

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXIII No. 4

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

May 1, 2023

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

May question: In early Litchfield, surveyors defined an acre of land in both square rods and square chains. An acre contained one hundred and sixty square rods. How many square chains was that? **April question:** Several early Litchfield settlers made a relatively short move from the nearby towns of Littleboro Plantation and New Sandwich. What would those towns be called today? answer: Leeds and Wayne. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

Planning your garden yet? The Food Bank would LOVE your extras! Leftover seeds or seedlings will encourage folks to grow veggies, whether in containers or by digging up a bit of ground. We are concerned the floods in the west will have a big impact on food availability this year. Are you watching the construction at the new Food bank with us? We are SO excited! Join us for a Mother's Day Weekend Concert Fund Raising Event Saturday, May 13th 2:00pm Litchfield Plains Baptist Church Yard or if rain at the Litchfield Central Fire Station. Honor your Mom by Bringing Her or donating in her Honor or her Memory. Bring your comfy chair if you would like! FMI -557-2680

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Everyone leaves happy after finding great clothes and FANTASTIC prices! We have an especially great selection of kids summer clothes, displayed by size for both boys and girls. It's guaranteed the summer things you packed for them last fall won't fit this spring! Still buck-A-bag! More items offered every week!

LITCHFIELD TRANSFER STATION

We are glad that winter is over and the snow is gone. We opened the Swap Shop on April 15 and things are going well. We will be starting the summer hours on Sunday May 7. We will be keeping the Sundays till the last weekend in August. We have a "new and improved" recycle container set-up. It is what we were trying to accomplish last summer/fall. All the recycle containers are lined up. It is because of this we are setting up a parking space system. We will have parking spaces set-up and will not allow backing in. We feel that it will help the flow of the residents using the recycle part of the Transfer Station. If you are going to the Swap Shop, metal, tires, or the TV trailer it will be to the right. To go to the recycle containers please stay in the center drive lane. If you are planning on going to the Swap Shop after the recyclables, please leave the parking spaces so other resident can use them. We are watching the leaf and brush pile as to when we will open them up for use. We are looking at the first of May but only weather will tell. Stop in and say Hi to John C., Cherry C. and John U. on Friday and Saturday. Jim N. and Justin M. will be there on Sundays.

Litchfield Recreation

Volunteers, Committee Members, Coaches, and Umpires are needed for the spring season. For more information on how you can be involved, please reach out to us at litchfieldrec@litchfieldmaine.org Also a friendly reminder that smoking, vaping and dogs are not allowed on the grounds.

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

NEW CENTER PHONE # 446-6275

If the flag is out at the Center, come on in. All dates and times are subject to change. NO Senior Center activities on Monday, May 29th, Memorial Day

On Monday, May 8 only - no Line Dancing in the morning, the Litchfield Senior Steppers (Line Dancers) will be performing at the Maine Veteran's Home, in Augusta at 2 p.m. The Senior Center will be open 9-12 for cards, games, etc.

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. The Senior Center will be open 9 -12 on May 24.

Tai Chi on Wednesdays at 9 am at the Sportsmen's Club. NO Tai Chi on May 24 or 31.

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. NO Music practice on May 24 or 31.

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, May 15 at 1 pm. at the Senior Center. The book to be discussed is "This Other Eden" by Paul Harding.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting held at the Senior Center is at 1 on Thursday, May 18th.

Are you interested in joining a domino group? We have some interest in a Mexican Train game that would be during the day at the Senior Center on Fridays. If this is something you would like, please let the Director know. Also looking for anyone interested in playing cribbage on Fridays during the day at the Senior Center.

Sign up for the Roadrunner trips - Thursday, May 11 Mystery Lunch trip and more! We will leave at 10:30 from the Sportsmen's Club; Sunday, May 21 Maine Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum - 46th Annual Induction Ceremony and Show. We will leave at 11:30 from the Sportsmen's Club; Wednesday, May 31 Lakewood Theater "Final Appearance" Leave at 10:30 from Sportsmen's Club - lunch at Ken's Restaurant before the play.

