

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XVI No. 2

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

February 1, 2016

Historical Society of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

February's question: In early wills and legal documents the term "my cousin" sometimes had an unexpected and confusing meaning. What was it?

January's answer: Some early lots laid out from the Kennebec River were one mile deep and 125 poles wide. How many acres were in those lots? **Answer:** 250 acres.

To read more about the history of Litchfield, go to: www.historicalsocietyoflitchfieldmaine.org

Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop

A snowy day is the perfect time to clean a closet and bag up the unwanted clothes, shoes, purses, etc. for the Thrift Shop to offer. Need a good book? We've got a ton of them, and the prices are great: 10 cents for a paperback; 25 cents for a hard cover!!

Got a young man in your home who needs a suit for "Just in Case"? We have several really good-looking suits, dress shirts, and ties that will fill the bill—all for under \$5. Bring him in to try on items, as men's suits do not come with sizes on labels.

Litchfield Community Food Bank

It's time to reapply for 2016. Bring proof of income and residency. Accepting new clients who meet income and residency requirements on any Thursday.

FMI: Rayna, 582-4098

4-H Club—The Creators

The next meeting for the Creators is Sun., Feb. 7, to make Valentine cards.

We are also putting together goody bags of school supplies for the kids' classrooms.

We are also having a sliding day on Tues., Feb. 16.

If you would like to help, or need more information, call Lori, 268-4205.

Now Accepting Bids

Litchfield Recreation is accepting bids for mowing contracts for the Veterans' Memorial Fields, as well as Woodbury Pond Park.

Bid specifications can be obtained at the Litchfield Town Office. They are due back by Mon., Feb. 15, 2016, at 7 p.m.

Senior Center Calendar

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

Closed: Mon., Feb. 15, Presidents' Day

There is an **opening** on the Seniors Advisory Committee. Please send a letter of interest to the Town Office.

Join us on Wed., Feb. 3, 1 p.m., to make **Valentine cards** with Anne Thompson. Call 215-4595, or stop in at the Center to sign up for this fun activity.

Bowling, 1-7-10 Lanes, Augusta, Thu., Feb. 11. Car pool from the Sportsmen's Club at noon. Call 215-4595 or stop in at the Center to sign up.

Book Club meets Wed., Feb. 10, 12:30 p.m., at Jim & Faith Schillinger's home in Richmond. The book is: *Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore*, by Robin Sloan.

The pot luck lunch and celebration of **February birthdays** is Fri., Feb. 19.

Line dancing instruction, Mon.'s, 9:30 a.m., beginners and advanced.

Aerobics/Bokwa classes are Wed.'s and Fri.'s, 8:30 a.m.

Music practice, 10 a.m., Wed.'s.

Awareness through Movement, 9:30 a.m., Fri.'s Feb. 5, 12, 19, and 26.

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

Thrift Shop is open first Mon., Feb 1, 10-11 a.m. ONLY.

Seniors Advisory Committee meets at 10 a.m., Tues., Feb. 16.

Reminder!! Exercise equipment available for use 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Mon.'s and Fri.'s; 8:30 a.m.-noon, Wed.'s. **Come in and check out the new treadmill.**

Training Session on the use of the new AED (**automated external defibrillator**) will be at 1:30 p.m., Wed., Feb. 17. Call 215-4595, or stop in at the Center to be put on the list.

COMING IN MARCH—Making **Easter cards**, Wed., Mar. 9, 1 p.m.

Stop in at the Center for more information, a cup of coffee/tea, and activity/trip sign up. Check out our books, or work on the 1,000-piece puzzle.

From the Town Manager

Meeting Invitation: The Select Board and the Town Manager invite and encourage Litchfield residents to attend **meetings of the Select Board** in order to better understand the Town's operations. Attending these meetings also helps provide a better understanding of the Town's financial needs and the reasons for taxes.

