

The Litchfield Sodalite

Vol. XXIV No. 11

A Newsletter for Litchfield, Maine

November 1, 2024

HISTORIAL SOCIETY TRIVIA QUIZ

November question: Which of Litchfield's early settlers was not only a farmer, surveyor, and teacher, but also produced early maps that were works of art? October question: Few if any of early Litchfield's water powered mills had mill stones of French burrstone. Why was this stone so expensive and desirable? answer: Only millstones of French burrstone were thought to be capable of producing finely ground flour of the highest quality. To read more about the history of Litchfield go to WWW.HistoricalSocietyofLitchfieldMaine.org



LITCHFIELD TRANSFER CENTER

The days between summer and winter are definitely occurring. We are noticing it is not fully sunrise when we open. There is a new flag box at the Transfer Station. Many thanks to Cheyenne Nault of the local Girl Scout troop who did this civic project. It is ready to use. There is a QR code on it to find more information about the history of flags. We are asking the residents to put their cereal type "cardboard" in the paper container. The cardboard containers are meant more for the "heavier" corrugated type of cardboard. Many thanks in advance. We are going to limit the size of the oil containers that are brought in. We would appreciate only containers in gallon containers or less. We are getting older and it is easier to deal with the lighter weights. Thanks for that. We are monitoring the leaf and brush piles. It depends on this great weather we're having as to when we close them. The phone number at the Transfer Station is now 268-2032.

RSU4 School News

On November 7 there will be a "Falling for Math" night at the Carrie Ricker School. It will be from 6-7 p.m. All are welcome. There will be no school on Monday, November 11, in observance of Veteran's Day. Schools will be closed from 11/27 - 11/29 for the Thanksgiving break.

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.*

The Center is closed on Veteran's Day, Nov. 11 and also on Friday Nov. 29.

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.

The Senior Center Steppers (Line Dancers) are performing at St. Mary's Residences, Lewiston on Monday Nov. 4. at 1:30; **The Steppers** are performing at the Alzheimer's Care Center, Gardiner on Monday Nov. 18 at 10:30.

The Carol Bailey String band music practice will be at 10 on Wednesdays after Qigong/Tai Chi exercises at 9 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; 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.

Friday, November 15, 12 pm Potluck lunch and celebrate November birthdays.

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

The book club meeting is on Monday, November 18 at 1 pm. at the Senior Center. The book to be discussed is "Look on the Bright Side" by Kristen Higgins.

"Winter sand for Seniors" is available by calling 207-446-6275 to be put on the list for delivery of the 5 gal. bucket of sand.

The Senior Center wishes to thank all who have donated medical devices to be stored here and loaned out to those who are in need...at this point we cannot accept any more donations. We have run out of room.

Winter reminder - If RSU4 school is called off due to stormy weather, the Senior Center activities will be closed as well. **Reminder:** Exercise equipment available for use when the Center is open.

LITCHFIELD SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

November 23rd (New date) is our annual CRAFT FAIR from 9am to 1pm at THE LITCHFIELD SPORTSMEN'S CLUB. For more information call Carol at 622-5471 or Tom at 268-9271

LITCHFIELD ACADEMY THRIFT SHOP

Fall and winter clothes are put on display and they are flying out the door! Bargains galore at \$2 a bag! Open every Saturday from 9 to noon! You'll also feel good about shopping local and supporting a historic building. That's where all the money goes that we take in. Thank our volunteers who work hard for your shopping pleasure. Bring a friend and do them the favor of discovering us!

LITCHFIELD FOOD BANK

We LOVE the new building! So easy to work in with space and light! Come see it on Wednesday mornings - 10 to noon, when none of the clients are there. Rayna gives tours! We are very grateful for the donations of garden produce this season and the local eggs have been a real blessing! Our efforts for fund-raising are now targeted on the Generator Fund. Help us protect our freezers full of food from extended power outages! Mail your check to the Food Bank at P O Box 306, Litchfield or drop it off when we are at the Food Bank. Put "Generator Fund" on the memo line, please. Thanks!

LITCHFIELD RECREATION COMMITTEE

Sign-up for basketball is underway and will run until November 15th. Go to SportsEngine to register.

LITCHFIELD FIRE & RESCUE



Come say Hi to Santa on Nov. 30th at our Annual Pancake Breakfast from 8am to 11am at the Central Station

TOWN CLERK'S CORNER

Vote in the Presidential Election (and the RSU4 budget referendum) on Nov 5th -Polls are open from 8 am – 8 pm on Tuesday, Nov. 5th at the Sportsmen's Club located at 2261 Hallowell Road for voting for General, State and RSU4 referendums. Information about the questions appearing on the State ballot can be found at <https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/upcoming/index.html>.

Sample ballots are viewable at the Town website elections page. Absentee ballots are available until Thursday, October 31st by contacting the Town Office and must be received by close of polls on Nov 5th.

Text Alerts: Sign up for Town Office text alerts by texting JOIN to (808) 289-8089. This is a pilot program which we expect to use infrequently and primarily for emergency management announcements such as availability of warming shelters. We'll publish more information as this service evolves.

