

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XVII No. 8

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

August 1, 2017

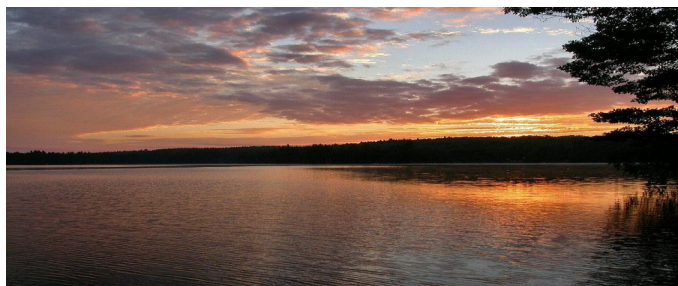
Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz?

August question: At least five early Litchfield families had names derived from occupations. How many can you name?

July question: Early Litchfield had three distinct Smith families represented by : Heman Smith, Benjamin Smith, and Eliphalet Smith. Which of these men descended from Stephen Hopkins of the Mayflower? answer: Benjamin Smith To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

Tacoma Lakes Association recently held a very successful Annual Meeting. Members attending enjoyed a continental breakfast, were updated on TLA business, and enjoyed a fine presentation by Nancy Olmstead on invasive land plants. The question and answer session at the conclusion of the meeting featured great interaction between board members, and membership. The 50/50 raffle was record setting, and the annual silent auction included some spirited bidding on several items. Our membership drive is ongoing. Membership forms can be found on our website www.tacomalakes.org. Current membership sits at approximately 50% of all lake front property owners on the Tacoma Lakes in Litchfield, and Monmouth. Membership is only \$15 per year, and helps us to continue to monitor our lakes for invasive plants, pays for the boat launch inspection program, and insures the dam continues to get the maintenance it needs. I encourage you all to help spread the word about our association. Is there any reason we cannot hit 70%?

Should you have any questions our concerns, please feel free to contact President Jim Adams at jfadams13@gmail.com.



August 2017 Senior Corner

Wednesday, August 2, cards with Anne Thompson 1-3. Come in and use your imagination to create one of a kind card with your own input.

The book club meeting is on August 9 at 10:00 at the Senior Center. The book to be discussed is "A Man called Ove" by Fredrick Backmen.

NO Bowling at 1-7-10 Lanes for August.

The pot luck lunch and celebration of August birthdays is Friday, August 18.

Line dancing instruction Mondays at 9:30 for beginners and advanced. Aerobics classes are Wednesday and Friday at 8:30.

Cribbage games for fun on Mondays at 11 and Fridays 10-12. Bring a lunch and stay for bingo on Mondays in the afternoon & on Friday cards.

The thrift shop is open the first and third Monday 10-11.

Join us for music practice at 10 on Wednesdays 8/2, 8/19 & 30. If you like to sing and/or play an instrument come and join in the fun.

The Seniors Advisory Committee meeting is at 10 on August 15.

The "Roadrunner" trips are **August 8 Pemaquid Beach**, swim, enjoy the sun, stop at the gift shop and ice cream at the store by the lighthouse after the beach. Leave at 9:30 from Litchfield Sportsmen's Club. **August 22 Songo River Queen 2 hr. boat ride out of Naples.** Cost \$25. Lunch on board or in the area. Leave at 10 from the Sportsmen's club.

Coming in September - Monday (Labor Day) Sept. 4 Windsor Fair leave at 10 am. - **Friday, Sept. 8 Litchfield Fair** 2 p.m. Carol Bailey String Band; 3:15 Litchfield Senior Steppers performing at Litchfield Fair - **Thursday, Sept 14 Trip to Boston on Amtrak - Friday, Sept. 22** A short film on getting your house ready to sell with Nancy Beal, Realtor here at the Center 9:30 a.m. - **Friday, Sept. 29 Flu Shot clinic** with Rite Aid Pharmacy from Gardiner 10-11 a.m.

Reminder: Exercise equipment available for use 9-4 Monday and Friday; 9-12 Wednesday We also have a Wii game here with various games.

Please stop in to the Senior Center for more information a cup of coffee or tea and to sign up for the **trips & activities**. The trips fill up really fast.



