

MARGARET & EMILY BLACK

2019 IN REVIEW

OVER THE PAST 15 MONTHS, MARGARET JOINED EMILY ON A QUEST FOR A HEALTHIER LIFESTYLE, INCLUDING DAILY EXERCISE, HEALTHY VEGETARIAN EATING, AND MINDFULNESS-BASED STRESS MANAGEMENT (MEDITATION & YOGA)



Emily, working in the Bass Lake Park gatehouse

The Latest on Emily

Emily turned 19 in November. She has now completed 1 ½ of 2 ½ years, studying to be a Paralegal, at Fleming College in Peterborough. This year Emily is living off-campus and has our old car in Peterborough, which has provided us both with greater freedom and independence!



Over the summer, Emily worked as a gatehouse attendant at Bass Lake Provincial Park. On days off, Emily joined Margaret's camping trips in Algonquin and MacGregor Point Provincial Parks. She also went camping with friends at Emily Provincial Park. Emily hopes to work for Ontario Parks again next summer.

This year, Emily attended a few concerts in Toronto, with her boyfriend Mitchel and some friends. She also started a small business, making jewelry which she sells to friends, online, and via local farmer's markets.



In November, Margaret & Emily participated in a day of meditation at Sugar Ridge Retreat Centre, in support of mental health programs for underprivileged people. They raised \$380. in pledges.

The Latest on Margaret (a.k.a. Maggie)



Margaret is in her 16th year as a teacher at Rama Central P.S. This year, she has a Grade 4/5 class. Margaret turns 60 in May, and will likely be retiring in June of 2023 or 2024.

Margaret just completed her sixth year as a board member at Aspen Valley Wildlife Sanctuary. This year, she is also an education committee member with "Sustainable Orillia."

Margaret was called "Margie" for the first 10 years of her life, went by the name "Marg," for the next 25 years and referred to herself as "Margaret" during the subsequent 25 years. She would like a less formal, more fun moniker for her retirement years, so from now on she will be introducing herself to new people as "Maggie," (... but she will continue to answer to any of the above names!)

This year, Margaret camped in five provincial Parks. In early July, she and the dogs spent a week at Kearney Lake, a quiet, little gem of a campground in Algonquin Park. Margaret and the dogs did a lot of hiking, and paddled a number of nearby lakes with their kayak. Then, Margaret and the dogs went on a paddle-in trip, in Kawartha Highlands, with Margaret's teacher's college friend, Jane, and one of Jane's childhood friends. They had a beautiful base camp on Bottle Lake, and explored the area via canoe/kayak. The next trip was a first-time visit to MacGregor Point Provincial Park, on Lake Huron, a hiking and biking paradise! In August, Margaret and the dogs spent a week on their own in Killarney Provincial Park, kayaking, hiking, attending park programs, and (Margaret) painting and reading. Margaret's final trip was a chilly, but fun, fall weekend camping at Six Mile Lake.



