

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXV No. 4

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

April 1, 2025

HISTORICAL SOCIETY TRIVIA QUIZ

April question: In early Litchfield (and still today) what spring delicacy bore the name of a musical instrument?

March question: Circa 1820 Litchfield supported two militia units, the North and the South Militia. Two other towns provided men for the units. Which town supported which unit? answer: Bowdoin supported the South; Gardiner supported the North. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

LITCHFIELD TRANSFER CENTER

Spring has sprung and we are GLAD!!! The Swap Shop is going to start taking items beginning Friday March 28th. We will open the Swap Shop on Friday April 11th from 10 to 2. Many thanks to the residents for their patience. The Spring Drug Take Back Day is Saturday April 26th from 10 to 2. We also want to remind the residents of the location change for used oil drop-offs. It is up at the Hazardous Material building Remember the phone number at the Transfer Station is now 268-2032. Stop in and say hi to John C. and John U.

American Legion Post 181

Will meet on Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. at the Central Fire Station. All veterans are welcome.

Litchfield Recreation Committee

Basketball season is over, thank you to all the coaches and volunteers that helped make the season a success! * Baseball, softball and Tball season is upon us. We will be holding a field cleanup and prep day on April 5th 10 am-12pm. If there is inclement weather, the rain date is April 12th. Please come down and lend a hand. Indoor practice will begin early this month, and as soon as the fields are dry enough to use, outdoor practices will begin. Please watch our Facebook page and group emails for updates. **We are in need of experienced adults to assist in repairing the snack shack down at Veterans Field this month. Hancock Lumber kindly donated the materials. Please contact the Recreation Department at litchfieldrec2400@gmail.com for more information and to sign up. ***We are still in need of sponsors. If you are a business owner, please consider purchasing a banner that will hang on the tennis court fence at Veterans Field for all to see. They come in a variety of sizes. Contact the Rec Committee at the email address above to purchase your banner in time for the spring and summer sports crowds.

LITCHFIELD SENIOR CENTER

Center Phone # 446-6275

The Litchfield Senior Center is open and available to all, no fee to attend. "Aging is more fun when you share it." *If the flag is out at the Center, come on in. All dates and times are subject to change.*

Senior Center closed on Mon. April 21, Patriots Day
Line Dancing instruction for all on Mondays 9:30-11 at the **Sportsmen's Club.**

The Litchfield Senior Steppers will be performing on Monday, April 28 at the Sarah Frye Home, Auburn at 10 am. The bus will leave from the Sportsmen's Club at 9.

The Senior Center will open 9:30 on Mondays for Sharon Thibault's knitting /crocheting group. 10-2 Music lessons by Pat Bailey for various instruments.

Qigong/Tai Chi exercises on Wednesdays at 9 followed at 10-12 by **Music practice** for the Carol Bailey String Band at the **Sportsmen's Club.**

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 Potluck lunch and celebration** of April birthdays is on Friday, April 18.

Do you like to read? Come and join the book club here at the Senior Center. We meet once a month, pick out a book to read and discuss it at the next meeting. The next book club discussion meeting is on **Monday, April 14** at 1 pm. at the **Senior Center**, the book to be discussed is "Tell Me Everything" by Elizabeth Strout.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting is held at the **Senior Center** at 1 on Thurs. 4/17.

On Saturday, April 26 the Senior Center is taking part in the **RESOURCE FAIR** 10-2 at the Oak Hill Middle School. Stop by and check out the informational tables.

The empty 5 gal. sand buckets should be returned by calling 207-466-6275.

We would like to add other games and activities such as: Dominoes, Cribbage, Bingo and other card games. We would like to hear your thoughts and suggestions. If anyone has a talent in these areas please reach out at 446-6275.

Our first Road Runner trip is on Thursday, April 24 to Oxford Casino. Call to sign up at 446-6275 or come into the Center. We will leave from the Sportsmen's Club at 9:30. **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, or check out our books, puzzles and items on the table you may like.

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

We'll be changing the season of clothing from fall-winter to SPRING-SUMMER on April 7, 10 AM to 4 PM and April 8, 2 PM to 5 PM. We'd love to have helpers come during any of those hours. We'll pack up the winter stuff and enjoy seeing the fun clothes that have been collected! Shopping encouraged and helpers get first choice. A SUPER SPECIAL SALE will be held on April 5 where winter items will be 50 cents a bag. Where can you beat that?

