

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XX No. 11

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

November 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

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? October question: The Shurtleff Bridge crossed the stream between what two present day ponds? answer: Jimmy and Buker ponds To read more about the history of Litchfield go to

WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

Tacoma Lakes Association

The final numbers for the 2019 boat inspection program at The Woodbury Boat Launch are in. Certified Boat Inspectors were at the launch for 45 days, logging 363 hours, inspecting 1,747 boats, and finding plant fragments on 174 boats. Fortunately, none of the fragments were found to be invasive species. This program is the first line of defense in keeping our lakes free of invasive plants. Our plant patrol team was out in force, inspecting the shoreline of Sand Pond, and the area surrounding the Woodbury boat launch. Again, no invasives were found.



The Litchfield Senior Center is open. 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 provided as well as temperature checks if desired.

The hours at the Center are Monday 12-4 & Friday 9-4.

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

The Center will be closed on Wednesday 11/11 and Friday 11/27.

Again, this year we will have "BUCKETS OF SAND" available for Litchfield seniors. Please call one of the numbers listed to be put on the list.

Line dancing Mondays at the Sportsmen's Club 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. for beginners and advanced. The Center will not be open until 12.

Wednesdays, Tai Chi at 9 a.m. & Music practice for the Carol Bailey String Band at 10 to 12 at the Sportsmen's Club. The Center will not be open on Wednesdays.

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!

We are looking for a Volunteer Aerobics instructor.

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.

Games for fun on Mondays at 12-4 and Fridays 10-4. Bring a lunch and snack.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting is at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday November 19.

We have the following trips planned: 11/10 Trip to Portland Mall, Christmas Tree Shop and lunch at the Country Buffet. Leave at 8:30 from Sportsmen's Club.

Book club meeting at 12:30 on Wednesday, 11/18 at the Senior Center - books that we read over the past 6 months to be discussed and decide on a book to read for the next meeting. Making cards with Anne Thompson and the Potluck lunch have not been scheduled at this time. We always have time for a cup of coffee or tea - come in and check out the puzzles and books available. **Reminder:** At this time Exercise equipment available for use Monday and Friday when the Center is open. Come in and check out the treadmill, bikes, etc.



Transfer Station

We've had an exceptional month with very few violations! The Swap shop has closed for the winter. I again would like to thank the volunteers that make this recycling operation a huge success. Friendly reminder: Please do not put anything ceramic in the glass roll off container (coffee cups, plates), also, no light bulbs of any type. Transfer Station sticker count: 1,545.

Litchfield Broadband Committee

A member of the broadband committee met with Norma Jean Audet, Technology Director at RSU4 to get a better understanding of our students' needs for remote learning and to determine if our town's internet coverage is sufficient. RSU-4 has received over one hundred portable mobile hotspots to distribute to their students that do not have adequate internet coverage at home or where they study. Both Libby Tozier and Carrie Ricker still have mobile hotspots available to borrow. All a parent needs to do is contact the school secretary to start the process. It is a very simple process that they hope students will utilize. To date, not many have been distributed so don't hesitate to ask. Also, if your child attends a daycare that does not have adequate internet, the student mobile hotspots could potentially be used there as well. We have also provided town hall with some of the information packets that explain details about the mobile hotspots available to our students. Those can also be found at your students' schools as well. We are working to stay in communication with the school district so that we can support them as needed. To date their work done has been effective to ensure students can continue to learn remotely. **The Town Office** will be getting some nice upgrades soon for improved remote communication. The grant monies being utilized will help purchase a new 65" monitor for the conference room, as well as video conferencing equipment so that community 'Zoom Call' attendees can see and hear each other better. The Town Hall will also be installing a Hotspot for townspeople to connect to the internet from the convenience and safety of their own cars from the parking lot. **We also want to remind all that there are 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/>](https://digitalequitycenter.org/)

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

Accepting new applications from Litchfield residents with proof of residency. Curbside service allows you to stay in your vehicle while we bring the food to you. We are wearing our masks to keep you protected because we care about you. And inside our masks are our smiles. Sorry you are missing those. Many thanks for our garden produce donations this year. Great job out there. See you gardeners next year (hint, hint). Seriously, it was a great help. Thank you.

