

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XIX No. 4

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

April 1, 2019

April question: The Peacock Tavern which still stands on RT 201, was before 1820 in easy walking distance of what three towns?

March question: What early Litchfield settler build a tavern near Litchfield Corner that was later known as Chase's Tavern? answer: Barnabus Baker, Jr.

To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

RCAM has served Litchfield and 12 surrounding communities for the last 50 years preventing homelessness and hunger. They have a run transitional family housing units and a group home for seniors. They also provide low income seniors with transportation to medical appointments. **RCAM seeks auction donations for its largest fund raiser, a Barbeque and Auction to be held April 27th in Turner.**

The organization seeks high quality donations - some ideas: business services or products, use of a camp for a weekend, a time share donation, nice furniture, antiques, jewelry, art, music instruction, hand knit items, gift baskets, quilts, or cord wood. **RCAM Gardening Program provides low income residents free help starting a small vegetable.**

RCAM will rototill if you need it, as well as supply advice, seeds, and young plants. Sign up schedules will be posted at food banks, town offices and sent out in backpack programs from schools towards the end of March. They will be scheduling a sign up in April at the Litchfield food bank or you can contact Marilyn Dunn, the Litchfield RCAM Board representative and Master Gardener (207-512-5382 or maine2007@hotmail.com).

Gardiner Public Library

April 2, 2018, Tuesday, at 10:00 am, the Gardiner Public Library Children's Room is having a program by Ms Jenn and the Detective Nutrition. This is for toddlers to preschool aged children and involves a book, songs, a parachute and craft. All children are welcome to attend. The library is located at 152 Water Street, Gardiner. Please call 582-6894 with any questions. **Story & Craft time is every Tuesday morning, at 10:00 am,** at the Gardiner Public Library Children's Room. This is for toddlers to preschool aged children and involves books, songs, and craft. All children are welcome to attend. **April 9, 2018, Tuesday, at 6:00 to 7:00 pm,** the Gardiner Public Library Children's Room is having Art @ the Library. This is a program for all ages and involves a different art project each month for the evening. **Babies & Toddlers time** is every Friday morning, at 10:00 am, at the Gardiner Public Library Children's Room. This is for babies and toddlers it involves songs, bubbles and other activities. All children are welcome to attend. **April 19, 2019, Friday,** at 10:00 am in the Gardiner Public Library Children's Room, KVCAP (Kennebec Valley Community Action Program) will have a storytime and craft for Babies and Toddlers.

Senior Center

The Litchfield Senior Center is open and available to all, no fee to attend. "Aging is more fun when you share it".

The Senior Center will be closed on April 15 for Patriots Day.

Anyone who received a bucket of sand this winter, please drop the empty bucket off at the Senior Center, or call 215-4595 for pickup. We plan to use them next year.

The book club meeting is Wednesday April 17 at 12:15, book to be discussed is "Born a Crime" by Trevor Noah .

Bowling will be on Thursday, April 11 at Sparetime Recreation, Lewiston. Call 441-9005 for carpooling, we leave at 12.

Wednesday April 17 at 1 p.m. Making cards w/Anne Thompson. Think spring with flower themed cards. Friday April 19 is the pot luck lunch and celebration of April birthdays.

Line dancing instruction Mondays at 9:30 for beginners and advanced. Aerobics classes on Wednesday and Fridays at 8:30.

Music practice is at 10 on Wednesdays. If you love to sing or play an instrument, come and join us for a fun time.

The Feldenkrais method exercise class with Lindsay Nelsen is at 9:30 on Fridays.

Cribbage games for fun on Mondays at 11 and Fridays 10-12. Bring a lunch and stay for card games on Mondays in the afternoon & on Friday cards or games.

The Thrift Shop is open the first Monday 10-11 only this month.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting is at 10 on Thursday April 18.

Reminder: Exercise equipment and Wii games available for use 9-4 Monday and Friday; 9-12 Wednesday.

Roadrunner trip to Oxford Casino Thursday, April 25. Call 215-4595 or email litchfield-seniors@litchfieldmaine.org to sign up. **Bus is leaving at 9 a.m. from the Sportsmen's Club.**

Please stop in to the Senior Center for more information, a cup of coffee or tea and check out our books (paperback & hard cover), puzzles or work on the 1000 piece puzzle.

Knitting Night

The monthly knitting night will be April 11 at the Senior Center Building on Academy Rd from 6 pm to 8pm. For more info call Lori at 754-3931.