The Old Town House Museum will be open Saturday, August 26, 1 - 4 PM. Mark your calendars.

We'll be offering butter making demonstrations, help with family history research and forms to get you started. Bring your old house information to share and see what we've got about your old house. See bits of Litchfield's past preserved. FMI-582-4098.

Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop - Special for August - Men's pants, Buy 1 Get 1 Free! Translated, it's 2 for \$1.00. They are sorted by waist size and some are brand new! Bored with your summer clothes yet? Come get some others for bargain prices. See the calendar for times we are open. Still accepting clean, gently used clothing. FMI - 582-4098.

RECREATION NEWS - We are currently trying to reorganize our recreation department and are looking for volunteers to join our recreation committee to help us make our programs better for the youth of our community. We meet on the first Monday of every month at 6:30 here at the town office, the meetings usually last about an hour. If you are interested please write a letter of interest to the select people of the town and request to be put on our committee. If you are considering joining but would like more information please contact Tiffany Caton, Recreation Director at the Litchfield town office (268-4721).

SOCCER-Soccer registrations have been going on throughout the summer months and we will continue to accept registrations until Monday, August 7th. Our program serves children between the ages of 4 years old through 4th graders. We are also looking for knowledgeable adults to coach our teams as well as ref our games for the older teams, if you interested please contact Tiffany Caton, Recreation Director, at the town office.

RSU 4



The **first day** of school for all Kindergarten through 9th grade students will be Wednesday, August 30th. All 10th through 12th grade students will begin school on Thursday, August 31st.

RSU 4 School Board will meet on Wednesday, August 23, 2017 at 6:30pm at Oak Hill High School.

Town Manager/Clerk's Corner:

30 day (Notice of Lien) will be going out August 24, 2017 please make sure to pay any outstanding balances before then or a letter will be sent to you.

2017 Any Deer permit applications are due online on August 15th

Volunteers are needed to serve on the Litchfield Recreation Committee. Please email/mail/call the Town Office if you are interested.

Litchfield Planning Board meeting Aug 3rd at 6pm at Town Office

Litchfield Selectmen meetings are August 14th and August 28th at 6:30 at Town Office

Food Bank - effective July 17th 2017 all food bank activities are being moved to Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, 61 Lisbon Road, Sabattus Maine. Their hours of operation are Mondays 1:00-2:00 p.m.- Tuesdays 9:00-10:00 a.m.- Wednesdays 9:00-10:00 a.m. Litchfield residents can visit the food pantry once per week.

The Litchfield Firefighters Association holds three major fundraisers each year, and they all occur between August 20th and September 15th this year. We will be very busy during that stretch. Our 22nd annual **Show and Shine car show** will be held at the Carrie Ricker School on August 20th starting at 8:00 AM. Look for our flyers at our local businesses for more details. Shine up the Old Tin Lizzy and bring her down to the Carrie Ricker School on the 16th. There are thirty-four classes so one is bound to fit your vehicle.

The Litchfield Fair is early this year, September 8th, 9th and 10th. As always, we are looking for people who love to bake who are willing to donate something for us to sell in our Fireman's Booth. We are famous for our homemade pies, so we are always looking for all varieties. If pies are not your thing, we sell any and all kinds of cakes, brownies, bars, whoopee pies, cookies, muffins, fudge, anything you like to bake. They will all sell, and our homemade goodies are our biggest draw and moneymaker.

On September 15th, the Litchfield Firefighters Association will be holding **our 8th annual golf tournament**. This is a scramble format with prizes for 1st & 2nd gross and net, as well as many other door prizes. Also, there are prizes for closest to the hole on the par threes and the longest drive. O'Connor Motors of Augusta will sponsor a Chevy Cruz for a hole-in-one. We had 72 golfers last year, and this year we are working very hard to get the number of players up to a hundred or more. It is a nine o'clock shotgun start with lunch provided by the firefighters. The cost is \$75.00 per player that covers the round of golf, riding cart, the aforementioned lunch and the prizes. Hole sponsorships are available for \$100.00 per hole. We would really like to see more Litchfield residents come out and join us for a great day of golf, help us raise funds for your fire department and "just maybe" win a brand new car.

