

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXVI No. 5

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

May 1, 2026

HISTORICAL SOCIETY TRIVIA QUIZ

May question: Many in Litchfield today are familiar with Cobbossee Stream. Very few could name the fish from which the stream derives its name. April question: What tree, still found in Litchfield, got its common name because it blossomed when the winter's dead could be buried? answer: Service Berry. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to HistoricalSocietyoflitchfieldmaine.org

LITCHFIELD TRANSFER STATION

It is May and warmer weather is arriving. We will be open on Sundays starting the 3rd of May. The leaf/brush piles will be open May 1 depending on the weather. Please call to find out if it is open. We are definitely seeing an up tick in the residents using the facility. Please be courteous We are again reminding residents to please stop and interact with the attendants when you enter the Transfer Station. We are seeing items that we don't accept being dropped off. Please be more careful as to what you put in the individual containers. Vinyl planks don't go in the metal bin. That kind of attention. With the opening of the Swap Shop, we must remind everyone about **stopping when you enter the transfer station** and to also watch your speed. It is only 5 MPH Our phone number here is 268-2032.

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

The weather may not feel spring-like much but we have the spring vibes at the Thrift Shop. Some lovely spring and summer clothes have been put on display, just waiting for you. Prices continue to be \$2 per bag.

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

A spring Craft and Yard Sale to benefit the Food Bank and other non profits will be held at the Plains Baptist Church on May 23, 9 to 4 at 56 Plains Rd. Tables and spaces are available, inside for crafts, outside for Lawn Sale items. Call Rayna at 557-2680. If you have items you'd like to donate for the Food Bank to sell, feel free to bring them on May 23, 7 to 9 AM. Gardening? Plan to share with the Food Bank!

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.

We will be closed on May 25th due to Memorial Day. The town parade will start from the fire station around 8:30 to get ready. **The Senior Center** will be open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays **9:00 am to 2:00 pm** or when flag is out. Come in for exercise, cards, or check out the books and puzzles. We have new puzzles and books coming into center all the time. We also have some working lap tops to come in and use while center is open. **Line Dancing** instruction for all on Mondays **9:30-11 am** at the Sportsmen's Club.

The Senior Center will be open at 9:30 am on Monday's for Knitting and/or crocheting with Sharon Thibault. This is welcome to all who love to knit or crochet. "Grammie's Mitten Tree was a big hit with the Pre-K classes, and the school would like us to do it every year. For this, we will need lots of mittens 5 " long beyond the cuff. Bring your projects and join the knitting and crochets' at 9:30 on Monday mornings or drop off your mittens at the Senior Center."

The Carol Bailey Band meets at 10:00 am at the Sportsmen's Club every Wednesday. On the 6th they are going to The Woodlands in Hallowell for 10:00 am and on the 20th they are going to The Maine Veterans Home for 10:30 performance in Augusta. Qigong at 9:00 am at the Senior Center on Friday's from May till September. Save the Date on August 19th the band will perform at Woodbury Pond at 10:00 am. More info to come later.

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

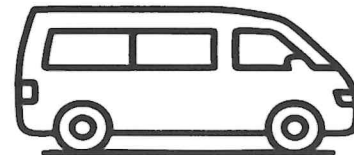
On Fridays, we offer Cribbage 9:30-10:30 am; bring a partner or call to see if there are people playing, we have the boards here to use. Card games at **10 am**, BYO lunch for noon and then more cards and games in the afternoon. **Pot Luck/May Birthday celebrations** on 15th, plus a speaker; Donna Harris on Senior karate.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting held at the *Senior Center* is at 1 pm on Thursday, May 21st.

The book club meeting is on Monday, May 18th at 1 pm. at the *Senior Center*. The book to be discussed is "When Books Went to War" by Molly Guptill Manning. Pick up the book at the Gardiner or Monmouth Library and join us.

Gardening Club is on May 13th at **1 pm**. They will be going to a home visit. Check the info on the Litchfield Garden Club Facebook group for the info. If interested call Lori at the Center. The number is up at the top of page.

