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Martha McGrath hands over the Newsletter

by Charles Marker

Our condo Newsletter is now under new management – and best wishes to the new Team.

Before moving on, we salute Martha McGrath who founded the Newsletter in 2003 and has shepherded it for the past 16 years.

There had been previous newsletter incarnations at 40 Homewood, and the immediate predecessor, "Take 40," ended when its editor retired. At the time, Martha was a member of the Board of Directors, and she volunteered to steer a monthly Newsletter.

The Board agreed, although for a few years the Board did not contribute or participate. In fact, there was a disclaimer stating that the Newsletter did not represent the Board of Directors. Later, things evolved so that the Board also had input into the Newsletter and found it a useful adjunct to other means of communicating with the owners and residents.

Martha encouraged contributions from a variety of residents, and people wrote about their travels, submitted recipes and reported on neighbourhood news. Sometimes it was hard work to get contributors to produce in time for a deadline!

In more recent years, in addition to Board information, there have been frequent articles from the Green Committee and the Social Committee, a monthly restaurant review by Cammy Lee-Bostwick, movie reviews for a time and other items of interest to residents.

Martha's favourite part of doing the Newsletter was the work of layout and making it interesting and attractive to the eye. She leaves this work with some relief but also some sense of loss.

Martha, originally from Montreal, moved to Toronto in 1978 to continue her job with the Royal Bank. She moved into 40 Homewood in 1995 and retired from work in 2000. She served several terms on the Board of Directors and has been a member of the Green Committee for many years, stretching back to when it was called the Recycling Committee.

One of two girls in her family, Martha's sister lives in British Columbia. She has a nephew in Quebec and one who lives locally. Martha belongs to the Red Hat Society – which we can tell when we see her coming and going with a red hat.



To Martha,

Thank you for all the years of hard work you put into our condo's monthly newsletter.

No one could have designed a more artistic layout, or made it any easier, or more fun, to read.

Thank you, also, for your patience with those of us who made submissions.

You were always a pleasure to deal with.

~ Esther P.



Questions & Answers • TO AND FROM • the Board & Management

prepared by Brian Brenie

Q. I understand there is a slow leaking pool pipe that may require the pool closure again.

A. Yes, you are right. There is a new leak in a skimmer pipe connected to the pool which will require closure of the pool for an extended period (a few weeks) in order for us to drain the water, jackhammer the pipe opening and replace the pipe. Then we'll need to fill the pool slowly again and wait a few days for the heater to heat up the water to a comfortable temperature. Watch for closure notices in July. The contractor advises at least 15 days will be needed to repair, fill, and heat the water before reopening. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Q. I like the look of the new walkway in the front. Why was the stone wall installed?

A. We have had serious drainage issues with the slope of our front gardens causing pooling of water and dead grass along the walkway for a number of years. This new stone wall was chosen as a design that can help to mitigate the water pooling. At the time of writing the mulch has not yet been put down and should be done over the next few days.

Q. Last year because of the window project on the east side we did not plant any annuals in our gardens. Can you advise when the planting will be done?

A. We have engaged our gardener and given instructions on what plants to be planted in front. We are hoping this work takes place in the next few weeks.

The rear garden west of the island will be planted with pollinator plants to assist pollinators (bees and butterflies).

Q. Are we looking at paving the driveway?

A. The driveway paving is scheduled but we have not engaged any contractor at this point. Our engineering firm has to first test the garage membrane before this takes place. This requires us to locate and scan blueprints of our garage to provide to the engineer before the start of that project. Once the garage membrane tests are complete we will try to contract for driveway paving and possible redesign to allow some additional service van temporary parking in the rear.

