

# The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XVI No. 1

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

January 1, 2016

## **Litchfield Transfer Station—New Hours**

The following hours go into effect Fri., Nov. 6, 2015:

**Winter Hours:** November—March

Fri. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sat. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

The following hours go into effect Fri., April 1, 2016:

**Summer Hours:** April—October

Fri. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

The Swap Shop is open only during Summer Hours.

## **Litchfield Transfer Station—New Disposal Fees**

The following disposal fees go into effect Sat., Oct. 3, 2015:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>
Refrigerator	\$10.00
Freezer	10.00
A/C	10.00
Dehumidifier	10.00
Tires (up to 17")	2.00
TV (up to 19")	3.00
TV (19"-30")	5.00
TV (30" and over)	10.00
TV (console)	15.00
Computer	5.00
Printer/Fax	5.00
Mattress	5.00
Box Spring	5.00
Couch/Loveseat	10.00
Couch w/Bed	15.00
Chair/Recliner	5.00
Rugs (5'x10')	10.00
Rug Pad (5'x10')	5.00

## **Litchfield Transfer Station—Prohibited Items**

- Household rubbish
- Sheetrock, lumber, insulation, any building or construction material
- Flooring/Roofing material
- Cabinets/Countertops
- Toilets, sinks, tubs or hot tubs of any type
- Hazardous materials, pesticides, paints, paint thinners.

**Note:** Paints can be taken (for free) to any PaintCare sites (Sherwin-Williams or Aubuchon). Check with these stores ahead of time to verify any requirements.

## **Senior Center Calendar**

**Open:** Every Mon. and Fri., 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Every Wed., 8:30 a.m.-noon

**Closed:** Fri., Jan. 1; Mon., Jan. 18

**Tel.:** 215-4595 - 466 Academy Road

**Thrift Shop,** Mon, Jan. 4, 10-11 a.m. in January ONLY.

**The Carol Bailey String Band Practice,** Wed.'s, 10 a.m.-noon.

**Pot Luck Lunch & Jan. Birthday Celebration,** Fri., Jan. 15.

**Awareness through Movement,** Fri.'s, Jan. 8, 15, 22, & 29, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Book Club**, Wed., Jan. 13, 12:30 p.m., Faith & Jim Schillinger's home. Book: *The Boston Girl*, by Anita Diamant.

**Bowling,** 1-7-10 Lanes, Augusta, Thu., Jan. 14. Leave Sportsmen's Club at noon. Sign up at the Center.

**Line Dancing,** Mon.'s, 9:30-11 a.m., beginners and advanced.

**Aerobics/Bokwa,** Wed.'s and Fri.'s, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

**Cribbage Games,** Mon.'s, 11 a.m., and Fri.'s, 10 a.m.-noon. Bring a lunch and stay for **bingo** on Mon.'s and **cards** on Fri.'s.

**Exercise Equipment** available Mon.'s and Fri.'s, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and Wed.'s, 9 a.m.-noon.

**Reminder**—Stop in at the Center for more information, a cup of coffee/tea, check out our books, or work on the 1,000-piece puzzle, and activity/trip sign up. We would like to meet you.

## **Historical Society of Litchfield Trivia Quiz**

**January's question:** Some early lots laid out from the Kennebec River were one mile deep and 125 poles wide. How many acres were in those lots?

**December's answer:** Sugar maples were often called "rock maples" because lichen on the bark of the trees often made them look much like lichen-covered stone.

To read more about the history of Litchfield, go to: [www.historicalsocietyoflitchfieldmaine.org](http://www.historicalsocietyoflitchfieldmaine.org)

## **Litchfield Community Food Bank**

Special thanks for support provided to the Food Bank through monetary donations, garden produce, fruit from local trees and orchards, and Christmas gifts for children. I am proud of my Town and sincerely appreciate your support. Thank you. Rayna

### Town Manager

Please be aware of the following **office closings** in January:

Mon., Jan. 18 (M. L. King, Jr. Day)

**CLYNK**—This is a community cash program offered through Hannaford stores. All you need to do is come to the town office, pick up a free bag for your returnables, fill the bag, and then take it to your Hannaford store. The amount of the returns is then credited to the town's CLYNK account. A CLYNK Community Cash check is issued to the town each quarter along with an account activity report.

**AVOID FORECLOSURE**—Past due 2013 real estate taxes must be paid by Tue., Mar. 1, 2016, in order to avoid commencement of foreclosure proceedings.

**FUEL FUND**—A BIG Thank You to all the golfers and sponsors who participated in the 8th Annual Monmouth/Litchfield Fuel Assistance Golf Tournament held Sat., Oct. 3, 2015. This tournament resulted in a share to Litchfield in the amount of \$2,545. This will give us a very healthy balance going into 2016.

### Tacoma Lakes Association

Hopefully, by the time you receive this newsletter, temperatures will have allowed our lakes to freeze adequately enough to allow ice fishing.

