

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXIV No. 7

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

July 1, 2024

Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

July question: What early Litchfield settler was a member of General Washington's barge crew. **June question:** It is a widely held myth that many veterans of the Continental Army came to Maine and settled on land given them as a reward for their military service. When such land grants were given about 1820 where was the land? answer: In Ohio To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org

Litchfield Transfer Station

Summer is almost here and knockin' on the door and things are warmed up at the Transfer Station. When you read this article, we will be in the new "office" building. Things are changing here and we are eagerly looking forward to it. Many THANKS for the support you residents have shown us in our "modernization plan". It makes working here at the Transfer Station more enjoyable. The leaf and brush piles are open and seeing a brisk business. The Swap Shop is teeming with treasures and welcoming residents. The Swap Shop is open from 10 to 2 when the Transfer Station is open. Items can be dropped off anytime though. Many thanks to the volunteers taking care of the Swap Shop. Our summer hours have started and we are seeing residents on Sunday. We are still having people "speeding" in the Station. Please be aware that it is 5 miles per hour. Please slow down and make it safer here. Stop in and say hi to John C., Cheri C., and John U. on Fridays and Saturdays. On Sundays Kim R. and Jim D will be helping Jim N. welcome residents. Thank you.

Woodbury Pond Park

Woodbury Pond Park is open for the season through August 18th (weather permitting) from 10am to 7pm daily. Park fees remain the same at \$3.00/adult and \$2/child – seniors and veterans are free. Season passes are available. For more information please email Woodburypondpark@gmail.com. Dogs are not allowed during open gate hours – after hours please be a responsible pet owner and pick up after them.

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.

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.

Senior Steppers to perform at Gray Birch Health Care, Augusta on July 15 @ 2 pm. Senior Center open 9:30 to 12.

Carol Bailey String Band music practice July 10 at 10-12.

The Carol Bailey String band will be giving concerts on July 17 in Prospect Harbor at the Women's Club @ noon; on July 24 at Clover Health Care, Auburn at 10.

The Senior Center will be open on Wednesday July 3 & 24 9:30-12:30.

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. 9:30 Qigong/Tai Chi exercises. 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 2nd and 4th. Fridays 10:30 practice time for Strummers, 11:30 Fiddlers, 12:30 Recorders.

Friday, July 19 Potluck lunch and celebration of July birthdays 12-1.

The book club meeting is on Monday, July 22 at 1 pm. at the Senior Center. The book to be discussed is "The Frozen River " by Ariel Lawhon.

The Senior's Advisory Committee meeting held at the Senior Center is at 1 on a new date Thursday, July 11th.

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.

The Senior Center is happy to support the new outlet for fun and exercise – **Pickleball** held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings 8:30 to 10:30 at Veterans Memorial Park.

Sign up for the Roadrunner trips – Friday 7/12 Sawyer Memorial, Greene "Erica Brown and the Bluegrass Connection"; Friday 7/19 "Denny Breau"; July 26 "Sandy River Ramblers". All shows are at 7pm, bus leaves at 6pm.

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, etc.

Tacoma Lakes News

The heat wave has come and gone! Summer is in full swing. Boaters, please be aware of the marker buoys on our lakes, as well as the rules of boating. And please give any nesting loons, or loons with young chick's space. If nesting loons become agitated, they can leave the nest and precious eggs unattended. Chicks have many predators to contend with even with two attentive adults. Please be mindful when boating to avoid putting chicks in additional danger. This summer promises to be a busy one for the TLA. Our second boat Regatta is scheduled for July 6. Meet in front of the former Lintonia Restaurant on Sand Pond starting at 11 a.m. Remember if you plan on going under the bridge your bimini top must be down, and keep this in mind when decorating your boat. The TLA boat will be last, enabling it to give away free ice cream treats. Also on July 22nd TLA will hold its second members night at Doolin's Pub. Doolin's will be offering their regular menu of great food and drink options. TLA will have several items to be raffled off that night. Last year's event was well attended, and a good time was held by all. A HUGE shout out of appreciation to Doolin's for being such a gracious host again this year. TLA has CLYNK bags available for bottle donations, as well as the area at the Litchfield transfer station where bottles can be dropped off. If dropping off at the transfer station please remember to bag your bottles. Our volunteers pick them up in all types of weather, and bagged bottles help us immensely. We appreciate all donations!

Litchfield Recreation

The Litchfield Youth Recreation Facebook page has had a name change. The Facebook page is now Litchfield Recreation. Litchfield Youth Soccer 2024 Registration has begun. The adult pickleball program is going strong. We would like to initiate a Youth Pickleball program here in Litchfield this summer if there is enough interest. Please reach out to Sue Weber at subeeweb@gmail.com if your child is interested in giving pickleball a try.

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

\$2 a Bag prices continue! New items arrive and are put on display weekly. Great inventory of kids' clothes! Open every Saturday 9 to noon! Come check it out. Bring a friend or two! You'll be glad you did!