OFFICE REMINDERS

**There are 1 washer &
1 dryer with bluetooth
pay options in the
last room of the
laundry room**

**Short term rentals
or Airbnbs are not
permitted in the
building**

**Q. Is there any problem
disposing of food in our
kitchen drains?**

A. Last month we recommended that food be gathered and deposited in the compost bin and not down the drain. This includes scraps and coffee grinds, for example. If a unit's drain gets clogged and a plumber is called in to snake the drain, the cost of this service will be borne by the unit owner. A service call of this nature can exceed \$200 per visit. If you have a plumbing need please consult our building's plumbing contractor (Mainline) who may be able to tie in a personal unit call at the same time they are in the building for other services. This may lessen the service call charge in some cases. For Mainline's contact information, copy this link to your browser:
http://40homewood.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Service_Providers_2019.pdf

Q. How do I submit my proxy for the AGM since I will not be attending but want to ensure quorum is attained?

A. If you receive the AGM package electronically you can print off the last three pages, fill out and sign the proxy, and place it into an envelope with your unit number on the front of the envelope. Deposit that proxy with the office personally or send it by mail in enough time that it arrives by June 12th. The office will hold the proxy until the start of the meeting in case you wish to attend personally or if you send an updated proxy for your unit.

If you receive the AGM package by mail you can tear off the past three pages and complete the proxy, place it in an envelope with your unit on the front, and mail it to the office or deposit it in person.

The office will have extra copies of the blank proxy should you need one to fill out.

We encourage as many as possible to attend the meeting on June 12th at 7:00 pm but understand if you are not able to be there. We need and appreciate your proxy to conduct the annual business of the corporation and to elect the three open board positions.

On June 5th at 6:30 p.m. there will be a Meet the Candidates information session in the Recreation Room where you can meet and ask questions of the candidates for these three available positions.

Q. Will the windows and garage be cleaned this spring?

A. Both the inaccessible windows and the garage are scheduled to be cleaned over the next few weeks. Watch for notices on the monitor screens in the elevators, laundry room and mailroom, and on Channel 58. The windows are scheduled for June 24th (weather permitting). For privacy please be sure to close your blinds or drapes at this time.

Instructions will be provided to the residents in the garage regarding car relocation that will be necessary to ensure a thorough cleaning of the garage takes place this year. Last year, a number of cars were not moved and the winter sand and salt remained under these vehicles for the past 12 months. We would like to

ensure a thorough clean this year. The planned cleaning dates are June 11th and 12th.

Q. At a recent information session a resident asked about cleaning the patio walls. Is something planned?

A. The staff will schedule time to power wash all the patio walls, interlocking bricks, as well as the western white wall at the back of the property. If this does not clean up the wall stains then we will have the walls painted after that.

Q. Are the barbeques ready to be used?

A. The barbeques on the patio are available for use by residents. If you wish to use a barbeque, check in with security who can put your unit into the schedule. There is no cost to use the barbeques. All we ask is that you clean the grill and utensils provided after you use them so the next user does not have to do so. When you are scheduled to use the barbeque, security will unlock the gas valve and turn it on for use. After you are finished, advise security to shut off the gas line and they will cover the barbeque once it cools down.

Q. How do I sign up to receive notices electronically?

A. If you wish to receive notices electronically there is a form in the AGM package that can be filled out and deposited with the office.

Q. What is the Owner and Resident Information Update Sheet that is included in the AGM package?

A. In order to populate the building electronic communication system with your information, all residents (both on site owners and off site) are asked to fill in this form and deposit it with the office. The office will use this information to create the database used to populate the new communication software that will be implemented in the next few months. Once rollout of the software takes place the service providers will be on site to help residents learn how to use the system after installation.

OFFICE REMINDERS

**Please do not
feed the pigeons
or squirrels on
the property**

**No lockboxes are
allowed anywhere
on or around
the property**

An affectionate tribute to Timothy Oakes

by Martha MacLachlan

Timothy is standing down from his Director position and role as Vice President on the Board of Directors at 40 Homewood. Timothy's commitment on behalf of our building and residents is more than commendable and he deserves a gracious thank you from all of us.

