

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXI No. 10

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

October 1, 2021

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

October question: What famous son of Litchfield provided the following bit of wisdom, "If you move to a place where there is no Maine man, move on as he did! September question: What early Litchfield occupation would be associated with "shooks"? A "shook" was a bundle of barrel staves. The occupation was a cooper. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

Broadband Committee

Broadband Committee Update for October 2021 The Town of Litchfield Internet Survey has been completed. In a three week period, we received over 350 surveys back. Thank you to everyone that took the time to participate. The complete survey results are available on the Town of Litchfield website (<https://www.litchfieldmaine.org/>). Some highlights of the survey include the following: About two-thirds of the survey respondents reported having Charter Spectrum service. This aligns well with the percentage of people that have their service in town. About 70% of the people in the survey had 1 - 2 users in their household. 75% of respondents that currently have internet service are either very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with their service. For those that reported some level of dissatisfaction, the biggest issue was cost (45%), followed by quality/reliability (27%), and speed (20%). There is very extensive use of the internet in town for a wide variety of activities, including 47% of respondents working from home every day. 87% selected reliability as the most important element of future service, followed by widespread availability (56%), and low cost (50%). Only 10% of respondents felt that they had very limited computer technology knowledge. Others were at least comfortable with most tasks, others were computer savvy, and 12% even supported friends and neighbors with their computer questions. At least 50% were open to the options currently under consideration, but of course will require additional information when available to fully decide their position. The Select Board scheduled a workshop in late September to review the survey results with the Broadband Committee to determine next steps. Stay tuned for more updates in future Sodalites, the town website, and the Facebook Litchfield Maine Community Bulletin Board.

The Creators 4H

The first meeting is October 9th at 1pm at the Academy building in the back room. A small craft is planned, plus some plan-



Litchfield Senior Center

The Litchfield Senior Center is open and available to all, no fee to attend. "Aging is more fun when you share it"

At this time some of the activities are still being held at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club until such time that they will be brought back into the Senior Center. If the open flag is out at the Center, come on in. All dates and times are subject to change.

The Senior Center will be closed Columbus/Indigenous Day, October 11.

Line Dancing on Mondays 9:30-11 at the Sportsmen's Club.

Senior Center will open 11:30 to 2 on Mondays, except on October 11.

Tai Chi at 9 am. at the Sportsmen's Club – outside if possible, on Wednesday October 6 & 20 only.

Carol Bailey String band music practice at 10 am at the Sportsmen's Club on Wednesday October 6 & 20. NO music practice on October 13 & 27. **The Senior Center will be open** on Wednesday 10-1, October 13 & 27

Come to the Center for morning exercise with Dian on Fridays 8:30-9:15. Join in the indoor walking, or use the exercise equipment of your choice.

Games for fun on Mondays at 11:30-2 and Fridays 10-3.

Bring a lunch and snack, stay for games.

Book Club discussion group will meet on Monday October 18 at 1 at the Senior Center. We will discuss the book "Little Broken Things" by Nichole Baart.

The Seniors Advisory committee has put together a magnet with the heading IN CASE OF EMERGENCY: information on the storm shelter, water and contact numbers. These can be picked up at the town office, food bank, transfer station and the Senior Center

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting is at 1 on Thursday October 21.

There is a WiFi hot spot available at the Senior Center.

Wellness check – if you would like to have someone phone you weekly please call and leave your name & phone # and we will get in touch with you.

Road Runner Trips: Please call or stop into the Center to sign up for these trips.

Thursday, October 14 – Mystery trip to who knows where, it's a mystery. Leave at 8:30 am from Sportsmen's Club

Thursday, October 28 – Trip to Oxford Casino – Leave at 9 am from Sportsmen's Club.

Reminder: Exercise equipment available for use when the Center is open. The Senior Center is located on Academy Rd. next to Libby Tozier Elementary School for more information, a cup of coffee or tea and check out our books (paperback & hard cover), puzzles and items on the table you may like. Donations always appreciated, or work on the 1000-piece puzzle already set up on the table. Phone numbers 215-4595/441-9005/268-4237.

Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop

Time to switch seasonal clothing! Calling all volunteers for Monday, October 4, starting at 10 Am. We'll get pizza for lunch and work until 4 (or we run out of steam). Let's work again on Tuesday at 1:00 to 4:00 PM and back 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Any time you can offer within these hours will be greatly appreciated.

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

Vegetables, fruits and eggs from our neighbors have added wonderful quality and variety to our food distributions. Thank you for your donations! We are providing smiles, as well as with our food. Our volunteers are the greatest !

William R Bold American Legion Post 181 Lobster and Chicken Meal

Drive Through/Take Out; Pre-Purchase Tickets Only - October 9, 2021 12:00 P.M., \$10 Chicken; \$20 Single Lobster; \$25 Double Lobster - Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Roll, Dessert, and Drink Included For More Info call: Greg Couture 215-6776

Litchfield Sportsman's Club

October 2 - Public Supper & Jam, Supper 5pm-6pm, Jam 6:30pm-8pm, Litchfield Sportsmen's Club, \$7/person
October 3 - Country Sunday, noon-4:30, Litchfield Sportsmen's Club, \$6/person
October 11 - Monthly Members Meeting, 7pm, Litchfield Sportsmen's Club
October 29 - Kids spook house at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club has been **CANCELLED** because of Covid concerns
October 30 - Adult house of horror at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club has been **CANCELLED** because of Covid concerns

