



Winter's glory

Recorder photo contest winners capture winter in Franklin County



This photo taken by Carole DeRose of Greenfield, who won first place in the adult color category in The Recorder's photo contest, is titled "Cousins Crusty-Cruising." Submitted photo



Anne Nolan Wheeler of Colrain won first place in the adult category for her black and white photo of a cupola in the snow. Submitted photo



Henry Josephson of Greenfield received second-place honors in the adult color category for a photo at Catamount in Shelburne Falls. Submitted photo



Anne Nolan Wheeler of Colrain won second place in the black and white adult category for her photo of a snowy maple tire swing. Submitted photo

Photos: Winter Carnival exhibit features 11-year-old photographer

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Shortly after 11-year-old Phoebe Broussard got a camera in her hand, she seemed like a natural.

“She has an artistic bent to her — it was amazing,” Phoebe’s grandfather Richard Broussard said.

“Within an hour, she got comfortable with the camera, while I’m still trying to figure it out,” he said.

Phoebe Broussard won the youth category of The Recorder’s Annual Winter Carnival Photo Contest. This was the youth category’s first year in the contest.

The other winners, all adults, are Anne Nolan Wheeler of Colrain, Henry Josephson of Greenfield, Carole DeRose of Greenfield, and Henry Mixsell of Greenfield.

Her photo, and those of the other winners, will be on display in Wilson’s Department store Studio C Feb. 5 through 13.

Phoebe received her first camera from her grandfather on Jan. 1, 2016, and she immediately took to the craft of photography.

In Pownal, Vermont, where her grandparents live, she began taking pictures the day she received the camera, and one of those pictures ended up winning the contest.

“I just pressed all the buttons,” Phoebe said of her first time with the camera, getting adjusted to its intricacies. “There were a lot of birds in my grandma’s backyard and I wanted to see what I could do with that.”

Phoebe’s photograph featured one of those birds, a woodpecker, munching away at a birdfeeder. And while it looks like it was taken from close-up, the picture was taken with a zoom, or as her grandfather taught her, “the telephoto lens.”

Phoebe was not a complete novice, though. Despite her shyness, she will let you know that she has some experience.

“I always take pictures on my phone and post them on Instagram and get lots of ‘likes.’ And I thought, ‘why not take pictures with a camera?’ And they came out better.”

Perhaps Phoebe’s precociousness in photography is genetic. Her grandfather worked with the Army Corps of Engineers as a photographer. Later, he operated his own photography development darkroom.

Also, artistic endeavors of

all sorts run in the family. Her parents Rob and Lori were in a band called the Pop-Rockets, which performed “new wave-rock songs for kids,” and released a CD. Additionally, her mother has painted for many years, as a hobby, which has helped Phoebe through her artistic pursuits.

“My mom inspires me the most,” the 11-year-old said. “It’s because she always wants to do art classes and stuff with me.”

Phoebe’s father was proud of his daughter for the work she has done, but he wasn’t surprised with her win.

“Phoebe always spends time, in some way, creating or having an artistic outlet, so it doesn’t surprise me that she took to it so quickly and had results like that,” her father said.

And Phoebe maintains a simple philosophy for her photography, which may be useful for future and seasoned shutterbugs alike.

“I take pictures of things that are interesting or beautiful,” she said. “I don’t take pictures of things that aren’t beautiful, because it’s just wasting my time.”

Her photo and those of the other winners will appear in Studio C on the third floor of Wilson’s Department store beginning Feb. 5.



Henry Mixsell of Greenfield received third place in the adult color category for his photo of horses at Stoneleigh Burnham School. Submitted photo



Phoebe Broussard of Greenfield won first place in youth category for her photo of a woodpecker perched at a feeder at her grandparents’ home in Vermont. Submitted photo



Henry Josephson of Greenfield won third place in the adult black and white category for his photo of a stonewall at Catamount. Submitted photo