He moved into our community in February, 2011 and from that time on he had a presence at all our events. In June 2013, he stepped up and ran for the Board, and has subsequently completed three two-year terms. In 2016, he was elected to the position of President by the Board, and from 2017, with the return of Brian Brenie to the position of President, Timothy took on the role of Vice President.

Timothy has been an active director. He took on the enormous responsibility as Director of Communications in 2015 that included handling the board gmail account, being the website administrator, and updating the digital media boards. He also served as the Board liaison for the Special Projects Committee in 2014 and 2015, has been on the newsletter committee since 2015, and is a regular contributor to the newsletter.

As new board members coming on "board" in 2016, Timothy was both wise and patient in helping Manal and me to get up to speed on important decisions that had to be made and issues that had to be handled. He liaised and worked with the property manager and has always been hands on, getting things done.

By taking on the Communications position, Timothy inadvertently set himself up as the one to bear the wrath of some of our residents, by being the one who had to respond to complaints and requests that were beyond the board's control, and he never complained or bore grudges. This has not been an easy position for Timothy but he considered every email, researched answers and responded in an exhaustingly, timely manner.

Board members are committed to the collective good of our building and our community; that's why they stand for election. They believe in the concept of giving back to the community and Timothy gave generously of his time and skills to our community. Even when circumstances changed in his life, and he moved from our building, he steadfastly lived up to his commitment as a board member until the end of his term. That is dedication. For all that Timothy has contributed to 40 Homewood, we are most grateful. Timothy's presence on the board of directors will be, as they say, a hard act to follow.



Tuesday, June 4th
"Life's a Beach"
7:30 to 9:30 pm



We are going to escape to the beach at our last paint event until September. Weather permitting we will paint out in the fresh

air so your summer dreams can begin early.

Reserve your spot at:
reserve@brushesandcocktails.ca
· no later than June 2nd ·

You can also tag yourself on our Instagram @brushes_and_cocktails and brag to your friends about your hidden talents. The wine helps too! Available through donation, \$4 a glass. You can't beat that, a night in with neighbours! Invite your friends to join us. Your name doesn't have to be Picasso!

This month's down and dirty charcoal nude night was a blast, no if's and or butts about it. For the first time we did not take a group picture, which is really too bad because there were some great nudes showing off. The magic lives on in art. Thanks guys, for that wonderful evening together.

During the summer I will be available for private events if anyone wants to turn a party into a happening.

**Contact me to
book a party at:**
info@brushesandcocktails.ca

We think we could use a real name!

As you have read in Charles' article on the front page, the newsletter was once called "**Take 40**"...Perhaps you remember it ...we weren't here then!

So, we're eager to announce a contest to come up with a new name for our little publication.

Just some simple guidelines:

- up to 3 words
- not a name that has been used before

Please submit your ideas to the newsletter's email:

newsletter40homewood@gmail.com

We'll announce the winner next issue!

~ The Newsletter Team



Important
dates in
June

Wednesday, June 5th
Eid ul Fitr

Saturday, June 15th
40 Homewood Yard Sale

Sunday, June 16th
Father's Day

Friday, June 21st
Summer Solstice

Sunday, June 23rd
Pride Day

**SPECIAL NOTE: THE SUMMER
BBQ, USUALLY IN AUGUST,
WILL BE ON SATURDAY,
JULY 13th THIS YEAR**

good eats, cheap eats, sweet spots

by Cammy Lee-Bostwick

Welcome to the Newsletter, Donna, Kevin & Tammy!

This month's review counts as a "sweet spot" as it's slightly out of our 'hood and while not super-cheap, certainly affordable. Continuing the theme of "Paris-in-the-Springtime", I offer you a café that is a Parisian franchise: Brioche Dorée, at 648 King Street West, just east of Bathurst. Last month when we were in Paris, there was one located across from the hotel we stayed at.

