

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXII No. 5

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

May 1, 2022

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

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? **April question:** Litchfield's first post office was located in which of the four villages? answer: Purgatory To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

Conservation Commission

From May to July, you may see turtles crossing or laying eggs on the side of the road. Please take care to avoid these slow-moving residents. Did you know that a single turtle may only produce one egg-laying turtle every 30 years? Turtles reproduce quite slowly, meaning they will not overpopulate our waters. In fact, they provide a service by eating the invasive fish and plants that cause harm to our native species. Living in Litchfield, you may be familiar with Snapping Turtles, big dinosaur-like turtles with long, jagged tails. Did you know they are believed to be one of the most ancient organisms dating back 60-100 million years? They can be aggressive when on land, but are typically less aggressive in the water. The striped head and tail of the Eastern Painted Turtle makes it easy to identify. Painted turtles enjoy sunbathing on logs around our ponds. Maine's smallest turtle is the Eastern Musk which has a dark, rounded 2"-5" shell often covered in algae. It can be aggressive when provoked (like any wild animal), and releases a foul odor when handled. **Maine has 4 turtles which are in jeopardy. If you see one of the following four, please don't touch it, and instead snap a picture from a far distance. Submit sightings of these species to MDIFW immediately by emailing derek.yorks@maine.gov or (207) 941-4475** 1. **Spotted Turtle** recognizable by yellow polka dots on its back. 2. **Wood Turtles** are identified by the raised mounds on their shell which resemble the inside of a tree, circles in circles. 3. **Blandings Turtles** have very distinctive yellow chins and throats. 4. **Eastern Box Turtle** exhibit irregular orange or yellow markings like paint splatter on their backs. It is always best not to handle wildlife. If you do handle a turtle, please make sure to always send it in the direction it was headed (it does know where it's going). Afterward, wash your hands carefully as they do carry diseases that can be transmitted by touch. **The Conservation Commission and Smithfield Plantation** are once again sponsoring outdoor education with local school children. Yeah! The third graders will learn about vernal pools and salamander habitat one day and forestry on another outing. The fifth grade is studying water ecosystems and on a Day of Caring will map and help dig invasive plants from ponds in the Litchfield Community Park. **Birding at the Holman Conservation Area Saturday, May 21, 7:00 – 9:00 AM Holman Conservation Area** Melanie Lane, Litchfield Join local birders and Kennebec Land Trust volunteers Howard Lake and Glenn Hodgkins for a spring birding walk at the Holman Conservation Area in Litchfield. The 75-acre property features a mixture of early successional woodlands and wetlands making it a great place for birdwatching, especially during peak migration. Birders of all skill levels are welcome! Please leave pets at home. For more information and to RSVP, contact Marie at mring@tklt.org or 207-377-2848

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.

Thank you to all of you who returned the empty sand buckets.

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 Weds.

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 May 16 at 1 at the Senior Center. The book to be discussed is "The Indigo Girl" by Natasha Boyd.

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 May 19.

The following Road Runner trips for 2022 are **Thursday, May 12** to the Penobscot Narrows Bridge & Observatory at Stockton Springs. **Wednesday, June 1** to Lakewood Theater. The comedy s "Drinking Habits" stop into the Senior Center or 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-Center 215-4595/ Director 441-9005/268-4237.



Transfer Station

Spring has sprung at the Transfer Station. The snow is gone and the ground is drying up. By the time you read this, the leaf and brush piles will be open. Thanks to all the residents for their patience. The Swap Shop is open. We will be more selective in accepting items that are brought in. Just a heads up. We are looking for a couple more volunteers to monitor the swap shop when it is open. These would be 2-hour shifts. It's a great way to meet people and see what "treasures" are 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 John C. and John U.

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

We continue to unpack some delightful items and will offer them at our Buck A Bag prices through May! What great bargains!

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

I HAVE GREAT NEWS!! The NEW Food Bank site will be next door to the Litchfield Plains Baptist Church at 56 Plains Road. Ground-Breaking Ceremonies were held April 19. We are learning the \$50,000 Grant from Good Shepherd Food Bank will start the process but not stretch as far as we hoped with the increased costs of materials and labor, so fund raising for additional monies will be necessary to finish it. Please put "Building Fund" in the memo line of your check mailed to P O Box 306, Litchfield would be greatly appreciated. Donation jars will also be placed around town for your convenience. Many thanks! FMI, Call Rayna at 582-4098

Litchfield Sportsman's Club Annual Children's Fishing Derby



Saturday, May 21, 2022
Registration starts at 9:00am
Children 5 to 15 years old

Litchfield Fire & Rescue Association

Is sponsoring a yard sale on June 4, 2022 at the Litchfield Central Station. If you would like to rent a spot for \$20 for the day please contact Tina Gowell at 485-5565. There will be burgers, hotdogs, chips and drinks available for sale.

