

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXIII No. 2

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

February 1, 2023

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

February question: There are over seventeen known burial grounds (cemeteries) in Litchfield. Today, only one survives as a self-sustaining, independent organization. Which one survives? January question: Samuel Hutchinson, who took Smithfield's petition for incorporation to Boston for enactment, changed the name to Litchfield. Why do we think he chose that name? Answer: Samuel was born and raised in Litchfield, New Hampshire. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

We love your donations, especially when they are clean and in good condition, suitable for sale. The money earned all goes back into repairs and maintenance of the building. Tired of the clothes you've been wearing for several months? Did the kids grow two sizes since last fall? Come see what we've got. Sale prices continue!

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

At least once a week, one of our volunteers' comments that we need more space for the Food Bank. Well, we are looking forward to re-starting our construction for a new building as soon as weather conditions permit in the spring. In the meantime, we'll make do with that we have and try to be patient. We appreciate your support and encouragement. Thank you.

Litchfield Transfer Station

We are grateful that winter has been mild so far. The paper container has been returned with a new door attached. Thanks to the residents for their patience in having to adjust their recycling routine. We are starting to hand out a drawing of the parking set-up we will be implementing this spring. If we forget to hand you one, please ask. We will try to answer your questions and listen to your concerns. We have noticed an increase in items being put in the wrong containers. We ask that you please be more aware of putting the material in the proper container. If you see something in the wrong container, please see one of the attendants. Thank you.

RSU4 School News

Pre-K and Kindergarten registration...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, 2023 (Kindergarten age) or a child that will be 4 years old on or before October 15, 2023 (Pre-K age), please call Libby Tozier School at 268-4137 to register for the 2023-24 school year. No school Feb.18—Feb. 26-Vacation

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" Some of the activities are being held at the Litchfield Fire Station. If the open flag is out at the Center, come on in. All dates and times are subject to change.

The Senior Center and all activities will be closed on Monday, February 20 President's Day.

The Sand for Seniors program for winter sand is available for the winter months. If you are in need of a 5 gal. bucket of sand, call 268-4237 or 441-9005 to be put on the list. This is a program of the Senior Center.

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 or puzzles. We have new puzzles and books coming into the Center all the time.

Making cards with Anne Thompson on February 13 at 12:30 to 2. Calling on all to come to the Senior Center for a fun time making cards.

Tai Chi on Wednesdays at 9 am at the Sportsmen's Club.

Carol Bailey String Band & Chorus music practice on Wednesdays at 10 to 12 at the Sportsmen's Club. Come and join us, we will be working on the spring/summer program. The Carol Bailey String Band will be performing a special program for the children on Thursday, February 2nd (Groundhog Day) at 9:10 am at Libby Tozier Elementary School.

Come to the Senior Center for morning exercise with Dian & friends on Fridays 8:30-9:15. Join in the indoor walking, or use the exercise equipment. Stay for cards at 10, BYO lunch at noon and then more cards and games in the afternoon. Pick out books and/or puzzles to take home.

The book club meeting is on Monday, February 27 at 1 pm. at the Senior Center.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting held at the Senior Center is at 1 on Thursday, February 16.

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 puzzle already set up on the table.

4H Creators

The Creators 4H meeting is Saturday February 12th at 1 pm at the Senior Center on Academy Rd Litchfield. For info call Lori at 207-754-3991

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 February school vacation week at Camp Mechuwana on Lower Narrows Pond in Winthrop. Two (2)-day camp sessions will be offered- February 20 & 21 and February 22 & 23, 2023 with an inclement weather make-up day scheduled for February 24 just in case. Both sessions, open to children in grades 3rd-5th, will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day and will include a mixture of indoor and outdoor activities, including snowshoeing, winter tracking, and a variety of indoor and outdoor games. Cost for each 2-day camp session is only \$100/pp and includes the use of all equipment along with afternoon cocoa and snack. Early registration is highly recommended as space is limited to 20 campers per session! Registration forms can be downloaded at www.watershedfriends.com. For more information, please contact Cami Wilbert, Education & Outreach Director at 395-5239 or camil@watershedfriends.com.

Road Advisory Committee

We recently reviewed the 2022 construction season with the Select Board in December. It was one of the most aggressive construction seasons in memory, with a number of capital improvement projects, totaling nearly \$1.6M, including: * Completion of Dead River Road, including a new bridge, reconstructed approaches and paving * Reconstruction of Whip-poorwill Road & Lunts Hill Road * Surface treatments on Dennis Hill Road, Libby Road, Wentzell Road * Design & construction documents completed for bridges. The committee would like to thank the Town of Litchfield Public Works for their excellent quality work and reducing the financial burden of the town by self-performing much of the related earthwork for the 4.47mi of reconstruction. We are actively planning the work for the 2023 construction season so we can be prepared for an early start. Please consult the town website if you are interested in attending any future Road Advisory Comm. meetings.