August 2017 Community Calendar

1 Tues	Fire/Rescue Officers Mtg. , Fire Station, 6:30pm	16 Wed	TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30pm
2 Wed	TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30pm	17 Thur	Fair Directors - - 7:30pm
3 Thur	Planning Board -Town Office, 6:30pm	18 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m.
4 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m.	19 Sat	Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9a.m.-noon Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m.
5 Sat	Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9a.m.-noon Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m. Lit. Sportsman's Club —Public Supper 5pm-6pm \$7.00 ea; Music Jam 6pm-8pm.	20 Sun	
6 Sun	Country Sunday -12:30pm-5pm, Sportsman's club \$5. Admission	21 Mon	Historic Preservation Comm. , Historical Society 7:00pm, Town Office Basement Historical Society Meeting , Town Office, 7:00pm
7 Mon	Academy Thrift Store — 10am-11am Recreation Committee -10:30pm Office-6:30pm Order of Eastern Star -Masonic Hall-7pm	22 Tue	
8 Tues	First Responders Meeting , Station, 6:30pm	23 Wed	TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30pm Franks&Beans , Legion Hall, 6:30pm American Legion Post 181 , Legion Hall 7pm
9 Wed	TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30pm	24 Thur	
10 Thur		25 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m.
11 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m.	26 Sat	Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9a.m.-noon Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10a.m.-2p.m.
12 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Transfer Station Swap Shop , 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Amer. Legion Ladies Aux , Legion Hall, 10am Public Supper , Lit. Sportsman's Club, 5pm-6pm, and Music Jam 6pm-8pm	27 Sun	
13 Sun		28 Mon	Select Board Meeting , Town Office, 6:30pm
14 Mon	Select Board Meeting , Town Office, 6:30pm Sportsmen's Club Meeting , Sportsman's Club, 7:00pm Open to all	29 Tues	
15 Tues	Senior Advisory Comm. , Center, 10am Masons -Masonic Hall, 7:30pm Fire Rescue Station clean-up , 6:00pm Fire/Rescue Assoc. , Station, 6:30pm Fire/Rescue Meeting , Station, 7:00pm	30 Wed	TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30pm RSU4— First day of school for Kindergarteners through 9th graders.
		31 Thur	RSU4 -First day of school for 10th through 12th grade students.

BOX HOLDER

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4. Newsletter Deadline, Road Advisory Committee

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.

Maintaining Litchfield's Natural Environment - This past spring saw four projects aimed at keeping a healthy environmental mix of farms, woods, fields and water bodies for all citizens to enjoy. The native plant Sweet-Fern, *Comptonia peregrina*, was planted on the steep bank next to the new Ferrin Road bridge as "bio retention": Sweet-fern roots spread to hold the bank; it grows in sandy soil. The foliage, rich in tannic acid, may be brewed as a tea and applied to the sores of poison ivy to help alleviate the symptoms. (Hinds) The very very difficult to eradicate and fast spreading Japanese knotweed, called bamboo, received a spray treatment this June along the local roads to prevent its being spread by the fill resulting from normal periodic roadside ditching. Many residents also chose to hire the Town's fully licensed sprayer to kill their knotweed sites in places where weekly mowing of the knotweed is not feasible. We want to keep knotweed from entering our streams since the roots are spread by the mowing water. There are new examples I hear from botanist friends: the Sandy river near Farmington as well as the Sheepsfoot below Alna. On two Town owned properties open to the public the Conservation Commission Friends of the Litchfield Landscape volunteers worked on controlling invasive woody shrubs. They cut down the ones too big to dig out and covered the stumps with heavy plastic contractor bags tightened at the base with zip ties to kill the plants with lack of sun light. They have labels that say, "Please leave this bag in place. This is an experiment by the Town to kill invasive plants. Check back later." This would be a good method for those who don't want to use herbicide dabbed on the cut stems. Just cutting down woody plants results in thicker regrowth. Look in the Sodalite for future plant identification walks: learn what a healthy native environment looks like and learn to pick out the fast spreading invaders. Positive identification and early control!

Sept. Issue Deadline:
Aug 21, 2017, 5 p.m.
Deliver material in any of the following ways:

E-mail
(sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org)
U.S. mail to: Town Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd

Sweet Fern