RSU 4 SCHOOL NEWS

It is time to start sign-ups for Pre K or Kindergarten for the 2019-20 school year. If you have a child that will be 4 on or before October 15th please call to sign up for Pre-K. If you have a child that will be 5 on or before October 15th please call to sign up for Kindergarten. You can call Sabattus Primary at 375-4525 or Libby-Tozier at 268-4137. An All Choral Night concert will be held at Oak Hill Middle School on Thursday, April 11th. It begins at 6:30 p.m. All RSU4 schools will be closed from 4/15/- 4/19 for vacation.

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

Great support from the community! Thank you! Incredible volunteers who have said, "Yes!" when we've needed help. Thank you. Looking forward to serving the needs of the community @ 491 Richmond Road. Donations can be mailed to: Litchfield Plains Baptist Church (LPBC), P.O. Box 306, Litchfield, Me 04350.

Woodbury Pond Park

Now hiring for Woodbury Pond Park attendant positions. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and be available flexible hours. Applications can be obtained at the town office. For more information contact Tiffany Caton at 268-4721.

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Great items arriving every week. Cool weather clothes will disappear in May. Get them for next fall at great prices. Lots of terrific kids' clothes. Looking for prom dresses? We've got 'em. Also 3 wedding gowns in sizes 8, 12 and 20.

Litchfield Transfer Station

We had another great month at the Transfer Station, in spite of the severe weather. I would like once again to thank the Public Works Department for doing an outstanding job of plowing and sanding the Transfer Station road and parking area. Due to torrential rains followed by freezing temperatures the Swap Shop doors and the Bottle room doors are frozen shut. We would ask that you please not bring Swap Shop items or bottles to the Transfer Station until we are able to open said doors. The Swap Shop will be open on May 3, 2019. Hours of operation will be from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on Fridays and Saturdays. Merchandise can be dropped off at times other than those by contacting the Transfer Station personnel. The Swap Shop is always looking for volunteers to man two hour shifts on either day. Please contact Cindy DeWitt at (207)268-4992. Plastic and cardboard egg crates: please place the plastic egg crates in the rubber container next to the door of the Plastic roll off container. Please give the cardboard egg crates to the Attendant. We have citizens who will recycle these items.

William R. Bold American Legion Post 181

Will be holding an INDOOR YARD SALE -April 27, 2019; 8 am to 4pm; [181](http://181litchfield.org) 235 Plains Rd, Litchfield, ME Table rental \$15.00 each; 2 for 25.00. Sellers must use post tables. Rental fees support our building replacement fund. Call Ron D. @ (207) 624-2802 now to rent table(s).

Town Manager/Clerk's Corner

Nomination Papers Due in April:

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 close of business April 11th. In order to be listed on the ballot on June 11th, each nominee requires signatures from 25 town residents. Positions open for this coming year are on the Board of Selectmen (1); Budget Committee (3); Litchfield Academy Trustees (2); and RSU#4 School Board (1). If you are interested in how the town works, the Budget Committee is a great place to start.

Property Taxes

The third and final installment of 2018 property taxes is due by April 15th.

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, LitchfieldMaine.org

Upcoming meetings at the Town Office:

Planning Board - Thursday, April 4th, 6:30 pm

Select Board - Monday, April 8th, 6:30 pm

Budget Committee - Monday, April 15th, 6:30 pm

Select Board - Monday, April 22nd, 6:30 pm

Tacoma Lakes Association

By the time you read this, Spring will officially be here, as will the annual mud season. TLA enjoyed another banner year in 2018. Membership levels were again strong, although we still have room for growth. TLA continues its efforts to maintain the healthy water quality of our lakes. Our Plant Patrol team was again active, scouring the western shore of Woodbury Pond. Fortunately, no invasive plants were found. As you may or may not know, milfoil and another invasive species have been found in several of the bodies of water surrounding our lakes. We must remain diligent in our efforts to keep these threats out of our waters. TLA was also very active in the final stage of the restoration of the Woodbury Dam, completed this past summer. The dam has now been repaired and both the horizontal, and vertical surfaces have been sealed. A fully functioning dam controls our lakes water levels year-round maintaining the full use of landowners shore front property. The Association is always looking for new members, and if any member has interest in becoming a Director please reach out to any board member, or to me directly, at jfadams13@gmail.com. Jim Adams

Litchfield Recreation

Volunteers Wanted - We are looking for volunteers to umpire our baseball games and also to work in the concession stand, and we are currently looking for business' that would like to **sponsor our youth teams**. In exchange for a minimal sponsorship fee you get your business name and phone number listed on our team's t-shirts, if interested please contact Tiffany Caton, Recreation Director 268-4721

