

# The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXIV No. 3

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

March 1, 2024

## Historical Society Of Litchfield Trivia Quiz

**March question:** Early settlers of Litchfield often kept a "Day Book" to keep track of barter transactions. One such an entry described working at "rettling and rippling". What crop did this involve?

**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? Answer:

The County Road.  
[WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org](http://WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org)

## Litchfield Recreation Committee

At the Litchfield Recreation Committee's February meeting, the committee approved adding "Pickle Ball" as an adult (18+) sport. Pickle ball will hopefully begin sometime mid-May. We will be working on venues to play indoors in cold months and courts to play outdoors in the warmer weather. If you are unfamiliar with how to play pickle ball, we have some seasoned, experienced players very happy to teach you. Please watch the Sodalite and social media for more information as we work out the details for the fun and exciting game of pickle ball. We will initiate communication with players via the committee's Sports Engine web program. If you are interested in participating in the fastest growing sport please contact Sue Weber via email at [subeweber@gmail.com](mailto:subeweber@gmail.com).

## LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Seasonal changeover is scheduled for Monday, March 18, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Tuesday, March 19, 2:00 to 4:00 and 7:00 to 9:00 if needed. We'd love to have as many as possible helping with the hope of getting it all done at one time. Shopping will be encouraged. In the meantime, winter clothing sales will continue at Buck a Bag (for paper grocery bags and \$2 for the oversize bags. Of course, giving a little extra for a really stuffed bag is always welcomed. Bring a friend

## LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

Construction continues on our new Food Bank and we continue to be encouraged by your support. The Town Office has indicated they would be willing to receive your donation of funds (checks or cash) for our building, if mailing a check is not convenient. The vinyl siding looks very nice and we have just completed the insulation project. We are hopeful of moving in this spring. In the meantime, the chickens have started laying and neighbors are sharing their fresh eggs. Spring IS coming.

## 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.

**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/Tai Chi exercises** on Wednesdays at 9 followed at 10-12 by Music practice for the Carol Bailey String Band and Chorus 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 book club meeting** is on Monday, March 18 at 1 pm. at the Senior Center, the book to be discussed is "Canary Girls" by Jennifer Chiaverini.

**The Senior's Advisory Committee** meeting is held at the Senior Center at 1 on Thursday, March 21.

**The Sand for Seniors** program is a 5 gal. bucket of sand delivered as needed by calling 207-466-6275 during winter.

**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 and would like to increase our offerings at the Center, please reach out at 446-6275.

**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. Donations are appreciated.

## RSU #4

### 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

**Litchfield Transfer Station**

Things are going smoothly at the Transfer Station. We are seeing an increase in people exceeding the 5-mile per hour speed limit. Please be mindful of your speed and drive safely. **We have a set of car keys** that someone left at the Transfer Station. Stop in and see if they belong to you. 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.

**New Transfer Station Fees**

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

**Litchfield 4H**

The Creators are meeting on March 9th at 1:00pm at the Senior Center on Academy Rd. For info call or text Lori at 754-3931.

**American Legion Post 181**

7:00 PM Wed. March 27, 2024  
279 Plains Rd  
Monthly meeting all veterans are welcome

**Town Clerks Corner**

**Daylight Savings Time** starts this month. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on March 10th.

**Federal funding assistance for the December** storm has been approved for individuals. If you had property or vehicle damage during the Dec 17-21 storm, or insurance deductibles left after a claim, you may be eligible for direct assistance or a low interest disaster-loan through the Small Business Administration. Call 1-800-621-3362 or apply at <https://www.disasterassistance.gov/> **BY THE END OF MARCH.** (A more extensive list of eligible expenses is available at <https://www.maine.gov/mema/news/fema-individual-assistance-information-mon-02122024-1200>.)

**Town budget reviews have begun.** Each section of the town budget will be 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. Attending the Select Board meetings and following along during the reviews will give you a chance to hear the details, and an opportunity to ask questions. Alternatively, you can link to videos of the Select Board meetings at the town website, [LitchfieldMaine.org](http://LitchfieldMaine.org)

**Nomination Papers Due in April:**-if you are considering running for an elected position this year, nomination papers may be picked up at the Town Office starting Monday, March 5th, and must be returned by Thursday, April 11th. In order to be listed on the ballot this June, 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 (1); and Litchfield Academy Trustees (1).

**Vehicle re-registrations** - Information needed to re-register a vehicle: Old registration (preferred), valid insurance card (must be effective the day you re-register) and mileage. You can come to the town office, but registrations can also be done with a credit card or e-check online at <https://apps1.web.maine.gov/online/bmv/rapid-renewal/> (the link is on the town website).

**Upcoming meetings at the Town Office:**

- Planning Board - Thursday, Mar 7th, 6:30 pm
- Select Board - Monday, Mar 11th, 6:30 pm
- Road Committee - Wednesday, Mar 20th, 6:00 pm
- Budget Committee - Monday, Mar 21st, 6:30 pm
- Select Board - Monday, Mar 25th, 6:30 pm
- Recreation Committee, Mar 18th, 6:00pm

LITCHFIELD REC REGISTRATION



**BASEBALL SOFTBALL T-BALL**

**REGISTER BY APRIL 1ST**

LOOKING TO HELP WITH THE SEASON?  
COACHING, UMPIRING, SNACK SHACK...

