

# The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXII No. 6

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

June 1, 2022

## Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

**June question:** The 19th century temperance movement caused serious financial damage to what Litchfield agricultural business.

**May question:** Early Litchfield honored few men with the title, "Esquire". One of these men also established Litchfield's first store. Can you name this man? answer: David C. Burr. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to [WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org](http://WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org)

## Woodbury Pond Park

The Woodbury Pond Park will open its season June 18th from 10-8pm! Friends of Woodbury Pond Park have been busy cleaning up the park and improving all the buildings, fire pits, volleyball net and horseshoe pit. Trees have been trimmed back, treatment for poison ivy and brown tail moth took place and we are ready for a wonderful summer. Thank you to all our generous local businesses and others for their donations. The park should be a self-sustaining park with fees covering our cost. However, we have had some years recently that have put us in the red. Labor costs have also gone up substantially so we have shortened the season a little but will try to stay open till 8 PM each day weather permitting. We will not open when it rains. All are welcome even when the gate is closed to walk in but please carry in/carry out trash during closed hours and pick up after your dogs so all can enjoy the park. Rates for this year are \$3:00 per adult and kids under 12 are \$2.00 per child. Seniors over 65 and veterans continue to be fee. Donations are always accepted! Season passes can be purchased at town offices and from the attendant when the park is open, rates are: \$50/resident family and \$60/non-resident. If you want to book an event at the park, please call town offices and they will direct you on how to do that. Have a safe summer

## Tacoma Lakes Association

TLA is in the midst of its annual membership drive. Our goal is 300 members. Anyone can become a member and help us protect this area's most valuable natural resource. Membership is only \$15 per year, and those dollars enable us to fund our two most important programs. The Woodbury Pond boat launch certified boat inspector program, and out invasive plant seeking plant patrol team. These programs are proven to be the front line of defense in reducing the threat of an infestation of invasive plants. Help us protect our lakes. Membership forms are available online at [www.tacomalakes.org](http://www.tacomalakes.org).

## 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 Sportsmen's Club. If the open flag is out at the Center, come on in. All dates and times are subject to change.*

**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.*

**During June**, the Senior Center will be open 9-12 on the 15<sup>th</sup>. & 29<sup>th</sup>

**Tai Chi** is on hold for June, July and August. To be re-scheduled in the fall.

**Carol Bailey String band & Chorus** music will also be on hold for practice during June, July and August due to performance scheduling, except for a practice on June 8 at the Sportsmen's Club.

**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 June 20 at 1 at the Senior Center. The book to be discussed is "Home Song" by Laverle Spencer. .

**The Senior's Advisory Committee** meeting is at 1 on Thursday June 16.

**The Carol Bailey String Band and Chorus** will be performing at Clover Manor in Auburn on June 22 .at 10

**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 following Road Runner trips** for June are Wednesday, June 1 to Lakewood Theater for the comedy "Drinking Habits". Thursday June 23, a trip to Ogunquit Playhouse for the musical "The Cher Show" call 441-9005 or 268-4237 to be put on the list for the trip(s).

**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- Director 441-9005/268-4237.

### Transfer Station

Spring is in full bloom at the Transfer Station. The ground has dried up. The leaf and brush piles are open and residents are piling it in. The Swap Shop is open. We have seen 672 items go out in the first month the shop has been open. We are being more selective in accepting items that are brought in. Just a heads up. Stop by see what "treasures" are being brought in. We are looking forward to seeing our summer visitors. We will be open on Sunday's starting the first of May. Stop by and say hello to Cheri C., John C., and John U. on Friday and Saturday. On Sunday it will be Justin M. and Larry P.

### LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Did your kids outgrow their shorts and tops over the winter? Yeah, it happens! Shop for them at the Thrift Shop. It's still a buck a bag for paper shopping bags and \$2 for the big reusable ones. You can get a lot of kids' clothes in that bag. Did YOUR clothes shrink like mine did over the winter? I'll be shopping there too! Need some great reading for those trips to the beach? We've got them!

### LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

Our construction is slow as contractors are fully engaged and we didn't get on their lists early enough. We're trying to be patient. Unfortunately the prices keep going up and our grant isn't. We will need to do some fund-raising efforts to get as much done this year as possible. Your donation would be greatly appreciated. send a check with Building Fund in the memo line to Litchfield Food Bank, P O Box 306, Litchfield, Maine, 04350. Planning your garden? Plan extra for the Food bank, please. Our clients LOVE fresh, local veggies

### Litchfield Fire & Rescue Association

There will be a yard sale on Sat. June 4 at Litchfield Fire & Rescue 2407 Hallowell Rd 9am - 2pm Contact Tina Gowell at 485-5565 for more info or to book a spot for \$20. All proceeds benefit the Litchfield Fire and Rescue Association. Also, we will be at the Town Meeting on June 18 selling 911 signs for your home or business.

### RSU 4 School News

There will be a Very Hungry Caterpillar themed Literacy Night for students from Libby-Tozier School on Thursday, 6/2. It runs from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. and will feature special end of the year activities. The Oak Hill High School graduation will be on Monday, 6/6, at 7 p.m. It will be held at the Augusta Civic Center. A concert will be held at Libby-Tozier featuring the Kindergarten students. It is on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. It will also be livestreamed on the RSU4 YouTube page. 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. The last student day for RSU4 is June 16. It will be half day for students.

### Town Clerk's Corner

**Town elections**, and the RSU#4 budget referendum are June 14th!

Our municipal election (along with the State primary) will be held on Tuesday, June 14th at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club, 2782 Hallowell Rd, from 8 am - 8 pm.

**The Annual Town Meeting** will be on Saturday, June 18th, beginning at 10 am at the Carrie Ricker School gym.

**Thank you to Tiffany Caton** who served as Litchfield's Recreation Director for the past 20 years! Due to budget cuts the Rec Director position will not be funded next year, and the Recreation Committee has now taken on responsibilities for organizing seasonal sports and associated activities. Anyone wishing to contact the Rec Committee may call the Town Office (268-4721).

**Holiday - Juneteenth**, (short for June 19th) is a newly adopted State and Federal holiday commemorating the end of slavery in the United States. Since Juneteenth, falls on Sunday, this year, it will be observed on Monday, June 20th.

**Absentee ballots** or in person voting is available at the Town Office. Sample ballots can be found at [litchfieldmaine.org](http://litchfieldmaine.org) on the elections page or linked from the notice on the home page.

Candidates that will appear on the ballot:

**Select Board** (one position open):

Rayna Leibowitz

Scott Weeks

**RSU #4** (one position open)

Jill Bouchard

**Academy Trustee** (three positions open)

Earl Lamoreau Jr.

Rayna Leibowitz

**Budget Committee** (three positions open)

Larry Bell

Bruce Doyle

Jennifer Libby

**Woodbury Attendant Positions** -There are still a couple of part-time attendant positions available at Woodbury Pond Park. The park is being renovated this spring (see the article on a nearby page). If you enjoy the outdoors and would like to work a few hours a week at the lake, this is a great opportunity! Applicants must be over the age of 18, and may apply at the Town Office.

### Conservation Activity Table Woodbury Pond Park

The Conservation Commission will be hosting an information table, along with activities for children at Woodbury Pond Park on the following dates: June 11, July 9, and August 13. FMI contact [litchfieldconservation@gmail.com](mailto:litchfieldconservation@gmail.com)

