

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXII No. 8

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

August 1, 2022

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

July question: If one of Litchfield's early farmers broke a "sneth", it would have deprived him of the use of what necessary implement? **June question:** The 19th century temperance movement caused serious financial damage to what Litchfield agricultural business. Answer: The apple growing and cider making business. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to

WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

Gardiner Public Library

All Ages Open Mic: <https://www.facebook.com/events/298837249114803>

Musicians, poets, dancers, stand up comedians, storytellers, and more! You're all invited to an open mic at the library. All ages are welcome to attend and perform. Please bring your original material and creations and perform for your community! No cover songs please.

WHERE: GPL Hazzard Reading Room **WHEN:** Thursday August 4, 2022, 3-5 PM

Ice Cream Social: <https://www.facebook.com/events/548836223259625>

As a thank you to our wonderful community, we'll be hosting an ice cream social to say thanks for a wonderful 2022 Summer Reading Program. All participants of the summer reading program & their families are invited. **WHERE:** Gardiner Public Library **WHEN:** Thursday August 18, 2022 from 2-4pm

American Legion Post #181

The American Legion Post 181 of Litchfield approved a local project at The Woodbury Pond recreation area that consisted of painting the flag pole, installing a lanyard and a new flag. All this has been completed and a solar light system was installed on the pole. Larry Parlin was instrumental in this endeavor. In addition, due to the weight of the steel pole the Litchfield Road crew assisted us to lower and raise the pole. We now have a lighted, newly painted structure with a new flag. Past Commander Roger Line worked very hard to build up the building fund with much success and we thought that we would be able to do the construction in the next few years. We had construction figures from a local Litchfield contractor which seemed doable in the short term however we recently received the news that the initial estimate that we received would have to be at least doubled due to the increase in prices for the building materials. It looks like it will be in the long haul now. Any help from the community would be greatly appreciated. We are concerned with the stability of the existing structure over the long term.

American Legion Auxiliary

The Litchfield American Legion Auxiliary will raffle off a Home Town Hero Quilt on Sunday, September 11, 2022 at Litchfield Fairgrounds. Ticket donation 6 for \$5 OR \$1 each. Do not need to be present to win. Tickets available from most American Legion Auxiliary members before the Fair and at our booth during the Fair.

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"

Line Dancing instruction for all on Mondays 9:30-11 at the Fire Station. *The Senior Center will open 11:30 to 2 on Mondays after Line Dancing., Come in for exercise, cards or check out the books.*

On Wednesday, August 10 and August 31, the Senior Center will be open 9-12. Stop in for a visit, books, puzzles or a game of cribbage.

Tai Chi is on hold for June, July and August. To be re-scheduled in the fall.

Carol Bailey String band & Chorus music will also be on hold for practice during June, July and August due to performance scheduling.

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

The book club meeting is on Monday, August 15 at 1 pm. The book to be discussed is "The Magnolia Palace" by Fiona Davis.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting is at 1 on Thursday, August 18.

The following are the dates and places the Carol Bailey String Band and Chorus will be performing: August 3-Winter Harbor (Schoolic Arts for All Festival) 12 noon concert; August 17-Young at Heart Seniors of Coopers Mills 11 a.m. concert at No. Baptist Church, Windsor; August 24-Beautiful Woodbury Pond Park @ 11 for a fundraiser to benefit the Litchfield Food Bank, bring a chair, lunch and something to drink and enjoy the music or come by boat, kayak or canoe and let us entertain you(don't forget a bathing suit)rain date 8/31; and Sept 9-Litchfield Fair at 1 pm., followed at 2 by the Litchfield Senior Steppers(Line Dancers).

The following are upcoming Road Runner trips: August 11, Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens; August 12, Franco American Heritage Days(evening), Augusta; August 20, Theater at Monmouth-"Comedy of Errors"; August 30, Old Orchard Beach; Sept 13, Mechanic Falls-Maine Country Music Hall of Fame; Sept 21, Lakewood Theater-"Anything to Declare" call 215-4595, 441-9005 or 268-4237 to be put on the list for the trips **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. Stop in for more information, a cup of coffee or tea or 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.