EMAIL US: LITCHFIELDREC2400@GMAIL.COM

**March Community Calendar**

1 Fri	<b>Town Office, closed</b> <b>Transfer Station, 8am-4pm</b>	17 Sun	
2 Sat	<b>Transfer Station - 8am-4pm</b> <b>Academy Thrift Store—Open 9am-12pm</b> <b>Sportsman's Club—Public supper &amp; Jam \$10.</b> Supper 5 to 6 Jam 6:30 to 8	18 Mon	<b>Lit. Recreation Comm.—6:00pm</b>
3 Sun	<b>Sportsman's Club—Country Sunday 12 to 4; \$8</b>	19 Tue	<b>Lit Fire &amp; Rescue Meet-6:00p, Central Sta</b>
4 Mon		20 Wed	<b>Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd</b> <b>Road Committee—6:00pm</b>
5 Tue	<b>Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers Meeting, 6:00pm</b>	21 Thur	<b>Senior's Committee-1pm-Senior Center</b> <b>Food Bank-10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd</b> <b>Budget Committee—6:30pm</b> <b>Food Bank-10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd</b>
6 Wed	<b>Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd</b>	22 Fri	<b>Town Office, closed</b> <b>Transfer Station, 8am-4pm</b>
7 Thur	<b>Food Bank-10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd</b> <b>Planning Board—6:30pm</b>	23 Sat	<b>Transfer Station - 8am-4pm</b> <b>Academy Thrift Store—Open 9am-12pm</b>
8 Fri	<b>Town Office, closed</b> <b>Transfer Station, 8am-4pm</b>	24 Sun	
9 Sat	<b>Transfer Station - 8am-4pm</b> <b>Academy Thrift Store—Open 9am-12pm</b>	25 Mon	<b>Lit. Selectmen's Meeting; 6:30pm, Town</b> <b>Office-zoom available-see website.</b>
10 Sun		26 Tue	
11 Mon	<b>Lit. Selectmen's Meeting; 6:30pm, Town</b> <b>Office-zoom available-see website.</b>	27 Wed	<b>RSU4 School Board; Central Off.; 6:30pm</b> <b>Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd</b> <b>American Legion Post 181 -7:00pm, All Veter-</b> <b>ans Welcome</b>
12 Tue	<b>Lit. First Responders Meeting-6:00 pm</b>	28 Thur	<b>Food Bank-10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd</b>
13 Wed	<b>Lit. Sportsman's Club Meeting—7pm;</b> <b>RSU4 School Board; Central Off.; 6:30pm</b> <b>Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 491 Richmond Rd</b>	29 Fri	<b>Town Office, closed</b> <b>Transfer Station, 8am-4pm</b>
14 Thur	<b>Food Bank-10am-12pm; 491 Richmond Rd</b>	30 Sat	<b>Transfer Station - 8am-4pm</b> <b>Academy Thrift Store—Open 9am-12pm</b>
15 Fri	<b>Town Office, closed</b> <b>Transfer Station, 8am-4pm</b>	31 Sun	
16 Sat	<b>Transfer Station - 8am-4pm</b> <b>Academy Thrift Store—Open 9am-12pm</b>		

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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](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**

**Maine Mammals and their Habits** - Join Kennebec Land Trust for their annual winter lecture series to learn more about Maine mammals and their habitats from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife. KLT's winter lectures are modeled on the early New England lyceums that began in 1826 in Massachusetts. Location: Winthrop High School, 211 Rambler Rd. Winthrop, ME, 04364 6-7:30pm Monitoring Maine's Fisher and Marten Populations Thursday, March 14, 2024 Shevenell Webb, Wildlife Biologist, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife What do we know about fisher and marten? How is MDIFW gathering information to strengthen the management of these species? What are some of the early results from the camera study? Deer in Maine, Past to Present Thursday, March 21, 2024 Nathan Beiber, Wildlife Biologist, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife History of deer in Maine from pre-colonial time to the present Current status of white-tailed deer in Maine Data supporting the management of white-tailed deer Bats of Maine Thursday, March 28, 2024 Cory Stearns Small Mammal Biologist, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Basic bat biology MDIFW's bat monitoring project and the status of Maine's eight bat species What landowners can do to benefit bats All talks are free and open to the public. Sponsor: The Helen and George Ladd Family. For more information, contact Marie at [mring@tklt.org](mailto:mring@tklt.org) or 207-377-2848 On February 19 Conservation volunteers hosted a day in the Litchfield Community Park to observe and enjoy winter in the great outdoors, finding, among many things, tracks of a marten and cottontail rabbits, and learning about the blue green Scots Pine with 1-2" twisted needles in a bunch of 2 and surprising cone-like willow galls. "Friend" the Litchfield Conservation Commission Facebook page for more winter ideas.

**April Issue Deadline:**  
 March 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 Hallowell Rd. 04350  
 Hand deliver to: Town Office 2400 Hallowell Rd

