

Website: Riverratgazette.com

Skip's Corner by Skip Couch

Finding A Car Off McCormick's Dock

We had always dived off McCormick's Dock for bottles. One Saturday, we did our normal dive off that dock. We decided we would go back the next day.

We got there Sunday morning. We went down and, to our surprise, found a car sitting there, which had not been there the day before. I opened the door and looked inside—there was no one there. We figured we had better call the police.

A trooper arrived a little while later. He asked me to go down and see if the keys were in the car, and if so, to bring them back up. I went back down and found the keys in the ignition, and the car was in drive. I went back up and reported to the trooper.

He then asked me to go back down and open the trunk to see what was inside. I went down, put the key in the trunk, and turned it. As soon as I did, the trunk opened with a big whoosh! Startled, I went back to the surface and looked up.

The trooper, who had been on the edge of the dock looking down at the water, had gotten drenched when the spare tire came flying out of the trunk and splashed into the water in front of him. I thought it was funny, but the trooper didn't seem to think so.

The trooper called a tow truck, and they came and pulled it out a little while later. Just one of our many adventures on the river.

Have a great April, and as always—GOOD DIVING!!



Area Events

April 18-2026 Regional Dive Symposium, Villiage Municipal Building, Clayton

April 18-1000 Islands Snowmobile Rally, Cerow Park, Clayton

May 2-Touch A Truck Event, Cerow Park, Clayton

May 28-Clayon Farmers Market Begins For The Summer, Villiage Park Circle, Clayton

June 6-Trash & Treasures Town Wide Yard Sales, Clayton

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Things You See On The River In The Spring

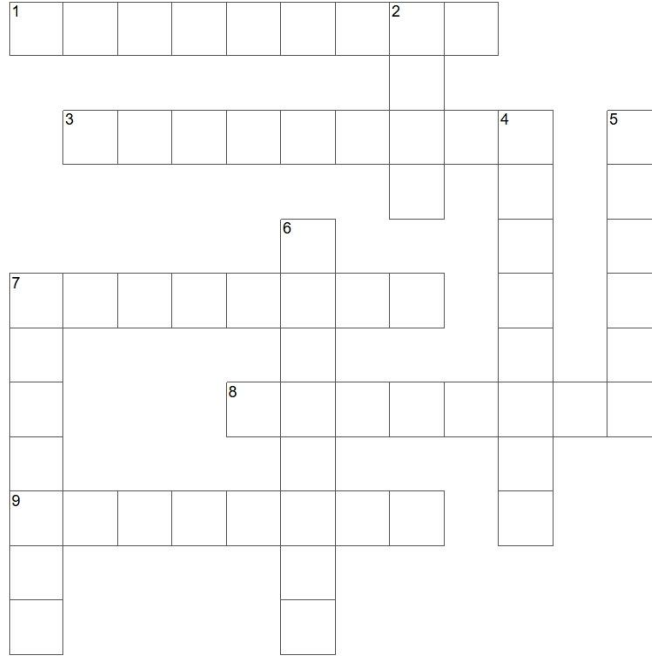
By River Rat Gazette

ACROSS

- 1 Small yellow wildflower carpeting wooded island floors each May
- 3 Slender white wildflower often blooming near damp river edges
- 7 Springtime bird calls echoing across quiet island mornings
- 8 Green shoreline growth commonly seen sprouting along the river in May
- 9 Early spring songbird known for its bright, whistling

DOWN

- 2 Spring return of this black-and-white waterbird along the St. Lawrence
- 4 Flower commonly seen blooming along riverbanks and cottage roads
- 5 Small insect that draws birds to the river surface
- 6 Purple woodland flower blooming on shaded island trails
- 7 River shoreline trees that bud early and line many smaller islands



Answers to April crossword next month or go to riverratgazette.com to get the answers now.

March Answers

Fast-moving chunks of river ice during early spring breakup
 Answer: IceFloes

River condition in spring caused by melting snow
 Answer: HighWater

Birds that fly north in the spring
 Answer: Geese

When a boat returns to the water each spring
 Answer: LaunchDay

Floating piles of river ice that sometime jam the river
 Answer: IceJam

When freighters are allowed to pass through the St. Lawrence
 Answer: SeawayOpening

Annual task for river homeowners after winter ice damage
 Answer: DockRepairs

Debris carried downstream each spring after ice and snow melt
 Answer: RiverDebris

