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Neighbours of Terwillegar Dr.

An exclusive neighbourhood magazine serving the residents of Windermere, Cameron Heights, Wolf Willow, Country Club, Donsdale, Wedgewood, MacTaggart, Magrath and parts of Ambleside



Cover photo by
Bill Meachem, Artistic Creations

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A Beautiful Life by Design

Meet
Janice Turley Douville

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A Beautiful Life by Design

Meet Janice Turley Douville

BY DAKOTA BARBER

Photos by
Bill Meachem, Artistic Creations
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Janice Turley Douville is a born and raised Edmontonian. "I've been the owner of Direct Home Blinds - previously known as Direct Home Décor - for the last 17 years," says Janice. "What started as a home-based business three years ago grew to a large design centre for 10 years, and has been a home-based consulting centre for the past four years."

Janice is incredibly proud to say that she grew the business for the last 13 years as a single mom.

"It is my hope that I can be an inspiration to others out there who are wanting to follow their dreams but feel it may not be possible on their own," she adds.

It's a family affair at Direct Home Blinds, and Janice feels fortunate to work alongside her daughter Danielle every day.

"It's a luxury and blessing beyond words!" smiles Janice. "I never thought I would get this kind of opportunity to laugh, mentor and hug my daughter every day. Humour is essential for us."

Danielle, now 29, was born prematurely at just 26 weeks in 1989.

"It was at this time I had to focus on being at home rather than on my career in sales and marketing where I

worked with brands like Pepsi, Perrier, and Gucci Timepieces," remembers Janice. "That one decision took me out of the corporate world and into creating something entrepreneurial in an area that I loved to do without effort – decorating."

At the age of 20, Danielle was diagnosed with reoccurring remitting Multiple Sclerosis which was a huge shock to the family.

"It has required her to live a well-balanced life without too much stress," explains Janice. "She has been in remission for many years and if you met her would never realize she has it. She is an inspiration to me every day – her ability to have a positive attitude, sense of humour and happy spirit is very admirable."

Danielle becoming Janice's business partner has allowed her to create a career with the flexibility she needs in her life while feeding her passion for creativity.

"It has provided me with the opportunity to have the joy of sharing what I have built with someone who is loyal and committed for the long run," adds Janice.

Clement is Danielle's partner of 7 years, and he is a very loved part of the family.

"Clement is a Red Seal Electrician commuting back and forth from Fort McMurray," says Janice. "He captured her heart from their first date with his



gentle spirit, incredible sense of humour and love for family."

Their new addition to the family is Nori, a purebred Black Toy Pomeranian.

"Nori is also the office mascot, he's always running around in the office entertaining everyone," laughs Janice.

Janice's son Dayna lives across the world and stays connected by FaceTiming home a few times a week.

"I'm proud to say he's living his dream and following his passion in Europe," says Janice. "He received a Bachelor of Education at the University of Alberta and is now living in Sodertalje, Sweden teaching in a private English school."

Dayna's love for working and mentoring young children comes from having a big heart and empathy. He did some work with troubled youth and also was a Big Brother!

"In his early and teen years he was a very passionate and accomplished in hockey and lacrosse," remembers Janice. "He was assistant captain of a Junior A lacrosse team and played 13 years as a defenseman for hockey. His most admirable quality was being humble along with the desire to encourage others and extend friendship to all his teammates."

Today, music is a big part of Dayna's life.

"He has travelled all over the world to explore and enjoy music events and artists," explains Janice. "Now, he plays the drums whenever he can."

Janice feels exceptionally lucky to have a very tight-knit family, most of which are still right here in Edmonton.

"The WhatsApp app and Facebook allow us all to share what is happening in our daily lives to give each other a chuckle or a warm feeling of sharing," she says. "An immediate family event with my four siblings usually involves 30 people now that all our children are starting their own families."

Giving back is a big part of Janice's life, and she is proud to say that Direct Home Blinds donates thousands of dollars of product for silent auctions to many charities throughout the year.

"We have also recently chosen Adeara, a non-profit for women at risk, as our official charity as many of our clients are purging items when they renovate or make a move to a new home," adds Janice.

Janice's mother's family, the Champagnes, are one of the founding families of Morinville which now has a district in its name.

"I'm very proud of my French heritage," smiles Janice. "My

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Internationella



Engelska Skolan
Södertälje



Janice's son Dayna in Sweden.
Photo provided by family.

mother moved from Morinville to Edmonton at 16 and was a very talented entertainer with style."

Her mother's passion was playing the piano.

"She played through 12 years of ovarian cancer until she was 81 years old," Janice explains. "My mom exemplified how to make a joyful life by doing what you love, keeping things simple and serving those around you."

Piano fingers run in the family, and piano has been Janice's passion for 48 years.

"I started young," she remembers. "As soon as I could reach the keys I would offer unwanted duets for my mother."

Janice's passion is for contemporary pop music, and she boasts an extensive piano book library of every genre of music from the last 40 years. Don't be surprised if you hear a beautiful melody coming from her home on your walk through the neighbourhood!

"I achieved one of my bucket list items 20 years ago by buying my grand piano," smiles Janice. "I play every day and can't walk by it without jumping on to play a song or two before resuming whatever I'm doing. I have set a goal to create more situations to share it more with others!"

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