them about the good, the bad and the ugly about working at the Litchfield Transfer Station: the good: 98% of the people coming to the Transfer Station strongly believe in recycling and appreciate our efforts to operate a professional facility. The bad: the effort it takes to educate our out of state summer population about the changes in our operations. The ugly: the lazy people who cannot be educated about what they need to do at the Transfer Station to make this a successful operation. (I took great deal of time trying to be politically correct about appraisal of these low life lazy individuals). As I mention in my last report: we are excited about starting our 2019 projects (weather permitting, so far it has rained every week, keep your fingers crossed). We need to put in the third cement pad and then move the new forty yard roll off container to that location. In appraising the current recycling situation, I believe the best option, at this time, is to have this third forty-yard container to be used for over flow of cardboard deposits. We will also attempt to run electricity to the Hazmat trailer and the Oil Building. I have outlined our projects but can't emphasize enough that we could not accomplish these goals if it was not for the assistance provided by the Litchfield Public Works Department.

Tacoma Lake Association - The dog days of summer are here!! Our recent Annual Meeting, held at The Carrie Ricker School, was a rousing success. Over 75 members enjoyed a great presentation by Toni Pied from the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed regarding the FOCW's efforts to eradicate milfoil in neighboring lakes. The attending members enjoyed a continental breakfast, and a wonderful feeling of community with fellow members. Our plant patrol team, headed up by Diane Clay continues their work on our lakes scouring the shoreline, looking for invasive plants. They were out this past week on Jimmy Pond, and fortunately found nothing to report. We are always looking for new "patrollers," and our Facebook page has lots of information on upcoming clinics to teach one how to identify the different plants that are in our lakes. Plant patrol information can be found on our website at www.tacomaslakes.org, as well. At the meeting, members were asked if they wanted the option to receive the Spring, and Fall Newsletters electronically, as opposed to the print version. Many indicated they would prefer the electronic version, as a result on the 2020 membership form there will be an option to opt out of the mailing, and space for inputting valid email addresses. Finally, our 2019 membership drive is underway. Last year we had 262 members, and we have set our membership goal for this year at 300. The TLA welcomes anyone who cares about the future health of our lakes to join. ALL of the lakes in this area are considered to be at a high risk for milfoil infestation. This would hurt property values on the waterfront and diminish the local tax base, probably causing more increases for all property owners. We urge all interested people to join, we have kept our membership fees at a very low \$15 per year, and our strength lies in our numbers.

Town Manager/Clerk's Corner

The Town of Litchfield would like to say good bye to Lezley Sturtevant, Deputy Town Clerk who has accepted a position with the City of Lewiston. Many of our residents came to know and appreciate Lezley in the nearly 13 years that she worked here. We would like to thank her for her dedicated service and wish her well at her new job.

Please help us in welcoming our newest employee, Jennifer Newendyke to the Town Office staff.

Property Revaluation – The property revaluation process is wrapping up, letters with new property valuations will be sent out by early to mid -August. The tentative schedule is for the staff of RJD Appraisal to be at the Town Office and available for questions and meetings with any tax payer the week of August 12. The selectmen will review results at their August 26th meeting with a target date of September 9th to use the new valuation schedule to commit taxes.

[Aug 12 hand corrected to Aug 19 in printed copies]

Late-Tax Notices – 30 day notices for unpaid 2018 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 15th. 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 return your call promptly. (If you use the Litchfield Annual Report inside cover quick reference, please change the Animal Control Officer number to the one stated here.)

Ad Hoc Broadband Committee

At the July 8, 2019 Selectmen's meeting, the board created an "ad hoc" Broadband Committee. This committee is charged with exploring high speed internet and licensing needs for the residents of Litchfield. The committee will consist of not more than 7 members, if you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact the Town Office at 268-4721.

The Selectmen appointed Shelly Wheeler to the RSU 4 School Board to fill the position to fill a vacancy on the Board. This term will be for one year.

Upcoming meetings at the Town Office:

Board of Selectmen – Mon. August 12th, 6:30 pm

Planning Board – No meeting in August

Budget Committee – No meeting in August

Board of Selectmen - Mon. August 26th, 6:30 pm

Litchfield Food Bank

Local gardeners are bringing in their extras (and eggs) and it's always greatly appreciated. Did you see the new benches placed outside before we open each day? Thanks, Dave! Folks waiting now have a place to sit! We are inviting everyone to save us their plastic bags with no holes. We use a lot! Thank you for supporting the Food Bank!

Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop

Continuing great sale prices through August. Pick up a few things "new to you" to finish off the summer at terrific prices.