Tacoma Lakes Improvement Society

Please be reminded that lake access is limited, and parking in private driveways without permission is discouraged. Additionally, parking on any throughway to gain lake access not only creates a hazardous situation for other drivers, but also may result in your vehicle being towed. Residents are encouraged to report such activity to either the Maine State Police or sheriff's department. (1-800-498-1930)

Maine law has recently changed in regards to marking private property to limit access. The new law and regulations allow both signs and purple paint marks to indicate private property. Please use these guidelines, and check with the Maine Department of Conservation for any needed clarification. Tractor Supply may be a source for purple marking paint.

Paint markings mean that access is prohibited without permission of the landowner or the landowner's agent. Paint markings must consist of a conspicuous vertical line at least 1 inch in width and at least 8 inches in length and must be placed so that the bottoms of the marks are not less than 3 feet from the ground or more than 5 feet from the ground at locations that are readily visible to any person approaching the property and no more than 100 feet apart. Paint markings may be placed on trees, posts, or stones as described in this paragraph.

Signs or paint must mark the property at intervals no greater than 100 feet and at all vehicular access entries from a public road.

Signs or paint markings are required only on the portion of the property where access is prohibited or limited.

Signs or paint posted in accordance with this section have no effect on boundaries of property and do not constitute claims of possession or adverse use in accordance with state law. A landowner who posts that landowner's land by paint markings and who intends to prohibit access without permission of the landowner or the landowner's agent or intends to prohibit access for a particular purpose may do this by posting in a prominent place one or more qualifying signs that by words or symbols set forth the nature of the prohibition. The landowner need not post the qualifying signs at 100-foot intervals.

Information about TLIS or questions/concerns can be sent to Bruce Doyle at bdoyles@roadrunner.com or interested parties can visit our website at:

<http://www.tacomalakes.org/> or like us on Facebook.

Clerk's Corner

Are you looking for a way to get involved in your community without taking too much time and energy away from your everyday job and life?

Russ Thayer has resigned from his position as a member of the Senior Advisory Committee effective Feb. 1, 2016. We would like to thank him for his time and dedication to the community of Litchfield.

The Senior Advisory committee is now looking for new members as well as the Planning Board. If you are interested in either of these or other committees in town, you can drop off a letter of interest at the Town Office during regular business hours, or mail one to Give it some thought, it's a great way to get to know how your town operates, and meet some of your neighbors.

RSU4

If you are a resident of Sabattus, Litchfield, or Wales and have a child that will be 5 years old on or before Oct. 15, 2016, please call to sign up for the 2016-17 Kindergarten school year. Also, please call if you have a child that will be 4 years old on or before Oct. 15, 2016, and you are interested in our Pre-Kindergarten program. Call Libby-Tozier (268-4137) if you are a resident of Litchfield; call Sabattus Primary (375-4525) if you are a resident of Sabattus or Wales. If there are more registered children for Pre-K than slots available, then a lottery will be held in early May. Screenings for both Pre-K and Kindergarten will be held at the end of May or beginning of June. If your child currently attends a RSU4 Pre-K program, you do not need to re-register or have your child get screened.

There will be a Parent Party held at Sabattus Primary on Tue., Feb. 2, 6-7 p.m. Open to all parents of children attending either Libby-Tozier or Sabattus Primary. Children are also welcome!

There will be parent/teacher conferences at Oak Hill Middle School on Tue., Feb. 2, and Thu., Feb. 4, 3-7 p.m. FMI: Val Safford (375-6961).

You are invited to a RSU4 Community Game Night, Thu., Feb. 25, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at Carrie Ricker. There is no cost. There will be many games to choose from, and hot chocolate and popcorn will be served. Bring your family and friends. We extend a special invite to all of our veterans. Please join us so you can be honored by your community.

The Libby-Tozier Grades 1-2 Concert will be held on Tue., Mar. 22. Time TBD. FMI: Libby-Tozier (268-4137).

All RSU4 schools will be closed Mon.-Fri., Feb. 15-19, for vacation.