I ordered the Pear and Brie sandwich for \$7.99 (see pic below – not the one I ate – when mine came I ate it too quickly... sorry folks...). It comes heated and panini-pressed. Thin slices of pear, and spinach with Brie on buttered bread with a "Dijon-naise" make it taste distinctively French. The ooey-goey cheese helped make this sandwich mouth-wateringly delicious! For dessert we had the mini-croissant (\$1.10) which was

crispy, light, soft, and buttery all at once. Wanting to evoke memories of an apple turnover we had in Paris at "Mulot" – an incredible bakery – we shared one here for \$2.85 (see pic). The filling was applesauce-like, similar to Mulot's, but the pastry was not as crispy nor as flaky. Mind you, it was still very good, just not as buttery.

With high-ceilinged exposed duct work and polished cement flooring, the vibe in this café is decidedly modern and industrial – fitting in with the urban trendiness of Bathurst and King amid the new high-rise condos. With a small patio replete with the stereotypical two-tone wicker chairs of Paris, Brioche Dorée does its best to export its "French-ness" across the pond.

And when you consider that sandwiches at Tim Horton's and Starbucks are comparable in price point, it is definitely worth the trek. Definitely!





How to be a Green(er) Traveler

by Lisa Ricciuti



Many of us may have plans to travel this summer. Here are some tips to keep in mind about how you can reduce your carbon footprint while enjoying your vacations.

1. Consider your mode of transportation to get to, and around, your destination.

Flying may be the only option for people going to faraway locations, but once you arrive, consider using public transportation to get around. If flying is not your only option, consider using a more sustainable mode of transportation to get to your destination such as trains, buses, and cycling.

2. Choose sustainable lodgings.

Many hotels now offer options to help support the environment by offering less wasteful options for guests. Some options may include things like having soaps and shampoos available in dispensers instead of tiny, plastic containers; requiring guests to use an access card to get electricity in the rooms; or providing options to only get sheets and towels changed/cleaned every few days instead of daily. These little actions really add up for big organizations and the environment.

3. Stop taking the little hotel samples, bring your own toiletries in reusable containers.

It may be tempting to stock up on the free bottles of soaps and shampoos offered in hotels, but all this small stuff ends up in our waste streams. Even if some of it is recyclable, the best choice is to avoid recycling altogether by reducing your need to take samples by using what you already have.

4. Bring your own reusable containers and cutlery with you.

It may be annoying to carry too many reusable things with you on vacation, but if you had to prioritize, here's a list of lightweight and easy to carry essentials:

- Reusable water bottle
- Reusable coffee mug
- A cloth shopping bag
- Set of reusable cutlery (wood or metal)
- A stainless steel straw
- * Reusable takeout container or Tupperware – you can use this to pack your travel snacks and then keep it with you on the trip



Eating Ontario Grown

Rhubarb Pie

by Micheal Csiski

Being raised in the Rhubarb capital of Ontario, here is an easy recipe for my favourite pie.

Ingredients:

- 4 cups chopped rhubarb
- 1 1/3 cups white sugar
- 6 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon butter
- Double 9-inch pie crust (top & bottom)

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 450°F (230°C)
2. Combine sugar and flour. Sprinkle 1/4 of it over pastry in pie plate. Heap rhubarb over this mixture. Sprinkle with remaining sugar and flour. Dot with small pieces of butter. Cover with top crust.
3. Place pie on lowest rack in oven. Bake for 15 minutes.
4. Reduce oven temperature to 350°F (175°C), and continue baking for 40 to 45 minutes.

Serve warm or cold with vanilla ice cream.