Litchfield Fire & Rescue

On August 21st Litchfield Fire & Rescue will be hosting their Annual Car Show at the Carrie Ricker School. Gate opens at 8am. We are in need of bake goodies please contact Tina Gowell @207-485-556 and **Litchfield Fire & Rescue** will be holding in the fall a CPR-First Aid-Stop the Bleed class free to citizens of Litchfield at no cost. We would like to get a list started of anyone interested in taking this class, please contact Deputy Chief of Rescue Tina Gowell at 207-485-5566.

Transfer Station

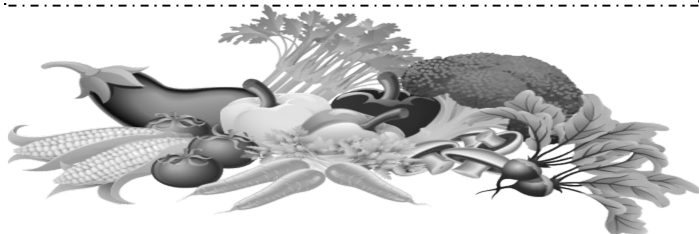
Summer is here and things are hot at the Transfer Station. Good things are happening here at the Transfer Station. The paper, tin, and glass containers have been temporarily moved down by the brush pile. The Public Works people have come in and prepped the new pad location for these containers. Thanks to the Public Works for this effort. Hopefully, the new pads will be finished in a month to six weeks. The containers will then be moved up by the cardboard and plastic containers. We are waiting for the American Legion to supply us with paint for the bottle rooms. The Swap Shop has had 3970 items taken out since it opened in April. Thanks to the residents for supporting this. We are also getting very positive comments from residents about the "new" look in the swap shop. The area where the paper tin and glass containers were is where a new office, garage, workshop is going. This is a year or two out. We will be needing the communities support for this phase of improvements here at the Transfer Station. We want to let the residents know that the Sunday hours will cut-out at the last week end in August. Thank You.

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Bargains galore and new items still arriving. Started back to school shopping yet? Start here and save! Need a special outfit? We've got lots to choose from!

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

We can hardly wait to get started on the new Food Bank. The lumber is ordered and volunteers are needed. Contractors are booked solid. Looking to pre-fab outside walls that can be assembled when the concrete work is done. Contact Rayna at 582-4098. Gardeners are sharing their produce with us. Many thanks. We love the freshness of local! Special announcement! Put a note on your calendar for August 24 as the Carol Bailey String Band will be giving a concert at Woodbury Pond Park at 11:00 AM and accepting donations for the Food Bank Building Fund. Bring a chair, a picnic lunch and join us!



Tacoma Lakes Association

The Tacoma Lakes Association held its Annual Meeting on July 9th at the Carrie Ricker School. The 70 members who attended were treated to wonderful speakers who enlightened us all. Our lakes are an amazing resource, not to be taken for granted. Their economic impact on the area is incredible. These lakes need to be protected, and we believe education is the key. Join us in learning how you can help, it's easy! Membership forms are available online at tacomalakes.org, and at only \$15 per year, per household, we remain the lowest cost lake association in the state.

Town Clerk's Corner

There are 2 **important votes** this month: **Monday, August 8th**, a special Town Meeting is called at 6:30 pm at the Town Office. Votes will be regarding – funding the repaving of the Central Fire Department lot (estimated \$114,000); amending the Fire/Rescue ordinance to allow billing of insurance companies for accident responses; amending voting statutes to require write-in candidates to declare intention in order to be counted during elections. **Tuesday, August 9th**, an RSU4 school funding referendum from 8 am to 8 pm at the Sportsmen's Club. Vote on whether to fund an addition at the middle school for \$31,687,212. See the informational insert for more details.

Late-Tax Notices – 30-day notices for unpaid 2021 property taxes will be mailed out before the end of the month. If your property taxes have not been paid in full before that mailing, you will incur an additional processing fee to cover the notification.

Town volunteer committee openings available: Senior Advisory Committee, Litchfield Academy Trustees; Woodbury Dam Committee; Recreation Committee; Appeals Board; Planning Board; Road Advisory Committee

Paid Positions: If you are interested in taking minutes for the select board meetings, please call the town office or send in your application. Applications available online at litchfieldmaine.org or at the Town Office.