Our Trips are starting up for the season. The next trip will be **May 14th** to the Public Theater in Lewiston for 2:00 pm. We will meet at the Sportsmen's Club around 12:45 pm, leaving at 1:00 pm. If you are interested, come to the Senior Center to sign up or call Lori at 446-6275. Tickets are 30.00 each, Deadline to sign up is May 4th.



MEMORIAL DAY
Picnic & Community Event

MAY 25TH
NOON - 4:00PM

LOCATION
VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK
2281 HALLOWELL RD.
LITCHFIELD, ME

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

BAKE SALE **KICKBALL TOURNAMENT** **CORNHOLE** **BOUNCE HOUSE**

BOTTLE DRIVE FUNDRAISER

FOOD FUN FRIENDS BOTTLE DRIVE
Everyone Welcome!

LITCHFIELD MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

William R, Bold American Legion Post 181 invites local families and individuals to help us honor our fallen veterans by placing American flags on their grave sites. We will meet at Litchfield Plains Cemetery on May 23rd at 9 a.m. Legionnaires and Auxiliary members seek local organizations to participate with us to march in this year's Memorial Day Parade. Youth sports teams, scouting groups, antique auto clubs, and senior groups are among those encouraged to join us. We will meet at the Fire Station on May 25th at 8:30 a.m. The parade begins at 8:45 a.m. Memorial Day Services will be held at Litchfield Plains Cemetery at 9 a.m. If it rains, the parade will be cancelled and Services will be held inside the Fire Station at 9:00 a.m. For more information contact Post CDR Deb Couture at 207-215-6775.

LITCHFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Did you know that roughly 60 men from Litchfield served in the Revolutionary War and that one was wounded at the Battle on Lexington Green; that a few residents went west in 1849 to join the Gold Rush (and at least two died there); that a founding member of Rotary International, and a hero of Gettysburg's Battle of Little Round Top are both buried in the Plains Cemetery; that what's now known as Litchfield was once part of a vast tract of land granted by the King of England to the Plymouth Colony; that the name of the town was supposed to be Great Hampton; that Litchfield once had a gold mine? The Historical Society of Litchfield invites all interested residents to join us as we expand our efforts to research, document, and publicize the many interesting stories of the people, schools, mills, businesses, military service, etc. that are still waiting to be told. We welcome anyone with an interest in local history and/or genealogy to join us, and we especially need members with library, archival, mapping, research and interviewing experience. We have short, medium, and long-term project goals – but we need your help to bring those to fruition. And be sure to explore our website at www.historicalocietyoflitchfieldmaine.org

TACOMA LAKES ASSOCIATION

Spring is finally here! The Tacoma Lakes remain free of invasive species as I type. This is in part due to our Courtesy Boat Inspection program. Inspectors are at the Woodbury Pond boat launch a half a day on Thursday and full days on holidays and every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from Memorial Day to Labor Day. We are also seeking volunteer inspectors! Training is easy and only an hour long. What a great way to help us keep our lakes free of invasive plants! Our plant patrol team of volunteers will be on the water this summer scanning the lakes for ANY troubling plant. Last August, we had a scare, and as a result our team will be checking the area of the scare throughout the summer. The plant patrol team is also looking for volunteers to help! Be on the lookout for them using one of our 2 newly donated clear kayaks. These kayaks offer the patrollers an incredible view of the plants in the water. Please check out our vastly improved website at tacomalakes.org

LITCHFIELD SPORTSMAN'S CLUB FISHING DERBY

Sign up starts at 9:00 am Open to all children from the ages of 5 to 15. The derby will be held on Saturday May 16th, 2026.



TOWN CLERK'S CORNER

The Town Office will be **closed on Monday, May 25th**, for Memorial Day. Plan to start your morning at the Veterans Memorial in the Plains Cemetery to honor those who gave their lives for our country. The Memorial Day parade will begin at 9:00 am from the Central Fire Station (which is also the rain day alternate location for the ceremonies). The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) van will be available to transport those veterans that cannot march/walk the parade route from the fire station to the cemetery.

