

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XVIII No. 9

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

September 1, 2018

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

September question: In the early 1800's the selectmen divided Litchfield up into three religious districts: The North Baptists, the South Baptists, and the Congregationalists. Which of these never had an ordained clergyman or a church building? August question: Before the "Poor Farm" was established in the 1840's, how did Litchfield provide for its poor residents? answer: Individuals identified as "paupers" had their care for the following year put out to bid at the town meeting. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

LITCHFIELD FAIR

The Litchfield Fair will be on September 7, 8, 9. Ticket prices are \$8 for adults, \$4 for Seniors (free for Seniors on Friday), \$4 for 12-17 and under 12 free. This year the Carol Bailey Band plays at 1, Litchfield Sr. Steppers at 2 and Red Neck Truck Pull is at 7. Woodsman Competition on Saturday at 10, bring your babies under 24 months for the 10:30 Baby Show, Limitless, Wrestling for the 1st time at 3 and FIREWORKS after dark! On Sunday the Demolition Derby starts at 10. Don't forget the steer pulling, horse shows with the Maine Barrel racers celebrating 40 years! Children tractor pulls, Mutton Bustin, pig races, bicycle raffles, entertainment and the popular Wheeler's Wee Farm. There is something for everyone. We hope you and your friends and family bring crafts to display (bring them on Wednesday) in the Exhibition Hall. Everyone gets a ribbon! Check us out on Facebook or at www.Litchfieldfair.com

Litchfield Fire & Rescue Association - It is that time of the year again and the Fire & Rescue Association is asking for your help. We need some of those wonderful Pies and Sweets that you donate every year to help our booth at the **Litchfield Fair** be the success that it is. Please contact me Tina Gowell at 207-485-5565 if you need help with picking up your goods or you may drop them off at the fair gates and they will let us know. Thank you again for all your support throughout the year

Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop-Since warmer temps extend into the fall more, why not add some shorts and tees to your back to school duds? We also have great pants and shirts. Change over to fall/winter clothes will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 12 and Thursday Sept. 13, starting at 7:00 PM and ending by 9:00. Put it on your calendar! Volunteers are welcome, very welcome. We've had some lovely things come in over the summer.

The William R. Bold American Legion Post 181 annual raffle is in full swing with the intent to raise money to replace our building. The ticket prices are one for \$5.00, three for \$10.00, and six for \$20.00. The prizes are a cord of split, dry firewood (Lance Gatcomb) or \$200.00 cash; 100 gallons of fuel oil (Litchfield Fuel) or \$200.00 cash; \$50.00 gift certificate from Litchfield Country Store, Percy's Hardware, South Monmouth Market, and Oak Hill Cash Market; \$25.00 gift certificate from Applewalds Farm; 20" Poulan Pro chainsaw; 5lb fire extinguisher from GT Pressure Washing. We will draw for winners at 6 pm on Sunday September 9th at the Litchfield Fairgrounds. You do not need to be present to win. For those who wish to contribute by mail, please send donations in support of our new building endeavor to William R. Bold Post 181, 235 Plains Road, Litchfield, ME 04350. Thank you for your continued support and remember, "together we can".

Senior Corner

We will be closed on Monday, September 3--Labor Day. **Saturday, 9/1 a trip to Ogunquit Playhouse** for "Grumpy Old Men", the Musical, bus leaves at 9:15 from the Sportsmen's Club. Lunch at Bull & Claw restaurant.

Friday 9/7 Senior Day at the Litchfield Fair, **The Carol Bailey String Band** will be performing at 1 p.m.; and the **Litchfield Senior Steppers (line dancers)** will perform at 2. Both of these groups are programs of the Litchfield Senior Center.

Tuesday, 9/18 - No. Conway, NH trip, scenic ride, shopping in malls, lunch on own. Bus leaves Sportsmen's Club at 8.

Awareness through Movement classes are at 9:30 Friday 9/14,21,28.

Bowling will be on Thursday, 9/13 at 1-7-10 lanes in Augusta. Call for 441-9005 for carpooling we leave at 12.

The book club meeting is on Wednesday, 9/12 at 12:15 and will be held at the Senior Center. The book to be discussed is "The House of Unwanted Girls" by Joanna Goodman.

Making cards with Anne Thompson at Wed. 9/19 1 to 3. Join us for a fun afternoon using your imagination in crafting your cards.

Potluck lunch and celebration of September birthdays is on Friday 9/21 at 12.

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

Music practice Wednesday at 10 on 9/12, 9/19, 9/26.

Cribbage games or Unlucky 7's for fun on Mondays at 11 and Fridays 10-12. Bring a lunch and stay for bingo or other games on Mondays in the afternoon & cards on Fri.

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

The Seniors Advisory Committee meeting is at 10 on Thursday 9/20.