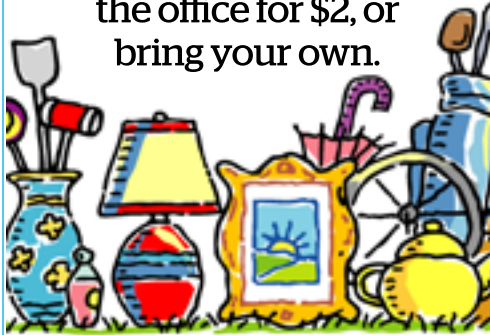
The 40 Homewood Annual

Yard SALE

**Saturday,
June 15th, 2019
9am to 1pm**

Rain Date:
Sunday, June 16th

Sign up for a table in
the office for \$2, or
bring your own.



Waste Diversion Updates

In mid-May the Toronto Environmental Alliance performed a follow-up garbage audit to see if we've made any improvements on our waste diversion efforts since last year. They will be sending around a survey to chart our progress sometime in June.

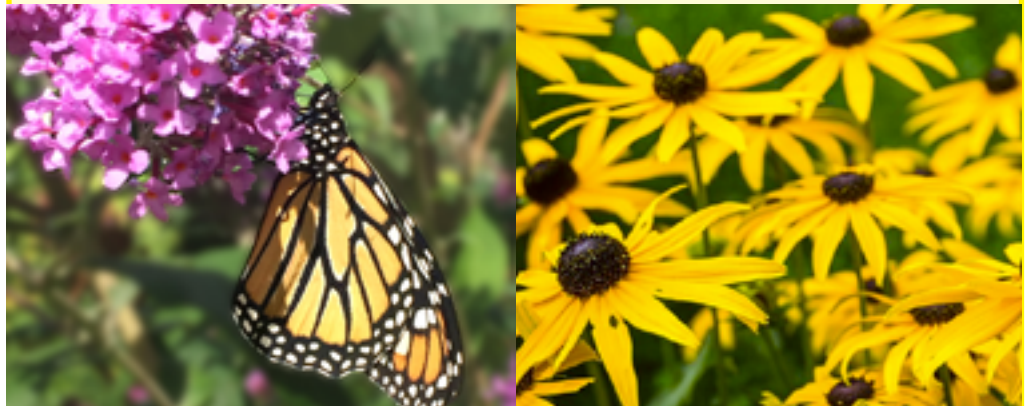
Stay tuned!

The Birds & The Bees

We will soon be dedicating a garden at 40 Homewood to attract pollinators, such as bees (the non-stinging kind), butterflies, and birds. Pollinators are a critical part of our environment. According to the City of Toronto's Pollinator Protection Strategy, "1 in every 3 bites of food we eat relies on bees for pollination". If you're interested in helping out with this exciting new initiative, we're looking for donations of pollinator plants that are native to Toronto. Some examples include:

- Blue Vervain • Anise Hyssop • Black Eyed Susan •
- Lance Leaved Coreopsis • Butterfly Milkweed •
- Pearly Everlasting • Swamp Milkweed •

**For more information and further details, please
contact 40hgreencommittee@gmail.com**



AGM

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday June 12th, 2019

7:00pm at the Ramada hotel on Jarvis south of Carlton.
Registration begins at 6:00pm. The two year terms of three directors have expired – there will be an election.

There will also be a
Meet the Candidates Meeting
Wednesday, June 5th, 2019
at 6:30pm in the Recreation Room

The three candidates for open Board positions are Martin Brown, Elvis Lalaj (current treasurer) and Brian Brenie (current president). The bios were sent with the electronic version of the AGM package, emailed Friday, May 24. The mailed version, for those not registered to receive notices electronically, were sent and should arrive in people's mailboxes in a few days.

An affectionate testament to Neil Gilson

by Martha MacLachlan



Neil Gilson passed away on May 3, 2019, after a few years of declining health. Neil was 84. For all his years, Neil retained a youthful, impish look. One of his friends left the following message on the tribute website: "Neil you were Miss Toronto 1961, you are fire, magic, critical tongue and bold persona". I second those words.

