

# The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXIV No. 6

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

June 1, 2024

## Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

**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? **May question:** The bridge that crossed the stream connecting Jimmy and Buker Ponds was given what name in early Litchfield? answer: The James Shurtleff Bridge. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to [WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org](http://WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org)

## Litchfield Transfer Station

Spring is here and things are warming up at the Transfer Station. 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. 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.

## Kennebec Land Trust

**Small Burnham Conservation Area, Litchfield** - \*Nature Walk Saturday, June 8, 9:00 Explore Kennebec Land Trust's Small-Burnham Conservation Area with trained Maine Master Naturalists on Saturday, June 8 at 9:00 AM. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about the natural world, with a focus on plants, ferns, birds, and insects. The Small-Burnham Conservation Area consists of 250 acres of woodlands, wetlands, hayfields, and ponds on the Pine Tree Road in Litchfield and is protected by a conservation easement. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Marie at [mring@tklt.org](mailto:mring@tklt.org)

## Sodalite Newsletter Publication Guidelines

Newsletter Email address: [sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org)  
The following are examples of what can be published:  
· Meetings of nonprofit social groups · Special event notices  
· Fund-raiser notices for civic organizations · Town committee bulletins · Selectmen's calendar · Public service announcements · Town ordinance information  
· Public hearing notices The following are examples of what cannot be published:  
· Paid political advertisements  
· Commercial advertisements/promotional bulletins  
· Birthdays · Obituaries · Personal news · Editorial commentary · Letters to the editor · News reports/stories · Photographs Please limit material to 250 words or less, and explain who, what, when, where, and why. Include a contact name and telephone number/email address for additional information. Submit all material by 5 p.m. on the 20th day of the month prior to the month of publication.

## 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.

**Line Dancing instruction** for all on Mondays 9:30-11 at the Sportsmen's Club except for the following dates: June 10. The Senior Steppers will be performing at the Maine Veterans Home at 2 pm; on June 17 at Montello Heights at 1 pm; and on June 24 at St. Mary's Residences at 1:30 **The Senior Center** will open 11:30 to 2 on Mondays after Line Dancing, if possible, some Mondays it may be before the trip.

**The Carol Bailey String Band** are performing on June 5 at 11 for the Gorham Seniors at the First Congregational Church; On June 26 the Band will be performing at the Alzheimer's Care Center at 10 am.

**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.

**On Friday June 21 at 11:30** a potluck lunch & celebration of June birthdays.

Beginning on June 7 every Friday at 9:30 Tai Chi/Qigong exercises, then on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month practice time for Strummers at 10:30, "Fiddlers at 11:30 and at 12:30 the Recorder group.

**The next book club discussion** meeting is on Tuesday, June 25 at 1 pm. at the Senior Center, the book to be discussed is "Becoming Madam Secretary" by Stephanie Dray.

**The Senior's Advisory Committee** meeting is held at the Senior Center at 1 on Thursday, June 20. We would like to add other games and activities such as: Dominoes, Cribbage, Bingo and other card games to the Center and maybe some gentle yoga or different forms of exercise. We would like to hear your thoughts and suggestions. If anyone has a talent in these areas, please reach out at 446-6275.

**Our Road Runner trips** for June are: June 7 a trip to Sawyer Memorial, Greene; June 18 a trip to Thomaston, Maine State Prison Store; June 27 a trip to Camden.

**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.

## 4H The Creators

The last meeting of the season is June 8th at 10 am. Bring you finished projects for fair displays and we will talk about next season ideas. For info text or call Lori at 207 754-3931.

### Tacoma Lakes News

**\*Come Celebrate 4th of July on the Tacoma Lakes\*** Tacoma Lakes Association (TLA) is hosting another lake-wide regatta. Last summer we had 21 boats participate. The decorations were terrific! This year's regatta will be held **\*Saturday, July 6th from 11 to 1pm\***. /Rain date is Sunday, July 7th/. We will cruise Sand Pond first, before heading over to Woodbury Pond. The meet-up spot is 10:30am on the water in front of the former Lintonia Bar & Grill. Remember that to get to Woodbury Pond from Sand Pond (or to/from Buker Pond) you will need to lower your bimini top, so keep that in mind when you decorate your boat. A few new things this year. We will have some "pace boats" out front leading the way as we cruise our way around Sand and Woodbury. The TLA ice cream boat will be at the rear of the regatta this year, continuing the tradition of tossing out **\*free ice cream treats\*** to the delight of kids and adults on the lake shore. Having the TLA boat last will keep the regatta pace faster, as it makes many stops to delight kids and adults with ice cream. Come show off your Red, White & Blue. See you on the water!