The "Roadrunner" trips are **Saturday 9/1** - a trip to Ogunquit Playhouse; **Tuesday 9/18** - a trip to No. Conway, NH; **Thursday 9/27** - a trip to Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, Boothbay.

Flu shot clinic put on by Rite Aid Pharmacy at 10-12 at the Center on **Friday 9/28**.

Reminder: Exercise equipment & Wii games available for use 9-4 Monday and Friday; 9-12 Wednesday

Upcoming trips: - **Tues. Oct. 2**, Senior Day at Fryeburg Fair; **Fri. Oct. 5** Senior Expo at Sunday River; **Thurs. Oct. 25** Oxford Casino; - **Tues. 11/13** Christmas Tree Shop, Portland Mall; Buffet lunch

Please stop in to the Senior Center for more information a cup of coffee or tea.

Community Event - Do you knit or crochet? Come join others in Town and enjoy knitting/crocheting with friends and neighbors. Thursday, Sept. 13 from 6pm—8pm at the Litchfield Senior Center.

Litchfield Recreation and Woodbury Pond Park

The Litchfield Recreation Committee has immediate openings for members of our community that are interested in getting more involved. If you are a parent that has questions or concerns regarding how our recreation department is run this is the perfect way to get involved and have a say in how we do things. If we do not get more volunteers to help by either umpiring/refereeing, coaching, assistant coaching, being team parent or committee members we are in danger of this being the last year that we offer a recreation department. The obligation isn't all that much to be a committee member we only meet once a month for about 1-1 ½ hours. If you are interested in getting involved in any of these ways please contact Tiffany Caton, Recreation, Director at t.caton@litchfieldmaine.org.

Tacoma Lakes Association - In August, the DEP announced two different types of invasive milfoil had been identified in nearby Cobbossee Lake. Lest you think the threat is limited, the Maine Lake Stewards reported that recently, in Norway, inspectors stopped a boat carrying milfoil and invasive mollusks. In light of these discoveries the Tacoma Lakes Association needs member support more than ever. Imagine the effect a milfoil infestation would have on our communities. The presence of non-native, invasive milfoil is often called an infestation because the plants multiply rapidly, creating a dense mat of vegetation that cuts off light to the water column causing a significant negative impact on lake ecology. Native plants and aquatic animals and fish die and recreational water use is severely impaired. The negative impacts decrease property values resulting in lost tax revenue, reduced recreational use and fewer summer visitors adversely impacting local businesses. Membership fees allow us to conduct boat inspections at the Woodbury Pond boat launch weekends, and holidays throughout the summer. Membership fees also allow our plant patrol team to conduct regular inspections of shallow waters where milfoil grows. This summer the plant patrol has inspected almost all of the eastern shore of Woodbury Pond and to date no invasive plants have been found. Anybody who loves our wonderful lakes can become a member of the association and volunteer for the plant patrol. Membership dues are only \$15.00 per year and membership forms are available on our website at www.tacomalakes.org. Past members, if you have not yet renewed your membership, please do so. Last year was a record setting year, with 260 members. With YOUR help, we can top that this year! Most importantly, if you are a boater who travels between lakes, please remember to inspect, and flush your boat after leaving a lake. It is critical to remove any pieces of plant matter on the exterior of boats but to also remove the plug and empty any lake water inside your engine compartment. Even a very small fragment of an invasive plant can lead to a major infestation. Invasive plants can literally destroy the ecosystem of a lake. Here in Litchfield, and Monmouth, the Tacoma Lakes are a valuable asset, please help us protect them for generations to come. As always if you have any questions or concerns I can be reached at 268-2070. Jim Adams, President - Tacoma Lakes Association

Town Manager/Clerk's Corner

Property Revaluation - Revaluation of all Litchfield real estate has begun and assessors from R.J.D. Appraisal will visit each property. They will have identification and their ID photos will also be posted on the Town's website. Assessors' visits will not be specifically scheduled or announced. Once the overall assessment is complete homeowners will be notified of their valuations. R.J.D. will schedule a block of time to meet with any/all homeowners that wish to appeal their new valuation.

Hours Changing Temporarily at Town Office - As you may have already read in a recent mailing, Town staff must re-enter several weeks of data from paper records into our computers due to a loss of our backup systems earlier this summer. This required us to switch to new office hours—on a temporary basis. The change in office hours is below. We will post a message on the web when we are able to return to normal hours.

Town Office Temporary hours: Mondays: 8:30 to 11 am; and 4 to 7 pm; Tuesdays thru Thursdays: 8:30 to 11 am; and 4 to 6 pm; Fridays: closed, no change

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 Monday, September 3rd for Labor Day.