August Community Calendar

1 Thur	Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd	17 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m Academy Thrift Store, 9 a.m.-noon Town Museum Open- 1pm-4pm Historical Society Meeting @ Town Museum
2 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m Litchfield Sportsman's Club—Public Supper (5pm-6pm) and Music Jam (6pm-8pm), \$7	18 Sun	
3 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m Academy Thrift Store, 9 a.m.-noon Litchfield Sportsman's Club—Country Fest Maine music festival - live music from Maine musicians 11am-5:30pm, then headliner Johnny Counterfeit from 6pm-7:30pm, \$15.	19 Mon	
4 Sun	Litchfield Sportsmen's Club—Public Breakfast (7am-9:30am) \$7, Acoustic Music Jam (8:30am-10:30am), free, Country Fest Maine music festival - live music from four bands noon-5pm, \$10	20 Tue	Lit. Fire Assoc & Regular Meet; 6:30pm
5 Mon		21 Wed	Food Bank-5p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd TOPS—Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m RSU4-Organization Meet., 6:30pm, OHHS
6 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers Meeting-6:30pm	22 Thur	Senior Advisory Comm.,-10am Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd
7 Wed	Food Bank-5p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd TOPS—Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m	23 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m
8 Thur	Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd	24 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m Academy Thrift Store, 9 a.m.-noon
9 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m	25 Sun	
10 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m Academy Thrift Store, 9 a.m.-noon Amer. Legion Ladies Aux., Legion Hall, 10am	26 Mon	Selectman Meeting, Town Office-6:30pm
11 Sun		27 Tue	
12 Mon	Selectman Meeting, Town Office-6:30pm Litchfield Sportsmen's Club Meeting, 7pm	28 Wed	Food Bank-5p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd TOPS—Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m RSU4-First Student Day K-9 American Legion Post 181- 7pm
13 Tue	First Responders Meeting 6:30pm	29 Thur	RSU4-First Student Day 10-12 Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd
14 Wed	Food Bank-5p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd TOPS—Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m	30 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m
15 Thur	Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd	31 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m Academy Thrift Store, 9 a.m.-noon Lit. Sportsman's Club—Public breakfast; 7am -9:30am; \$7/person
16 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10 a.m.-2 p.m		

BOX HOLDER

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

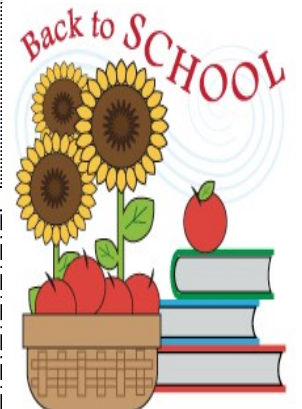
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Permit #2

The Litchfield Sodalite
Litchfield Town Office
2400 Hallowell Road
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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.

Conservation News

Here's a report from the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry on the invasive forest pest the emerald ash borer, which was discovered in York and Aroostook counties last year. How does EAB kill ash trees? "Larval feeding under the bark girdles and kills ash trees. Since its discovery in the United States in 2002 emerald ash borer has killed millions of ash trees. **Many new infestations center around campgrounds, implicating camp firewood in this insect's spread** Go to the Maine Forest Service webpage for photos and lots of information. " **Release of the Emerald Ash Borer's Insect Enemies Thursday, July 18**" In response to emerald ash borer in Aroostook County Augusta, MAINE - To battle the emerald ash borer (EAB) infestation, Maine Forest Service is releasing parasitoids in Aroostook County. Parasitoids are tiny non-stinging wasps that feed in or on EAB by attacking immature (larvae) EAB under the bark of ash trees and parasitizing eggs on the surface of the bark. The parasitoid species being released in Aroostook County are *Oobius agrili*, *Tetrastichus planipennis* and *Spathius galinae*. They were produced and supplied by the USDA APHIS PPQ EAB Parasitoids Rearing Facility in Brighton, MI. EAB was found in Aroostook and York Counties in 2018. The northern infestation also includes towns in New Brunswick, where Canadian officials are releasing the same parasitoids. At this time, Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry entomologists are researching suitable sites for parasitoids release in Southern Maine."

September Issue Deadline: Aug 20 2019, 5p.m. Deliver material in any of the following ways: **E-mail** (sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org) **U.S. mail to:** Town Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd. 04350 **Hand deliver to:** Town Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd



You may see Aquatic Invasive Plant Patrol folks, trained by Lake Stewards of Maine, surveying our lakes in canoes and kayaks; this year they are starting with Jimmy Pond. Since about 2004 volunteers have been identifying the native water plants, hoping not to see any of the 11 invasive aquatic plants (IAP). If invasives are found – luckily none in the Tacoma Lakes so far- they will mark the location and call in a coalition including Lake Stewards of Maine, Maine Department of Environmental Protection and local resources. "Early Detection and Rapid Response" means they can come in a quickly to control/remove the Invasive Aquatic Plant. We can all do our part. Avoid boating in infested areas; if you do then Clean, Drain and Dry your boat.