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

Advancing the target moving date to mid-July as we have a delay in getting our cooling device for the walk-in cooler. This project has been a lesson in patience, for sure! Interior painting is happening. We continue to serve clients at 491 Richmond Road and are looking forward to local garden produce as well as the local eggs that we are receiving every week. Many thanks for sharing!

Town Clerk's Corner

The Town Office will close at 3:00 pm on Thursday, June 27th to complete end-of-fiscal year database closeout.

July Holiday - The Town Office will be closed on Thursday, July 4th for the Independence Day holiday.

Woodbury Pond Park is now open daily from 10:00 am – 7:00 pm through August 18th, weather permitting. Come out and enjoy the park!

The RSU4 budget did not pass and the school board will be looking at the budget again. If you missed out last time, you get another chance to contribute your perspective. **Wednesday, July 10th – Public Budget Meeting**, where changes can be made, 6:30 pm at OHHS, and **Tuesday, July 30th – Budget Validation Referendum Vote from 8 am to 8 pm *at the Town Office.*** *The vote on the 30th is a change from our usual polling place."*

If you haven't yet, please take a look at the presentation done during the last RSU 4 budget review.

1) Go to RSU4.org 2) Choose the 'Budget' icon at the bottom of the page, and 3) Scroll down to the April 24th presentation on how the proposed budget came together and to see for yourself what additional cuts deserve a second look and should be brought up at the meeting.

Beginning with slide 7, "additional spending reductions," are cuts the School Board chose not to include in the proposed budget the last time. Slide 11 (vacating Sabattus Primary School) is a large additional reduction option that would about \$500,000 overall this year, (about \$200,000 for Litchfield). Which reductions are worthy of community debate? You can make that choice on July 10th!

June 11th Municipal Election Results

(winners denoted by *)

RSU#4 Budget Referendum: Yes - 196 No – 357

Municipal Final Tally— Total # of ballots 559

Select Board (1 open seat)

Clarence Gowell III* 285

Thomas Pelletier 241

Write Ins 1

RSU4 School Bd (1 open seat)

Kristy Ouellette* 439

Write Ins 12

Academy Trustees (1 open seat)

Write Ins 31

Budget Committee (1 open seat)

Elton Wade* 285



Ray Bouchard 209

RSU 4 Budget Public Meeting

On **Wednesday, July 10th** the RSU4 Public Budget Meeting will be held at Oak Hill High School at 6:30pm.

On **Tuesday, July 30th** you may make your vote count at the **Budget Validation Referendum Vote** from 8am to 8pm at the *Lit. Town Office*.

July Community Calendar

1 Mon		17 Wed	Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd Road Committee – 6:00 pm
2 Tue	Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers Meeting, 6:00pm	18 Thur	Food Bank-10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd Lit Budget Committee—6:30pm
3 Wed	Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd	19 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm
4 Thur	Town Office Closed 	20 Sat	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	22 Mon	Lit. Selectmen’s Meeting; 6:30pm, Town Office-zoom available-see website.
7 Sun	Transfer Station, 8am-4pm	23 Tue	
8 Mon	Lit. Selectmen’s Meeting; 6:30pm, Town Office-zoom available-see website.	24 Wed	Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU4 School Board-Central Office; 6:30pm American Legion Post 181 –7:00pm, All Veter- ans Welcome—Plains Rd.
9 Tue	Lit. First Responders Meeting-6:00 pm	25 Thur	Food Bank-10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd
10 Wed	Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd RSU 4 Public Budget Town Meeting/vote— OHHS, 6:30pm	26 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm
11 Thur	Food Bank-10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd Senior Comm Meeting—1:00pm, Sen Center Planning Board—6:30pm, Town Office	27 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store—Open 9am-12pm
12 Fri	Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm Public Sportsmen's Club Supper - from 5 to 6— \$10.00. Jam—6:30pm to 8pm	28 Sun	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm
13 Sat	Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store—Open 9am-12pm Country Fest Maine 2024 - Noon to 8 pm \$15.00 @ Lit. Sportsman’s Club; Kitchen Open	29 Mon	
14 Sun	Transfer Station, 8am-4pm Country Fest Maine 2024; Sportsman’s Club— 12pm—5pm; \$10; Kitchen open	30 Tue	RSU4 Budget Vote—8am –8pm at the Litchfield Town Office 
15 Mon	Lit. Recreation Comm.—6:15pm	31 Wed	Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd
16 Tue	Lit. Fire & Rescue Meet—6pm Central Of.		

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BOX HOLDER

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: 207-707-8485
 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 News

Would you like to learn positive identification of Mushrooms? Then save the date! Michaeline Mulvey, president of the Maine Mycological Association, will be leading a mushroom foray on October 5th, 9 am at Smithfield Plantation on the Libby Road. Michaeline teaches many enthusiasts about mushrooms at the prestigious Eagle Hill Institute in Stueben, Maine as well as having been at the helm of the MMA for a good number of years and has lead forays for various land trusts. We urge you to join MMA and begin to go on educational forays this summer.

August Issue Deadline: July. 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

