

# The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXVI No. 1

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

January 1, 2026

## HISTORIAL SOCIETY TRIVIA QUIZ

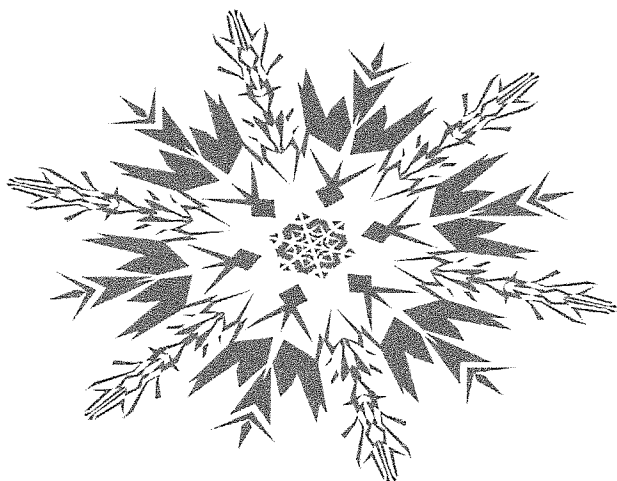
**January question:** In 19th century Litchfield, a "sneth" was part of a common farming implement. What was a sneth? **December question:** Many in Litchfield today are familiar with Richmond Corner. In 1800 that corner was located in what town? Answer: Bowdoinham. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to [HistoricalSocietyoflitchfieldmaine.org](http://HistoricalSocietyoflitchfieldmaine.org)

## LITCHFIELD TRANSFER STATION

We hope all the residents had a peaceful and safe holiday. We are grateful to be able to serve you, the residents of Litchfield. We survived the first brutal blast of winter and were glad to see a slight glimpse of spring-like weather. When you come into the Transfer Station, look for a dramatic change. We are moving forward with our projects. **MANY MANY THANKS** to Corey and his team for their support of the facility. Please watch your speed in the facility, remember it is **5 MPH**. Our phone number here is 268-2032. Stop in and say hello to John C. and John U. Thank you. Stay Safe

## WILLIAM R BOLD POST 181 AMERICAN LEGION

Our January monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, Jan 28, 2026 at 7:00pm at the new Post 181 Building at 800 Lewiston Rd, West Gardiner. All veterans are welcome.



## LITCHFIELD SENIOR CENTER

Center Phone # 446-6275

If the flag is out at the Center, come on in. All dates and times are subject to change.

**Senior Center closed** on Thursday January 1, 2026.

**The Senior Center** will be open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 9:00 to 2:00 or when flag is out.

Come in for exercise, cards or check out the books and puzzles. **Line Dancing** instruction for all on Mondays 9:30-11 at the Sportsmen's Club.

The Senior Center will be open at 9:30am on Mondays for Knitting and/or crocheting with Sharon Thibault. This is open to all who love to knit or crochet. Come with your special project or participate in **Grammies Knitting Tree**. A project this fall in memory of our dear Mary Blen, who passed away this year. This is for mittens and hats for kids; any size you want to donate to schools.

**The Carol Bailey String Band & Oigong** will meet at 9:00 at the Sportsmen's Club every Wednesday. Come join the fun. We are also offering Music lessons on Monday's 10-2. Like to learn a new instrument or improve your skills on Monday? Starting January 12<sup>th</sup> from 10-2 we will have lessons available. For info or sign-up call Pat Bailey at 207- 215-5948.

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

**On Fridays**, stay for cards at 10am, BYO lunch at noon and then more cards and games in the afternoon. Pick out books and/or puzzles to take home.

**The Senior's Advisory Committee** meeting held at the Senior Center at 1pm on Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**The book club** meeting is on Monday, January 19th at 1 pm.; at the Senior Center. The book to be discussed is "The Borrowed Life of Fredrick Fife" By Anna Johnston. Pick up the book at the Gardiner or Monmouth Library and join us.

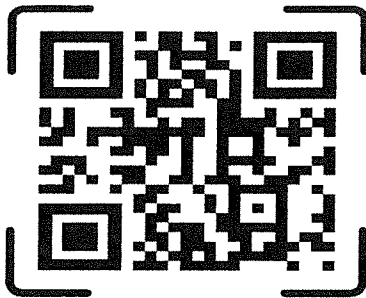
**If you play Cribbage** come join us on Fridays at 9:30am, all are welcome.

**Our speaker on the 16<sup>th</sup>** at noon for our potluck luncheon is Kristin Solomon from the Spectrum Generations on Dietary needs, food-diet for seniors and menu plans, etc. Come see what she has to say.

**The Sand for Seniors** program is still available. If you have a 5-gal bucket/with cover from last year please drop it off at the Senior center; please call 446-6275 and leave a message with name, telephone number and address to be put on the list for delivery.

