

SNAP Sneaks a Peek

Things I Love About The Beach #6 – Starbucks For Morning Coffee

People all over the Beach wake up, perhaps they yawn, stretch, eat their breakfast or just enjoy the haziness of a morning broken. Many Beachers head to their local Starbucks, having so many in the area to choose from. Main and Kingston, Bingham and Kingston, Hammersmith and Queen, Brookmount and Queen, and lastly Waverley and Queen. Throughout the day there are bikes, trikes, portable baby seats with little cherubs sleeping quietly as mamas grab their java and meet up with likeminded mothers, task oriented and routine ready. It's not just moms who meet at Starbucks.

There are business people meeting over coffee, tennis players, golfers, want to be play-writers, journalists, teachers, entrepreneurs, just about everyone from every walk of life have to have their java. Let's face it, Starbucks has become a licence to print money! Often times there are lineups, people ordering their lattes, non-fat exotic mixtures and ever demanding sources of the perfect coffee. Forget about the Wine Sommeliers of fine restaurants, take the plunge, swirl that brew, take that sip, discern the origin, even tray and guess the origin, plantation, and country; or not. Perhaps just enjoy the java because we all have a desire to enjoy the best.

While enjoying your brew, take a look around and really see the patrons that routinely walk through the door. My favourite portion of Starbucks is a wonderful lady full of seventy, if not eighty, who visits all of the local Starbucks locations, named Betty. Full of fun and vigor, witty and dynamic, Betty will drill you like no other. She is a regular Sergeant Major. Within seconds she can cut to the chase and familiarize herself with your very core. She is a colorful and endearing part of the Beach fabric, an additive to Starbucks that cream and sugar could never compete with. I really like Betty. I love it when she "drills" me, yet gently probes and quickly shares the intimate, exacting moments of realization within her own life.

Wisely, she purposely tries to convey the impressions and meanings of life's nuances. She encourages people to really "LOOK", cherish, and garner accomplishments through their everyday experiences. So impressed were the employees of Starbucks with Betty, that they had a plaque with her name made to dedicate her usual seat. Unfortunately, a regional rep had the fond token removed but that's okay- people often see Betty making her way through the streets of the Beach on her way to have a coffee and a rich conversation with one of the many Starbucks customers.

Submitted by Jillinda Greene

Email jillinda@jillindagreene.com or contact her at 416-230-3849 to give her your ideas about unique landmarks in our communities and to see your Sneak Peeks in the pages of SNAP in upcoming issues.