

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXIV No. 2

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

February 1, 2024

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

February question: Litchfield's oldest road is what is today known as the "Hallowell Road". What was it called on a map made in the 1790's? **January question:** Litchfield's water powered mills were driven by flowing water filling "buckets" placed along the wheel's periphery. The mill type was determined by whether the water first struck the top, middle, or bottom buckets. What type of mill had the water strike in the middle of the wheel? answer: a "breast" mill. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

LITCHFIELD RECREATION COMMITTEE

For the past few seasons of Litchfield sports (since soccer 2022) the Litchfield recreation committee has been tasked, with help from the Town Manager, to provide Soccer, Baseball/Softball and Basketball for our young athletes. It has been a "try our best with the volunteers we have -kinda thing". Have we been perfect, absolutely not, have we done the best that our small committee could do – yes, we have and I commend the former and current committee members for all their time, work and patience that they have put in. We are now at four committee members (who have full time jobs) trying to put the basketball season together. We are a tired committee and we need your help. We need another volunteer/ resident to serve on the Rec Committee and more volunteers to step up during the individual sport seasons to shoulder some of the work. **It has come to the point that we are looking at this Basketball season as the telling season as to whether Litchfield will offer sports continuing into 2024.** If you are willing to volunteer and/or serve on the Recreation Committee please reach out to the committee at litchfieldrec2400@gmail.com. In addition to openings for coaches, fundraisers, team parent there is a **stipend position available for seasonal coordinator for each sport.** Our next Recreation Committee meeting is Monday Feb. 19th at 5:30pm.

RSU 4

No school from February 19 through February 23



Litchfield Senior Center

NEW 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 is closed on Monday, February 19, President's Day

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.

Qigong exercises on Wednesdays at 9 followed at 10 by practice for the Carol Bailey String Band and Chorus at the Sportsmen's Club.

The Carol Bailey String Band and Chorus will be at the Libby-Tozier Elementary School on February 1 at 9:15 for a special children's program.

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, February 26 at 1 pm. at the Senior Center.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting is held at the Senior Center at 1 on Thursday, February 15.

The Sand for Seniors program is taking orders, call 446-6275 to leave your name, address and phone number to be put on the list.

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 for you.



Litchfield Transfer Station

Things are going smoothly at the Transfer Station. We have weathered the wind and rainstorms in the past month. We are done with that kind of weather!! The select board gave us the approval to increase the fees we charge for certain items. We will be implementing the increases the first week in April. We are organizing the updated fee schedule and will be sharing it with the residents via handouts at the Transfer Station. We will also update the town's website. The increased fees will also be shared in the Sodalite next month. Stop in and say Hi to John C. and John U. on Friday and Saturday. Thank You.

New Transfer Station Fees

Air Conditioner	\$15	Tires	
Dehumidifier	\$15	Up to 19"	\$5
Refrigerator	\$15	20" and greater	\$20
Freezer	\$15	Rugs 50 sq ft.	\$10
Mattresses		Rug Pad 50 sq ft	\$10
Single/Double	\$5	Computers	\$5
Queen/King	\$10	Monitors	\$5
Box Springs		Printers/Fax	\$5
Single/Double	\$5	TVs	
Queen/King	\$10	Up to 30"	\$5
Chair /Recliner	\$10	Greater than 30"	\$10
Couch / Love-seat	\$15	Console TV	\$15
Sectional Couch	\$15		

Tacoma Lakes Association

At the moment it appears the ice is finally here, although warmer temperatures are predicted. Just a reminder to use caution, check the ice thickness and be safe this winter on our lakes. Also, remember what you leave behind on the ice, eventually ends up in the lakes. Please carry out all trash, recyclables, and returnable bottles and cans. TLA greatly appreciates your bottle donations dropped off at the Litchfield Transfer Station. We ask only that you bag your returnables, as our volunteers are picking them up in all types of weather. Bottle donations remain one of our largest annual fundraisers. We also have Clynk bags available for you to use, if you participate in that program. Contact us if you need bags! The Clynk program is simple, bags are stuck with the TLA account information, you simply drop them into a Clynk redemption container at most Hannaford locations, and the funds are credited to TLA. Either way we appreciate your support. TLA had an outstanding year in 2023. The Board of Directors came up with new events, and a couple of new fundraising ideas that were well received. We ended the year with over 230 members. We thank each and every one of you for your support. 2024 promises to be a year with more new ideas from the Board of Directors, and we are looking forward to continuing our efforts to maintain the water quality and beauty of the Tacoma's.... Jim Adams 240-6539

Town Clerks Corner

Tuesday March 5th is Maine's presidential primary at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club, 2261 Hallowell Road, across from the transfer station. There are two ballots, Democrat or Republican. New this year is that if you are not enrolled in a party (your voter registration says "unenrolled"), you may vote either party ballot. If you are enrolled in the Democrat or Republican party you must vote the ballot of the party for which you are enrolled.

