

LAKE CARMI ASSOCIATION NEWS

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In Loving Memory of Our Late Editor & Dear Friend, Larry Myott



The Benefits of a Wet Summer at Lake Carmi

Is wetter better? I don't know. We have certainly experienced an unprecedented rain fall this summer. I have been recording rain totals in a rain gauge given to me by DEC more than a decade ago, and I can't recall a July where we received more than nine inches of rain. Yes, nine inches. Mind you, my records are far from official, but they do correlate to the rainfall totals throughout the state. Fortunately, we did not experience the devastation the poor people in the middle of the state endured. Our hearts, thoughts and prayers go out to them.

President's Report



By Peter Benevento, LCCA President

What we experienced, however, was a hiatus from the algae blooms that have plagued us in recent years. I say hiatus

because I don't believe the weather has solved our problems. It has just given us a respite. Legacy phosphorous that is released into the water column in spring and summer fuels the algae blooms. The experts claim that the intense rains have washed the legacy phosphorous out of the water column. This is evident not only in the lack of BGA blooms but also in the consistent, constant flow of water over the Mill Pond Dam. Usually in the middle of August, the dam is still, but this year the flow is as steady as it was in April.

So, is wetter better for Lake Carmi? Maybe in the short term, but for longer lasting, scientifically confirmed results, I'm going all in with the upcoming Lake Carmi Alum Feasibility Study.

Last year, after a very disappointing 2022 season for water quality, I reported that I was very frustrated, but like any good football team we had to drop back and punt and re-evaluate our game plan. Over the winter, we petitioned the Clean Water Board to

fund an Alum Feasibility Study, and we were very fortunate to have our request granted. In July, a new member was added to our team: Barr Engineering of Minnesota. VT DEC awarded a contract to Barr Engineering to perform an Alum Feasibility Study for Lake Carmi. A significant part of our journey to end the blue green algae blooms has officially begun.

The Barr engineering website states that the company's "...engineers, scientists and technical specialists work together to help clients develop, manage, process and restore natural resources." I put the emphasis on restore as this is what we are hoping for at Lake Carmi. Keith Pilgrim, a Senior Water Resources Scientist at Barr, recently spoke at the LCCA Annual Meeting. He gave a very informative presentation as to what he intends to do and how he will accomplish it. Basically, he will determine if an Alum application is appropriate for Lake Carmi, where it should be applied, and how much alum will be required. A report stating the findings will be issued sometime over the winter. If alum is



PONTOON CHAMPS!

The Orange North Shore Team — Captain David Larose, John Costa, Marty Fletcher, David Perry, and Donna St. Once — took 1st place in the Lake Carmi Pontoon Boat Race earlier this summer. David and Erin Perry accepted the trophy on behalf of the team at the LCCA Annual Meeting.

Photographs courtesy Michael Tansey



recommended, the earliest possible application will be the fall of 2024. This, however, is dependent on overcoming substantial hurdles between now and then. More on that to follow. Right now, we just need to focus on the study.

The study will commence in October with the extraction of multiple core samples of sediment from the bottom of the lake. Much of the data and conclusions drawn will emanate from the analysis of the sediment. We, the LCCA, will endeavor to provide you with pictures and as many updates as possible over the coming months. We will also be sending out information on alum and

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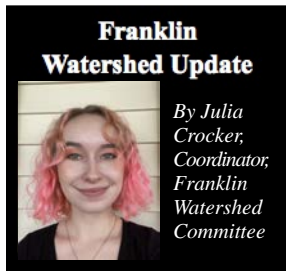
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Lots of Workshops as Another Season Winds Down

Hello folks.

I hope you've all had a fun and enjoyable summer thus far. It is always sad to see another camp season come to an end. However, there is still plenty of time to enjoy the lake! There are still several slots open for Stream Wise evaluations! If you are unfamiliar with Stream Wise, it is a new program affiliated with the Lake Champlain Basin Program to provide resources to landowners adjacent to streams and rivers to protect and restore stream health. The program emphasizes the importance of vegetated buffers along streams and encourages folks to protect and/or nurture theirs. Preserving stream health within the Franklin watershed is vital improving the health of Lake Carmi. The tributaries surrounding the lake are one of the largest sources of external phosphorus loading. If you or someone you know has property on a stream and is interested in a visit please reach out to jcrocker5@une.edu or (802) 825-1243! You do not need to be present for the evaluation.



