

SNAP Sneaks a Peek

Things I Love About The Beach #7 – Crown of Jewels Hair Salon

*“it is Steel Magnolias gone viral...you walk in,
you know no one, you walk out and you know everyone.... “*

Everyone or almost everyone in the Beach knows “SWING!!” Denise, the former owner of Headstrong. Denise started her career in Yorkville almost thirty years ago. She applied at all the hip, fashion forward and avant garde salons like William Saab, Michael Kluthe and Robin Barker. Hired at William Saab, Denise dipped her scissors into the full bodied heads of hair just as the celebrity hair styling phenomenon of Vidal Sassoon was being envisioned. As an apprentice, Denise honed her skills, watched, looked and listened to the exploding world of hairdressing that no one had yet known. It was the time of Merv Griffin, TV interest and “glam” shows- it was the beginning of stylization and the perfection of specialties. All of the Celebrity Hairstylists were flexing their muscles and, “a wild and nomadic bunch emerged.”

Society parties, fashion shows, places to be and be “seen” everything was emerging with a force of fashion, fiction, non-fiction and function. All the while, during this resurgence of the roaring twenties the Hairdresser became up front and very personal. “Let’s face it, your hairdresser, in many ways, is your shrink.” Denise defined her profession in very simple yet profound terms. “Hairdressers make you look great when you feel bad, they hold your hand at weddings and sweet sixteens, “ she explained. Thinking about Denise’s words reminded me of the mother of one of my best friends who always advised us “when you feel your worst, you must always try to look your very best.”

Karly Dolmer at the young age of twenty-six is the owner of Crown of Jewels Hair Salon. I think of Karly as SWEET. In her kindergarten Book, Karly indicated that she wanted to be a “hairstylist or a psychiatrist.” Little did she know that by pursuing her interest in hairstyling, she would achieve both. At the age of fifteen, Karly was hired as a hairdressing assistant at her present location. She booked appointments, cleaned the floors, all while attending high school and first year university. Given the opportunity by the previous owner, and with the steadfast help of her parents, Karly decided to purchase the salon. Dressing the tresses of hair aboard a Cruise ship had been Karly’s ultimate goal. Her salon at 1230 Kingston Road just east of Fallingbrook is not a “cruise destination” but it is however, the place that many beachers go to have their tresses cut, colored and tamed.

Karly has accomplished the most admirable steps into a world of “please help me to look my best.” I will enjoy following her tenacity, temperance and total commitment to her clients, parents, family and business in the years to come.

Denise had decided a few years ago as the owner of Headstrong, that she wanted to tone things down a bit, take more time with family and not run her own “show.” I walk into her new location at Crown of Jewels and feel so relaxed and welcome. Denise has held my hand through preparations for costume parties, formals, and she is the first stop my daughter Carly makes when she visits from London England. Recently Denise helped my mother and I get ready for my son Taylor’s wedding. My mother is in a wheel chair and suffers from Dementia. Denise suggested that she would meet us at the venue where we could get ready. Denise brought her mother a warm, and humorous lovely lady. The four of us laughed, had lunch, had fun, my mom and I were completely relaxed just by the nature of Denise and her mom. I will never forget that day, not only because it was my son’s wedding but because we had “SWING!”

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.