I remember an encounter with Neil at the first BBQ I attended. He was with his pals, Larry Wirt and Roy. As I passed by these amusing men, Neil said to Larry, "well look at her, she holds her cigarette just like Bette Davis". Neil and his cronies were Homewood's Mad Men, raised on martinis and old Hollywood.

Neil was a force at 40 Homewood. He became the chair of the social committee after some of the participants had split up, moved out and moved on. Working with Neil was a joy. He ran the meetings, planned the events, and jumped in and helped at every turn. He kept the fun in the social committee work.

Neil didn't suffer fools gladly. His withering glance was enough to silence any social pariahs who tried to disparage our events or sabotage our efforts. It was certainly better to be on Neil's good side.

Neil's last years at 40 Homewood, before he moved, were spent looking after Violet Green, and then Larry Wirt, both long time residents of 40 Homewood and who have passed away as well. He was a loyal friend to them.

Reverend Richard Newland delivered a warm homily in honour of Neil at the service on May 13, held at the Metropolitan United Church. Richard and his partner, Gord, had become friends with Neil in the last years of his life, and looked after his increasing care needs.

For all of you who remember Neil, raise a glass in his memory. He was a good soul.

In Memoriam

Andrew Angus Dalrymple

December 10, 1927 – May 20, 2019

Angus passed away at Bridgepoint. He leaves his wife, Elfie, who with Angus, has been a long-time resident at 40 Homewood. To know more about Angus, and the man we wished we knew better, go to the website below and see what his friends and colleagues from the world of news and CBC have said about him, copy this link to your browser::

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/toronto-on/andrew-angus-dalrymple-8717467>

**Canadians
say 'sorry'
so much
that a law
was passed
in 2009
declaring that
an apology
can't be used
as evidence of
admission
of guilt.**





What do food dates really mean?

by Micheal Csiski

Did you know food waste costs the Canadian economy over \$31 Billion a year? Believe it or not, food package labeling is one of the leading causes of food waste in the world. Understanding food labels helps reduce unnecessary food waste. In late April, 40 Homewood hosted an Earth Day event with a special guest from Second Harvest to teach residents how to minimize food waste. We learned from Rose that best before is not the same as expiry. Only 5 foods utilize expiry dates in Canada: nutritional supplements, baby formula, meal replacements, pharmacist food, formulated liquid diets.

Best before dates are an indication of food quality, not food safety. According to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, you can safely eat food past its "best before" date. For example, grains and packaged cereal can last up to 6-12 months beyond the best before date.

If you have expired food, ensure you empty the contents into the green bin and clean and recycle the container appropriately.

hello neighbour!

by Connie Dilley
& Tammy Baker-House

Who has a contract to write a book with Penguin-Random House? Who plays a gig on acoustic guitar at Arts Square Gallery? Your neighbour Michael, that's who!

Eleven-year-old Michael was sent from Trinidad to north-west Ontario (think Dryden) to live with his aunt when his grandmother died.

Throughout the next several years he was passed around the family, changing high-school seven times, all of which resulted in an adaptable fellow, comfortable with different people and places.

Michael moved to Kitchener to attend university. He stayed for 15 years, getting a job at Blackberry, working with servers and software. In 2010 he wrote a novella entitled "Molasses", using his own life experiences as inspiration. His real love, however, is stringed instruments – acoustic guitar (bass), banjo, mandolin – and singing. His tastes range across all styles, from soul to Caribbean, and jazz.

Recently, the five finalists of the RBC Taylor Prize (the Giller for non-fiction) were matched with up-and-coming writers for a mentoring program. In a stroke of luck and talent, Michael was chosen for this amazing opportunity and, therefore, the publishing contract. He is now working on the third draft of a memoir.

Michael will have been at 40 Homewood three years in June and says it feels like home. He likes that people talk in the elevator and, in general, are friendly. It suits his genial personality and warmth.