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.

Litchfield American Legion Post 181

Litchfield American Legion Post 181 will be placing American flags on Veteran's graves Saturday, May 27th, 2023 starting at 9:00 am. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend and lend a helping hand. Area residents, parents, students, veterans, grandparents...EVERYONE IS WELCOME....Please help us honor our fallen heroes....

Litchfield Memorial Day Parade

This year's Memorial Day parade is May 29th, 2023. The parade will step off from the Central Fire Station at 9 am. (This is where the parade will take place if rain) The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) van will be available to transport those veterans that cannot march/walk the parade route from the fire station to the cemetery.

Tacoma Lakes Association

Spring is here! Docks are appearing in the water, and soon summer will be here! The shortened ice cover is somewhat concerning, as it may lead to warmer water with increased potential for algae blooms. The gates at the Woodbury Dam have been lowered, and the process of returning the lakes to the normal summer levels has begun. With some help from Mother Nature's April showers, hopefully we will see normal summer water levels this year. The Woodbury Dam repairs were completed last fall, with only a few maintenance issues remaining. The Tacoma Lakes Association is actively seeking new members, and people to join our Board of Directors. To become a member, and support our efforts to maintain the above average water quality, visit our website at tacomalakes.org. If interested in learning more about joining our Board of Directors contact Jim Adams at 268-2070. Our beautiful lakes continue to be at risk from invasive plants, as they exist in several nearby bodies of water. Help us maintain the beauty for generations to come! Jim Adams President TLA

Woodbury Pond Park

We are looking for volunteers to help get the park set up for the summer season. Please contact Joline Bell at woddburypond-park@gmail.com or call 592-3397. We will use any and all help we can get throughout May.

Park passes will be available at town offices in May. It is much appreciated when the attendants don't need to make change so pick yours up early and use it all season. Cost is same as last year, a great deal - \$50 for residents and \$60 for non residents. Daily park fees will also remain the same at \$3/adults, \$2/child with seniors over 65 and veterans welcome at no charge.

We are looking for more attendants to work Friday and weekend hours, please apply at town office. Summer is just around the corner!

Town Clerk's Corner

The Town Office will be closed on Monday, May 29th, for Memorial Day. Come down to the Veterans Memorial at the Plains Cemetery to honor our veterans. The Memorial Day parade will begin at 9 am from the Central Fire Station (also the rain day alternate location for the ceremonies). The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) van will be available to transport those veterans that cannot march/walk the parade route from the fire station to the cemetery.

There are two significant bridge closings affecting Litchfield this summer: The bridge at Thorofare Rd (from Plains Rd across Pleasant Pond), will be closed from June 22 until late September, access to boat ramps will be available during the construction. And the Babcock Bridge (on Rte. 126 into West Gardiner at Horseshoe Pond) will close July 10 and reopen in mid-October. The Babcock Bridge work was delayed from last year.

Town elections are coming up in June! Our municipal election (along with the State primary) will be held on Tuesday, June 13th 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 18th 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 18th.

Municipal candidates that will appear on the ballot:

Select Board (one position):

Gary Parker
Mark Russell

RSU #4 (one position)

Douglas Bumpass, II

**Academy Trustee
(two positions)**

Elton Wade
Dian White

**Budget Committee
(three positions):**

Ellery Barrett
Theresa Madore
Thomas Wood

The Annual Town Meeting will be on Saturday, June 17th at Carrie Ricker School gymnasium.

2023 ATV Registrations - You may register and re-register ATVs at the Town Office beginning May 1st. 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.

Litchfield Sportsman's Club Annual Fishing Derby Saturday, May 23, 2023



Sign up starts at 9:00 am
Open to all children from the ages of 5 to 15.
The first group will cover ages 5 to 9
9:30am to 11:00a.m.
The second group will cover ages 10 to 15
10:00 a.m.to 11:30 a.m.

