

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XVI No. 4

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

April 1, 2016

Historical Society of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

April's question: When Litchfield was first settled, some large pine trees had an arrow carved into their bark. What did this signify?

March's answer: Before Litchfield had saw mills it had to rely on "saw pits." These pits used an "up and down" or "rip" saw.

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

Current Need—Woodbury Pond Park Attendants

Litchfield Recreation is now accepting applications for Woodbury Pond Park Attendant positions. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older to apply.

FMI: Tiffany Caton, Recreation Director, and the town office (268-4721)

Litchfield Community Food Bank

Garden planning is starting, and I would like to offer a quick reminder to plant extra to share with the Food Bank when you plan your garden. We love fresh (local) vegetables. Several gardeners shared with us last summer and fall, and it was greatly appreciated.

FMI: Rayna, 582-4098

Litchfield Academy Thrift Shop

Volunteers are needed to help with the seasonal change-over on Tue., Apr. 5, 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 or 9 p.m. We will resume the following Tue., if needed. No special tools required!!

FMI: Rayna, 582-4098

Coming in May—Indoor Whatever Sale

Litchfield Community Christian Church will hold its Indoor Whatever Sale in May. Watch for more information in the May *Sodalite*. Donations of household goods and items for the sale can be made by contacting Rayna, 582-4098.

Senior Center Calendar

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

Closed: Mon., Apr. 18 (Patriot's Day)

The **Carol Bailey String Band** will perform at Libby-Tozier on Wed., Apr. 13, 11 a.m.; Maine Veterans Home, Augusta, Wed., Apr. 20, 2 p.m.; and Wed., Apr. 27, Hallowell City Hall for Families Matter, 10:30 a.m., and Gardiner Alzheimer's Center, 2 p.m.

Drama Club, Wed., Apr. 6, 12:30 p.m.

Bowling, 1-7-10 Lanes, Augusta, Thu., Apr. 14. Car pool from the Sportsmen's Club at noon.

Book Club, Wed., Apr. 13, 12:45 p.m., Schillinger home, Richmond. Book: *Come Rain, Come Shine*, by Jan Karon.

The pot luck lunch and celebration of **April birthdays** is Fri., Apr. 15. Beginning at 10 a.m., we will have a rematch of the Corn Hole game provided by Rodney Brown of Humana Insurance. It is a lot of fun. Come and join us.

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

Aerobics/Bokwa classes on Wed.'s. and Fri.'s at 8:30 a.m.

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

Awareness through Movement, 9:30 a.m., Fri.'s Apr. 1, 8, 22, and 29.

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 only open on first Mon., 10-11 a.m.

Seniors Advisory Committee meets at 10 a.m., Tues., Apr. 19.

Reminder!! Exercise equipment available for use 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Mon.'s and Fri.'s, and 9 a.m.-noon, Wed.'s.

First **Roadrunner** trip is on Tue., Apr. 26, to **Oxford Casino**, leaving Sportsmen's Club at 8:30 a.m. Please sign up at the Senior Center.

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

Current Need—Animal Control Officer

This position will be open soon. Minimum age requirement of 18 years of age. Current valid Maine driver's license also required. If you are interested, please contact Trudy Lamoreau, Town Manager, 268-4721.

Free Medicine Disposal Day—Please be aware that the Transfer Station will be participating in this event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sat., April 30. Bring your expired, unused, and unwanted medicines including prescriptions, over-the-counter, veterinary medications, vitamins, and homeopathic treatments. DO NOT bring needles/syringes, electronic equipment, or items containing mercury.

Brush at the Transfer Station—The Transfer Station will be open to receive brush from spring cleanups once the snow has gone, and the ground is firm enough to allow traffic to the disposal area. Watch for more information on the town website (www.litchfieldmaine.org), or contact us directly at the town office (268-4721).

Small Road Turnpike Bridge Work—Work will begin in April in preparation for the Small Road bridge superstructure replacement over the Maine Turnpike. Work includes tree work, concrete deck and steel girder replacement, concrete substructure modifications and repairs, approach work and paving, guardrail, bridge rails, and traffic maintenance.

Cemetery Maintenance Bids—Bids to maintain 13 smaller town cemeteries (not Plains Cemetery) for calendar years 2016, 2017, and 2018 are due by 4:30 p.m., Mon., Apr. 11, 2016. Obtain detailed bid specifications at the town office (268-4721).

Reminder—All are welcome to attend **Select Board meetings**. Come and see how town government operates.

Tacoma Lakes Association

Did you know that **lead poisoning** is the leading cause of death for the adult **Common Loon** in Maine?

One third of the dead adult loons collected over the last 25 years died from lead poisoning—a direct result of the ingestion of lost/discarded lead sinkers and lead-headed jigs. Loons die 2-3 weeks after ingesting just one small lead object. Protect our treasured loons by switching to lead-free fishing gear.

Maine's Fish Lead-Free law bans use/sale of lead sinkers weighing 1 oz. or less. Sale of bare lead-headed jigs 2 1/2" long or less will be banned starting in Sept. 2016, followed by a ban on their use in Sept. 2017.

If you're checked by a warden this year, s/he not only will be looking at your license and registration, but the gear you are fishing with. Since the law has been in effect for more than one year, warnings are being more frequently replaced by tickets.

There are dozens of lead-free tackle products on the market. For more information about fishing lead-free, see: www.fishleadfree.org.

FMI: bdoyles@roadrunner.com; or www.tacomalakes.org; or Facebook

Clerk's Corner

The deadline for submitting **nomination papers** for June's local elections is Mon., May 2, 2016. If you have not yet picked up your papers, you still have time.

