

Gunner Harold Clifford Kerr update: It's a small world after all

By Matthew McCully

In Friday's paper, The Record put out a call to help Cynthia Kerr connect with descendants of WWI soldier Harold Clifford Kerr from Island Brook, who died in 1917 while fighting in France.

Kerr, who lives in Australia, happened upon her great uncle's WWI dog tag last week. It had been uncovered in French garden years earlier along with 17 others. When Kerr discovered the dog tag,

listed on a French war chat forum, she immediately began a search for other relatives of the soldier to help fill in the missing pieces of Gunner Kerr's story.

"This week has been a huge week of discovery for me," Kerr said in a recent email.

Followers of the Bury, Quebec: News, history, past and present Facebook page were quick to help with Kerr's search. A thread of 30 comments helped connect Kerr, now in Australia, with relatives still in the Townships.

A combination of social media networking and investigation has connected Kerr with another grandniece of Gunner Kerr. She has also managed, with the help of contacts from Canadaatwar.ca, to retrace the steps of Kerr's regiment in France to the exact spot the gun he was operating was hit by the Germans.

"Another gentleman is now helping me get replacement medals and ribbons as there are two missing. I only have the Victory medal and it has the incorrect

ribbon," Kerr said. "This is incredibly interesting and I've had a huge week of discoveries!"

Thanks to the connections she has made through various chat rooms and social media, Kerr said flowers will be placed at the grave of her great uncle any time she requests.

Having almost given up hope, one small discovery in a French garden allowed Kerr to fill blanks in her family's history, spanning 100 years from Island Brook all the way to Australia.

Sherbrooke woman sentenced to 90 days for fraud

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

A Sherbrooke woman convicted of defrauding three employers one after the other will have to spend three months behind bars and perform 240 hours of community service.

Claudine Lessard was sentenced to a "lenient" sentence by Court of Quebec Justice Conrad Chapdelaine because she is the primary support for her family.

However, she will have to spend the next 90 days in prison and will have to do 240 hours of community work.

"Society will be better served if you can continue to assume your family responsibilities," said Chapdelaine.

Lessard acknowledged her crimes, which involved the making of false documents and the use of false documents between June 2012 and June 2016.

During this period, she cashed phony checks made out in her name from ac-

counts belonging to her employer, Construction Guy-Sébas. While she was awaiting her fate in court in connection with this fraud, she used the credit cards of other employers, Centaure for \$1795 and then Camping Beau-Lieu for \$2,595. She was fired from all three places after the discovery of her fraud.

In deciding on a sentence, Chapdelaine took into account that she has repaid the three employers.

"Fraud against an employer must be

punished severely because it constitutes a breach of confidence in the injured party," Chapdelaine said, noting Lessard's apparent lack of awareness of the seriousness of the crimes committed.

"A penalty of imprisonment must apply in spite of the reimbursement you have made," he added. Lessard will also have to serve a probationary period after her release.

Easter Egg Hunt in Mansonville

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made sure that the children were hydrated with the donation of juice boxes for all.

Face painting with FYI members Julia Eldridge and Rachelle Lachance, a wonderful photo booth where many had their photos taken was organized and animated by Starr Dostie and Jason Forget. All of these people helped with the hiding of eggs and the set up including Abby Jersey who assisted with everything!

"I am so grateful," explained Sarah Jersey, "Without these people, and the donations received, we would not have

been able to hold this event which was attended by over fifty people."

Potton Municipal Mayor, Louis Veillon as well as council member, Andre Ducharme both came to cheer the kids on as they searched for chocolate treats. Many attending expressed the hope that the event would become an annual thing and Mother Nature added her only special touch by providing a beautiful warm and sunny day to the mix.

For more information or to read more about this event, visit the CAB website at www.cabmn.org or call 450-292-4886 (Youth Centre) or the Main Office of the CAB at 450-292-3114.



PHOTOS BY MABLE HASTINGS

Alexa Graham poses next to the Virgin Hill and Tigre Geant sponsorship sign



One little guy could hardly stand the wait as he ran to his parents with a big chocolate bunny



Maeva Giroux and Kadie Barnes pose beside the Marche Richelieu sponsorship sign.