

2018 YEAR IN REVIEW:

The Black Family

This was a HUGE year!

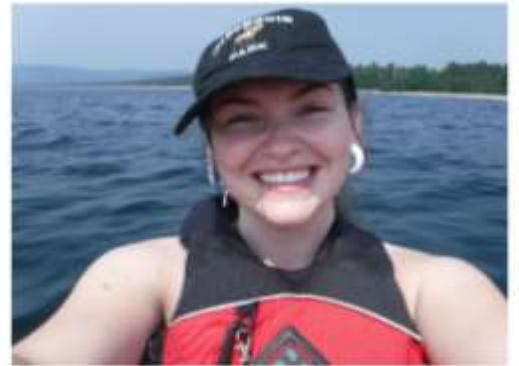
In January, Emily got her driver's licence. In June, she graduated from high school, on the Honour Roll and with an award for top marks in the cosmetology program. In June, Margaret gave Emily our 2010 Hyundai Elantra Touring as a graduation gift. Emily continued working at Walmart throughout the summer. In September, she moved to Fleming College, in Peterborough, to study to be a Paralegal. In November, Emily turned eighteen!

This school year, Emily is living in residence, in a suite of six students (four girls and two guys). Each student has his/her own bedroom and they share two bathrooms, a kitchen and a livingroom. Emily loves college life, including living with "siblings" for the first time. The Wii, PS3, several board games and some DVD's have now migrated to Peterborough, and Emily and her roommates are making good use of them in their spare time.

In June, Margaret purchased a little red Hyundai Kona. It's a subcompact SUV that is perfect for camping and great on gas! Through the summer, Margaret continued building our native gardens, and had our yard certified as a Monarch Butterfly Waystation. Just like Emily, Margaret is really enjoying our new living arrangements (at home, it's Margaret, two cats and two dogs). Margaret is teaching Grade 4/5 at Rama Central P.S., again this year, and is in her sixth year on the board at Aspen Valley Wildlife Sanctuary. Margaret's fall-to-spring project is to get back in shape!



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This year, we went on several camping trips. The first was a “solo” trip, with just Margaret and the dogs. They had a private site at Awenda Provincial Park for five days. While there, the trio hiked all of the park trails and spend some time at the beach, on Georgian Bay.

The second trip was an overnight stay at Emily Provincial Park, in mid-July, for Margaret and Emily. The park is 15 minutes from Peterborough. Emily and Margaret attended “Welcome Day” at Fleming College the following day.

In August, Margaret, Emily, and the dogs went on a two-week camping trip to Agawa Bay and Pancake Bay, on Lake Superior, and Windy Lake, near Sudbury. “The Big Lake” was as epic as ever! From Windy Lake, Margaret and Emily took a day trip to Science North, while the dogs attended “doggie daycare,” in Sudbury.

Other summer activities included a lunch cruise on the Wenonah II, for Margaret, Emily and Margaret’s Mom, Barbara, three plays at the Orillia Opera House for Margaret and Barbara, and a 50’s musical play at King’s Wharf Theatre, for Margaret and Emily. In September, Margaret visited The Owl Foundation. In December, Margaret went to see Murray McLauchlan in concert. In January, Margaret is attending the Banff Film Festival (in Orillia) and, in February, a winter camping course and a wilderness first aid course.