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

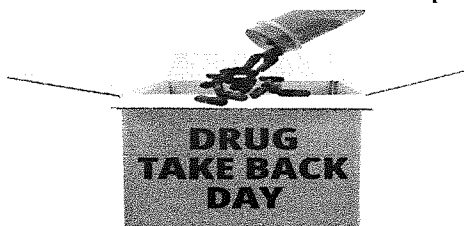
A special thanks to the ladies of the local flocks who have performed very well and for their owners to share the bounty with the Food Bank! We've been pleased to have local eggs to provide to our families. Please share any empty egg boxes so we can use them. The Transfer Station will accept them or drop them off at the Food Bank across from the Plains Cemetery Time to plan your gardens! Please consider planting a bit extra to share with our neighbors. We have been notified of potential decreases in the amount and variety of foods available through Good Shepherd Food Bank (our primary source) and USDA because of cuts at the federal level.

RSU4

School Board

Sabattus Primary (SPS) Referendum-April 8, at the Town Office, 8am-8pm. Some of the biggest benefits of closing SPS include: savings on operational costs/repairs needed for SPS to stay open; all Pre-K to 4th grade students will be in Litchfield, shortening the time students are on buses; it will streamline resources and improve educational programming. More info. is available at <https://www.rsu4.org>. The School Board is working diligently to balance the needs of our students, staff, and taxpayers. We value your input. Join us on April 2 at 6pm at the RSU4 Central Office for a Budget Workshop. The public budget meeting (with voting) is at Oak Hill High School on May 14th. Visit the RSU4 website for more details. <https://www.rsu4.org/page/budget-development-fy26>

Litchfield Transfer Station 10am—2pm



Saturday, April 26, 2025

TOWN CLERK'S CORNER

Boston Cane - Do you know anyone age 90 or above? Litchfield's "Boston Cane" is awarded to the town's oldest resident. Please contact the Town Office (207) 268-4721 if you know of someone who might qualify for this honor.

Town budget reviews are in progress. - Each section of the town budget is being reviewed at upcoming Select Board meetings through the end of April. You should not wait for the annual Town Meeting to find out what's happening with the budget. Select Board meetings are the second and fourth Mondays of each month, and you can link to videos of the Select Board meetings at the town website, www.litchfieldmaine.org.

April 8th RSU4 Referendum Election to Decide Closure of Sabattus Primary School - Please note: You must be a registered voter in Litchfield to vote in this election. The election will be held April 8th at the Litchfield Town Office from 8:00 am - 8:00 pm. Referendum question: "Vote to approve closure of Sabattus Primary School."

Absentee ballots / early voting will be available at the Town Office until 6:00 pm on Thursday April 3, 2025. You may request your ballot in person, or over the phone by calling 207-268-4721. Learn more about the issue at RSU4.org by clicking "SPS Closure Vote" at the bottom right corner of the home page.

Candidate Nomination Papers Due in April - Consider running for an elected position this year! Nomination papers are available now at the Town Office and must be returned by April 14th. In order to be listed on the ballot for June 10th, each nominee requires signatures from 25 town residents. Positions open for this coming year are on the Select Board (1); RSU#4 School Board (1); Budget Committee (3); and Litchfield Academy Trustees (2).

Bringing Documentation for ATV, Boat, Snowmobile Registrations - The State (Inland Fisheries and Wildlife) has insisted that our customers bring either a previous registration or a photo of the current sticker when registering ATVs, boats, and snowmobiles. So, this is a heads up for those who are used to walking in with no records to register their ATV, boat or snowmobile, that we will be asking for a previous registration or photo of current stickers. We appreciate your cooperation and patience.

Property Taxes Due - The third and final installment of 2024 property taxes is due by April 15th. You may put your check in our drop box (to right of the entrance) and not be penalized. Please put the property address or account number on your check. You may call the office if you aren't sure of the final amount due. If you would prefer to pay your taxes monthly, our clerks can help you calculate a monthly payment amount, or even begin prepayment of next year's taxes.

Holiday: The Town Office will be closed on Patriots Day, Monday, April 21st.