2025 Dog Licenses -You may now license your dog (s) for 2025 at the Town office beginning October 15th or online at https://www1.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/dog_license/index.pl. If rabies vaccinations are due, please bring a copy of the new vaccination. To avoid a late fee your dog must be licensed by January 31, 2025.

Snowmobiles - Snowmobiles may now be registered at the Town Office, or online at <https://www.maine.gov/ifw/atv-snowmobile/index.html>.

Home Heating Assistance - Applicants for the KVCAP Fuel Assistance Program should contact KVCAP directly by calling either 1-800-542-8227 ext. 1500 or (207) 859-1500 to schedule an appointment. Applicants may also access the KVCAP website (www.kvcap.org) click "For The Home", select "Heating Assistance", click the highlighted "Click Here" and book your appointment. Information is available in the Town office.

The Town Office will be closed on election day, Tuesday Nov 5th, to assist at the polls. - The Town Office will also be closed on Monday, Nov. 11th in observance of Veterans Day, and on Thursday, Nov. 28th for Thanksgiving.

Upcoming meetings at the Town Office (see the Town website for changes or updates):

Planning Board – Thursday, Nov 7th, 6:30 pm
Select Board – Monday, Nov 12th, 6:30 pm
Road Committee – Wednesday, Nov 20th, 6:00 pm
Budget Committee – Thursday, Nov 21st, 6:30 pm
Select Board – Monday, Nov 25th 6:30 pm

November Community Calendar

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|---------|--|---------|--|
| 1 Fri | Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm | 16 Sat | Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store—Open 9am-12pm |
| 2 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 | 17 Sun | |
| 3 Sun | Lit. Sportsman’s Club—Live Country Sunday-Noon-4pm; \$8. All welcome | 18 Mon | Lit. Recreation Comm., 6:15pm |
| 4 Mon | Town Office Closed Voting 8am-8pm– Sportsmen’s Club  | 19 Tue | Lit. Fire & Rescue Meet—6pm; Central Station |
| 5 Tue | Lit. First Responders Meeting-6:00 pm | 20 Wed | Food Bank-10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd Lit Road Comm., 6:00pm |
| 6 Wed | Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd | 21 Thur | Food Bank-10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd Lit. Budget Comm., 6:30pm |
| 7 Thur | Food Bank-10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd Lit Planning Board, 6:30 pm | 22 Fri | Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm |
| 8 Fri | Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm | 23 Sat | Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store—Open 9am-12pm |
| 9 Sat | Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store—Open 9am-12pm | 24 Sun | |
| 10 Sun | | 25 Mon | Lit. Selectmen’s Meeting; 6:30pm, Town Office-zoom available-see website. |
| 11 Mon | Town Office Closed  | 26 Tue | |
| 12 Tue | Lit. Fire/Rescue Officers Meeting, 6:00pm Lit. Selectmen’s Meeting; 6:30pm, Town Office-zoom available-see website | 27 Wed | Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd |
| 13 Wed | Food Bank-4pm-6pm; 56 Plains Rd RSU4 School Board-6:30, Central Office Lit. Sportsman's Club meeting—6pm | 28 Thur | Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Lit. Sportsman’s Club 11am –1pm All Welcome  |
| 14 Thur | Food Bank-10am-12pm; 56 Plains Rd Lit. Snowmobile Club Meeting-6pm. Academy | 29 Fri | Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm |
| 15 Fri | Town Office, closed Transfer Station, 8am-4pm | 30 Sat | Transfer Station - 8am-4pm Academy Thrift Store—Open 9am-12pm |

BOX HOLDER

- Contents:**
1. Historical Society, Senior Center Corner
 2. Town Manager/Clerk's Report
 3. November Calendar
 4. Newsletter Deadline

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.

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Conservation Committee News

This summer Dian White donated the 42-acre **Jimmy Stream Conservation Area easement** to the Kennebec Land Trust (KLT). The land is hardwood and softwood forests, and rare streamside habitat, all valuable for wildlife. The property features a historic nineteenth century carriage road and stone walls, glimpses of Oak Hill to the west. A small landing area on Jimmy Stream gives paddlers access to Jimmy Pond. There is a small parking lot on the other side of the Gustin Road Bridge. Dian White, her son Craig and grandson Alex started creating the beautiful, well-marked trails in 2012, after her retirement. They knew the trails would go by favorite play areas such as the huge erratic boulder or the stream where the White kids would mess around. One schoolmate fondly related how Dian took their Sunday School class on a canoe trip on Jimmy Stream in the fall, and how much fun it was, so she has been sharing her land for a long time. This jewel is added to the other four KLT conservation easement properties in Litchfield, all of which are owned by private landowners who pay taxes and generously share their land, each with some specifications. The trails are maintained by the owners with help from volunteers. Visit www.tkl.org for great information about these properties and more than 30 others in our county. If you go to the **Litchfield Maine Conservation Commission Facebook page** you will see a table full of the mushrooms found during the 45-minute walk in Smithfield Plantation (on Libby Road) on October 5th. On person said, "We really found a lot of cool stuff! Michaeline (Mulvey) was so interesting and fun! Thank you!"

Dec Issue Deadline:
 Nov 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