### LITCHFIELD RECREATION

**Basketball Updates:** We have closed our basketball registration for the season with 63 players, up from 40 players last year. We are so thrilled to have such high registration this year. Our Grades 1/2 group has enough to break up into two teams. Thank you, families, for providing an opportunity for your kiddos to play! **Christmas Craft Night & Silent Auction:** Our craft night and silent auction was a success. We raised over \$1300 to continue towards our goal of reinstating the Jim Hyde Field (majors baseball field) and buying much needed equipment like benches and bleachers. The kids had a great time filling out their craft passports for a prize. The biggest hit of the evening was our *Forest of Christmas Trees* now on display at Gowell's. **Upcoming Fundraiser:** Please join us on January 11th from 12-3 at Gowell's Shop n' Save. Our athletes will be helping bag groceries and a portion of sales will be donated to the Recreation department. Please help us continue towards our goal by doing your grocery shopping on Sunday Jan from 12-3. **Yoga:** Registration for our yoga series is now open. Sundays at Carrie Ricker Cafeteria at 9am. It is a 4-part series, running 1/11, 1/25, 2/1, and 2/8. \$40 for the session. \$15 drop in. Scan the QR code to register! **Full Moon Snow Shoe:** Ring in the new year with Rec at Holman Conservation Area on January 3<sup>rd</sup> for a free event. We will be meeting at 5:30 pm at the entrance of Melanie Ln off the Upper Pond Road for a full moon hike/snowshoe. Hot Chocolate served by donation. **Connect with us on Facebook** to stay updated on our upcoming events! We'll be hosting February Vacation play days (sledding, outside play time, etc). **Upcoming Events:** January 3<sup>rd</sup> - Full Moon Snow Shoe/Hike - Holman Conservation Area - 5:30 pm; January 11th - Yoga - Carrie Ricker Cafeteria - 9:00pm; January 11th - Rec Fundraiser - Gowell's Shop 'n' Save - 12:00-3:00pm; January 12th - Rec Committee Meeting - 6:00 pm; January 25th - Yoga - Carrie Ricker Cafeteria- 9am



Yoga

### TOWN CLERK'S CORNER

**The Town Office** will be closed Thursday, January 1st, for the New Year's Day Holiday and Monday, January 19th for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

**It's winter in Maine,** please drive carefully. Litchfield winter roads are among the best maintained in the area, but please drive safely and give our plows some space. We pre-treat icy storms whenever possible. But if roads ice up unexpectedly for the morning commute and will thaw within 2 hours, then by the time the trucks get there it would have been small gain at large expense. When the weather is iffy, the Road Commissioner drives the routes and will make the tough calls.

**Litchfield has a new road commissioner,** Corey Hanson. He took on the role in mid-Nov and has been doing a great job. Corey has been with Public Works for the past three years.

**We recommend that** everyone have a highly visible address number on their house or mailbox. A good option is the reflective address signs offered for \$20 by Litchfield Fire & Rescue. Order forms are available at the Town Office.

**2026 Dog Licenses** - \$25.00 late fee starts February 1<sup>st</sup> - you may license your dog(s) for 2026 at the Town office (beginning October 15th) or online from the link on the right at [www.Litchfieldmaine.org](http://www.Litchfieldmaine.org). If rabies vaccinations have been updated, please bring a copy of the new vaccination information. To avoid a \$25.00 late fee your dog must be licensed by January 31, 2026.

**2026 Snowmobiles** and Boat Registrations; Fishing and Hunting Licenses - Snowmobiles may be registered for 2026 at the Town Office, or online. Links are available at [www.Litchfieldmaine.org](http://www.Litchfieldmaine.org) at the upper right corner of the home page.

**Fuel 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](http://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.

**Upcoming meetings at the Town Office (see the town website for changes or updates):**

Planning Board - Thursday, Jan 8th, 6:30 pm

Select Board - Monday, Jan 12th, 6:30 pm

Budget Committee - Thursday, Jan 15th, 6:30 pm

Recreation Committee - Monday, Jan 19th, 6:15 pm

Road Committee - Wednesday, Jan 21st, 6:00 pm

Select Board - Monday, Jan 26th, 6:30 pm

### RSU 4 SCHOOLS

School beings again on Monday, January 5 and there is no school on Monday, January 19th in observance of Martin L. King Jr. birthday.