### June Community Calendar

1 Wed	<b>Food Bank</b> -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd	17 Fri	<b>Town Office</b> , closed <b>Transfer Station</b> , 8am-4pm
2 Thur	<b>Food Bank</b> -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd <b>Lit Planning Bd.</b> —6:30pm, Town Office	18 Sat	<b>TOWN MEETING</b> — 10am, Carrie Ricker School <b>Transfer Station</b> , 8 am –4pm <b>Academy Thrift Store OPEN</b> – 9am to 12pm
3 Fri	<b>Town Office</b> , closed <b>Transfer Station</b> , 8am-4pm	19 Sun	<b>Transfer Station</b> 8am-4pm 
4 Sat	<b>Transfer Station</b> , 8 am –4pm <b>Academy Thrift Store OPEN</b> – 9am to 12pm	20 Mon	<b>Town Office Closed for Juneteenth Holiday</b> <b>Lit. Budget Comm</b> —6:30pm
5 Sun	<b>Transfer Station</b> , 8am-4pm	21 Tue	<b>Lit Fire Assoc &amp; Reg Meet</b> -6:30pm, Central Sta
6 Mon	<b>Lit. Recreation Comm.</b> 6:30pm <b>Order of the Eastern Star</b> , members only, 7pm	22 Wed	<b>Food Bank</b> -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd <b>RSU4</b> —Board Meeting, 6:30pm Central Office <b>William R. Bold, American Legion Post #181 Meeting</b> - 7pm
7 Tue	<b>Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers</b> - 6:30pm; Station	23 Thur	<b>Food Bank</b> -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd
8 Wed	<b>Food Bank</b> -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd <b>RSU4</b> —Board Meeting, 6:30pm Central Office <b>Conservation Comm.</b> - 6pm <a href="mailto:litchfieldconservation@gmail.com">litchfieldconservation@gmail.com</a> to attend.	24 Fri	<b>Town Office</b> , closed <b>Transfer Station</b> , 8am-4pm
9 Thur	<b>Food Bank</b> -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd	25 Sat	<b>Transfer Station</b> , 8 am –4pm <b>Academy Thrift Store OPEN</b> – 9am to 12pm
10 Fri	<b>Town Office</b> , closed <b>Transfer Station</b> , 8a.m.-4p.	26 Sun	<b>Transfer Station</b> , 8 am –4pm
11 Sat	<b>Transfer Station</b> , 8 am-4 pm <b>Academy Thrift Store OPEN</b> – 9am to 12pm	27 Mon	<b>Selectman Meeting</b> , 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information
12 Sun	<b>Transfer Station</b> 8am-4pm	28 Tue	
13 Mon	<b>Selectman Meeting</b> , 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information <b>Sportsman's Club</b> -Monthly members meeting; 7pm (Public welcome)	29 Wed	<b>Food Bank</b> -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd
14 Tue	<b>Municipal and State Elections</b> —8am to 8pm—Lit. Sportsman's Club  <b>Lit. First Responders</b> ; 6:30pm-Central Stat.	30 Thur	<b>Food Bank</b> -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd
15 Wed	<b>Food Bank</b> -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd		
16 Thur	<b>Lit. Budget Comm</b> —6:30pm <b>Senior Advisory Meeting</b> —1pm <b>Food Bank</b> -10am-12pm 491 Richmond Rd		

# BOX HOLDER

**Contents:**  
 1. Historical Society, Senior Center Corner  
 2. Town Manager/Clerk's Report  
 3. June 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](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org)  
[www.litchfieldmaine.org](http://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.

4

## The Litchfield Sodalite

### Conservation Committee

Warm and sunny days are a welcome sight after a pretty chilly winter. However, the emergence of a notorious and hairy critter has many of us cringing this time of year. The **caterpillars of the brown-tail moth are emerging** from their winter nests and beginning to forage on the freshly developed leaves of the trees where they spent the winter. Over the next couple months the caterpillars will continue to grow in size and in hairiness - which is why late May through June can be a frustrating time for those of us that are sensitive to the toxin contained in those caterpillar hairs. As the caterpillars develop, they shed hairs which become easily airborne (something like your dog or cat hair around the house). So we've put together a few recommendations for folks to reduce contact with hairs and the chance of developing a rash. Trails in Litchfield have been posted with signs that show what the caterpillar looks like, so keep an eye out for them when you're outside.

**A.** Cover exposed skin when you'll be in an infested area, and if you're particularly sensitive wear a face mask. **B.** Wipe off your outdoor furniture (or public outdoor seating) in infested areas with a wet cloth before sitting down. The hairs do collect on surfaces. **C.** Avoid working, playing, and mowing under infested trees and during dry conditions. If you must mow, consider using a trimming bag to prevent the hairs from being blown around. DO change your clothes afterward to avoid spreading the hairs inside your home.

**The Tacoma Lakes Invasive Plant Patrol** is preparing for another summer on the lakes. With any luck we'll be just as unsuccessful in 2022 as we have been in the past. Every year we take a section of our series of lakes and try to cover the entire littoral zone for that section in search of invasive aquatic plants. Part of our mission is also to respond to property owners who spot something suspicious in the water. Also, our last stop before putting our tools away in September is to check the Woodbury Boat Launch. **We invite volunteers** to join us for some or all of the summer, and we are in need of folks who live on the lakes to let us launch from their property. Our initial meeting will be held in mid-June. Come check us out! For more information contact the Tacoma Lakes Association or Diane Clay - c112a3y4@gmail.com (207-754-9502).

**July Issue Deadline:**  
 June 22, 2022 5p.m.  
 Deliver material in any of the following ways:  
**E-mail**  
[sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org)  
**U.S. mail to:**  
 Town Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd. 04350