Upcoming meetings at the Town Office:

Board of Selectmen – Monday, August 8th, 6:30 pm
Budget Committee – Monday, August 15th, 6:30 pm

Road Advisory Committee – Wednesday, August 17, 6 pm

Board of Selectmen - Monday, August 22nd, 6:30 pm

Hallowell Road Yard Sale

The Hallowell Road Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, 8/20 8am to 1pm at the Sportsman's Club - table rentals are \$20. Contact Carol Royer 622-5471 or croyer1945@gmail.com

August Community Calendar

1 Mon	Lit. Recreation Comm. 6:30pm Order of the Eastern Star , members only, 7pm	17 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd Road Advisory Committee – 6:00pm
2 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers- 6:30pm; Station	18 Thur	Senior Advisory Meeting —1pm Food Bank -10am-12pm 491 Richmond Rd
3 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd	19 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm
4 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd	20 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 am –4pm Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm
5 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm	21 Sun	Transfer Station , 8am-4pm
6 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 am –4pm Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm Sportsman’s Club -Public Supper – 5p-6p; Music Jam 6:30p-8p	22 Mon	Selectman Meeting , 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information
7 Sun	Transfer Station , 8am-4pm Sportsman’s Club -Country Sunday 12-4	23 Tue	
8 Mon	Selectman Meeting , 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information Sportsman’s Club -Monthly members meeting; 7pm (Public welcome)	24 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 —Board Meeting, 6:30pm Central Office William R. Bold, American Legion Post #181 Meeting - 7pm
9 Tue	Lit. First Responders ; 6:30pm-Central Stat. RSU4 New Addition Vote—Lit. Sportsman’s Club—8am to 8pm	25 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd
10 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 —Board Meeting, 6:30pm Central Office Conservation Comm. - 6pm litchfieldconservation@gmail.com to attend.	26 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8 am –4pm
11 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd	27 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 am –4pm Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm
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13 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 am –4pm Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm Sportsman’s Club —Maine Country Sunday—12p-4p	29 Mo	
14 Sun	Transfer Station , 8am-4pm	30 Tue	
15 Mon	Budget Committee – 6:30pm	31 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU 4 -First Day of School K-9 (Full Day)
16 Tue	Lit Fire Assoc & Reg Meet -6:30pm, Central Sta	1 Thur	RSU 4 -First Day of School 10-12 and LRTC Food Bank —10a-2pm; 491 Richmond Rd
		2 Fri.	RSU 4 —First Day of Pre-K

BOX HOLDER

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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.

Conservation Committee

It's that time of year again, when we can hear the distant call of the loon, majestic and melodic! Through the summer month of August our local loon pairs leave their nests, with hatched babies on their backs, hunting for food for their growing chicks. The waterways are their nursery. As our loons swim, hunt, and enjoy their home here in Litchfield we must be careful not to approach too closely. The Maine Audubon recommends that we observe them with our binoculars and never close enough to disturb or upset them. If they use an alarm call and arch out of the water splashing and flapping their wings, you are too close! This is called the "penguin dance" and it is a warning sign that they feel threatened! Often it is difficult to see the loon chicks from a distance, another good reason to slow down on the water! It is such a gift to share our waters with the loons of Litchfield, so we must respect their habitats and understand their way of life. For more information on our local parks and natural resources find us at the Litchfield Conservation Commission table at Woodbury Pond Park on August 13th from 12-3pm, or on Facebook (@LCC04350). Maine Audubon has been conducting a loon restoration project this summer in response to fewer chicks hatching in recent years. They received a grant to support this work following an oil spill in loon wintering habitat off the shores of Massachusetts. Folks are monitoring the loon populations on Little Purgatory, Woodbury, Buker, and Jimmy Ponds. Although we don't have official monitors on Sand Pond, several of us went out to explore during nesting season. The annual Loon Count was Saturday July 16 from 7-7:30 AM and every lake in Litchfield was monitored. Audubon will have the results available this fall. We encourage all of you who use the lakes to learn to identify the stress signals of the loons and keep your distance. You can also help by finding nesting spots and monitoring them from a distance to help Audubon learn which pairs are successful. Next spring there will be more loon raft building sessions, so if you think one is needed you can find out how to correctly build and place one. For more information contact the Tacoma Lakes Association or Maine Audubon.

Sept. Issue Deadline:
Aug. 22, 2022 5p.m.
Deliver material in any
of the following ways:
E-mail
[**\(sodalite@litchfieldmai
ne.org\)**](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org) **U.S. mail to:**
**Town Office, 2400 Hal-
lowell Rd. 04350**