Tacoma Lakes Association

It has been a very unusual winter. Please use caution on the lakes, and be certain the ice is thick enough for your favorite winter activities. TLA enjoyed another stellar year in 2022. Memberships remained strong, as were donations despite the difficult economic times. The work on the Woodbury Dam is complete, and come spring water levels will be returned to their normal summer levels. Thanks to all members of the Dam Committee, and of course the Town of Litchfield, for their rapid response, and getting the needed repairs done. We continue to be very fortunate! The Tacoma's remain free of invasive plant species, despite their presence in neighboring lakes. Our plant patrol team, with support from the Friends Of Cobbossee Watershed, monitored the lakes in 2022, and will continue in 2023. The boat inspection at the Woodbury launch inspected a record number of boats this past summer. Inspections are recognized as the first line of defense in the efforts to keep invasive plants out of our lakes. In the last few years many lakefront properties have changed ownership. If you are a new owner TLA needs your support. We are always active and advocating for the continued high water quality that we all have become accustomed to. Lower water quality, and the presence of invasive species can have a devastating effect on your property value, please help us help you by becoming a member. Membership forms are available on our website, www.tacomalakes.org, and can be printed and mailed with a check to us, or you can pay using PayPal.

Town Clerk's Corner

Woodworker Needed

Our World War II honor role is in need of replacement or refurbishment. If you are interested in performing that work, and would like more information, please contact the Town Office at 268-4721.

Drop Box for Payments

One option If you need to pay taxes or leave paperwork at the Town Office outside of normal business hours is a drop box located to the right of the front door.

Wireless Internet for Unserved or Underserved Locations:

Last year about this time, Litchfield signed a contract with Redzone Wireless to bring high speed internet connectivity at a reasonable price to unserved and underserved locations in town, and as a consequence, also to any other location in town. That capability was realized for most locations this past summer. If you would like to sign up or find out more information, visit Redzonewireless.com or call (207) 596-5700. If you do not have access to high-speed internet and tried to sign up last summer, but were not successful, Redzone has made some adjustments to their installation procedures, and you are encouraged to try them again.

Job openings - please contact the town office if interested (207) 268-4721:


We are looking for someone to take minutes at Select Board meetings. This is a paid position.

The Town Office will be closed for President's Day, Monday, February 20th.

The Mineral Springs On The Old Berry Farm



February Community Calendar

1 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd	17 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm
2 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd Planning Board —6:30pm	18 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm
3 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm	19 Sun	
4 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm Lit. Sportsman's Club —Public Supper & Jam \$10.00 Jam only \$5.00 Supper 5 to 6; Jam— 6:30 to 8 pm	20 Mon	 Lit. Budget Comm. , 6:30pm <i>RSU4—No school through Friday, Feb. 24</i>
5 Sun	Sportsman's Club -Country Sunday, noon to 4 Public Welcome		
6 Mon	Lit. Recreation Comm. —6:00pm	21 Tue	Lit Fire Assoc & Reg Meet -6:30pm, Central Sta
7 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers - 6:30pm; Station	22 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 —Board of Directors; Central Office 6:30pm Conservation Commission -6:00pm
8 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 —Board of Directors; Budget Info; Central Of- fice 6:30pm Conservation Commission -6:00pm	23 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd
9 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd	24 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm
10 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm	25 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 am -4pm Academy Thrift Store OPEN- 9am to 12pm
11 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 am -4pm Academy Thrift Store OPEN- 9am to 12pm	26 Sun	
12 Sun		27 Mon	Lit. Selectman's Meeting —6:30pm; Zoom avail- able—see website.
13 Mon	Lit. Selectman's Meeting —6:30pm; Zoom avail- able—see website. Lit. Sportsmen's Club -meeting 7 pm Public wel- come	28 Tue	
14 Tue	Lit First Responders ; 6:30pm-Central Station		
15 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd		
16 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd Senior Advisory —1pm, Academy Rd		

BOX HOLDER

Contents:
1. Historical Society, Senior Center Corner
2. Town Manager/Clerk's Report
3. February Calendar
4. Newsletter Deadline

ECRWSS
PRSRT 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.—Thu.: 8:30 a.m.—6:00 p.m.
Closed: Every Fri.

4

The Litchfield Sodalite

Conservation Commission

Introducing Our New Logo—The Litchfield Conservation Commission (LCC) would like to introduce our new logo! We have created this logo to evoke the pillars of our group and the green spaces we manage for the community. The three colors and waves of the logo represent the iconic sand, water, and greenery of the Litchfield Community Park (LCP). The plant feature symbolizes all native plants, but in particular, it mirrors the likeness of the Sandbar Willow, one of the unique species found in the LCP. We hope our community will keep an eye out for this logo on flyers and social media as we ramp up our efforts to engage the Town of Litchfield and beyond in outdoor recreation and local conservation efforts.



March Issue Deadline:
Feb. 20, 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**
Hand deliver to: Town
Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd