

# Anna Jarvis - Mother Of Mother's Day

## The woman behind the official establishment of Mother's Day?



Anna spent her childhood at Grafton. She attended college in Virginia and then returned to Grafton to become a teacher. From her childhood she remembered how important the cause of establishing a day of recognition for mothers was to her own mother.

The women of the Jarvis family possessed an obsession towards activism which was hardly seen in the women of their times in the 1900's. At a time when most women devoted their time solely on their family and homes, the Jarvis women were working to ensure that these homemakers were recognized and honored in their work as mothers. Anna's mother, Mrs. Ann Marie Reeves Jarvis helped develop the "Mothers Friendship Day" to assist in the healing of the nation after the Civil War. After the death of her mother, Anna Jarvis decided to dedicate her life to her mother's cause and to establish Mother's Day to "honor mothers, living and dead."

It is said that Anna and her mother had a quarrel some days before the latter's death. To Anna's intense grief, Mrs. Ann died before the two could reconcile. It is also said that she swore at her mother's gravesite in 1905 to dedicate her life to her mother's project, and establish a Mother's Day.

Thus, the tradition of Mother's Day was established by the determination of a loving daughter. Miss Jarvis worked industriously, writing innumerable letters to influential people and distributing pamphlets to gain recognition for motherhood. It was due to Anna's tireless work and efforts that the first Mother's Day service was held on May 10, 1907 (though some sources state 1908), at her mother's church, St. Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton. She passed out more than 500 white carnations, one for each mother in the congregation. The white carnation was her most favorite because it represented the purity of a mother's heart. A white carnation was worn to honor deceased mothers and a red one to honor a living mother.

The cause received a great impetus when John Wanamaker, a great merchant and philanthropist from Philadelphia joined Anna's campaign. Anna's efforts started bearing fruit and by 1912 West Virginia became the first state to adopt an official Mother's Day, and finally by 1914, the Congress passed a joint resolution, signed by President Woodrow Wilson, to establish Mother's Day.

Despite all the joy surrounding her successful campaign, Miss Jarvis was not totally happy. She was, in fact, greatly concerned with the steadily increasing commercialization of Mother's Day and opposed the selling of flowers and the use of greeting cards. She felt that her holiday, which was meant to be a "noble and true" celebration, had been exploited for profit. Miss Jarvis was concerned with reform, not revenue.



The Mother's Day movement was a celebration of the importance of women and their work inside the home, as mothers. The very involvement of Anna Jarvis and other activists brought the role of mothers and homemakers into the eyes of the public- giving it positive exposure, acknowledgment, and public admiration. The resolve and resilience of Anna Jarvis and her mother towards their causes and beliefs made them a hero. She is a true hero not only because of her devotion, love, and loyalty as daughter but also as her dedication as a sibling, caring for her unsound sister. It is a great irony that the women who worked tirelessly for the cause of all mothers couldn't become a mother herself. But through her work, she earned the title of the "Mother of Mother's Day,"- a title as grand as her beautiful cause.



## Headwaters Real Estate Recap: MAY 2017

ORANGEVILLE (by month)													
#	2014												AVERAGE
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
SOLD	29	30	51	61	65	65	61	55	49	58	50	33	51
FOR SALE	92	115	159	145	177	175	172	171	178	171	122	76	146
2015													
SOLD	38	57	65	76	94	62	65	54	54	57	54	29	59
FOR SALE	92	82	96	88	78	78	67	62	80	58	39	24	70
2016													
SOLD	29	51	72	73	65	84	71	54	64	47	44	27	74
FOR SALE	36	54	48	44	61	52	33	42	31	39	31	13	40
2017													
SOLD	29	48	76	87									60
FOR SALE	19	26	35	59									35

The **Spring Market** has arrived in the Headwaters area (Caledon, Erin, Dufferin and Orangeville) as prices continue to rise however there is a *cooling off*. The market has changed with more listings on the market giving buyers more selection. In Orangeville alone, there were only 35 listings available at the beginning of March. As of May 5<sup>th</sup>, there are currently 71 listings on the market (condo's included). This gives some *relief to eager buyers*. The increase in inventory may cool down the multiple offer scenarios that buyers have faced for the first quarter of this year. From the chart you can see that although the number of homes on the market has increased...it is still a far cry from the 'normal' market of 2014 when there were an **average** of 146 listings for sale! Happy Springtime! *Dave*

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