April Community Calendar

1 Mon	Lit. Rec —6:30pm; Town Office Eastern Star -7pm; Masonic Hall	17 Wed	Food Bank -5p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd TOPS -Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m
2 Tue	Daisy Girl Scouts -Libby Tozier-6:30pm	18 Thur	Senior Advisory Comm. 10am; Senior Ctr. Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd
3 Wed	Food Bank -5p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd TOPS -Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m	19 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
4 Thur	Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd Planning Board ; Town Office-6:30pm	20 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon
5 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.	21 Sun	
6 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Litchfield Sportsmen's Club , Public Supper & Music Jam, Supper 5-6, Jam 6-8, \$7/person	22 Mon	Selectman Meeting , Town Office-6:30pm
7 Sun	Litchfield Sportsmen's Club , Country Sunday with live music, Noon-4:30, \$6/person	23 Tue	Daisy Girl Scouts -Libby Tozier-6:30pm
8 Mon	Selectman Meeting , Town Office-6:30pm Litchfield Sportsmen's Club Meeting, 7pm	24 Wed	Food Bank -5p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd TOPS -Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m RSU4 School Board-OHHS ; 6:30p.m.
9 Tue	Daisy Girl Scouts -Libby Tozier-6:30pm	25 Thur	Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd
10 Wed	Food Bank -5p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd TOPS -Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m RSU4 School Board-OHHS ; 6:30p.m. Conservation Comm. ; 6:30pm Town Office	26 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
11 Thur	Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd	27 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Lit. Sportsman's Club -Public breakfast; 7am-9:30am; \$7/person
12 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.	28 Sun	4H The Creators —4pm Senior Center, Academy Rd.
13 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Amer. Legion Ladies Aux , LegionHall, 10am	29 Mon	
14 Sun	DECMA Country Music show, noon-5pm, \$5/person-Litchfield Sportsman's Club 4H The Creators —4pm Senior Center Academy Rd	30 Tue	Daisy Girl Scouts -Libby Tozier-6:30pm
15 Mon	Litchfield Budget Comm. -6:30pm; Town Hall		
16 Tue			

BOX HOLDER

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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: 207-268-2196
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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Road Advisory Committee News

Help with Control of Invasive Species? There are two programs for control of invasives species as a part of overall conservation goals on farmland and forest. The one for farmland is the "Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), a voluntary conservation program that supports production agriculture and environmental quality as compatible goals. Through EQIP, agricultural producers may receive financial and technical assistance to address resource conservation needs on eligible lands. *Invasive Species management and removal* is a priority under these broad priority resource concerns in Kennebec and Lincoln Counties: Animal Waste and Water Quality, Forest Health and Soil Health on Cropland and Pastureland." Contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service for Kennebec and Lincoln counties at (207) 622-7847 x3 or www.me.nrcs.usda.gov Application Deadline for 2020 Funding is **AUGUST 16, 2019**. The Maine Natural Areas Program, NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) is available to fair sized properties or a neighborhood made up of a number of properties such as a camp or road association. Members of the Kennebec County Soil and Water Conservation District would come to your place spend about 4-5 hours to do a Property Survey. They would identify conservation concerns, educate the owner/s, draw up a map and make a plan with recommendations. Possible issues are identification, education about and location of invasives on the map. The KCSWCD can also assist with, soil and erosion control, shoreland zoning. They could help with any permits needed. "KCSWCD is a neutral party, they are not the DEP; they have no enforcement ability," says Dale Finseth the leader on this project who may be contacted at dale@kcswwcd.org or 207-622-7847 x3. Litchfield offers help for the modest size properties. A Conservation Commission, member trained in horticulture and botany, will come and survey your place, label the invasive plants and supply information on control. Contact the Town Office for more information.

Native Plants to Replace the Invasive Exotic Plants Spring is here! It's such an exciting time of year. But what to plant? To contribute to biodiversity here are two examples of beautiful native woody plants to research. (Using the scientific name gets you quickly to websites with the most information on the plants, especially its soil and site requirements). August-blooming, fragrant *Clethra alnifolia* or Summersweet has many cultivated varieties, some shorter than the 6' tall deciduous shrub. Hedge replacement? *Viburnum lentago* or Nannyberry is a 12-15' tall upright which can be used instead of invasive hedge privet. There are many beautiful flowering native viburnums with three seasons of interest for different locations; try *Viburnum cassinoides* or Witherod is 6' or *Viburnum prunifolium* or Blackhaw is 15' x10'. Make sure to research for resistance to the European *Viburnum Leaf Beetle* which came into Maine in the past 25 years and certain old favorites are no longer worth planting.

May Issue Deadline: April 20, 2019, 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. 04350 **Hand deliver to:** Town Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd

