



GREENWOOD NEWS QUARTERLY

Compiled by The GREENWOOD RECREATION ASSOCIATION

www.greenwoodevents.ca

April 2009



KING LEAR Driftwood Theatre

Lear, the aging king of Britain, steps down from the throne and divides his land among his three daughters. First, he puts them through a test by asking them how much they love him. The elder sisters, Regan and Goneril, provide flattering answers and in return are awarded large areas of the kingdom. Cordelia, Lear's youngest and favourite daughter, remains silent, illustrating that she has no words to describe how much she loves her father. Enraged, Lear immediately disowns her. The King of France, who has been courting Cordelia, vows to marry her even without her land and takes her to France.

Goneril and Regan quickly begin to undermine Lear's authority. In disbelief of this betrayal and in

regret for disowning Cordelia, Lear slowly goes mad. He flees into a stormy night, accompanied by his fool and Lord Kent, a loyal friend in disguise. Meanwhile, Gloucester is also plagued by familial betrayal. His illegitimate son, Edmund, tricks him into thinking that his legitimate son Edgar is trying to kill him. Edgar, fooled by his brother into believing that he should lay low, disguises himself as a beggar, "Poor Tom", and like Lear sets out into the storm. Gloucester attempts to help Lear. Goneril and her husband Cornwall find out about this, accuse Gloucester of treason, blind him and send him sightless out into the storm. He ends up being led by his son Edgar (disguised) to Dover where Lear has also been taken.

In Dover, a French army has landed in threat to the divided England, accompanied by Cordelia, who is in search of her father. Edmund becomes romantically

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This year

EARTH DAY COMMUNITY CLEANUP SATURDAY APRIL 26TH @ 10:00 A..M. rain or shine.

We will meet at the Concession 6 bridge, by the Museum. Gloves and bags are provided.

The last 2 years were a great success as the usual list of volunteers showed up. We pulled out all sorts of trash and recyclables, left behind by uncaring people. Would you like to show that you care about our local environment?

Please consider helping out and getting some good exercise. We clean up for 45 minutes to an hour.

I hope to see u there!

Best regards for a warm Spring.

Michael Fearon
Chairman, Greenwood Area Ratepayers Assoc.



Should the Greenwood Recreation Association be disbanded?

The GRA is responsible for providing the community with programmes and events such as the Greenwood Village Festival, Christmas Potluck, Wine and Food Event, Youth Night, the Community Garage Sale, and the Tennis Club, to name just a few. The GRA also maintains the community centre and generates income through rentals. We also provide the community with a quarterly newsletter informing residents of what is going on and coming up in Greenwood.

Over the many years that the GRA has been an integral part of Greenwood life (first incorporated in 1973) there have been a great many dedicated volunteers who have given of their time and expertise to make Greenwood such a wonderful and unique place to live. As a natural evolution, people have moved in and moved on, and the GRA continued to change and to thrive.

Today the Greenwood Recreation Association is in much need of new faces on the committee. Over the past few years, the GRA has struggled to gain sufficient members who are able to dedicate the needed time and energy to keep up our programming and events. If you value this great tradition in Greenwood, wish to see it continue and prosper, and want to see the continuation of the programmes and events that many of us view as part of life in Greenwood, then we need to hear from you,.

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM on April 29th, to hear your comments, your suggestions, and to help shape the future of the GRA. By attending the AGM you will ensure the continuation of an important Greenwood tradition. Should the community choose not to attend, the current committee will understand this to mean the GRA has lost its relevance, at least for the time being. If you are unable to attend on the 29th but would like to share your comments please email us at info@greenwoodevents.ca.

April 29th at 7pm is the AGM for the Greenwood Recreation Association.

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WHAT FUELS FIROZ?

By Chelsey Cosh

The new AMCO Gas Station has opened at 2250 Highway 7, in Greenwood. The essence of Greenwood is its small-town warmth, so Firoz, the owner/operator of the AMCO Gas Station, told *Greenwood Quarterly* about his business and what it means to both him and this town.

Chelsey: When did you decide to run your own business?

Firoz: It was about 10 years ago when I realized people's jobs were being replaced with technology primarily to increase corporate profits while service became almost non-existent. I am a firm believer of good old-fashioned service. I feel our parents had it right and we will find out later that we had it wrong.

Chelsey: Was it a difficult decision?

Firoz: Yes, it was a very difficult decision. I gave up a six figure income and a 20 year career in Information Technology & Telecommunications to go into a service station business.

Chelsey: Did your friends, family, and other loved ones support you and your decision?

Firoz: My career minded friends thought I was crazy to give up such a comfortable life. However, my family supported me 100%. They knew that I always put my heart into whatever I do. They also understood my reasons and how important it was for me. I truly feel blessed to have such a wonderful family.

Chelsey: What do you hope customers think when they come to your business?

Firoz: [I hope they think it's a] nice little gas station down in the valley surrounded by gorgeous evergreens, creeks, wildlife, farms and horses. The fresh air and breath-taking view is to die for! From the sixties style look (complete with antique cars) to the glass coke bottles to the warm friendly service, it

all takes you back-in-the day. Whether you stop-in for gas, snacks or milk, you'll love shopping here. The staff is always helpful and they even have the best darn coffee this side of Colombia. If you don't find what you're looking for, they will get it for you. What more can you ask for!

Chelsey: Do you like the small-town feel of Greenwood?

Firoz: Yes. I grew up in Kigoma (Tanzania), which is a small town with history, just like Greenwood. In Canada, my friends would tease me, saying that it looks like I am heading for the U.S. border because I'd move as soon as a small town grew into a city.

Chelsey: Is that small-town feel something you'd like to reflect in the atmosphere?

Firoz: Most definitely! As a small-town independent business, we offer a relaxed family-like atmosphere where people know your name and your preferences, give you personalized service, ask about your day and share a couple of jokes to help make your day go better. Don't be surprised to see pictures of local celebrities proudly hanging on the wall.

Chelsey: The economy is in a dangerous state at this time. How has this affected you? Do you feel it has had *any* effect at all?

Firoz: The economic downturn has affected everyone including the gasoline retail business as customers drive lesser and/or smaller and/or smarter, more fuel efficient vehicles. However, the business is still in its infancy and has not reached its full potential. I suspect the growth has slowed down, although bare in mind that we do offer a unique "full serve" service which is rare these days and also an essential commodity.

Chelsey: What are you doing to ensure economic security at this time?

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A Piece of History

Excerpts taken from "Greenwood Through the Years", compiled by Mrs Irven McLean and Miss Beatrice R. McLean

The Brickyard

Any building, legislation, business or other good thing which remains useful beyond the present generation will improve the standard of living for those who follow. When the Adamsons operated their brickyard, they little knew that the school and many homes made with bricks from that yard would be providing for our generation a hundred years hence.

The Adamson Brickyard was situated at the north end of Lot 7, Con, 5. John Adamson operated the brickyard until his death in the early fifties. Then his son, Samuel, carried on the family brickyard for many years.

As "grandfather" tells the tale, small boys found the brickyard very fascinating. In the daytime there were the shouts of the men running with barrows, the crack of the whip over the horse travelling incessantly in a circle, the rush of the flame from the kiln doors. At night there was the rosy glow from the kiln!

About one hundred [and fifty] years ago was the beginning of the power use in brickyards. Previous to that time the clay was mixed by hand and the ball of clay was held over the maker's head and plunked down into the mould, scraped off, and the mould turned upside down on a pallet and lifted off. The pallet was then set on a shelf and air dried before being put in the kiln to burn.

The process which came into use about 1860 was a one horse machine. A hopper and barrel was constructed about two feet off the ground by six feet deep. In the centre was a post about 18 inches in diameter. It rested in a wooden bearing at bottom and top and projected about two feet above the top. To the top was bolted a long arm reaching near the ground, about 25 feet from the centre. The horse was hitched to the arm and kept travelling in a circular motion.

This revolved the post which had blades with square shanks driven into the post and set at an angle to force a downward pressure on the clay as it revolved.

The barrel was kept full of clay with a wheel barrow. As soon as the horse passed the barrow, a man would push up the ramp and dump his load in the hopper. The one skilled person required was the temperer who added just enough water to soften the clay. It required very accurate tempering - if too soft it would not hold its shape after leaving the moulds, and if too stiff it wouldn't fill the moulds in the corners.

The moulds were the shape of the brick and usually about six to a board. They were dipped on a burnt sand and shaken, then dumped before being pushed through under the revolving blades of the post. As the next set of moulds pushed them through to the opposite side, the blades scraped off the top of them. A pallet was placed on top of the mould, then turned over and rapped as the mould was removed, leaving the six brick on the pallet which was wheeled to the drying racks. When completely dry they were piled in the kiln for burning. The drying required about three weeks of good weather.

There were different types of kilns but all were down draft, meaning that the fire rose to the top of the kiln, passed down to the flues under the brick and out to the chimney. The "beehive" kiln was round, with thick walls, and a circular dome of one length of brick on their ends. The fire boxes projected at intervals around the outside with openings into the kiln. They required very careful firing while warming up or steaming. Once steamed, the kiln could be fired as hard as possible.

The bricks were burned until they started to shrink. A rod was set to extend through the top of the kiln. It would rise with the expansion of the brick under it, and when it started to fall the burn was complete. The kiln was then closed up tight and let cool for a week before opening.

Two things contribute to the colour of the brick - 1) not burnt long enough; 2) lack of iron oxide in the clay. The iron oxide comes from decaying vegetation and seldom penetrates more than three feet deep. Below this depth the clay will burn white.

Nowadays [1960's] each spring there is a pond formed at the north end of Lot 7, Con. 5, where the clay was taken out to make the Adamson brick. When viewed from the west side of the pond, the old Church at Salem (built of brick from this yard) is to be seen through the graceful, lacy willows. ●

House Cleaning

**Reasonable rates.
References available.**

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**Coming this Fall
To The Greenwood Community Centre**

**Speaker: Zehra Mahoon, MBA, Consultant, Investors Group
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Greenwood Library



After extensive renovations, the Greenwood Library officially re-opened to the public on January 17th, 2009. Changes to the facility included an accessible ramp, accessible washroom, interior painting and new carpet. Unseen changes were repairs to the furnace and the foundation.

Clients were delighted by the changes to the collection which included: a new Fast Reads collection of best sellers that can go out for 5 days, children's French books, children's graphic novels, an adult biography collection and an adult entertaining nonfiction collection.

The services have also improved. The open hours of the library reflect the wishes of the community with one open morning, open hours after school one day and Saturday afternoon hours. There is a family storytime held on Saturday afternoon at 2:00p.m. that will continue until May 30th. School children have visited the library for instruction on the use of the library in a series of visits organized by the teachers at Valley View. Additionally, one-off programs for children have been held over the last few months. Adults are also looking at the feasibility of organizing a book club that will meet in the library.

The Greenwood library offers free internet access and has wireless capabilities as well. In addition to the collection and services offered at the Greenwood Branch, the resources of the whole Pickering Public Library system are available through visiting the library catalogue and website at www.picnet.org.

For more information on the Greenwood library, please call 905-683-8844.

The Greenwood Library is located at 3540 Westney Road.

Colleen Bolin
Manager of Branch Services
colleenb@picnet.org

Greenwood Library



The Hours of Operation

Tuesday	9:30 am to 1:00 pm
Wednesday	2:30 pm to 7:00 pm
Saturday	1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Look for us at The Green Living Show Apr. 24-26, 2009

Look for us at the Whitevale Festival Sat. May 23, 2009

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(Continued from page 3) Firoz Interview

Firoz: The gas business is challenging in any economic climate. You need nerves of steel to run this kind of business. It comes with unimaginably low margins coupled with extremely volatile prices and uncertainty. It can either make you a very religious person or a dangerous gambler. I am hoping to find a middle ground. As an independent we don't have the luxury of attracting customers with expensive branding, marketing, advertising, loyalty reward programs, etc. So I offer "real" full-service, cash discounts, unique money-saving products/services and convenience. I am constantly adding new products/services based on customer feedback.

Chelsey: What is your favourite and least favourite thing about your job?

Firoz: My favourite thing would be helping people with driving directions. Least favourite? [That would be] working outdoors in freezing cold temperatures. I tend to get testy, especially if I get a five dollar request in that kind of weather!

Chelsey: Do you think that things have changed at all over time?

Firoz: Yes. Of course things have definitely changed over time. Life has become busier and more stressful; cars have become much faster and more sophisticated; and people are constantly racing against time, trying to work, eat and catch up with life, all in their cars while driving. This is precisely the time when modern society needs good old-fashioned service like ours. When you stop here to refuel, we look after all your car's needs while you look after all your needs, completing both tasks simultaneously with no time wasted. We even have an onsite business service centre with high-speed Internet Access, Fax, Computer, Printer, Scanner, etc. Although this gas station has an old fashioned look and feel, it is more than capable of serving the needs of today's modern society. ☺

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T-e-n-n-i-s

Tennis Breakfast

Sunday May 3rd (Rain or Shine)
9:30 - 1pm
Greenwood Community Centre

Renew your annual membership
\$25 for a single person, and \$35 for a family (includes key deposit).
Bring your racquet!

Brunch \$3/person, \$10 family

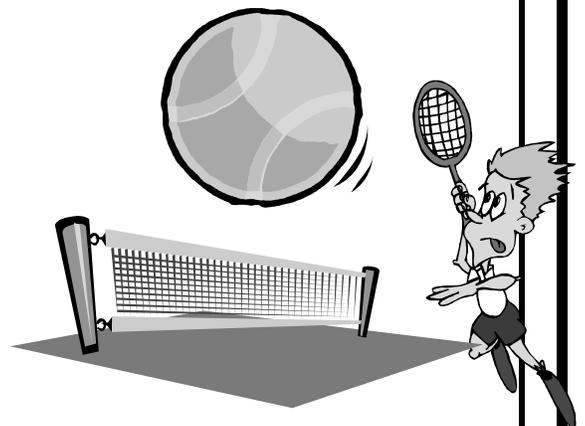
Contact Dave Laskey 905-427-4023

Kids Tennis Lessons

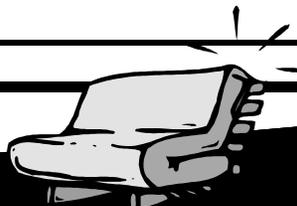
Grades 1 and up

Dates to be determined
Greenwood Community Centre Tennis Courts

- * 45 minutes classes
- * Students are placed in classes based on age and skill
 - * Tennis Coach Albert Mueller
 - * \$50 per child



*Please note: You must be a current member of the Greenwood Tennis Club in order to use the courts.



Does Greenwood want a community garage sale this June?
The GRA will gladly sponsor it however we need to hear from you.
To show your interest, call Chantal Bigras at 905-619-0174



Shakespeare in the Park (Continued from page 1)



involved with both Goneril and Regan, eventually turning them against each other. Regan's husband, Albany, becomes compassionate towards Lear.

The English troops, led by Edmund, arrive at Dover and defeat the French. Lear and Cordelia are captured. Edgar kills Edmund and reveals the tragic death of Gloucester. Goneril poisons Regan out of jealousy over Edmund and then kills herself. Edmund's conspiracies lead to Cordelia's death in prison. Lear dies of a broken heart, crouched over his loving daughter's body. Albany, Edgar, and Lord Kent are left to take care of the country under a cloud of sorrow and regret. ☹

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**WEDNESDAY APRIL 29TH—7PM
AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Garage Sale



9th Annual Greenwood Festival



Driftwood Theatre

Driftwood Theatre's

King Lear

Shakespeare in OUR Park

**Sunday August 17th
@ the Greenwood Community Centre**