

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXII No. 4

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

April 1, 2022

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

April question: Litchfield's first post office was located in which of the four villages? March question: Civil War era Litchfield had how many Post Masters? answer: Four Post Masters To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

Tacoma Lakes Association

As I write this on March 20th, there is a possibility that the ice may be out on the lakes by the time you are reading this. This would be the earliest ice out date since I moved here in 2010. I thought I would offer a quick update on the status of the repairs to the Woodbury Dam. Thanks to Mark Evans, chair of the Woodbury Dam Committee for supplying me with this information. Throughout this winter the water level has hovered very close to the winter standard of 6'. At this point all signs are pointing to an on-schedule increase of the water level to the 7' level. That level is 6" below the normal summer level, but is the level where the lakes were kept last summer to stop the seepage that was occurring on the eastern berm alongside of the dam. Additionally an engineering firm has been engaged to design and manage the needed repairs to the dam. The firm plans to complete the preliminary project details, and submit the plan to the Select Committees of both Litchfield and Monmouth by the end of March, or early April. The firm believes the necessary permitting can be completed in April, the final project design submitted, and bids opened for sub-contracting of the needed work in May. Currently it is thought that the necessary dam repairs can be scheduled and completed by the end of 2022. I am keeping my fingers crossed for a cool, rainy Spring. This type of spring allows a fungus to grow that hampers the growth of the infamous brown tail moths. I'm certain those who suffered with the brown tail itch last summer join me in sacrificing some of the Spring for a beautiful summer with no itching.

RSU4 SCHOOL NEWS

If you are a resident of Sabattus, Litchfield or Wales and have a child that will be 5 years old on or before October 15, 2022 (Kindergarten age) or a child that will be 4 years old on or before October 15, 2022 (Pre-K age), please call Libby-Tozier School at 268-4137 to register. There will be a first-grade concert on Tuesday, 4/12. It will begin at 6 p.m. and will be held at Oak Hill Middle School. No school on Friday, 4/15 (teacher comp day) and the schools will have vacation April 18-22

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"

At this time some of the activities are still being held at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club until such time that they will be brought back into the Senior Center. If the open flag is out at the Center, come on in. All dates and times are subject to change.

We are looking for any empty clean 5-gal buckets, if you have one or more, please drop them off at the transfer station.

Line Dancing instruction for all on Mondays 9:30-11 at the Sportsmen's Club.

The Senior Center will open 11:30 to 2 on Mondays after Line Dancing.

Come in for exercise, cards or check out the books.

Tai Chi at 9 am. on Wednesdays at the Sportsmen's Club
Carol Bailey String band & Chorus music practice at 10 am at the Sportsmen's Club on Wednesdays.

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 of your choice.

Games for fun on Mondays at 11:30-2 and Fridays 10-3. Bring a lunch and snack, stay for games at the Senior Center.

Book Club discussion group will meet on Monday April 18 at 1 at the Senior Center. The book to be discussed is "Between Earth And Sky" by Mirielle Skenandore.

The Seniors Advisory committee has put together a magnet with the heading IN CASE OF EMERGENCY: information on the storm shelter, water and contact numbers. These can be picked up at the town office, food bank, transfer station and the Senior Center
The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting is at 1 on Thursday April 21.

The first Road Runner trip for 2022 is on Thursday, April 28 to Oxford Casino stop into the Senior Center or call 441-9005 or 268-4237 to be put on the list.

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. Phone numbers-Center 215-4595/ Director 441-9005/268-4237.

Transfer Station

We are looking forward to spring. Hopefully the brush pile will be opened after the snow pile is gone and the ground has dried up. It should be open around the middle of April. We are having a few residents putting plastic bags in the plastic container. Please refrain from doing this. It messes up the machinery when they shred the plastic. We now have a portable toilet for the public to use at the Transfer Station. Just a note to keep in mind. If you see something that needs attention such as the cardboard about to overflow the barrier, please let us know. We will be more than happy to tend to it. We will be moving the paper, tin, and glass containers this year. There will be a short time frame when they will be temporarily placed. We will have signage and notices as we get closer to the move. Good things are happening at the Transfer Station! We are still looking for some summer help. This is a great opportunity to interact with residents and to make a little bit of extra money. It's fantastic for seniors and retirees. Stop by and say hello to John C. and John U.

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

We've done some work to prepare for our seasonal changeover to make the task a little easier. We look forward to seeing you on Monday, April 4, 10 AM to 4 PM (I'll provide lunch) and April 5, 2 - 4 PM and 7 - 9 PM. We've had some really nice items come in and we are anxious to put them out on display. Helpers get to shop first. Aren't you ready for spring clothes?!?

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

When planning your garden, plan for extras to share with the Food Bank, please. Our clients LOVE fresh local produce and we all appreciate your efforts. Let me give a special thanks to some local folks who have been bringing us their extra eggs. They don't get any better than that! Many thanks! Still working on plans for building a new Food Bank. Hoping to have more details by May 1! Vicki, would you re-check the Food Bank hours? In the March issue you had Wed. 3/16 as 10 - 12. The correct Wednesday hours are 4 - 6 PM and Thursday hours are 10 - 12 noon. Thanks.

Woodbury Pond Park

Looking for spring cleanup help at Woodbury Pond Park Woodbury Pond Park is a great spot for all residents and surrounding towns to enjoy as the weather warms up. There is a beach, playground equipment, volleyball and horse shoes for all to enjoy the outdoors and spend some quality time with their family. We will be building new fire pits, sprucing up the changing rooms and the entire area this spring to make it more enjoyable for all! We are looking for volunteers and donations for help with landscaping, flowers, tree trimming, raking, painting and much more. It takes a lot of effort for us to keep the place clean and your help will be appreciated! Please send your name/email to Joline Bell at jolinebell@gmail.com or leave your name at the Town Offices and we will get a hold of you when things dry up and we can get organized

Town Clerk's Corner

The Route 197 bridge over the Turnpike that has had stop-lights this winter will be completely closed all summer for repairs beginning April 4th and is expected to reopen by the end of October. Project information may be found at <https://www.maineturnpike.com/route197>.

Participate in your local government: There is still some time if you are considering running for an elected position this year, nomination papers may be picked up at the Town Office and must be returned by April 9th. In order to be listed on the ballot on June 14th, each nominee requires signatures from 25 town residents. Positions open for this coming year are on the Select Board (1); RSU#4 School Board (1); Budget Committee (2); and Litchfield Academy Trustees (3). If you are interested in how the town works, the Budget Committee is a great place to start. All paperwork must be returned by Thursday, April 14th.

Requests for absentee ballots for the June 14th state primary election are available online (search Maine Absentee Ballot Request) or go directly to <https://apps.web.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl>. Ballot requests will be also available through the Town Office.

The Town Office will be closed on Patriots Day, Monday, April 18th.

Property Taxes—The third and final installment of 2021 property taxes is due by April 15th. If you prefer to put your check in our drop box (to right of the entrance) please put the property address or account number on your check. You may call the office if you aren't sure of the final amount due. Our clerks can also help you with the option of paying your taxes monthly, or beginning to prepay next year's taxes.

Town budget reviews have begun. Each section of the town budget will be reviewed at upcoming Select Board meetings through the end of April. Don't wait for the annual Town Meeting to find out what's happening with the budget. Attending the Select Board meetings and following along during the reviews gives you a chance to hear the details, and an opportunity to ask questions. Alternatively, you can link to videos of the Select Board meetings at the Town Website, Litchfield-Maine.org.

Litchfield Recreation

Baseball / T-ball / Softball—Litchfield Recreation is now accepting registrations for our spring sports programs. Registrations are due back by April 13th and the cost is \$50 for T-ball, \$65 for Rookie baseball (6-8 yrs old) and \$75 for Minor and Major Baseball (8-12 yrs old). Scholarships (full and partial) are available for larger families or families that may need financial assistance

Conservation Commission

Free Family Earth Day Event—All Ages Welcome Friday, April 22nd at 10:00AM (rain date 4/23 at 10:00AM) Scavenger hunt, snacks and more! Litchfield Community Park, Hallowell Litchfield Road See our Facebook Page: Litchfield Maine Conservation Commission for more details.

April Community Calendar

1 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm	17 Sun	
2 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN— 9am to 12pm Sportsman's Club—Public Supper (5pm-6pm) & Music Jam (6:30pm-8pm; \$7).	18 Mon	Town Office Closed Lit. Budget Comm.-6:30pm 
3 Sun	Lit. Sportsman's Club—Country Sunday noon to 4:00 Public welcome	19 Tue	Lit Fire Assoc & Reg Meet-6:30pm, Central Sta.
4 Mon	Lit. Recreation Comm. 6:30pm Order of the Eastern Star, members only, 7pm	20 Wed	Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd Lit Road Committee-6:00pm
5 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers- 6:30pm; Station	21 Thur	Senior Advisory Meeting—1pm Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd
6 Wed	Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd	22 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.
7 Thur	Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd Lit Planning Bd.—6:30pm, Town Office	23 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN— 9am to 12pm
8 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8a.m.-4p.	24 Sun	
9 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN— 9am to 12pm	25 Mon	Selectman Meeting, 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information
10 Sun		26 Tue	
11 Mon	Selectman Meeting, 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information Sportsman's Club—Monthly members meeting; 7pm (Fishing Derby Planning—public welcome)	27 Wed	Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd William R. Bold, American Legion Post #181 Meeting; 7:00pm—All veterans welcome. RSU4 School Bd-6:30pm; Central Office
12 Tue	Lit. First Responders; 6:30pm—Central Station	28 Thur	Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd
13 Wed	Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4—Board Meeting, 6:30pm Central Office Conservation Comm.- 6pm— litchfieldconservation@gmail.com to attend.	29 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm
14 Thur	Food Bank-10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd	30 Sat	Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd
15 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm		
16 Sat	Transfer Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN— 9am to 12pm		

BOX HOLDER

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3. April Calendar
4. Newsletter Deadline

ECRWSS
PRSR 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.

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The Litchfield Sodalite

Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed Spring Nature Day Camp

The Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed's annual Spring Nature Day Camp will be held during April school vacation week at the YMCA Camp of Maine on Cobbossee Lake in East Winthrop. Two 2-day sessions will be offered: Tuesday and Wednesday - April 19 & 20, 2022 and Thursday and Friday- April 21 & 22, 2022. Both sessions, open to children in grades 3-5, will run from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. for only \$100.00 per camper.

All campers must be vaccinated for Covid-19 to attend the Friends Spring Nature Day Camp. Each camp session includes a mixture of fun indoor and outdoor activities that focus on the natural world, including geocaching, fishing, hiking and exploring pond, stream and forest habitats. Use of all equipment and healthy daily afternoon snacks are provided. Limited scholarships are available! Early registration is highly recommended as space is limited! Registration forms can be downloaded at www.watershedfriends.com. FMI, contact Cami Wilbert, Education & Outreach Director at 395-5239 or cam@watershedfriends.com

May Issue Deadline:
April 22, 2022 5p.m.
Deliver material in any
of the following ways:
E-mail
[\(sodalite@litchfieldmai
ne.org\)](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org) **U.S. mail to:**
Town Office, 2400 Hal-
lowell Rd. 04350