Pay Your Property Taxes Online—Fast, Easy, and Secure— You can now pay your tax bills online using credit/debit cards or E-Check/ACH through our secure payment system. Visit <https://litchfieldme.governmentwindow.com/start.html> to get started. A link will also be on our website at Litchfield-Maine.org.

RSU4 Budget – Public Budget Meeting Wednesday, April 29th at the high school! -There are two meetings back-to-back on Wednesday, April 29th. Before the budget validation meeting there will be a public hearing for the RSU4 School Revolving Renovation Fund (SRRF) Wednesday, April 29th at 5:30pm in the Oak Hill High School gym. The public hearing for the RSU4 Budget Validation is Wednesday April 29th at 6:30 pm at the OHHS gym.

Elections are coming up in June!-The Municipal Election (including State Primary, Municipal, RSU4 Budget Validation and SRRF Referendum) will be held on Tuesday, June 9th at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club, 2261 Hallowell Road, from 8:00 am – 8:00 pm. Early voting will be available beginning May 11th at the Town Office. You can also request your ballot ahead of time at the Town Office and we will begin mailing them out May 11th. Online Absentee Ballot Request Service (ABR) is live. Voters can go to <https://absenteeballotrequest.sos.maine.gov/> to request their ballot.

2026 ATV Registrations-You may register and re-register ATVs at the Town Office beginning May 1st. **Reminder,** the State (Inland Fisheries & Wildlife) insists that our customers bring either a previous registration or a photo of the current sticker when registering ATVs, boats, and snowmobiles.

Summer Road Work-Road maintenance season is upon us. A more complete list will be available in mid-May, but some of the work that will be done this summer involves: tree grinding / pruning and ditching on West Rd and Ferrin Rd, as well as culvert replacement on Lunts Hill Rd.

Municipal candidates that will appear on the ballot:

Select Board (one position): Gary Parker
RSU #4 (one position): (Write in)

Academy Trustee (two positions):
Elton Wade
Dian White

Budget Committee (three positions):
Tom Wood

The **Annual Town Meeting** will be on Saturday, June 13th, beginning at 10:00 AM in the Carrie Ricker School gym.

May Community Calendar

1 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm	16 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm
2 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm Lit. Sportsman’s Club -Public Supper & Jam. Supper 5 - 6 \$10. Jam 6:30 to 8	17 Sun	Transfer Station —8am-4pm
3 Sun	Lit. Sportsman’s Club -Country Music Sunday Noon to 4 \$8.00 Transfer Station —8am-4pm	18 Mon	Lit. Rec Comm -6:15pm
4 Mon		19 Tue	Lit. Fire & Rescue Meeting -6pm, Central Sta.
5 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers Meeting , 6:00pm	20 Wed	Lit. Food Bank —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd Lit. Road Comm — 6:00pm; Town Office
6 Wed	Lit. Food Bank —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd	21 Thur	Lit Food Bank —10am-12pm, 56 Plains Rd Lit. Budget Comm. — 6:30pm, Town Off. Lit. Senior Comm - 1pm , Senior Center
7 Thur	Lit Food Bank —10am-12pm, 56 Plains Rd Lit Planning Bd —Town Office 6:30pm	22 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm
8 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm	23 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm
9 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm	24 Sun	Transfer Station —8am-4pm
10 Sun	Happy Mother’s Day Transfer Station —8am-4pm	25 Mon	Town Office Closed/No school RSU4 Memorial Day Holiday
11 Mon	Lit. Selectmen’s Meeting : 6:30pm, Town Office-zoom available-see website Lit. Rec Comm -6:15pm	26 Tue	Lit. Selectmen’s Meeting ; 6:30pm
12 Tue	Lit. First Responders -6pm, Central Office	27 Wed	RSU4-Board Meeting , Central Off 6:30pm Lit. Food Bank —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd
13 Wed	Lit. Food Bank —4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd RSU4-Board Meeting , Central Off 6:30pm Lit. Sportsman’s Club Meeting -6pm	28 Thur	Lit Food Bank —10am-12pm, 56 Plains Rd
14 Thur		29 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm
15 Fri	Town Office closed Transfer Station —8am –4pm	30 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm
		31 Sun	Transfer Station —8am-4pm