Franklin Watershed Update

By Julia Crocker,
Coordinator,
Franklin Watershed Committee

This month the Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District hosted two Watershed Workshops at the Franklin Homestead! This first one was held on Aug. 1, titled *Healthy Shorelines Part 2: Lake Wise Tips for Homeowners*. Lauren Weston of the FCNRCDC gave an informative and interactive presentation about how to make your property as lake-friendly as possible. She walked the audience through the motto *Slow it, Sink it, Spread it, Store it*. This is the idea guiding landowners on how to best mitigate stormwater runoff and excess nutrients before it enters the lake.

The second workshop held this month took place on Aug 21, titled *Healthy Streams: How Watersheds Impact Lake Health*. Guest speaker Staci Pomeroy, the river scientist for the VTDEC, spoke about the science of streams, what a healthy one looks like, and what we can do to improve stream health on our own property. Healthy streams provide habitat for fish and other wildlife, and reduce sediment and nutrient loading into lakes. This improves the overall health of the lake system. The key to a healthy stream is a hearty, vegetated buffer on the stream bank. A stream that looks "messy" is actually the sign of a thriving ecosystem!

Both workshops featured productive discussions about the topics at hand and gave folks a chance to share what they learned and how they might apply it to their own shorelines. The fourth and final workshop, held Sept. 5 at the Franklin Homestead FELCO Room, was titled *Lake Science 101: Lake Chemistry and Biology Basics* and featured guest speaker Matt Vaughn of the Lake Champlain Basin Program. Recordings of previous workshops can be found on the FCNRCDC website at franklincountynrcd.org/lakecarmi.

Finally, our boat greeters have wrapped up for the summer! During the summer months, they played an

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REPORT, from pg. 1

its impact on people and the environment. This will be done through the LCCA & FWC websites, the LCCA bulk email listing and the Lake Carmi Life Facebook page. So please stay tuned.

Another highlight at the LCCA Annual Meeting was the awarding of the Pontoon Boat Race Trophy to the winning Orange North Shore Team. This was the first time since 2019 that the trophy was awarded, and the success of the race has served as a catalyst for events planned for next year. It is also a prime example of the LCCA board and campers working together to produce an exciting, fun event. So please come to us with your ideas, and we can see if we can make them happen. Right now we are formulating our agenda of events for summer 2024. Many will be recurring, including the Pontoon Boat Race, but plans are afoot to bring back some activities, possibly with a different twist. We will keep you posted.

I cannot write an article without mentioning our membership drive. We cannot do anything without your

support. I keep repeating it, but it is so true. Please remit your dues if you have not done so. We value your membership and remember strength is in numbers. We make sure the people we petition, especially our elected officials, know how many people we represent, so please join us. Also, our 2024 Ice Out contest is underway, and we would appreciate your support here as well. Details on the contest appear elsewhere in the newsletter.

The recent relent of the rain and the great condition of the water caused me to venture out on the lake in a kayak. The kayak allows you to experience the environment from a slower, closer perspective, which you can't get from a motorboat or a jet ski. It's like a bicycle on the water. Recently I took a trip from the north beach to the end of Wescott Shore. The water was delicious, and it made the ride as smooth as silk. It was relaxing, yet a good physical workout. I really enjoyed looking at all the camps as I floated by. Each one unique with its own character. Most were born out of generations of families who have enjoyed the camp and the lake for decades. Some of the camps had

children fishing and swimming off their docks under the watchful eye of parents or grandparents.

This is camp life as it should be.

I watched all this while paddling under a grey blue sunny sky with the Pinnacle majestically sitting in the distance. It was a truly terrific Lake Carmi moment.

This will be the third and final edition of the newsletter this year. Since it is late in the season, we will publish digitally with limited hard copies available. Next year we will resume publishing at least four editions. The season has gone fast, but we have made meaningful progress in our water quality goals while sponsoring fun events at the same time. We will endeavor to do the same in 2024. We will also be communicating throughout the fall and winter into the spring. If you are not receiving our LCCA emails, please send your email address to me at president@lakecarmivt.com.

Stay safe and healthy. Thanks again for all your support! See you around the lake!