The Tacoma Lakes Chain falls under the General Laws of the State of Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Individuals fishing these waters are reminded to follow appropriate regulations. Regulations can be found at: [www.eregulations.com/maine/fishing](http://www.eregulations.com/maine/fishing). Be familiar with these entire regulations before heading out on the ice.

Free fishing days this winter are scheduled for Sat.-Sun., Feb. 13-14. This will allow anyone to fish without a license with the exception of any individual whose license has been suspended or revoked.

Individuals are reminded that lake access is limited, and parking in private driveways without permission is discouraged. Additionally, parking on any throughway to gain access to the lakes not only creates a hazardous situation for other drivers, but also may end up getting your vehicle towed. Residents are encouraged to report such activity to either the Maine State Police or Sheriff's Department by calling 911 and reporting such activity. Many seasonal camps are empty during the winter months, and unusual activity around them or homes should also be reported.

**FMI:** Bruce Doyle, [bdoyles@roadrunner.com](mailto:bdoyles@roadrunner.com); website (<http://www.tacomalakes.org>); or Facebook.

### Clerk's Corner

Happy New Year!

We will be holding a Rabies Clinic on Sat., Jan. 16, 1-3 p.m., at Central Fire Station. Cost: \$15 per pet. If you have not licensed your dog for 2016, you can do that right at the Fire Station as January is the last month you can register your dog without the \$25 late fee. Cost of licensing: \$6 for spayed/neutered; \$11 if unaltered. Storm date: Sat., Jan. 23. Proceeds benefit the town's Fuel Fund.

### Creators 4 H Club

Our next meetings are:

Sun., Jan. 3, at Libby-Tozier School, at 3 p.m. We will be making soap.

Sun., Jan. 17, at Libby-Tozier School, at 3 p.m.

In December, we donated toys to the Sabattus Credit Union for Toys for Tots.

**FMI:** Lori, 754-3931.

### RSU4

Oak Hill Middle School Drama Club will be performing "Peter Pan" on Fri., Jan. 8, at OHMS at 7 p.m.

**There will be a Parent Party** for parents of Libby-Tozier and Sabattus Primary students on Tue., Jan. 12. It will be held at Sabattus Primary beginning at 6 p.m. This is to talk about conferences and the literacy initiative. Students are welcome to attend too!

**Parent/Teacher conferences** will be held at Libby-Tozier Wed., Jan. 20 and Thu., Jan. 21. They will be held at Carrie Ricker on Thu., Jan. 21 and Tue., Jan. 26. **FMI:** (Libby-Tozier: 268-4137; Carrie Ricker: 268-4136).

The **Scholastic Book Fair** will be at Carrie Ricker from Thu., Jan. 21–Thu., Jan. 28. Books, pens, pencils, bookmarks and so much more will be for sale.

Schools will be **closed** Fri., Jan. 1 (New Year's Day); Mon., Jan. 18 (M. L. King, Jr. Day); Mon., Jan. 25 (teacher workshop). There is a workshop on Tue., Jan. 26, for Oak Hill Middle and High School so no school for students in grades 6-12. School will be held as usual on that day for grades Pre-K-5.

### From the Road Advisory Committee

#### \$400,000 per mile to fix a road???

The volunteer Road Advisory Committee will present an informational workshop, Thu., Jan. 28, 6:30 p.m. (storm date: Tue., Feb. 2, 6:30 p.m.), at the Town Office to answer this and many other questions about our town-maintained roads.

(The answer is yes, if that road is allowed to deteriorate to the point where it has to be reconstructed—this according to the MDOT Maine Local Roads Center.)

At the meeting we will walk through the steps of how to assess a road by condition and usage, and then show the results of the analysis the committee has done grading our 29 miles of paved roads.

Budget planning is going on now—so finding out how townspeople feel about paying to keep our roads good is crucial.

