

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XIX No. 3

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

March 1, 2019

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

What early Litchfield settler build a tavern near Litchfield Corner that was later known as Chase's Tavern? **February question:** Before the Thorofare causeway was built, a "ferry" crossed Pleasant Pond. What was the name of the family that ran the ferry? answer: Peacock To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

At the time this Sodalite is being put together, we are anticipating having a new Food Bank in Litchfield ready to open on **Wednesday, March 6, at 5:00 - 6:00 PM, then open again on Thursday, March 7 from 10:00 AM to noon.** We plan to have an **Open House and Dedication** from 3:00 to 5:00 before we open on March 6 and the community is invited to attend. Punch and cookies will be served. Litchfield residents will be eligible to be served and an application (and residency verification) must be submitted. This Food Bank is being sponsored by the Litchfield Plains Baptist Church and will be located at the former Gowell's Convenience Store at 491 Richmond Road (Route 197) in Litchfield. The space is being provided by Ricky Gowell in a continuation of his efforts for community support. The Food Bank will need the support of the community to be successful and financial donations may be sent to the Litchfield Food Bank, P O Box 306, Litchfield, Maine 04350. As you plan your garden, please feel free to plant extra and donate your surplus produce. FMI, 582-4098



Senior Center

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

Bowling will be on Thursday, 3/14 at Sparetime Recreation lanes in Lewiston. Call 441-9005 for carpooling, we leave at 12.

The book club meeting is Wednesday 3/13 at 12:15.

Making Easter cards with Anne Thompson is on Wednesday 3/20 at 1 p.m. Come and use your imagination in creating your cards.

Friday 3/15 is the pot luck lunch and celebration of March 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 and Unlucky 7's for fun on Mondays at 11 and Fridays 10-12. Bring a lunch and stay for games on Mondays in the afternoon & on Friday cards and Unlucky 7's.

The thrift shop is open the first and third Monday 10-11.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting is at 10 on Thursday 3/21.

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

Interested in a trip to the Portland Flower Show - Thursday March 28?? Please contact the Senior Center at 215-4595 to sign up.

Upcoming Roadrunner trip to Oxford Casino Thursday, April 25.

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

The Litchfield Senior Center is located at 466 Academy Rd. next to the Libby-Tozier Elementary School.

4h The Creators: meetings are the second and fourth Sunday of the month. Beginning at 4pm at the Senior Center. For more info call or text 2077543931.

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. There will be a PTA meeting on Monday, 3/11, at Carrie Ricker. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. There will be no school on Friday, 3/22 due to a teacher workshop. Libby-Tozier's Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes will have a concert on Thursday, 3/28. It will be held in the gym at LT and will begin at 6 p.m.

Knitting Night

The monthly knitting night will be March 14 at the Senior Center Building on Academy Rd from 6 pm to 8pm. For more info call Lori at 754-3931.

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Come celebrate the month of March by bringing a paper grocery bag and filling it for \$1 or bring a reusable grocery bag and fill it for \$2. Either way, it's a great bargain. New items are arriving every week. Getting some new items for your wardrobe will help get winter out of our system!

Litchfield Transfer Station

The last month was difficult due to severe weather but we were able keep the Transfer Station open for business thanks to the fantastic job of Public Works in keeping the Transfer Station plowed and sanded. We have increased the size of the openings on the Paper roll off container and the Tin roll off container. This change has allowed much easier deposits to these containers: we went from four-inch opening to eighteen-inch openings. At present there are no doors for these openings but will be within the next few weeks. Our next improvement to the Transfer Station will be building a small insulated room in the Oil Building so we can heat this room so we can transfer the used oil from our fifty-five gallon drums to customer's fifty five gallon drum. We have upgraded the electric oil transfer pump from one half horse power to a two-horse power pump. This upgrade will allow much faster transferring of the used oil. We will also build a small room in the Hazmat Building that will allow us to secure hazardous material and still leave us room to store other material in that building. We will also rewire that building as there are very few outlets. We must also upgrade the electrical breaker box in this building so we can bring the system up to code that will allow us to run electrical wire from this building to the Hazmat Trailer were we currently have no electricity. *We still have citizens putting recyclables in the wrong containers. This is not rocket science: plastic goes in the plastic container, paper goes in the paper container, tin goes in the tin container, glass goes in the glass container, cardboard goes in the cardboard container. These roll off containers are clearly marked with large signs.*

Town Manager/Clerk's Corner

Daylight Savings Time starts this month. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on March 10th.

Town budget reviews have begun. Each section of the town budget will be reviewed at upcoming Select Board meetings through the end of April. You don't have to 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 will give 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

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 in mid-March and must be returned by mid-April. Interested parties should contact the Town Office, or check the Town website to get the exact dates. The nomination paper dates are based on the town voting day, which as of the time of article submission was scheduled to be approved at an upcoming Select Board meeting. In order to be listed on the ballot this June, 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).