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UPDATE, from pg. 2



Like so many other things, the boat greeter program has come to an end for the season at Lake Carmi.

invaluable part in preventing aquatic invasive species from leaving or entering Lake Carmi. There are many invasive plants and animals making their way to Vermont lakes that can have devastating impacts on the ecosystem. Prevention is the most inexpensive and effective way to deal with invasive species so we are very thankful for the work that they have done to keep Lake Carmi as healthy as can be. If you are launching or retrieving a boat from any body of water, always make sure to check your trailers, hulls, and live bait wells for any hitchhikers and discard them away from the water body. If you would like to learn more about Vermont Aquatic Invasive Species, you can visit lcbp.org/our-goals/healthy-ecosystems/aquatic-invasive-species/.



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Get Ready for 2024 at Lake Carmi

A Look Ahead at a Summer Full of Returning & New Events

By John Costa

As we go to print with our final newsletter for 2023, we end the year with great hope for next year. For those of us who are Red Sox fans, "wait till next year" almost seemed to be our *modus operandi* for way too many years.

Looking forward to 2024 with great hope for our lake, we're announcing some of the events/activities already in the planning stages.

RETURNING EVENTS

With Covid diminishing, 2023 brought old and new opportunities to the forefront. The "Worlds Only Pontoon Boat Relay Race" returned and resulted in the Orange Team leaving all other contenders in its wake, even that notorious Blue Team. With all the excitement created in 2023 for an event that some of us thought had run its course, we will bring the race back again for 2024. The overwhelmingly positive response from each of the shorelines

during and following the race reminded us of the value of this event.

So, start working on your teams now. We may even have some new twists for the race in the future.

The fishing contest (2023 is still underway as I write this) will be back again for its umpteenth year.

day of dining, boating, and sightseeing on our little lake.

Our Light Up the Lake contest will also return following some very creative displays in 2023. We call it a contest, but it's really meant to be a family-fun event. So even if you aren't all that creative, add some colorful lights to your camp for the event. I know we enjoy just riding the lake after dark to look at all the lights. Don't be afraid to join in the fun, and be sure to take a tour to add to the memories we all experience on our little lake.

The Ice Out contest is back once again. Tickets are being distributed as I write this. This is another family-fun event opportunity. Get all the kids together and see if you can select that winning date and time.

Our second, semi-annual LCCF Golf Tournament returns in 2024, with net proceeds going to the Lake Carmi Community Foundation. The foundation was created to raise

See **EVENTS**, pg. 8



The Senior Lunch and Boat Tour of the lake will be back for a third consecutive year. If you want to experience a truly feel-good day, come join us so you can see first hand all the smiling faces of some of our most precious citizens as they enjoy a

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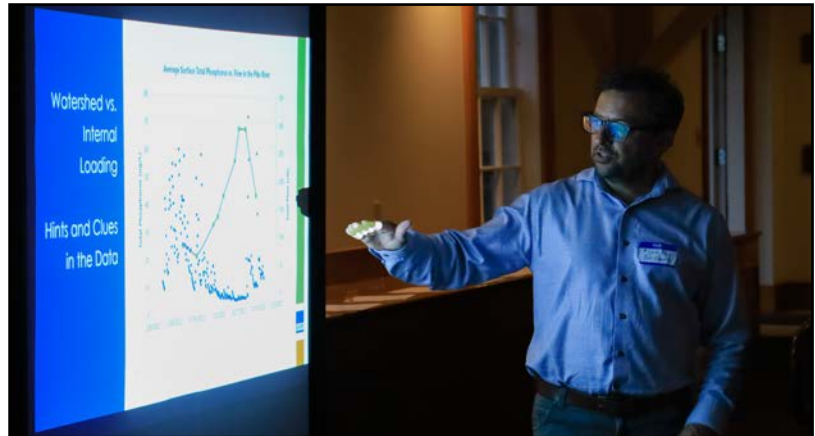
Another Successful LCCA Annual Meeting Held

The LCCA Annual Meeting was recently held at the Fellowship Hall of the Franklin United Church. Attendees enjoyed a nice pot-luck supper with delicious desserts!

After eating and visiting with fellow members, an awards ceremony was conducted. Certificates were awarded for the Celebrate Lake Carmi lighting competition, and the Pontoon Boat Race Trophy was awarded to the winning North Shore Orange Team.

Keith Pilgrim of Barr Engineering then gave a very informative presentation on the Alum Feasibility Study that will be conducted on Lake Carmi this fall.

The evening concluded with the business portion of the meeting, which included the reelection of John Costa, Ernie Englehardt, Rob Evans, Polly Gadbois, and Diane Larose as LCCA Directors.



