

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXII No. 7

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

July 1, 2022

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

July question: What "hash" was commonly made in Litchfield from the remnants of a "boiled dinner"? **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

Woodbury Pond Park

The park opened June 18th and will welcome everyone daily from 10AM - 8PM, weather permitting. We are looking to form a group of park users and residents that would be interested in helping maintain the park yearly and organize community events. Wouldn't it be great to have a big community cookout each year to start the season? Maybe invite the fire department to show off the trucks to our kids or how about a kids event for all our families and surrounding towns? There are many ideas but it requires resident involvement! Please contact woodburypondpark@gmail.com to join Friends of Woodbury Pond Park or sign up at the park and please follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfWoodburyPondPark/>

Summer Nature Camp

Come explore the outdoors with five full days of **FUN** for children entering grades 4-6! Two 1-week sessions – July 25th-29th, 2022 and August 8th-12th are being held at the YMCA Camp of Maine on Cobbossee Lake in East Winthrop, ME. Campers will enhance their relationship with the natural world as they explore, observe and experience the nearby ponds, forests and fields (hiking, fishing, swimming, canoeing & kayaking); record observations in their own nature journal; learn basic wilderness skills; and participate in ecology skits, crafts and games. Campers will also be treated to a special session of "Tadpole Patrol" aboard the Friends 22' pontoon boat, the OTTER II. Camp runs daily from 8:30am-4:30 pm. Cost for each 5-day camp session is \$250/pp, and includes lunch and afternoon snack. Early registration is recommended, as space is extremely limited! The Friends follow the guidelines of the Maine CDC and the YMCA Camp of Maine regarding Covid-19 safety. Please visit the Friends at www.watershedfriends.com for up to date information. For more information, please contact Cami Wilbert (Education & Outreach Director) at 395-5239 or cami@watershedfriends.com.

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" Beginning in July, some of the activities are being held at the Litchfield Fire Station.

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

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, July 6, the Senior Center will be open 9-12.

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, July 18 at 1 pm. The book to be discussed is "Before We Were Yours" by Lisa Wingate.

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

The following are the dates and places the Carol Bailey String Band and Chorus will be performing: July 13- Maine Veterans' Home, 6:30 pm. concert; July 27- Richmond Seniors, 11 a.m. concert in the park by the river.; August 3- Winter Harbor 12 noon concert at Hammond Hall as part of the Schoodic Arts for All festival; August 17- Cooper's Mills Seniors; August 24- Woodbury Pond Park and Sept 9- Litchfield Fair at 1 pm.

The following are upcoming Road Runner trips: July 7, Naples-Songo River Queen; July 20, Lewiston-Auburn Museum; August 11, Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens; 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 441-9005 or 268-4237 to be put on the list for the trip(s).

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.

Transfer Station

We are glad that warmer weather is here at the Transfer Station. Many THANKS to the residents of Litchfield for their continued support of the Transfer Station at the Town Meeting. We will strive to show our appreciation. Things are progressing here. The cardboard seems to be lessening in the amount we are taking. Most residents are aware of what containers to put their recyclables in, but we have a few that make our jobs interesting. We get paper in the plastics, tin cans in the glass, paper in the metal, and black plastic bags of leaves left at the leaf pile. It makes for constant vigilance on our part. We are starting to prepare for the cement work to be done so we can move the paper, tin, and glass containers over next to the cardboard containers. This will make for residents safety when they use the facility. We won't have to worry about people crossing in front of vehicles entering or leaving the facility. We are still open on Sundays from 8 to 4. The Swap Shop is going strong. We have had over 1500 item taken since it opened. Again thank you for your support.

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Great bargains continue to be offered at Buck A Bag prices. We really want to move out wonderful clothing to make room for more donations arriving weekly! Kid clothes are now grouped by size on girls and boys racks to facilitate your shopping experience. Warm weather requires cool shorts and tops. We've got 'em!

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

Off to a slow start on the new Food Bank as contractors are booked solid for months! It really IS going to happen, we just know it's not as quickly as we were hoping. We will use the time for additional fund raising. (P O Box 36, Litchfield, put Bldg Fund on memo line, please) Coming soon, a Maine Bicentennial themed quilted wall hanging/lap robe raffle to benefit the Building Fund. On another note, the local chickens have been working overtime to produce fresh eggs for us. Great job, ladies! Gardens are beginning and some fresh greens have reached us as well as beautiful rhubarb. Thank you, gardeners! Also a great job. We so appreciate the donations from local locations!

Gardiner Public Library

Did you know Litchfield residents may use the Gardiner library for free. Please go to the library to sign up for a library card and ask about the digital library you can have access to. Check out the Summer Reading Program and the Museum and State Park passes that are available to use. Please phone 582-3312—or go online at <https://gardinerpubliclibrary.org> or Facebook at Gardiner Public Library.



Town Clerk's Corner

The Town Office will close at 3 pm on Thursday, June 30th to complete end-of-fiscal year database closeout.