### Pickleball Update

The Summer Session of pickleball has begun. One court is marked off. As interest increases, a second court will be added. Players will need to register and pay for the session via SportsEngine. The fee is \$15, plus a \$2.52 service fee. Sue Weber can send you a link for registering on the SportsEngine app with some instructions. You can contact her via email at [subeewebr@gmail.com](mailto:subeewebr@gmail.com). The other registration option is to arrive at the courts during open play, sign up and pay there. The open, recreational pickleball will be held Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 8:30-10:30 AM at Veterans Memorial Park, weather per-

### RSU 4 News

**Oak Hill High School graduation** will be on Saturday, June 1st, at 7 p.m. It will be held at the Augusta Civic Center. **The 8th grade promotion** will be held at Oak Hill Middle School on June 11 from 9-10 a.m. It will be held at OHMS. **There will be a Flag Day** celebration at Carrie Ricker on Friday, June 14th. It will be at 9 a.m. All are welcome to attend. **Last school day is June 14th.** It will be a half day. **The first day of school** for 2024-25 is August 28th for grades K-9. Grades 10-12 and LRTC will start on August 29th. First day of Pre-K will be September 3rd.

### Town Clerk's Corner

**Town elections**, State primaries and the RSU#4 budget referendum are Tuesday, June 11th at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club, 2261 Hallowell Rd, from 8:00 am – 8:00 pm.

**The Annual Town Meeting** will be on Saturday, June 15th, beginning at 10:00 am in the Carrie Ricker School gym.

**Absentee ballots or in person voting** is available at the Town Office. Sample ballots can be found at [litchfieldmaine.org](http://litchfieldmaine.org) on the elections page, or linked from the notice on the home page.

Candidates that will appear on the ballot:

**Select Board (one position):** Clarence Gowell  
Thomas Pelletier

**RSU #4 (one position):** Kristy Ouellette

**Budget Comm. (one position):** Elton Wade  
Raymond Bouchard

**Academy Trustee (one position):** Write In

**Woodbury Pond Park** opens on Saturday, June 22nd.

**The Town Office will be closed** for the Juneteenth Holiday on Wednesday, June 19th.

**The office will also close on Thursday, June 27th** at 3:00 pm for end-of-fiscal-year processing.

### LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Are you ready for warm weather duds? We've got you covered! Or as covered as you want to be anyway. A big rack of swimsuits and a table full of shorts. Sure, you can try them on! Will the Kids' summer things from last year still fit? Don't count on it! Fill a bag for \$2 and you'll feel great!



### LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

The interior painting has started! We may be looking at move-in before the end of June! We are SO READY!! Putting in a garden this year? We'd love to have your surplus! Drop it off on Wednesday mornings and we'll distribute it in the afternoon and Thursday mornings. Everyone loves fresh produce! We also love the fresh eggs that come to us! We think this town supports our Food bank very well! Thank you.

### Kindergarten & Pre-K Registration Litchfield, Sabattus & Wales

If you are a resident of Litchfield, Sabattus or Wales and have a child that will be 5 years old on or before October 15, 2024 (Kindergarten age) or a child that will be 4 years old on or before October 15, 2024 (Pre-K age), please call Libby-Tozier School at 268-4137