Litchfield Central Fire & Rescue

The Senior/Veterans luncheon will be held on Saturday, May 3 at the Central Fire Station. It will begin at 10am and run until 1pm. For more information please contact Tina Gowell at 207-485-5565

Creators 4H

The Creators 4H is meeting on Saturday April 12th and Saturday, April 26th at the Senior Center on Academy Rd at 10am. For info text or call 754-3931.

April Community Calendar

1 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers Meeting , 6:00pm	16 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd Road Comm. , 6pm; Town Office RSU4-Budget Approval -Central Office, 6:30pm
2 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd RSU4 —School Board Budget Discussion-6:30, Central Office	17 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd Budget Comm. , 6:30; Town Office Senior Advisory Com -1pm, Senior Center
3 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd Lit. Planning Bd. , 6:30pm	18 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm Swap Shop —10am—2pm
4 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm	19 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm
5 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm Lit. Sportsman's Club -Public Supper & Jam \$10. Supper 5pm-6pm, Jam 6:30pm-8pm	20 Sun	<i>happy Easter</i>
6 Sun	Lit. Sportsman's Club —Country Music Sunday Noon to 4 pm \$8.00	21 Mon	Town Office Closed RSU4 —Spring Break—April 21-April 25 
7 Mon		22 Tue	
8 Tue	Vote/Referendum –to close Sabattus Primary School– 8am to 8pm—Town Office Litchfield First Responders -6pm, Central Station	23 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd RSU4 School Board -6:30, Central Office
9 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd RSU4 School Board -6:30, Central Office Lit. Sportsman's Club meeting—6pm	24 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd
10 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd	25 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm Swap Shop —10am—2pm
11 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm Swap Shop —10am—2pm	26 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm Spring Drug Take Back Day —Transfer Station 10am—2pm
12 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm	27 Sun	
13 Sun		28 Mon	Lit. Selectmen's Meeting ; 6:30pm, Town
14 Mon	Lit. Selectmen's Meeting ; 6:30pm, Town Office-zoom available-see website	29 Tue	
15 Tue	Lit. Fire & Rescue Meeting -6pm, Central Office	30 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd

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BOX HOLDER

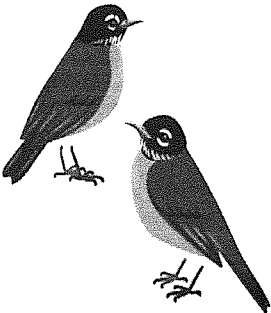
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 Litchfield, ME
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The Litchfield Sodalite
 Litchfield Town Office
 2400 Hallowell Road
 Litchfield, ME 04350
 Tel.: 207-268-4721 FAX: 207-707-8485
 sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org
 www.litchfieldmaine.org
 Open: Mon.—Wed.: 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
 Thurs.: 8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.
 Closed: Every Fri.

Litchfield Conservation Commission Conservation News

“GUIDED BIRD WALKS SPRING / SUMMER 2025 **The Stanton Bird Club** is pleased to continue our Guided Bird Walks in the Lewiston / Auburn area. All walks are free and open to everyone, beginning naturalist to advanced birder. Walks are led by Stan & Joan DeOrsey, Gordon Smith, and Dana Little who identify and comment on birds seen and heard. Anyone interested in walking, seeing new places, fresh air, and nature is welcomed. Walks are held in a variety of interesting and diverse local habitats, plus some areas less often visited. Please mark your calendar and join us on Wednesdays, or pick and choose those which most interest you. ...For example... **April 30 Brunswick Landing from Pine St., Brunswick Leader: Gordon. Meet at the end of Pine St., Brunswick near St. John' Cemetery. Contact Stan DeOrsey for the complete list: jsmd@att.net Calling all volunteers for a work day in the Litchfield Community Park on **Thursday April 10** (rain day 4/11) **from 10 am to about 1 pm.** Enjoy a day outside and help out with: trail maintenance removing fallen trees; cutting and piling up invasive woody shrubs so our licensed spray applicator can reduce his usage of chemicals, spraying shorter regrowth later in the season; picking up garbage and so on. Wear gloves, bring water, snacks, tick protection and tools you have; we can provide hand saws and loppers. Meet new people and learn plant ID and visit your town park.**

MAY Issue Deadline:
 April 20, 2025 5pm 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



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