May Community Calendar

1 Mon	Lit. Recreation Comm. —6:15pm, Town Off. Lit Budget Comm — 6:30pm, Town Office (To go over the Town Budget)	17 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd Road Committee — 6pm; Town Office RSU4 Public School Budget Vote —OHHS, 6:30pm
2 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers - 6:30pm; Station	18 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd Senior Advisory —1pm, Academy Rd
3 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd	19 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm
4 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd Planning Board - 6:30pm, Town Office	20 Sat	Lit. Sportsman's Club —Annual Fishing Derby—Sign in @ 9 am; Supper to Go \$10.00 @ 5 pm Spag & Meatballs or Beans & Dogs Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm
5 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm	21 Sun	Transfer Station , 8am-4pm
6 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	22 Mon	Lit. Selectman's Meeting —6:30pm; Zoom available—see website
7 Sun	Transfer Station —8am-4pm	23 Tue	
8 Mon	Lit. Selectman's Meeting —6:30pm; Zoom available—see website	24 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 —Board of Directors; Central Office 6:30pm American Legion Post 181 Meeting ; 7pm—235 Plains Rd.
9 Tue	Lit First Responders ; 6:30pm-Central Station	25 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd
10 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 —Board of Directors; Central Office 6:30pm Conservation Commission -6:00pm, Town Off	26 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm
11 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd	27 Sat	Transfer Station , 8 am –4pm Academy Thrift Store OPEN– 9am to 12pm
12 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm	28 Sun	Transfer Station , 8am-4pm
13 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm	29 Mon	Lit. Memorial Day Parade , Plains Cemetery 9am
14 Sun	Transfer Station , 8am-4pm	30 Tues	
15 Mon	Lit. Sportsmen's Club -meeting, 7 pm Lit. Budget Committee — 6:30pm, Town Office	31 Wed	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd
16 Tue	Lit Fire Assoc & Reg Meet -6:30pm, Central Sta		

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: 207-707-8485
sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org
www.litchfieldmaine.org
Open: Mon.—Thu.: 8:30 a.m.—6:00 p.m.
Closed: Every Fri.

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The Litchfield Sodalite

Conservation Commission

Each year Conservation folks sponsor field trips for 3rd graders in close cooperation with teachers and experts from Friends of Cobbossee Watershed, Maine Department of Forestry, DEP, etc. The first is Vernal Pool day in April at Smithfield Plantation which has two main activities. One is going to the significant vernal pool and, with supervision, look for the animals that define a vernal pool. The other is learning about and then very carefully looking for red salamanders by slowly turning over stones and logs; the children learn to use dirt or leaves to pick up the animals, not bare hands. In May Forestry Day, at the elementary school this year due to busing limitations, has 5 different stations with topics like Tree Factory, Owl Pellet dissection, Outdoor Survival, Bird Walks and Wind and Solar. These field trips are very much enjoyed by children and adults alike. **Do you like to kayak or canoe on the lakes of Litchfield;** would you like to go out with a small friendly group weekly (weather depending)? Do you want to learn about the marvelous underwater world of our precious lakes and in so doing learn to protect them from aquatic invasive plants? Think about joining the **aquatic invasive plant patrol**. We get organized in June, start in July when the plants are large enough to identify and continue into September. Diane Clay 207-754-9502. **The Loon Restoration Project** is beginning year two this month. The Woodbury Pond crew is getting their nesting rafts out and loon monitors on all of the Tacoma Lakes are sharpening their pencils and cleaning their binoculars. You can help: as part of that project the Conservation Commission will be working with Tacoma Lakes Association and Maine Audubon to hold some **lead sinker exchanges**. For the dates, keep a look out on both websites, in the Sodalite and for posters around town and help **get the lead out of our ponds**.

June Issue Deadline:
May. 22, 2023 5p.m.
Deliver material in any
of the following ways:
Email:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org **U.S. mail to:**
Town Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd. 04350
Hand deliver to: Town
Office, 2400 Hallowell Rd

