

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XX No. 12

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

December 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

December question: The saw used in early water-powered mills was called a "frame saw". How did it differ from saws used in today's saw mills?

November question: An 1820's Town Meeting record describes a road as follows, "From John Patten's to Potter Mills" In today's Litchfield, that road would consist of what three present day roads? answer: South Adams, North Adams, and Small Roads. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to

WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.or

Litchfield Transfer Station

Another project completed: Canty Construction Company completed ground construction in grading the level of gravel in front of the HAZMAT/Swap Shop so the rain water will no longer flow into this building. Canty then added gravel to the area where water would collect on the roadway just beyond the Oil Storage Building. This will allow the water to flow away from this area and the brush area. The last part of this project was to address the problem of not being able to load the leaves into a 13'2" high trailer (frontend loader could not get the loader bucket over the high walls of the trailer). Canty constructed a new roadway adjacent to the existing roadway to the leaf area. Canty also used Cement blocks and gravel to construct a ramp that would allow the loader to go up the ramp putting the loader at a height which would allow the loader bucket to put the leaves into the high trailer. Well done Canty Construction Company!

Litchfield Senior Center

The Litchfield Senior Center is open. SEE THE CHANGE IN HOURS. No fee to attend. "Aging is more fun when you share it"

When we are open, your attendance is a personal choice.

Masks will be required and temperature checks are available.

The hours at the Center are Monday 10-4, Wednesday 10-12 & Friday 8:30-4. Come in for card games, Unlucky 7's, etc. Check out the books and puzzles.

Telephone numbers: 215-4595, 268-4237, 441-9005.

The Center will be closed on Christmas 12/25 and New Years 1/1.

Again this year we will have "FREE BUCKETS OF SAND" available for Litchfield seniors. Please call one of the numbers listed (leave a message) to be put on the list.

Effective 11/16 our Line dancing, Tai Chi, and Music that was held at the Sportsman's Club have been cancelled until further notice.

Friday at 8:30, Indoor walking with Dian using an "Leslie Sansone Walk at Home" 5 mile tape-mile markers let you choose 1 mile, 2,3,4, or 5 mile walks. Your choice. The easy way to exercise and lose weight...fast!

Reminder: Exercise equipment available for use Monday, Wednesday and Friday when the Center is open. Come in and check out the treadmill, bikes, etc.

We are looking for a Volunteer Aerobics instructor.

There is a WiFi hot spot available at the Senior Center. We will be setting up a schedule to train Seniors on basic computer applications at the Senior Center once a week. If interested call 215-4595 leave a message with name & phone #.

The Feldenkrais Method lessons, called Awareness Through Movement (or ATMs) with Lindsay Nelsen (268-4569), will **NOT** be held indoors until we have a vaccine. You can access Zoom ATM classes daily for a modest fee at "dailyimprovement.org", a collective run by Feldenkrais practitioners from around the world. Check on fees at the site.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting is at 1 p.m. on Thursday December 17.

Book club, making cards with Anne Thompson and the Potluck lunch have not been scheduled at this time.

We have a number of books donated pertaining to healthy living and eating. Come in to check them out - i.e. Eating for good health, Alternative Cures that really work, Chicken Soup & other Folk Remedies and many, many more.

We always have time for a cup of coffee or tea - come in and check out the puzzles and books available.

Litchfield Broadband Committee

With grant funding awarded to us from ConnectMaine, Casco Bay Advisors was contracted to develop a Broadband Planning Report for Litchfield. This report has been completed, and examines existing high-speed broadband assets within the town limits, where gaps in coverage may exist, potential solutions, costs to fill those gaps, as well as recommendations for next steps. Brian Lippold of Casco Bay Advisors will be joining the December 14, 2020 Select Board Meeting via Zoom video conference to present a report summary and to answer questions. This meeting starts at 6:30 PM. Mark your calendars to attend the meeting or join via Zoom call to listen in and/or ask questions. The link to the Zoom call as well as an electronic copy (PDF file) of the report will be posted on the Town of Litchfield website (<https://www.litchfieldmaine.org/>) before the meeting. Help us shape the future of broadband here in town by getting involved in these meetings. If anyone has broadband issues that need to be addressed by this initiative, please reach out to the Broadband Committee by sending us an email note to lbell248@gmail.com. Those needing more affordable computer equipment should consider contacting 'Give IT - Get IT', a 501(c)3 Nonprofit Organization - website: <https://digitalequitycenter.org/resources/affordable-equipment/>. They are located in Waterville and can be reached at (207) 338-4233. They sell refurbished desktop systems, complete with keyboard, mouse, large 19" monitors, and video cameras for \$88. Refurbished laptops are also available starting at \$225. Remember to be sure to check out the many FREE computer literacy webinars available online. This is a great chance to improve or brush-up on your computer skills in your spare time. These training sessions are sponsored by the National Digital Equity Center. Details can be found on their website: <https://digitalequitycenter.org/> <<https://digitalequitycenter.org/>>

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Shopping is great! More items unpacked every week. Kids' items - 25 cents each includes coats and boots (available in limited amounts, but more may be unpacked just before you get there). We will be closed Dec 26th.

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

Many thanks for the outstanding support for the Thanksgiving holiday. Christmas distribution will occur on Tuesday, Dec 22 only, 2 - 4 PM. Please put it on your calendar.