Town Office Hours Change—Beginning 11 July, the Town Office hours of operation will be Monday – Thursday from 8:30 am to 6 pm. Most customers will not notice a change, but the office will no longer be open until 7 pm on Mondays. We apologize to those this may inconvenience. This change is a cost reduction measure due to low customer traffic between 6 and 7 pm, and in keeping with the reality that most transactions are now available online.

Woodbury Pond Park is now open daily through **Labor Day**, weather permitting, and it looks great! Come out and enjoy the park!

July Holiday—The Town Office will be closed on Monday, July 4th in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

Election Results (winners denoted by *)

State Primary Ballot Results: Republican – 254 Votes

Democratic – 134 Votes

RSU#4 Budget Referendum Q1: Yes 239* No 229

Blank 6 Q2: Yes 302* No 160 Blank 12

Municipal Final Tally

Total # of ballots 482

Select Board

Scott Weeks* 306

Rayna Leibowitz 160

School Board, RSU4

Jill Bouchard* 384

Academy Trustees

Earl Lamoreau Jr. * 375

Rayna Leibowitz* 316

Budget Committee

Lawrence Bell* 310

Bruce Doyle* 344

Jennifer Libby* 354

RSU 4 School News



REFERENDUM

Vote at your local polling places on August 9, 2022

The Referendum shall be conducted on the following article which will be the subject of a vote on August 9, 2022.

Article 1: Do you favor authorizing the School Board of Regional School Unit No. 4 (the "RSU") to issue bonds or notes in the name of the RSU for school construction purposes in an amount not to exceed \$31,687,216 to construct and equip a new school building connected to the current Oak Hill Middle School in the Town of Sabattus? The two building campus will serve grades 2-8.

As part of this school construction project the RSU will close Sabattus Primary School and Libby Tozier School.

July Community Calendar

1 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm	17 Sun	Transfer Station, 8am-4pm
2 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 am-4 pm Academy Thrift Store OPEN- 9am to 12pm	18 Mon	Budget Committee – Monday, July 18, 6:30 pm
3 Sun	Transfer Station 8am-4pm	19 Tue	Lit Fire Assoc & Reg Meet-6:30pm, Central Sta
4 Mon	Town Office Closed 	20 Wed	Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd
5 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers- 6:30pm; Station	21 Thur	Senior Advisory Meeting—1pm Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd
6 Wed	Food Bank– 4pm-6pm, 491 Richmond Rd	22 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm
7 Thur	Food Bank-10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd Lit Planning Bd.—6:30pm, Town Office	23 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 am –4pm Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm Town House Museum—Open House—2pm-4pm
8 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm Sportsman’s Club -Public supper 5-8 pm \$8. - Music Jam 6-8pm	24 Sun	Transfer Station, 8am-4pm
9 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 am –4pm Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm Country Fest at Sportsman’s Club— Noon-8 pm -10 performances \$15.	25 Mon	Selectman Meeting, 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information
10 Sun	Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p. Country Fest at Sportsman’s Club—Noon-5 pm ,4 performances \$10.	26 Tue	
11 Mon	Selectman Meeting, 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information Sportsman’s Club-Monthly members meeting; 7pm (Public welcome)	27 Wed	Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd William R. Bold, American Legion Post #181 Meeting - 7pm—All veterans welcomed. RSU4—Board Meeting, 6:30pm Central Office (If needed)
12 Tue	Lit. First Responders; 6:30pm-Central Stat	28 Thur	
13 Wed	Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4—Board Meeting, 6:30pm Central Office (If needed) Conservation Comm.- 6pm litchfieldconservation@gmail.com to attend.	29 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm
14 Thur	Food Bank-10am-12pm 491 Richmond Rd	30 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 am-4 pm Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm
15 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm	31 Sun	Transfer Station, 8am-4pm
16 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 am-4 pm Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm		

BOX HOLDER

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

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: 207-707-8485
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 Commission

We are lucky to live in a state where water is plentiful and clean. Perhaps, as a result, we take it for granted. Did you know there was once a time when the Kennebec and Androscoggin rivers were so polluted you could not enter the water? Please take these easy steps to ensure our water continues to be safe, healthy, and beautiful for many years to come. 1. Keep your septic system in good working order and have it pumped every 3-5 years. 2. Never use soap or shampoo in a lake or pond. These add phosphorous to the water, which can lead to aggressive plant growth and algae blooms. Also, if you live on waterfront property, consider using a laundry detergent that is phosphate-free. 3. Clean up your dog poo. It can contain E. Coli which is dangerous to people and other animals if it makes its way into a water supply. 4. Please do not flush any medications down the sink or toilet because it ends up in our water. There are many police stations that have bins to anonymously drop your unused meds even aspirin and vitamins. 5. Do not put paint, oil, or harsh chemicals in your sink – contact the Litchfield Transfer Station to find out how to properly dispose of these items. 6. Use a car wash—the soap and grease from your car does not end up in the water supply. 7. Stop applying pesticides and fertilizer on your lawn. The chemicals in these products negatively impact our environment, from our waters to our wildlife.

Aug Issue Deadline:
 July 22, 2022 5p.m.
 Deliver material in any of the following ways:
E-mail
(sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org) **U.S. mail to:**
 Town Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd. 04350