Town Clerk's Corner

Vote in the Presidential Election Tuesday, Nov 3rd Polls are open from 8 am – 8 pm on Tuesday, November 3rd at the Sportmen's Club for voting. PLEASE NOTE: State restrictions due to COVID-19 now require masks to be worn while voting inside. However, YOU MAY VOTE WITHOUT A MASK outside at the polling location by voting an in-person absentee ballot that will be made available to you.

2020-21 Property Taxes

Tax bills were mailed in September with 1st installment due by Oct 15th. If you are a Litchfield property owner and have not received a property tax bill you can call the Town Office, or check our tax commitment book online at Litchfieldmaine.org. By state law, tax bills are mailed to whoever owned the property prior to April 1st. If you purchased your property after April 1st, you are still expected to pay the taxes, but the bill was mailed to the previous owner. If your taxes are escrowed, standard practice is that the mortgage company will contact the Town Office to determine the amount due.

2021 Dog Licenses

You may license your dog(s) for 2021 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, 2021.

Snowmobiles

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

Home Heating Assistance

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.

The Town Office will be closed **Wednesday**, November 11th for Veterans Day, and Thursday Nov 26th for Thanksgiving.

Some upcoming meetings at the Town Office (see the Town website for changes or updates):

Planning Board – Thursday, Nov 5th, 6:30 pm

Select Board – Monday, Nov 9th, 6:30 pm


Budget Committee – Monday, Nov 16th, 6:30 pm

Select Board – Monday, Nov 23rd 6:30 pm

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

We've seen lots of folks shopping and a lot of great clothes going out the door, but we have MORE. Ladies tops for 50 cents. What a great way to freshen your wardrobe! Children's clothes are 25 cents each. They are displayed by gender and size to make shopping easier for busy Moms. Need a few books to pass the time? Hard cover - 50 cents, paperbacks, 25 cents. New thrillers and old classics!

November Community Calendar

1 Sun		17 Tue	Lit. Fire Assoc & Regular Meet-6:30pm
2 Mon	Litchfield Recreation Committee - 6:30pm	18 Wed	Food Bank-4p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd RSU 4 School Board—6:30pm(Zoom also)
3 Tues	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers- 6:30pm; Station	19 Thur	Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd
4 Wed	Food Bank-4p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd	20 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m
5 Thur	Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd Lit. Planning Board—6:30pm	21 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm
6 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m	22 Sun	
7 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm	23 Mon	Selectman Meeting, 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information
8 Sun		24 Tue	
9 Mon	Selectman Meeting, 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information	25 Wed	Food Bank-4p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd
10 Tues	First Responders Meeting-6:30pm; Station	26 Thur	Town Office Closed 
11 Wed	Town Office Closed-Veteran's Day Conservation Commission - 6pm. Call Di- ane Clay for Zoom connection, 754-9502	27 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m
12 Thur	Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd	28 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm
13 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m	29 Sun	
14 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm	30 Mon	
15 Sun			
16 Mon	Lit. Budget Comm—6:30pm via Zoom-See Town Website		

BOX HOLDER

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1. Historical Society, Senior Center Corner
2. Town Manager/Clerk's Report
3. November 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

The Maine Conservation Corps Field Team worked in the Litchfield Community Park mid-October with seven local volunteers making trail improvements and controlling Invasive Terrestrial Plants (ITP). There were five different species of invasive plants and the Autumn Olive, which thrive in the full sun sandy soil, were huge, 12' tall and wide. The shrubs were cut down to 15" and covered with heavy duty black plastic, a great way to kill shrubby invasives without herbicide. Come to the park and walk the trails and see the many plastic bags killing invasive plants. For those who wish to use the Maine Natural Areas Program (MNAP) recommendation to cut down an ITP and daub with glyphosate (from late July- August through to late winter when a plant pulls its sap into the roots), the Conservation Commission is selling 4 oz containers with sponge applicator tips, in kits that include replacement tips and tools to remove them. A full container lasts a very long time since you only daub the outer ring, only living part of the stem or trunk. Contact MNAP's Invasive Plant Biologist Nancy Olmstead for herbicide recommendations at nancy.olmstead@maine.gov Go to the Town Office for the "Maine Invasive Plants Field Guide" to learn more about your specific Invasive Terrestrial Plant and how to remove it.

December Issue Deadline: Nov. 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 Hal-