Town Clerk's Corner Con't—Some upcoming meetings at the Town Office (see the Town website for changes or updates): Planning Board – Thursday, Dec 3rd, 6:30 pm; Select Board – Monday, Dec 14th, 6:30 pm; Budget Committee – Monday, Dec 21st, 6:30 pm; Select Board December 28th is TBD (there is often no second meeting in Dec)

Town Clerk's Corner

The Town Office will close early on the following days in December: at 12 pm noon, Thursday, December 24th, Christmas Eve; and at 3 pm Thursday, December 31st, New Year's Eve.

The Broadband Committee's expertise was instrumental in obtaining a grant and contracting for a survey of Litchfield's current broadband architecture, a first step in planning toward increasing high speed broadband availability for residents. The final report of that survey will be presented during the Selectmen's meeting on Dec 14th.

The turnout for the Nov 3rd general election was just over 73% of 2944 registered voters. That's just above average for a presidential election in Maine. There were 977 early/absentee voters and 1215 election day in-person voters for a total of 2192 voters participating. A huge thank you to our election clerks and our town office election team! We had many new faces for this election teamed up with our experienced clerks and all were outstanding in serving what may be a record number of local voters. The local vote totals are as follows in order of votes:

President

Trump, Donald – 1260
Biden, Joseph – 850
Jorgensen, Jo – 44
Hawkins, Howard – 19
De La Fuente, Roque – 4

2nd Congressional District

Crafts, Dale – 1133
Golden, Jared – 1033

U.S. Senate

Collins, Susan – 1395
Gideon, Sara – 623
Savage, Lisa – 102

Maine Representative District 82

Greenwood, Randall – 1096
Ackley, Kent – 1009

Maine Senator District 22

Timberlake, Jeffrey – 1288
Poliquin, Martha – 820

Sheriff, Kennebec County

Mason, L. – 1524
Sayers, Michael – 530

Probate Judge, Kennebec County

Sullivan, Kevin – 1281
Mitchell, Elizabeth – 817

2021 Dog Licenses - You may license your dog(s) for 2021 at the Town Office (licensing began 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, 2021.

Thank you to those who brought their dogs to the rabies clinic and also supported Litchfield's fuel fund!

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

Hunting and Fishing Licenses for the new season are now also available at the Town Office, or online at https://moses.informe.org/cgi-bin/online/moses_v3/index.

Home Heating Assistance - If you are needing fuel assistance and have an appointment with KVCAP, 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", select "Heating Assistance", click the highlighted "Click Here" and book your appointment. Information is available in the Town Office.

December Community Calendar

1 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers- 6:30pm; Station	17 Thur	Food Bank- 10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd Senior Advisory Comm- 1pm, Senior Center
2 Wed	Food Bank- 4p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd	18 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m
3 Thur	Food Bank- 10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd Lit. Planning Board —6:30pm	19 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN – 9am to 12pm
4 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m	20 Sun	
5 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN – 9am to 12pm	21 Mon	Lit. Budget Comm —6:30pm via Zoom-See Town Website
6 Sun		22 Tue	
7 Mon	Lit Recreation Dept -please call Town Office for more information.	23 Wed	Food Bank- 4p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd
8 Tue	First Responders Meeting- 6:30pm; Station	24 Thur	Town Office closing at 12 noon.
9 Wed	Food Bank- 4p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 School Bd Meet —6:30pm; Zoom Conservation Commission- 6pm. Contact Diane Clay for Zoom connection- c1l2a3y4@gmail.com	25 Fri	
10 Thur	Food Bank- 10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd	26 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store — CLOSED
11 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m	27 Sun	
12 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN – 9am to 12pm	28 Mon	
13 Sun		29 Tue	
14 Mon	Selectman Meeting , 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information	30 Wed	Food Bank- 4p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd
15 Tue	Lit. Fire Assoc & Regular Meet- 6:30pm	31 Thur	Town Office Closing at 3pm.
16 Wed	Lit. Budget Comm —6:30pm via Zoom-See Town Website Food Bank- 4p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd		

BOX HOLDER

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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.

Conservation News

To share project updates, local events, and other conservation news, we have created the Facebook page 'Litchfield Maine Conservation Commission'. To view the page, simply enter <https://www.facebook.com/LCC04350> in your internet browser. On **New Year's Day** the Conservation Commission is sponsoring a **snowshoe walk** from 12noon to 2 pm at the Small Burnham conservation easement on the southern end of Pine Tree Road. We will park along the side of the road and explore the pond areas usually closed to the public, allowable since the ground is frozen. We will have a fire to gather around at the finish. We are not limiting attendance, everyone is welcome. We will still stay 6 feet apart for the entire walk and everyone **MUST** wear a face mask. If we get more than 12 people, we will split into two groups, one walking one loop while the other group walks different loop. We will meet even if it is very cold so dress accordingly and bring your own snack or \ and drink. If wet precipitation is forecast the walk is canceled. Please join us, all walks are free and open to anyone who likes nature, enjoys walking or snowshoeing, and wants to see new places. We hope you will join us. For any questions check the new Litchfield Maine Conservation Commission page on Facebook for updates. Thank you.

January Issue Deadline: Dec. 20, 2020, 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