February 2016 Community Calendar

1 Mon	Academy Thrift Store , 10-11 a.m. Recreation Committee , Town Office, 6:30 p.m. Ord. of the Eastern Star , Masonic Hall, 7 p.m.	15 Mon	Academy Thrift Shop , closed RSU4 , closed Budget Committee , Town Office, 6:30 p.m. Hist. Pres. Comm. & Hist. Soc. , Shorey Family Research Room, 7 p.m.
2 Tue	Fire/Rescue Officers Mtg. , Station, 6 p.m.	16 Tue	RSU4 , closed 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.
3 Wed	TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m. (weigh-in before). FMI: Ruth Sherman, cell: 939-1907	17 Wed	RSU4 , closed 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
4 Thu	Litchfield Food Bank , noon-2 p.m. Planning Board , Town Office, 5:30 p.m.	18 Thu	RSU4 , closed Litchfield Food Bank , noon-2 p.m.
5 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m.	19 Fri	RSU4 , closed Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
6 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon	20 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon
7 Sun	Transfer Station , <u>NOT OPEN</u>	21 Sun	Transfer Station , <u>NOT OPEN</u>
8 Mon	Select Board Meeting , Town Office, 6:30 p.m. Sportsmen's Club Monthly Meeting , Sportsmen's Club, 7 p.m.	22 Mon	Select Board Mtg , Town Office, 6:30 p.m.
9 Tue		23 Tue	
10 Wed	Conservation Commission , Town Office, 6:30 p.m. RSU4 Board Meeting , Oak Hill HS, 6:30 p.m. TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m. (weigh-in before). FMI: Ruth Sherman, cell: 939-1907	24 Wed	TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m. (weigh-in before). FMI: Ruth Sherman, cell: 939-1907 RSU4 Bd. Meeting , Oak Hill HS, 6:30 p.m. Franks & Beans , Legion Hall, 6:30 p.m. American Legion , Legion Hall, 7 p.m.
11 Thu	Litchfield Food Bank , noon-2 p.m. Snowmobile Club Pot Luck Supper , Academy Bldg., 6 p.m. Snowmobile Club Regular Meeting , Academy Bldg., 6:30 p.m.	25 Thu	Litchfield Food Bank , noon-2 p.m. Snowmobile Club Regular Meeting , Academy Bldg., 6 p.m.
12 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m.	26 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
13 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Legion Auxiliary , Legion Hall, 10 a.m. Public Supper and Music Jam , Sportsmen's Club, 5-8:30 p.m.	27 Sat	Public Breakfast , Masonic Hall, 7-10 a.m. Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon
14 Sun	Transfer Station , <u>NOT OPEN</u> Country Sun. , Sportsmen's Club, 12-4:30 pm.	28 Sun	Transfer Station , <u>NOT OPEN</u>
15 Mon	Presidents' Day Town Office , closed Senior Center , closed	29 Mon	



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www.litchfieldmaine.org
sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org
 207-268-4721
 Litchfield, ME 04350
 2400 Hallowell Road
 Litchfield Town Office
The Litchfield Sodalite

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March Issue Deadline: Feb. 20, 2015, 5 p.m.

Deliver material in any of the following ways:

- E-mail (sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org)
- U.S. mail to: Town Office, 2400 Hallowell RD

Winter Nature Day Camp with Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed

The Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed's annual Winter Nature Day Camp will be held during Feb. school vacation week at Camp Mechuwana on Lower Narrows Pond in Winthrop. Two 2-day camp sessions will be offered: Feb. 16-17 and 18-19, 2016. Both sessions, open to children in grades 3-5, will run from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. each day and will include a mixture of both indoor and outdoor activities, including snowshoeing, winter tracking, and a variety of games. Our culminating activity will be learning to ice fish with Ryan Burton of the Cobbossee Watershed District!

Cost for each 2-day camp session is \$80/person and includes the use of all equipment along with afternoon cocoa and snack. Early registration is highly recommended as space is limited to only 16 campers per session!

Registration forms can be downloaded at www.watershedfriends.com.

FMI: Cami Wilbert, Education Coordinator, 621-4100; or camiw@watershedfriends.com