LOCAL COUPLE STILL STANDING AFTER DECADES-LONG 2020

Cass and Addie miss their families and friends from afar

Saint Paul, Minn. — Local couple Cass Casarez & Addie Chernow are happy to announce that they have survived the decades-long "year" that was 2020. They would like to thank their families, friends, pet(s), caffeine, and therapy for making this possible.

The couple accomplished a lot in 2020, both individually and as a unit. They learned they can take care of a (small) dog and a cat at the same time (more on that below). They recognized the importance of time alone to decompress and, when needed, sleep. And they celebrated their fifth anniversary by doing what they've done for most of the year - watching TV and playing video games indoors.

The year has been one of self-discovery and growth for Casarez. They have kept steady employment at Starbucks, which allowed them to take time off at the beginning of the pandemic. They also got to help open a brand-new store in Saint Paul, which has made all the difference. Outside of work, Casarez began studying computer programming (Python) and spending their Sundays in (virtual) worship as an official member of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

Before the pandemic hit, Chernow spent time volunteering in the Retro Area of Free Geek Twin Cities outside of work. She too has kept her job in 2020, helping to reinvent the wheel on how TV is made as most of her coworkers are either physically apart at the station or working from home. And as you may know, the news cycle did not stop this year. Chernow helped cover it all, including the unrest in Minneapolis after a police officer killed George Floyd back in May. Chernow was honored with two Upper Midwest Emmy nominations for her work this year. While the results did not rule in her favor, we are currently challenging them in every court possible.;)

Now nine years old, Finn the cat has continued to be a good boy. His world was turned upside down in February when he had to share his house with unofficial cousin Izzy the dog. But when he realized the two could team up against their humans, things became okay. Finn is grateful for the pandemic because that means his pawrents are back at work and he doesn't have to go to the v-e-t.

The couple is looking forward to seeing their families and friends when it is safe to travel across state lines in the (hopefully not-so-distant) future. They also can't wait to see their beloved Minnesota Lynx back at Target Center again. And while she may not admit it, Chernow is looking forward to the return of the Minnesota State Fair almost as much as Casarez is.

Almost.

Stay positive and test negative,

Cass, Addie, and Finn