Michael Downing

Exercise Classes in the Recreation Room

Stretch & Strengthen

Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 10am
\$5.00 a class – 45 minutes

Booty Camp

Overall Body Workout
Monday and Wednesday at 7pm
8 sessions \$96.00 - 60-90 minute class

Aquafit Classes

We would like to offer this if enough people are interested. Please let Martha know if you are interested, and indicate if you prefer morning or evening classes via email to:
martha.maclachlan@gmail.com





In her own words, Julianne is an extrovert with an awful social shyness. The mix has led her through a life of service and adventure.

Julianne is a high school teacher at Contact Alternative, helping kids from a high risk population to graduate. She supports her students by giving individual attention and practical advice, such as budgeting.

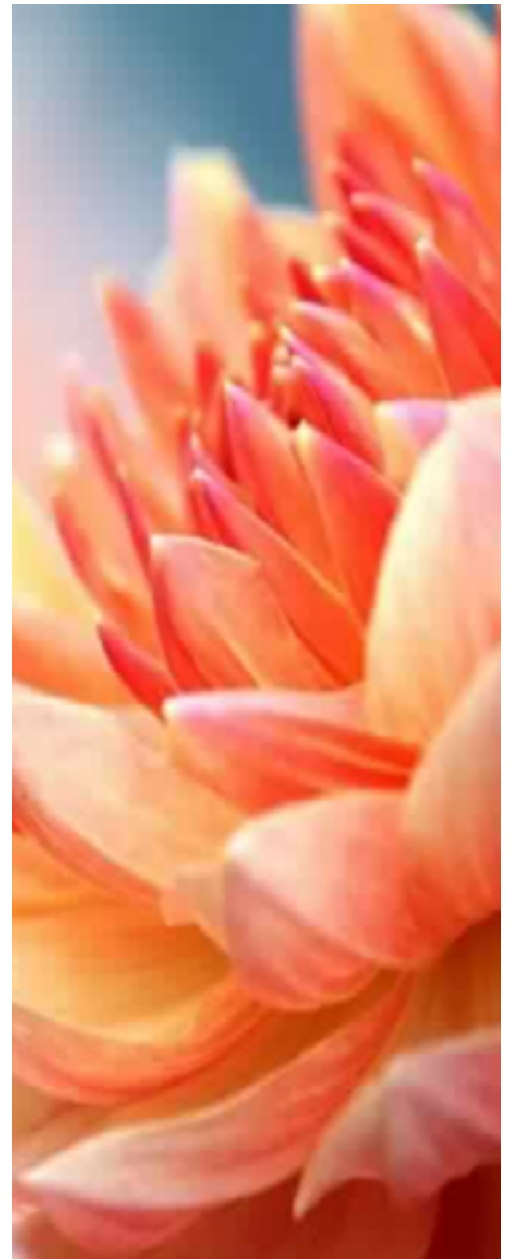
At university, she tried many different subjects – English, African studies, feminism courses – realizing eventually that linguistic anthropology was the major into which she could fit her various interests. After 20 years, working part-time in front-line feminist agencies, with daycares, and survivors' organizations, she finally graduated. Then, she went on to OISE and got a teaching degree.

Although born in Toronto, her family moved to a farm near Belleville when she was 11, raising chickens one year, pigs the next. Although often lonely at the time, she is grateful for the variety of things she learned. Her curiosity has taken her to Syria, where she taught in an international school for agricultural research for a year, and then on to other travels: India, Denmark, Turkey, and Lebanon. But Guatemala is still the place she loves most.

Always active, Julianne sings with an improvisational group, does NIA dancing, and is learning to sew. She dreams of retiring to a farming commune. Any takers?



Julianne Hodgins



**In 1923, a jockey
suffered a fatal heart
attack but his horse finished
and won the race, making
him the first and only
jockey to win a race
after death.**

**The pessimist sees
difficulty in every
opportunity.**

**The optimist sees
the opportunity in
every difficulty.**

WINSTON CHURCHILL