Open positions include:

- Selectperson—1
- RSU4 School Board—1
- Litchfield Academy Trustees—2
- Budget Committee—3

This could be your time to make a difference.

Did you know if you are a **business** or **business owner** as a **sole proprietor** or **partnership** adopting a name other than your own, you need to come in and fill out a form for us to keep on file? Any questions, please give me a call at 268-4721. (This does not apply to LLC's, Inc.'s, or corporations.)

You can get **Burn Permits** at the town office and online at: www.wardensreport.com at no cost to you.

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 **Kindergarten** for the 2016-2017 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 our **Pre-Kindergarten** program. Litchfield residents call Libby-Tozier (268-4137); Sabattus/Wales residents call Sabattus Primary (375-4525). If there are more children that register 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 an RSU4 Pre-K program, you do not need to re-register or have your child screened.

OZ!—the musical version of L. Frank Baum's *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*—will be performed at Carrie Ricker. Show dates are: Thu.-Fri., Apr. 14-15, at 6 p.m. It features 55 students from grades 3-5.

There will be a **Parent Party** held at Sabattus Primary on Tue., April 12, from 6-7 p.m. This is open to all parents of children attending either Libby-Tozier or Sabattus Primary. Children are also welcome!

There will be **two concerts and an art show** at Carrie Ricker on Tue., May 10. At 6 p.m. there will be a concert featuring the Beginner Band and all 4th graders. At 7 p.m. there will be a concert featuring all 3rd graders. The art show will be ongoing during both concerts.

RSU4 will be closed Mon.-Fri., Apr. 18-22, for vacation.

April 2016 Community Calendar

1 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 10 a.m.-6 p.m.	18 Mon	Patriot's Day Town Office , closed RSU4 , closed Academy Thrift Store , 10-11 a.m. Hist. Pres. Comm. & Hist. Soc. , Shorey Family research Room, 7 p.m.
2 Sat	Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Transfer Station , 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Keene Family Benefit Dinner , Masonic Hall, 5-6:30 p.m.	19 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 Sun		20 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 Mon	Academy Thrift Store , 10-11 a.m. Rec. Committee , Town Office, 6:30 p.m. Order of the Eastern Star , Masonic Hall, 7 p.m.	21 Thu	RSU4 , closed Litchfield Food Bank , noon-2 p.m.
5 Tue	Fire/Rescue Officers Mtg. , 6 p.m.	22 Fri	RSU4 , closed Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
6 Wed	TOPS , Carrie Ricker School, 6:30 p.m. (weigh-in before). FMI: Ruth Sherman, cell: 939-1907	23 Sat	Public Breakfast , Masonic Hall, 7-10 a.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Transfer Station , 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
7 Thu	Litchfield Food Bank , noon-2 p.m. Planning Board , Town Office, 5:30 p.m.	24 Sun	
8 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 10 a.m.-6 p.m.	25 Mon	Select Board Meeting , Town Office, 6:30 p.m.
9 Sat	Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Transfer Station , 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Legion Auxiliary , Legion Hall, 10 a.m.	26 Tue	
10 Sun		27 Wed	RSU4 Bd. 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 Franks & Beans , Legion Hall, 6:30 p.m. American Legion , Legion Hall, 7 p.m.
11 Mon	Select Board Meeting , Town Office, 6:30 p.m. Sportsmen's Club Monthly Meeting , Sportsmen's Club, 7 p.m.	28 Thu	Litchfield Food Bank , noon-2 p.m. Fair Directors , Sportsmen's Club, 7:30 p.m.
12 Tue	Parent Party , Sabattus Primary, 6-7 p.m.	29 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
13 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	30 Sat	Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Transfer Station , 10 a.m.-6 p.m. FREE MEDICINE DISPOSAL DAY , Transfer Station, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
14 Thu	Litchfield Food Bank , noon-2 p.m. OZ! , Carrie Ricker School, 6 p.m.		
15 Fri	REAL ESTATE TAX PAYMENT NO. 3 DUE Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 10 a.m.-6 p.m. OZ! , Carrie Ricker School, 6 p.m.		
16 Sat	Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Transfer Station , 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Bean Supper , Masonic Hall, 4-6:30 p.m. Girls State Benefit Public Supper , Legion Hall, 5-6 p.m.		
17 Sun			



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BOX HOLDER

The Litchfield Sodalite
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 2400 Hollowell Road
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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.

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4 **The Litchfield Sodalite**

May Issue Deadline: Apr. 20, 2016, 5 p.m.
 Deliver material in any of the following ways:

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

Public Breakfast
 There will be a public breakfast on Sat., Apr. 23, 7-10 a.m., at the Masonic Hall. Public welcome.

Girls State Benefit Public Supper
 There will be a public supper to benefit Girls State on Sat., Apr. 16, 5-6 p.m., at the Legion Hall. Donations accepted at the door to benefit Girls State. Public welcome.

Public Bean Supper
 There will be a public bean supper on Sat., Apr. 16, 4-6:30 p.m., at the Masonic Hall. Public welcome.

REMINDER—Benefit Dinner
 A benefit dinner will held for the Ernest Keene family from 5-6:30 p.m. on Sat., Apr. 2, 2016, at Litchfield Masonic Hall, 2410 Hollowell RD, Litchfield.

Summer Hours at the Transfer Station
 Don't forget—
 Summer Hours are in effect at the Transfer Station **beginning Friday, April 1.**
They are: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.—Fridays and Saturdays