Individuals registered to other parties such as the Green Independent, or Libertarian party, for example, are not eligible to vote in this year's primary. They may, however unenroll or change parties at least 15 days before the primary. And to change parties, you must have been registered in your current party for at least 3 months.

Absentee ballots for the March 5th voting may be requested online (see the Town Website www.litchfieldmaine.org, or search "Maine Absentee Ballot Request") or picked up at the Town Office.

June Elections - In anticipation of voting in June, candidates for Litchfield offices on the June, 2024 municipal ballot may obtain their nomination papers at the Town Office beginning Monday, March 4th. All paperwork must be returned by Thursday, April 11th.

Positions coming open in June are: Select Board, School Board, Budget Committee, and Academy Trustees.

The Town Office will be closed for President's Day, Monday, February 19th

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

Construction is continuing on the inside and the vinyl will be added to the back and rest of the front when weather permits! Costs have been more than expected and we still have almost \$20,000 of our goal to raise. Can you help, even a little? Mail to PO Box 306 with Building Fund on your memo line. Thank you very much!


LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Yep, Buck A Bag is continuing.
Bring a friend! Saturday, 9 - noon.

4H

4H The Creators Meeting will be held on February 10th at 1pm at the Senior Center on Academy Rd Litchfield. For more info call or text Lori at 207 754-3931

February Community Calendar

1 Thur	Lit Planning Board - 6:30pm Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd	17 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm
2 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm	18 Sun	
3 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm Sportsman’s Club -Public supper & Jam \$10. Supper 5 to 6 Jam 6:30 to 8	19 Mon	Town Office Closed  HAPPY PRESIDENTS DAY ★ DAY ★ UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Lit Recreation Comm —5:30pm
4 Sun	Sportsman’s Club -Country Sunday 12 to 4; \$8	20 Tue	Lit Fire & Rescue Meet -6:00p, Central Sta
5 Mon	Lit. Recreation Comm. —6:30pm	21 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd
6 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers Meeting , 6:00pm	22 Thur	Lit. Budget Comm. , 6:30pm-Town Office Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd
7 Wed	RSU4 School Board -Central Office-6:30pm Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd	23 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm
8 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd	24 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm
9 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm	25 Sun	
10 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store —Open 9am-12pm	26 Mon	Lit. Selectmen’s Meeting ; 6:30pm, Town Office-zoom available-see website.
11 Sun		27 Tue	
12 Mon	Lit. Selectmen’s Meeting ; 6:30pm, Town Office-zoom available-see website. Lit. Sportsman’s Club Meeting —7pm;	28 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd American Legion Post 181 –7:00pm, All Veterans Welcome RSU4 – 2024-25 Budget Kick Off, Central Office 6:30pm
13 Tue	Lit. First Responders Meeting -6:00 pm.	29 Thur	Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd 
14 Wed	Food Bank -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd 		
15 Thur	Senior’s Committee -1pm-Senior Center Food Bank -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd		
16 Fri	Town Office , closed Transfer Station , 8am-4pm		

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BOX HOLDER

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.—Wed.: 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Thurs.: 8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.
Closed: Every Fri.

Conservation Committee

THERE'S A HIDDEN GEM IN LITCHFIELD!

Did you know the Litchfield Community Park is open year-round? Our main parking lot at 2324 Hallowell Road is now plowed each snow storm. You can snowshoe or cross-country ski on the well-marked trails, bring your dog and kids to take a walk, or simply explore the quiet of nature yourself. We have printed trail maps in the boxes at the LCP kiosk entrance, as well as the LCP trail entrance near the town offices. The back of the trail maps have interesting fun facts and nature challenges to help you explore.

Maine's outdoor recreation economy grew by 16.5% from 2021 to 2022, according to a new report by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis. Collectively, outdoor recreation - which encompasses a variety of activities, including fishing, hunting, skiing and RVing - generated \$3.3 billion in 2022. That's nearly 4% of the state's gross domestic product. Overall, the outdoor recreation industry supported approximately 32,000 jobs in 2022, a 7% increase over 2021. "Outdoor recreation is the heartbeat of our state's economy," said Jenny Kordick, executive director of Maine Outdoor Brands. Get out there and enjoy your park!



March Issue Deadline:
Feb. 20, 2024 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