Upcoming meetings at the Town Office:

Planning Board - Thursday, Mar 7th, 6:30 pm
Select Board - Monday, Mar 11th, 6:30 pm
Budget Committee - Monday, Mar 18th, 6:30 pm
Select Board - Monday, Mar 25th, 6:30 pm

Girl Scout Troop 513

We will be having our **Girl Scout Cookie Booth** sales in March. Our booths will happen as follows:
Saturday March 9th from 10am-2pm Gowell's Shop-n-Save
Sunday March 10th from 11am-2pm Gowell's Shop-n-Save
Friday March 15th from 5:30-7:30pm Litchfield Country Store

Thank You



For Your Service

March Community Calendar

1 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.	17 Sun	
2 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Litchfield Sportsmen's Club , Public Bean Supper & Music Jam, Supper 5-6, Jam 6-8, \$7/ person	18 Mon	Budget Meeting ; Town Office-6:30pm
		19 Tue	Daisy Girl Scouts -Libby Tozier-6:30pm
3 Sun	Litchfield Sportsmen's Club , Country Sunday with live music, Noon-4:30, \$6/person	20 Wed	TOPS -Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m Food Bank -5p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd
4 Mon	Lit. Rec —6:30pm; Town Office Budget Comm -6:30; Town Office Eastern Star -7pm; Masonic Hall	21 Thur	Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd
5 Tue	Daisy Girl Scouts -Libby Tozier-6:30pm Conservation Comm. -6:30pm, Town Office	22 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
6 Wed	TOPS -Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m Food Bank -5p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd	23 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Public Breakfast , 7am-9:30am, Litchfield Sportsmen's Club \$7
7 Thur	Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd Planning Board ; Town Office-6:30pm	24 Sun	
8 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.	25 Mon	Selectman Meeting , Town Office-6:30pm
9 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon Amer. Legion Ladies Aux , LegionHall, 10am Girl Scout Tr. 513 -10am-2pm at Gowells Shop-n-Save	26 Tue	Daisy Girl Scouts -Libby Tozier-6:30pm Senior Advisory Comm. 10am; Senior Center
10 Sun	Girl Scout Tr. 513 -11am-2pm at Gowells Shop-n-Save	27 Wed	RSU4 School Board-OHHS ; 6:30p.m. TOPS -Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m Food Bank -5p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd
11 Mon	Selectman Meeting , Town Office-6:30pm Litchfield Sportsmen's Club Meeting, 7pm	28 Thur	Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd
12 Tue	Daisy Girl Scouts -Libby Tozier-6:30pm	29 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m.
13 Wed	RSU4 School Board-OHHS ; 6:30p.m. TOPS -Carrie Ricker School; 6:30p.m Food Bank -5p-6p; 491 Richmond Rd	30 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon
14 Thur	Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd	31 Sun	
15 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p.m. Girl Scout Tr. 513 -5:30p-7:30p at Gowells SNS		
16 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store , 9 a.m.-noon		

BOX HOLDER

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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: 207-268-2196
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.

Road Advisory Committee News

It's National Invasive Species Awareness Week: go to this website for lots of helpful information. <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MEDACF/bulletins/22ff439> Learn to identify Invasive Plants that might be growing on your property with a new pilot program in the Town of Litchfield. Contact the Conservation Commission to have a trained person come to your property to walk with you, mark the invasive plants and give you information on how to control them. Remember that invasive plants take hold in minimally maintained areas, like the roadside right of way or woods edges. Do you want to become a trained person yourself? Contact the Conservation Commission. We meet the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30. We now have the **Browntail Moth** in our town, in low amounts but we are surrounded by higher infestation towns. The caterpillars eat foliage of hardwood trees and shrubs including: oak, members of the rose family such as shadbush, apple and cherry. While spring to summer feeding damage may cause some concern, the primary problem is the impact on humans from contact with poisonous hairs found on the caterpillars which cause a rash similar to poison ivy. Maine Forest Service says, "the toxin in the hairs is extremely stable (3+ yr); exposure most likely in dry conditions. In infested areas use Personal Protection Precautions whenever conducting activities that might stir up hairs." NOW –September to April- is the best time to CONTROL their webs: look for them at the tips of branches, clip and destroy them in soapy water. These webs are sturdier and the surface is smoother than the spring and fall webworms which look like many layers of spider's webs. Leave the webworms for the birds to feed their young. The website above has information on Browntail moth including a list of arborists who can prune nests up high in the oaks. The Kennebec Land Trust every year in March offers three free evening presentations and this year's topic is insects and the natural world. Maine Aquatic Insects: Ecology, Habitats, & Conservation, By Hamish Grieg, University of Maine, Assistant Professor of Stream Ecology. Thursday, March 14, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Terrestrial Insects: Conservation, Ecology, & Threats Thursday, March 21, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Charlene Donahue, Maine Forest Service Entomologist, Retired Interactions Among Plants & Insects- The Complex Web They Weave Thursday, March 28, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Roger Rittmaster, Maine Master Naturalist

April Issue Deadline:
March 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



Don Tait