## January Community Calendar

1 Thur	 <p><b>Town Office Closed</b> <b>Lit. Food Bank</b>—10am—12:00; 56 Plains Rd</p>	16 Fri	<b>Town Office closed</b> <b>Transfer Station</b> —8am—4pm
2 Fri	<b>Town Office closed</b> <b>Transfer Station</b> —8am—4pm	17 Sat	<b>Transfer Station</b> - 8am-4pm <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> —Open 9am-12pm
3 Sat	<b>Transfer Station</b> - 8am-4pm <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> —Open 9am-12pm <b>Lit. Sportsman's Club</b> -Public Supper & Jam. Supper 5 - 6 \$10. Jam 6:30 to 8	18 Sun	
4 Sun	<b>Lit. Sportsman's Club</b> -Country Music Sunday Noon to 4 \$8.00	19 Mon	<p><b>Lit. Town Office Closed</b> <b>RSU 4 Schools Closed</b></p>  <p><b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b></p>
5 Mon		20 Tue	<b>Lit. Fire &amp; Rescue Meeting</b> -6pm, Central Station
6 Tue	<b>Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers Meeting</b> , 6:00pm	21 Wed	<b>Lit. Food Bank</b> —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd <b>Lit. Road Comm</b> — 6:00pm; Town Office
7 Wed	<b>Lit. Food Bank</b> —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd	22 Thur	<b>Lit Food Bank</b> —10am-12pm, 56 Plains Rd <b>Lit. Senior Comm</b> - 1pm, Senior Center <b>Lit. Budget Com.</b> —6:30p, Town Office
8 Thur	<b>Lit. Food Bank</b> —10am-12pm, 56 Plains Rd <b>Lit Planning Bd</b> —Town Office 6:30pm	23 Fri	<b>Town Office closed</b> <b>Transfer Station</b> —8am—4pm
9 Fri	<b>Town Office closed</b> <b>Transfer Station</b> —8am—4pm	24 Sat	<b>Transfer Station</b> - 8am-4pm <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> —Open 9am-12pm
10 Sat	<b>Transfer Station</b> - 8am-4pm <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> —Open 9am-12pm	25 Sun	
11 Sun		26 Mon	<b>Lit. Selectmen's Meeting</b> ; 6:30pm, Town Office-zoom available-see website
12 Mon	<b>Lit. Selectmen's Meeting</b> ; 6:30pm, Town Office-zoom available-see website	27 Tue	
13 Tue	<b>Lit. First Responders</b> -6pm, Central Office	28 Wed	<b>Lit. Food Bank</b> —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd <b>RSU4-Board Meeting</b> , Central Off 6:30pm
14 Wed	<b>Lit. Food Bank</b> —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd <b>RSU4-Board Meeting</b> , Central Off 6:30pm <b>Lit. Sportsman's Club Meeting</b> -6pm	29 Thur	<b>Lit Food Bank</b> —10am-12pm, 56 Plains Rd
15 Thur	<b>Lit Food Bank</b> —10am-12pm, 56 Plains Rd <b>Lit. Budget Comm.</b> — 6:30pm, Town Off.	30 Fri	<b>Town Office closed</b> <b>Transfer Station</b> —8am—4pm
		31 Sat	<b>Transfer Station</b> - 8am-4pm <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> —Open 9am-12pm

# BOX HOLDER

**Contents:**  
 1. Historical Society, Senior Center Corner  
 2. Town Manager/Clerk's Report  
 3. January Calendar  
 4. Newsletter Deadline

ECRWSS  
 PRSRT STD  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Litchfield, ME  
 Permit #2

*The Litchfield Sodalite*  
 Litchfield Town Office  
 2400 Hollowell Road  
 Litchfield, ME 04350  
 Tel.: 207-268-4721 FAX: 207-707-8485  
[sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org)  
[www.litchfieldmaine.org](http://www.litchfieldmaine.org)  
 Open: Mon.—Wed.: 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  
 Thurs.: 8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.  
 Closed: Every Fri.

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## The Litchfield Sodalite

### Litchfield Conservation Commission

**Family outdoor activities** - "Kickin' Back with the Kennebec Land Trust Scavenger Hunt" How does it work? Visit six sites listed on the brochure, answer the trivia questions to find the location at the matching property and go to the location and do the activity. Bring your brochure to KLT office in Winthrop to receive a prize. Details at [tklt.org](http://tklt.org)

Hike or snowshoe or ski at the many outdoor locations in Litchfield and look at the evergreens this time of year to learn new plants. The pines are identified by the number needles in a cluster. For example, the Eastern White Pine "leaves are in clusters of 5, flexible, 3-5" long, bluish-green but whitish on one side." This quote is from the Maine Forest Service book "Forest Trees of Maine" available from the Maine Forest Service for a modest fee. In addition to a summer key, it has a winter key (p. 10) to use now. The Litchfield Community Park has white pine and the Scots Pine which grows on the very poor soil, the sand of the former gravel pit. Scots pine "leaves are needles in clusters of two, 1 ½-3" long, stout, stiff, twisted, dull blue green with distinctive lines of stomata" (small pores used for gas exchange).

**February Issue Deadline:** Jan. 20, 2026 5pm  
 Deliver material in any of the following ways:  
 email: [sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org)  
 U.S. mail to: Town Office, 2400 Hollowell Rd. 04350  
 Hand deliver to: Town Office 2400 Hollowell Rd