The LCCA Annual Meeting was filled with activity, including (from top right) a presentation by Keith Pilgrim of Barr Engineering about the upcoming Alum Feasibility Study, presentation of certificates for the Celebrate Lake Carmi lighting competition, and door prizes.

Photographs courtesy of Michael Tansey



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EVENTS, from pg. 6

funds strictly to be used on efforts to improve and maintain water quality on Lake Carmi for current and future generations.

Our annual concert will also return with a possible new twist. Over the winter, your board will be looking at creating a series of concerts for everyone to enjoy over the course of the summer. If you know of talent in the area who might be interested in participating, please let us know.

Our annual Membership Day, where we invite members and potential members to drop in for coffee and doughnuts, will offer another opportunity to meet your board and make new friends.

NEW EVENTS

Although not new, the LCCA is considering expanding its role in the Chase Around the Lake Triathlon event run by the Franklin Recreation Department. We will hold further discussions with the Town regarding this event.

Another not new event, but under consideration for a return engagement, is the Cottage Tour with some modifications.

As announced by Pete at the Annual Meeting, your board will investigate the possibility of presenting a talent show at the refurbished Town Hall in Franklin. If you haven't visited the Town Hall recently, you're missing an amazing and underused structure right here in our own backyard.

None of these events happen magically. They happen through the efforts of your Board of Directors and a handful of volunteers. Please consider volunteering your services and take some of the burden off the shoulders of those who spend hours/days making everything happen.

Finally, if you have an idea or two for an event you think our lake community, neighbors in the Franklin community, or surrounding towns might enjoy, please let us know. We know we don't have all the answers. Your input and participation is invaluable in helping to create lifelong memories for everyone touched by Lake Carmi.

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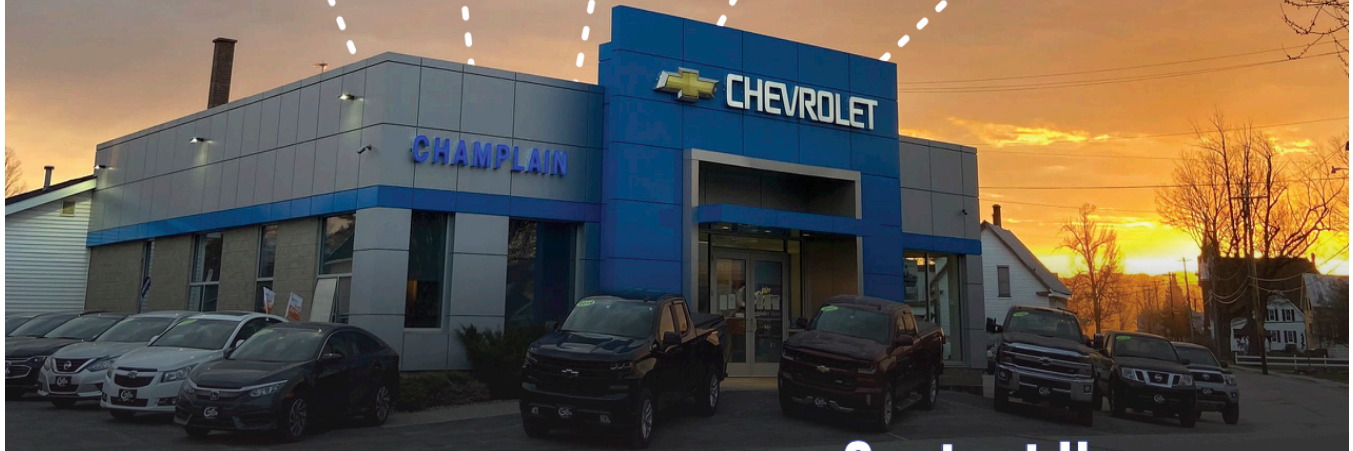
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Franklin History Corner

The Saving Waters of Lake Carmi

By Dave Benion

The waters of Lake Carmi have played a saving role in Franklin and the surrounding area more than once.

In 1975, severe lack of rain caused a drought that threatened the dairy farms in the area. Sen. Branon of Fairfield met with Gov. Salmon, and he asked the Legislature Emergency Board

back to get many loads of water.

In April of 2021, the Franklin Fire Department coordinated with Canadian fire departments to extinguish a fire that started on the Canadian



side and spread to our side of the border. Two Canadian tanker planes scooped up about 15 loads of water, with each load being 1,300 to 1,800 gallons.