**June Community Calendar**

1 Sat	<b>Transfer Station - 8am-4pm</b> <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> —Open 9am-12pm <b>Sportsman’s Club</b> -Public supper & Jam \$10. Supper 5 to 6, Jam 6:30 to 8	17 Mon	<b>Lit. Recreation Comm.</b> —6:15pm
2 Sun	<b>Transfer Station, 8am-4pm</b>	18 Tue	<b>Lit. Fire &amp; Rescue Meet</b> -6:00pm; Cent. Sta
3 Mon		19 Wed	<b>Food Bank</b> -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd <b>Town Office Closed</b> 
4 Tue	<b>Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers Meeting, 6:00pm</b>		
5 Wed	<b>Food Bank</b> -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd		
6 Thur	<b>Food Bank</b> -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd <b>Planning Board</b> —6:30pm		
7 Fri	<b>Town Office, closed</b> <b>Transfer Station, 8am-4pm</b>	20 Thur	<b>Senior’s Committee</b> -1pm-Senior Center <b>Food Bank</b> -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd
8 Sat	<b>Transfer Station - 8am-4pm</b> <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> —Open 9am-12pm	21 Fri	<b>Town Office, closed</b> <b>Transfer Station, 8am-4pm</b>
9 Sun	<b>Transfer Station, 8am-4pm</b>	22 Sat	<b>Transfer Station - 8am-4pm</b> <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> —Open 9am-12pm
10 Mon	<b>Lit. Selectmen’s Meeting; 6:30pm, Town Office</b> -zoom available-see website.	23 Sun	<b>Transfer Station, 8am-4pm</b>
11 Tue	<b>Lit. First Responders Meeting</b> -6:00 pm <b>Election Day</b> —8am to 8pm Lit Sportsman’s Club	24 Mon	<b>Lit. Selectmen’s Meeting; 6:30pm, Town Office</b> -zoom available-see website.
12 Wed	<b>Lit. Sportsman’s Club Meeting</b> —6pm; <b>RSU4 School Board; Central Off.;</b> 6:30pm <b>Food Bank</b> -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd	25 Tue	
13 Thur	<b>Food Bank</b> -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd <b>Lit Budget Committee</b> —6:30pm	26 Wed	<b>RSU4 School Board; Central Off.;</b> 6:30pm <b>Food Bank</b> -4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd <b>American Legion Post 181</b> –7:00pm, All Veterans Welcome—Plains Rd.
14 Fri	<b>Town Office, closed</b> <b>Transfer Station, 8am-4pm</b>	27 Thur	<b>Food Bank</b> -10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd <b>Town Office</b> closing at 3:00pm
15 Sat	<b>Transfer Station - 8am-4pm</b> <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> —Open 9am-12pm <b>TOWN MEETING</b> —10am—Carrie Ricker School <b>Sportsman’s Club</b> -Yard sale 9 am to 1 pm Take out supper 5 to 6 pm - \$10.—Choice of Spaghetti & meatballs or Beans & hot dogs - Dessert	28 Fri	<b>Town Office, closed</b> <b>Transfer Station, 8am-4pm</b>
16 Sun	<b>Transfer Station - 8am-4pm</b> 	29 Sat	<b>Transfer Station - 8am-4pm</b> <b>Academy Thrift Store</b> —Open 9am-12pm
		30 Sun	<b>Transfer Station, 8am-4pm</b>

**Contents:**

1. Historical Society, Senior Center Corner
2. Town Manager/Clerk's Report
3. June Calendar
4. Newsletter Deadline

# BOX HOLDER

ECRWSS  
 PRSRT STD  
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 Litchfield, ME  
 Permit #2

*The Litchfield Sodalite*  
 Litchfield Town Office  
 2400 Hollowell Road  
 Litchfield, ME 04350  
 Tel.: 207-268-4721 FAX: 207-707-8485  
[sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org)  
[www.litchfieldmaine.org](http://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**

If you enjoy the lakes, READ THIS! It's time to get out and play in the water - swim, ski, paddle, and ride. That means that it's also time for the invasive plant patrol to begin its work. The Tacoma Lakes Plant Patrol is connected to the Conservation Commission in its mission to attempt to control invasive plants that take over native plant populations. If even one stem of milfoil takes root in the water it will spread to cover a large area making it hard to do any of these activities. Every summer a team of interested citizens goes out weekly to patrol a part of the Tacoma Lakes covering as much as possible of the littoral zone (area where light reaches the bottom of the lake allowing plants to grow) in search of milfoil and other invasive species. Team members have all watched or seen in person training sessions from Lake Stewards of Maine and we frequently have folks join us to watch and to learn on the water. It's official - we now have 15 possible aquatic invasives in Maine and 4 or 5 of them have been found in local lakes. For example, Cobbossee Lake has documented invasions of eurAsian milfoil, variable leaf milfoil, and hydrilla. So, any of us who uses those lakes can carry a piece of a plant into another lake and start a new colony. What can we do? 1. The best way to help is to rinse off any plant fragments on your boat, equipment, or clothing when you leave a lake. 2. Learn to identify anything that looks suspicious. You may not want to learn each plant's Latin name, or even it's nick name. But if you have an idea of what they look like you can call someone to identify it for you. 3. If you live on a lake, scan your waterfront property carefully every year for any new or unusual growth. Call us if you have a question. 4. Tune in often to Lake Stewards of Maine to listen to podcasts about our lakes. ([lakestewardsofmaine.org](http://lakestewardsofmaine.org)) 5. Join us once or every week to paddle and scan a section of the Tacoma Lakes. Paddle your own boat or join one of us in ours.

**July Issue Deadline:**  
 June. 20, 2024 5pm  
 Deliver material in any of the following ways:  
 email: [sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org](mailto:sodalite@litchfieldmaine.org)  
**U.S. mail to:** Town Office, 2400 Hollowell Rd. 04350  
**Hand deliver to:** Town Office 2400 Hollowell Rd