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<p style="text-align: center;">WOODBURY POND PARK</p> <p>May 2nd will be our Spring cleanup day, weather permitting. May 3rd is our rain date in the event the weather doesn't cooperate. Please watch the Friends of Woodbury Pond Park Facebook page for more information. We will need help with picking up tree debris, removal of the rotted picnic tables, cleaning out the attendant's booth, and the installation of the permanent grills. Please come help us polish this gem for the 2026 season! We are in need of attendants this season, either a resident attendant or an hourly attendant. Please reach out to Sue Weber or Kelly Weissenfels at woodburypond-park@gmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">RSU 4</p> <p>Pre K and Kindergarten Registration - If you have a child that will be 4 years old on or before October 15, 2026 (Pre-K age at Carrie Ricker School) or a child that will be 5 years old on or before October 15, 2026 please call Libby-Tozier School (268-4137) or Carrie Ricker School (268-4136) them call the school. On May 6 there will be a "Day in the Life" Art show, Music Concert and Book Fair at Oak Hill Middle School. It will be from 5:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. There will be no school on Monday, 5/25, in observance of Memorial Day. Oak Hill High School graduation is June 6. It will be held at the Augusta Civic Center starting at 7 p.m. The 8th grade promotion will be held at Oak Hill Middle School on June 10 from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. The last student day is June 11.</p>
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BOX HOLDER

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

ECRWSS
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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
www.litchfieldmaine.org
Open: Mon.—Wed.: 8:00 a.m.—4:00p.m.
Thurs.: 8:00a.m.-6:00p.m.
Closed: Every Fri.

LITCHFIELD CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

It's May and maybe you are thinking of planting a favorite plant or a gorgeous impulse buy. If you wonder where to put that plant you are contemplating landscape design. An annual or a perennial is easily moved later but it is not so easy to move a woody plant; and you may also want to just put that perennial in its final spot and let it grow and flourish. Landscape design is not magical, it is a series of small, concrete steps, that helps you contemplate your landscape carefully and make what you plant serve your needs. The website for Garden Design magazine has lots of helpful information. In their article "How to Design Your Landscape" you'll find these basic first steps. Make a rough drawing of your house and property (later you can take measurements and draw to scale on graph paper) and put down everything that will be permanent, such as overhead lines, underground septic or pipes, the well, features such as a tree you love, north arrow, views you like, views you want to hide, slopes, winds to enjoy or block in winter, a place for snow to be plowed, places it is too hot in summer and so on! This will be your master plan. Next put tracing paper over the master plan and begin to sketch possibilities: put traffic patterns, where you walk; put the areas where the public can view, the private areas for your rest and relaxation and utility areas, for the clothesline or the woodpile. You can then go back to the Garden Design website gardendesign.com for detailed ideas.

LITCHFIELD COMMUNITY PARK

In the Litchfield Community Park: The Story Trail is coming back "The Buggliest Bug" because all the kindergarteners at Libby-Tozier want to come and learn more about BUGS! Come see it again; there will be new bug facts. **Each May the 3rd grade goes** to Smithfield Plantation for the annual Forestry Day Field Trip co-sponsored by the Conservation Commission and Smithfield. The fun and informative activities include outdoor survival, every tree for itself, owl natural history including dissecting owl pellets, a birding walk and the tick project.

June Issue Deadline:
May 20, 2026 5pm Deliver material in any of the following ways:
email:

sodlite@litchfieldmaine.org

U.S. mail to: Town Office, 2400 Hollowell Rd. 04350
Hand deliver to: Town Office 2400 Hollowell Rd.