The fire was successfully extinguished, proving once again the value of our lake.

Want to join the Franklin Historical Society? Email us at: historical@franklinvt.net. Not from the Franklin area but still interested in Franklin History? We can add you to our Friends of Franklin Historical email list. Just email us at: historical@franklinvt.net.

A History of Franklin, 1789-1989 is available for sale for \$20 at the Haston Library or the Franklin Town Clerk. Check out our website at www.franklinvthistorical.com.



Above: Charles Dewing backs his team into the lake to get a load of water to help with drought relief efforts in 1975, while water tankers wait to be filled (top). Below: A Canadian tanker plane soars over Lake Carmi n April 14, 2021, after filling up with lake water to help fight a fire at the border.

Above photo courtesy Marjorie Dewing. Bottom photo courtesy Sara Rainville

for aid, and \$25,00 was appropriated.

The National Guard came and provided a pump truck. Tank trucks from various sources arrived, and water from Lake Carmi was distributed to the affected farms in Sheldon, Highgate, Franklin, and Fairfield.

Charles Dewing used a horse drawn wagon with a tank in the



New Owners Bring Enthusiasm, Optimism, Creemees to Franklin General Store

By Brian Rainville

In the year 2000, there were 250 general stores in Vermont. Only 90 survive today. Discount chains, big-box stores, on-line retail, and credit card fees stifled many once proud centers of community and commerce.

Patti and Ken Corey hope to beat the odds. They bought Franklin's General Store this summer on June 12, and are optimistic about the future. "I listen to the customers, welcome their input, and try to bring it in," Patti said.

Patti grew up just down the street, where she walked to Franklin Elementary, and graduated from MVU. Her maiden name, Bishop, is as deeply rooted in this tight-knit, rural community as her married one - Corey. Ken's grandparents, Merrill and Eva, were prominent members of the grange, and his mother — Mary Lou — represented Franklin in the legislature.

Hard work and community service is in their genes. Patti Corey sees opportunity in 3,678 square feet, even though it's just a tenth of a modern supermarket. "Smiles and laughter are the norm here," Patti said, "We're all about customer service."

The Coreys are embracing continuity and change. The Facebook page their daughter Katie created for the store has 632 followers. That's why LCCA President Pete Benevento made a bee line for the newest shipment of Lake Carmi T-shirts. "I

saw them online and knew they'd go fast," he exclaimed while examining the stock.

Patti and Ken are using the internet to promote lunch specials, baked goods, and local products. Next

- over which just seven families have presided in 130 years.

To level shelves, the Coreys jacked up floors that were laid before the Civil War. Their son Bradley looks forward to building a new kitchen with his father, tripling it in size by incorporating former clothing and stock rooms.

Look for the roll out of a larger bakery line, including doughnuts - which are in development. The extra elbow room will make holiday and batch-baking easier - including preparing 92 dozen rolls for the annual Fire Department BBQ.

With breakfast sandwiches and pastries at opening, lunch at 11, and pizza until a half hour 'til closing, there's no shortage of tasks for the Coreys, who were already operating the former commune and Towle farms. Ken will preside over the butcher shop, offering "freshly ground hamburger at affordable prices." He and Patti are pleased that "Paul Greenwood, who taught Bill Mayo to cut meat" is returning to train their team.

A century ago, Franklin had five mercantiles: J.M. Hill at Morses Line, Gilberts in East Franklin, and the trio of Simpson & Towle, O.H. Riley, C.W. Powell in Franklin Village - in addition to one or more seasonal establishments on the shores of Lake Carmi.



Patti and Ken Corey plate up a cheese pizza in the Franklin General Store's recently expanded kitchen. Patti and Ken purchased the store in June. The kitchen will eventually triple in size, and other additions are being planned as well.

Photograph by Polly Gadbois

summer they'll list creemee flavors, two in rotation with the option of a twist, after adding an ice cream window.

Patti learned retail at Kinney Drugs, and these days, she, Ken, and 15 employees operate the local landmark

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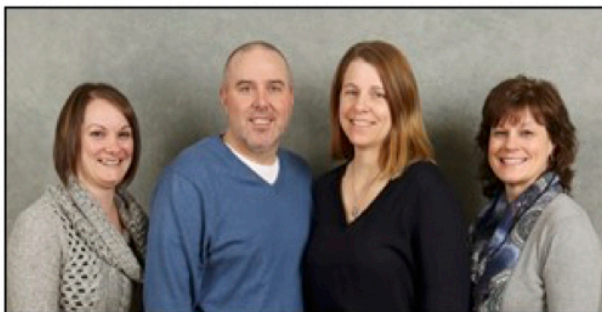
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Folks turned out earlier this summer to enjoy an ice cream social and concert from the 40th Army Band, hosted by the Franklin United Church and the East Franklin Union Church.