Upcoming meetings at the Town Office:

Select Board – Monday, Sep 10th, 6:30 pm

Budget Committee – Monday, Sep 17th, 6:30 pm

Road Committee – Wednesday, Sep 19th 6:30 pm

Litchfield Transfer Station

It has been a great month at the Transfer Station: being open Friday, Saturday and Sunday has been well received by the citizens. Within the last week the second cement pad was poured as well as the cement wall at the west end of the bulky pad. The next time we have the cardboard container emptied it will be moved onto the cement pad adjacent to the recyclables container. The cement wall was necessary in order to have enough room for the container truck to be able to back straight into the end of the container for proper truck/container hookup. We still have landscaping to do next to the cement wall but that should be accomplished within the week. We still have one more cement pad to put in (that will hold the third new forty yard roll off container) but that will have to wait for next year's budget.

Please be advised that we now have security cameras at the Transfer Station. This action was necessary due to people abusing the protocols at the facility. I will make another trip to Auburn to dispose of prohibited liquids left by people who can't play by the rules. Disposal fees, salary and mileage will cost the tax payers between \$500.00 to \$600.00. Checking the photos on the camera will take time but it will be time well spent.

BOX HOLDER

Contents:

1. Historical Society, Senior Center Corner
2. Town Manager/Clerk's Report
3. September Calendar
4. Newsletter Deadline, Road Advisory Committee

ECRWSS
 PRSRT 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.

Road Advisory Committee—“The invasion is over”, says botany professor Eric Doucette. “Invasive plants are part of our flora.” And so you can see the purple loosestrife is in wet roadside ditches and that the unchecked prolific knotweed / bamboo expands fourfold every year and chokes stream sides. So? We humans brought all kinds of plant and animals with us as we migrated around the world for millennia. Now however, with human population and development so large and wilderness getting smaller every day, we can see the invasive non-native plants and animals degrading the natural world further. For example, milfoil in Pleasant Pond. I believe that the world, and our Town, is now to be considered as a “garden” and we are the caretakers, pulling out the plants we do not want (the definition of a weed). Learn what you can do now. Go outdoors, walk about and observe. Learn to identify native plants that support a web of life and so see the invaders clearly. “Early detection” will make the job easier; “rapid response” will be ‘weeding the garden’. Go to Maine Natural Areas for lots of info. Purple loosestrife is still blooming; cut flower stems into a garbage bag to control the sand size seeds and dig out the plants. Woody shrubs and vines: fall is the best time to “cut and dab” with herbicide since the plants bring their ‘juice’ down to the roots for winter so the small amount of targeted glyphosate makes a good kill. Create a neighborhood team of even a few to do this work with companionship and because the invasives travel easily across the property lines of our Town.

October Issue Deadline: Sept. 20, 2018, 5 p.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
 Hand deliver to: Town Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd



September Community Calendar

1 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. Lit. Sportsman's Club; Supper 5pm & Music Jam, 6pm	17 Mon	Litchfield Budget Comm., 6:30 Lit. Town Office
2 Sun	Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Lit. Sportsman's Club; Country Sunday, live Music noon—4:30p.	18 Tue	
3 Mon	Labor Day Holiday Town Office, closed	19 Wed	TOPS— Carrie Ricker; 6:30pm Litchfield. Road Comm., 6:30; Town Office
4 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers Meeting—6pm	20 Thur	Senior Advisory Comm-10am, Academy Bldg
5 Wed	TOPS— Carrie Ricker; 6:30pm Order of Eastern Star—7pm	21 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10a.m.-2p.m.
6 Thur		22 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. Public Bean Supper-4p-6:30p; Morning Star Lodge #41
7 Fri	LITCHFIELD FAIR Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10a.m.-2p.m.	23 Sun	Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m.
8 Sat	LITCHFIELD FAIR 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	24 Mon	Lit. Selectmen's Meeting-6:30pm, Town Off
9 Sun	LITCHFIELD FAIR Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m.	25 Tue	Masons-Masonic Hall, 7:30pm Fire Rescue Station clean-up, 6:00pm Fire/Rescue Assoc., Station, 6:30pm Fire/Rescue Meeting, Station, 7:00pm First Responders Meeting, Station, 6:30pm
10 Mon	Lit. Selectmen's Meeting-6:30pm, Town Off Lit. Sportsman's Club Meet—7:00pm Lit. Recreation Comm—6:30pm	26 Wed	RSU4 School Board-OHHS; 6:30p.m. TOPS-Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m. Franks&Beans, Legion Hall, 6:30pm American Leg. Post 181, Legion Hall 7pm
11 Tue		27 Thur	Lit. Farmers Club; Sportsman's Club-7:30p.m.
12 Wed	RSU4 School Board-OHHS; 6:30p.m. TOPS-Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m.	28 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10a.m.-2p.m.
13 Thur		29 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.
14 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m. Transfer Station Swap Shop, 10a.m.-2p.m.	30 Sun	Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m.
15 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.		
16 Sun	Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.m.		