FRIENDS OF THE LAKES

A new social group is being formed to meet our neighbors around the 5 Tacoma Lakes. We anticipate doing social events that help us to connect, raise awareness of what is happening around the lakes and also utilize some of the great offerings in the area. Some ideas include dinners at local restaurants, attending music events as a group, group kayaking, planning hiking and walking events at the parks and trails around this area, clean up days around the area, winter sports, etc. We want to raise awareness of what's happening on the 5 Tacoma Lakes, The Woodbury Pond Dam, The Woodbury Pond Park (public beach), The Litchfield Community Park, etc so that we can enjoy all the area has to offer and support efforts for improvements. Fundraising for special causes may be discussed but we are still working on the logistics for these types of events. We are presently collecting names and emails to see how much interest there is. We will schedule a get together meeting to discuss ideas from all that are interested in October. You can email your name, address, lake you are on, phone and whether you are full time or summer residents and to friendsofthelakes@gmail.com Feel free to include ideas you would like to see us organize. We look forward to hearing from you! All are welcome

Town Clerk's Corner

State Referendum Election - Voting will take place for the upcoming State Referendum election on November 2, 2021 at the Sportsman's Club, 2261 Hallowell Road, Litchfield. Polls will be open from 8am-8pm. Information about the questions appearing on the ballot can be found at <https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/upcoming/index.html> If you would like to request an Absentee Ballot, please visit <https://apps.web.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl> or contact the town office. Ballots will become available in early October. In person absentee voting will also be available.

2021-22 Property Taxes - Tax bills were mailed on September 17th. If you have not received a tax bill you may call the town office to find out what you owe. The first payment is due October 15th, with 2nd and 3rd tax payments due January 15th, and April 15th).

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, 2022. We will have a rabies clinic on Oct 16th see below for more information.

Rabies Clinic - A rabies vaccination clinic is scheduled for Saturday, October 16th from 9 – 11am at the central Fire Station. Cost is \$20 with \$5 going to the Litchfield Fuel Fund.

Job Openings: The Town Office has a position available for a part-time **Deputy Clerk** to work afternoons M-Th from 1 pm to closing. **Public Works** has one full-time position left for an equipment operator. Job application are located on the home page of the Town website (www.litchfieldmaine.org). Contact the Town Office at 268-4721 for more information.

Snowmobiles -Snowmobiles may be registered at the Town Office starting mid-October, 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", and select "Heating Assistance" to book an appointment online. Information is available in the Town Office.

The Town Office will be closed Monday, October 11th, for Columbus Day

RSU4 PTA

Trunk or Treat Sunday October 17, 2021 at the Litchfield Fairgrounds from 2-4. If you'd like to decorate a trunk and hand out candy, email rsu4pta@rsu4.org.



October Community Calendar

1 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m	17 Sun	
2 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm Litchfield Sportsman’s Club ; Public Supper & Jam, Supper 5pm-6pm, Jam 6:30pm-8pm, \$7/ person	18 Mon	Historical Society 1:00 PM, Shorey Family History Ctr, Town Office Budget Comm.; 6:30; Town Officer
3 Sun	Litchfield Sportsmen's Club ; Country Sunday, noon-4:30, \$6/person	19 Tue	Lit. Fire Assoc & Reg Meet -6:30pm
4 Mon	Order of the Eastern Star , 7:00pm Masonic Hall	20 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd Road Comm. , 6pm Town Office
5 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers - 6:30pm; Station	21 Thur	Senior’s Advisory Com. –1pm –Center Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd
6 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd	22 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.
7 Thur	Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd	23 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm
8 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.	24 Sun	
9 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm	25 Mon	Selectman Meeting , 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information
10 Sun		26 Tue	
11 Mon		27 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 —Board Meeting, 6:30 OHHS American Legion William R. Bold Post 181 – 7pm
12 Tue	Selectman Meeting , 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information	28 Thur	Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd Litchfield Farmers Club , 7:00p. Fair Grounds
13 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 —Board Meeting, 6:30 OHHS Conservation Comm., contact Diane Clay (c112a3y4@gmail.com) for details.	29 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.
14 Thur	Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd	30 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm
15 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.	31 Sun	
16 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm		

BOX HOLDER

- Contents:**
1. Historical Society, Senior Center Corner
 2. Town Manager/Clerk's Report
 3. October 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: 207-707-8485
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.

4

The Litchfield Sodalite

Conservation News

Originally developed to detect enemy aircraft, radar technology later became a valuable tool for detecting precipitation events (i.e., rain and snow). Shifting dots on the radar screens that didn't represent aircraft or weather were dubbed "angels" due to their temporary nature. By the 1990s, many scientists knew that the occurrence of these "angels" were actually birds taking off on their nocturnal, migratory flights. Since then, scientists have developed the ability to monitor the migration events of birds, bats, and even insects (e.g., monarchs)! Understanding when and where wild-life migrate is helping to inform the development and operation of wind turbines to minimize collisions, reduce likelihood of collisions with aircraft, and better understand the impacts of light pollution on wildlife. Thanks to a collaboration between the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Colorado State University and UMass Amherst, we can check the bird migration forecast anywhere in the United States, including Litchfield! Navigate to <https://alert.birdcast.info/birdcast>, click on 'Change location', and enter Litchfield, ME to see our 3-day bird migration forecast. If you see a high migration forecast, be sure to top up your bird feeders, refill your birdbaths, and step outside to listen and look for migrants passing over or arriving. A valuable migratory bird resting area is the Litchfield Community Park, and we invite the community to join the Litchfield Conservation Commission on October 9th to do some restoration work in the park. If you have the time to share, then we have a meaningful way for you to contribute, from trash collection and raking to trail work. See the Facebook page @LCC04350 or email Christine Parker (croybird@gmail.com) for details.

November Issue Deadline: Oct. 22, 2021 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