Photos courtesy John Costa

STORE, from pg. 11



With careful management, a taste for innovation, and a nod to the past - including welcoming store memorabilia for display - Patti hopes Franklin General will endure. That is her dream, that this slice of living history will remain a vital anchor in the community she loves so much.

We encourage all of our summer (and year-round) friends to pay the store a visit. You won't be disappointed!



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(802) 255-5570

Return of the Pontoon Boat Relay Race





SEASON KUDOS

As this is the final newsletter of the season, we would like to publicly thank Adam Mullen, Katie Thompson and Charlie Magnet for the wonderful firework displays they bestowed on the lake this summer. Also, a big thank you to Tim & Sharyn Abbott for their annual concert.

All of these events contributed to a very fun, entertaining and festive atmosphere around the lake and throughout the summer.

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THANK YOU ADVERTISERS!

As we go to press with our last edition of the 2023 newsletter, we must acknowledge our local businesses (in alphabetical order) for their continued support. Without them, we could not continue to issue a paper copy of our newsletter and would have only a digital version. Please take the time to go over this list and support each and every one of them as you can. They all have most generously supported our association, and your LCCA newsletter staff is most grateful.

- ABBEY PUB & RESTAURANT
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- COMMUNITY CARE HOMES
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CLASSIFIEDS

Members of the LCCA who are current with their dues are permitted a free classified ad in all five issues of our newsletter. Merchandise ads are only run for two issues, unless renewed. Camp rentals can run for the entire season, but if you have no more availability, please notify the editor.

COTTAGE FOR RENT: Hammond Shore Rd, fully furnished, bring your own linens. (802) 285-6737.

COTTAGE FOR RENT: Patton Shore Road. Newly renovated & insulated camp available for rent through fall and winter. Fully furnished. Can sleep up to 8 guests; two bedrooms, loft and sun room. Private fenced-in back yard on the water w/dock, includes plenty of outdoor seating, grill, kayak, and peddle boat. For more details please check out www.greenmountainstays.com.

DEUSO FAMILY MAPLES: Syrup \$40 gallon, \$22 half gallon. Maple cream, \$13 for 16 oz., Maple BBQ sauce \$8 fr 12 oz. Call Howard or Pam Deuso, cell (802)752-0081.



In Memoriam



PAMELA GREENE
 (July 13, 1951-Aug. 17, 2023)
 FRANKLIN: Pamela "Pam" Jane Greene, 72, passed on August 17, 2023. For more information, please visit www.gossfs.com/obituaries/pamela-greene.




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LAKE CARMİ ASSOCIATION NEWS

Lake Carmi Association News is published bi-monthly from May through September by the Lake Carmi Campers Association. Lake Carmi Association is available in print and online at lakecarmivt.com.

Editors: Peter Benevento, Polly Gadbois, Suzanne Hull-Casavant, Rhonda Somers-Fletcher, Ethan Dezotelle, Alison Dezotelle

Ad Sales: Polly Gadbois

Design & Production: Ethan and Alison Dezotelle

Submissions to Lake Carmi Association news are always welcome at editors@lakecarmivt.com.

Lake Carmi Campers Association Mission Statement

The Lake Carmi Campers Association, Inc., is dedicated to conserving our unique natural resources, improving and enhancing the quality of life and the environment, for all Lake Carmi residents and visitors. In cooperation with local and state authorities, the association shall provide educational, cultural, and recreational activities, as well as water quality management and safety education initiatives. Further, the association will provide a medium through which information and educational programs and materials may be distributed throughout the community.



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Cottage Telephone: _____

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Email address: _____

You'll get the season's LCCC Newsletters (May-Sept.) by email, as well as other useful info, with no spam or advertising.

LCCA members are committed to Lake Carmi. Some volunteer to help out; some enjoy a week or more in our pristine setting. Please become a member and do what you can. Become an official LCCA member by sending your membership form and annual dues check today. If your information hasn't changed in the past year, just send your dues check. Comments are always welcome. Thanks!

I would like to contribute to the LCCA Water Quality Fund:
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