Town Clerk's Corner

Town elections are coming up in June!

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.

Absentee ballots and in person voting will be available beginning May 19th at the Town Office. You can also request your ballot ahead of time at the Town Office and we will begin mailing them out May 19th.

Municipal candidates that will appear on the ballot:

Select Board (one position):

Rayna Leibowitz
Scott Weeks

RSU #4 (one position)

Jill Bouchard

Academy Trustee (two positions)

Earl Lamoreau Jr.

Budget Committee (three positions)

Larry Bell
Bruce Doyle
Jennifer Libby

The Annual Town Meeting will be on Saturday, June 18th. We are confirming that the Carrie Ricker gymnasium will be available, as it worked well last year.

2022 ATV Registrations You may register and re-register ATVs at the Town Office beginning May 2nd. Re-registrations may also be done online.

Woodbury Attendant Positions

Applications are being accepted for attendants at Woodbury Pond Park. Applicants must be over the age of 18, and may apply at the Town Office.

The Town Office will be closed on Monday, May 30th, for Memorial Day. Come down to the Veterans Memorial at the Plains Cemetery to honor our veterans and cheer the parade. The Memorial Day parade will begin at 9 am from the Central Fire Station (also the rain day alternate location for the ceremonies).

RSU 4

2022 Budget Meeting/Vote

For all Litchfield, Sabattus and Wales Residents
6:30pm
Oak Hill High School
Gymnasium

May Community Calendar

| | | | |
|---------|--|---------|---|
| 1 Sun | | 17 Tue | Lit Fire Assoc & Reg Meet -6:30pm, Central Sta |
| 2 Mon | Lit. Recreation Comm. 6:30pm Order of the Eastern Star , members only, 7pm | 18 Wed | Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 Budget Meeting/Vote —6:30pm; Oak Hill High School |
| 3 Tue | Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers - 6:30pm; Station | 19 Thur | Senior Advisory Meeting —1pm Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd |
| 4 Wed | Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd | 20 Fri | Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p. |
| 5 Thur | Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd Lit Planning Bd. —6:30pm, Town Office | 21 Sat | Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN— 9am to 12pm |
| 6 Fri | Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p. | 22 Sun | |
| 7 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; \$8 | 23 Mon | Selectman Meeting , 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information |
| 8 Sun | Happy Mother's Day Lit. Sportsman's Club -Country Sunday noon to 4:00 Public welcome | 24 Tue | |
| 9 Mon | Selectman Meeting , 6:30pm; Town Office & on line-See Website for more information Sportsman's Club -Monthly members meeting; 7pm (Public welcome) | 25 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 |
| 10 Tue | Lit. First Responders ; 6:30pm-Central Sta | 26 Thur | Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd |
| 11 Wed | Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 —Board Meeting, 6:30pm Central Office Conservation Comm. - 6pm— litchfieldconservation@gmail.com to attend. | 27 Fri | Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p. |
| 12 Thur | Food Bank -10a-12p; 491 Richmond Rd | 28 Sat | Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN— 9am to 12pm |
| 13 Fri | Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8a.m.-4p. | 29 Sun | |
| 14 Sat | Transfer Station , 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Academy Thrift Store OPEN— 9am to 12pm | 30 Mon | Town Office , closed  |
| 15 Sun | | 31 Tue | |
| 16 Mon | Lit. Budget Comm —6:30pm | | |

BOX HOLDER

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2. Town Manager/Clerk's Report
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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: 207-707-8485
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



William R. Bold
American Legion Post #181

Memorial Day activities at the Litchfield Plains Cemetery
Monday, May 30, 2022

Activities are as follows: 8:30am line up for parade at fire station
Walk, ride to the Cemetery with a service to follow which will
include a guest speaker and selections from the Oak Hill High
School Chorus and Middle School Band. If there is inclement
weather, the parade will be cancelled and we will change our loca-
tion for the service to inside the Litchfield Central Station. We in-
vite you to attend and give honor and pay homage to our veter-
ans who gave their lives for their country.

June Issue Deadline:
May 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