## January 2016 Community Calendar

- 1 Fri **New Year's Day**  
Town Office, closed  
Transfer Station, CLOSED
- 2 Sat **Transfer Station**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.  
**Academy Thrift Shop**, 9 a.m.-noon
- 3 Sun **Transfer Station**, NOT OPEN
- 4 Mon **Academy Thrift Shop**, 10-11 a.m.
- 5 Tue **Fire/Rescue Officers Mtg.**, Station, 6 p.m.
- 6 Wed **TOPS**, Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m.  
(weigh-in before). **FMI**: Ruth Sherman,  
cell: 939-1907
- 7 Thu **Litchfield Food Bank**, noon-2 p.m.  
**Planning Board**, Town Office, **5:30 p.m.**
- 8 Fri **Town Office**, closed  
**Transfer Station**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- 9 Sat **Transfer Station**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.  
**Academy Thrift Shop**, 9 a.m.-noon  
**Legion Auxiliary**, Legion Hall, 10 a.m.
- 10 Sun **Transfer Station**, NOT OPEN
- 11 Mon **Select Board**, Town Office, 6:30 p.m.  
**Sportsmen's Club**, **Monthly Meeting**, 7  
p.m.
- 12 Tue
- 13 Wed **Conservation Commission**, Town Office,  
6:30 p.m.  
**School Board**, Oak Hill HS, 6:30 p.m.  
**TOPS**, Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m.  
(weigh-in before). **FMI**: Ruth Sherman,  
cell: 939-1907
- 14 Thu **Litchfield Food Bank**, noon-2 p.m.  
**Snowmobile Club**, **Pot Luck Supper**,  
Academy Bldg., 6 p.m.  
**Snowmobile Club**, **Regular Meeting**, Acad-  
emy Bldg., 6:30 p.m.
- 15 Fri **Real Estate Tax Payment #2 Due**  
**Town Office**, closed  
**Transfer Station**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- 16 Sat **Transfer Station**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.  
**Academy Thrift Shop**, 9 a.m.-noon
- 17 Sun **Transfer Station**, NOT OPEN
- 18 Mon **Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday**  
**Academy Thrift Shop**, **CLOSED**  
**Budget Committee**, Town Office, 6:30 p.m.  
**Hist. Pres. Comm. & Hist. Soc.**, Shorey  
Family Research Room, 7 p.m.
- 19 Tue **Sen. Ad. Com.**, Academy Bldg., 10 a.m.  
**Fire/Rescue Station cleanup**, 6 p.m.  
**Fire/Rescue Assoc. Mtg.**, Station, 6:30 p.m.  
**Fire/Rescue Mtg.**, Station, 7 p.m.  
**Masons**, Masonic Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- 20 Wed **Road Committee**, Town Office, 5:30 p.m.  
**TOPS**, Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m. (weigh-in  
before). **FMI**: Ruth Sherman, cell: 939-1907
- 21 Thu **Litchfield Food Bank**, noon-2 p.m.
- 22 Fri **Town Office**, closed  
**Transfer Station**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- 23 Sat **Public Breakfast**, **Masonic Hall**, **7-10 a.m.**  
**Transfer Station**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.  
**Academy Thrift Shop**, 9 a.m.-noon
- 24 Sun **Transfer Station**, NOT OPEN
- 25 Mon **Select Board**, Town Office, 6:30 p.m.
- 26 Tue
- 27 Wed **TOPS**, Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m. (weigh-in  
before). **FMI**: Ruth Sherman, cell: 939-1907  
**School Board**, Oak Hill HS, 6:30 p.m.  
**Franks & Beans**, Legion Hall, 6:30 p.m.  
**American Legion**, Legion Hall, 7 p.m.
- 28 Thu **Litchfield Food Bank**, noon-2 p.m.  
**Snowmobile Club**, **Regular Meeting**, Academy  
Bldg., 6 p.m.  
**Road Advisory Committee Workshop**, Town Of-  
fice, 6:30 p.m.
- 29 Fri **Town Office**, closed  
**Transfer Station**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- 30 Sat **Transfer Station**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.  
**Academy Thrift Shop**, 9 a.m.-noon
- 31 Sun **Transfer Station**, NOT OPEN

**Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop**

Did you get new clothes for Christmas and need to make room for them? Bring your gently used clothes to the Thrift Shop any Saturday between 9 a.m. and noon, and check out our bargains while you are there.

**Solid Waste Transfer Station**

**CLOSED:** New Year's Day, Fri., Jan. 1, 2016

**OPEN:** Sat., Jan. 2, 2016

**Christmas Tree Disposal:** The Transfer Station will accept Christmas trees for recycling through Sat., Jan. 9. Please remove any decorative trimmings!

**Brush** can be brought to the station until there has been enough snow fall to cover the ground.



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 minder

# BOX HOLDER

Open: Mon.: 8:30 a.m.—7:00 p.m.  
 Tue.—Thu.: 8:30 a.m.—6:00 p.m.  
 Closed: Every Fri.

*The Litchfield Sodalite*  
 Litchfield Town Office  
 2400 Hallowell Road  
 Litchfield, ME 04350  
 207-268-4721  
[sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org)  
[www.litchfieldmaine.org](http://www.litchfieldmaine.org)

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 Litchfield, ME  
 Permit #2

- Feb. Issue Deadline:** Jan. 20, 2015, 5 p.m.  
 Deliver material in any of the following ways:
- E-mail ([sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org))
  - U.S. mail: Town Office, 2400 Hallowell RD
  - Hand deliver: Town Office

**Thank You  
 to Modern Woodmen Junior Club**  
*The Sodalite* was surprised and delighted to receive a beautiful plant from the club recently as part of their “community appreciation” project. The club’s appreciation and thanks are passed on to you—the taxpayers of Litchfield—for your support and encouragement of the newsletter over the years.

**Snow Plowing Reminder**  
*We know it will be coming...*  
 Please remember to keep roadside “rights-of-way” clear during the plowing season. As snow banks eventually begin to accumulate, visibility lessens, so please remember to keep the roadside rights-of-way clear of plowing obstructions.  
 Thanks, from Public Works Department