

## Riding lessons offered at Deer Run Stables

BY KAREN WETMORE  
The Rockwood Miller

Mid-February may not be the time of year you think about horse riding lessons. But it's exactly what Laurie Grist-Aditajs wants you to consider.

A Canadian Equestrian Federation (CEF) certified instructor, Grist-Aditajs has offered riding lessons for the past 10 years. She and her husband moved to just north of Rockwood from Kleinburg in December, naming their 15-acres Deer Run Stables.

It's a big step up for Grist-Aditajs, as she now owns the land instead of renting it. And while she's working on improving her stables, she also gives her students personalized riding lessons.

"I want to establish a good training program here, not have students going through like an assembly line," she says.

The lessons cover more than how to ride, including grooming, stable management, care and use of equipment and ethics.

And while boarding is available for students who wish to use their own horses, Grist-Aditajs says Deer Run Stables is not primarily a boarding stable as most similar places are. She intends to focus on teaching and her own A-circuit show-jumping competitions.

Future plans for Deer Run Sta-

bles include building an indoor arena for year-round lessons. Grist-Aditajs currently uses a neighbour's arena.

Parents who bring their children for lessons can wait out the time by cross country skiing through the wooded area behind the stable and paddocks or skate on the pond, which will be stocked for fishing in the summer. The

pond will have other summer uses as Grist-Aditajs explains.

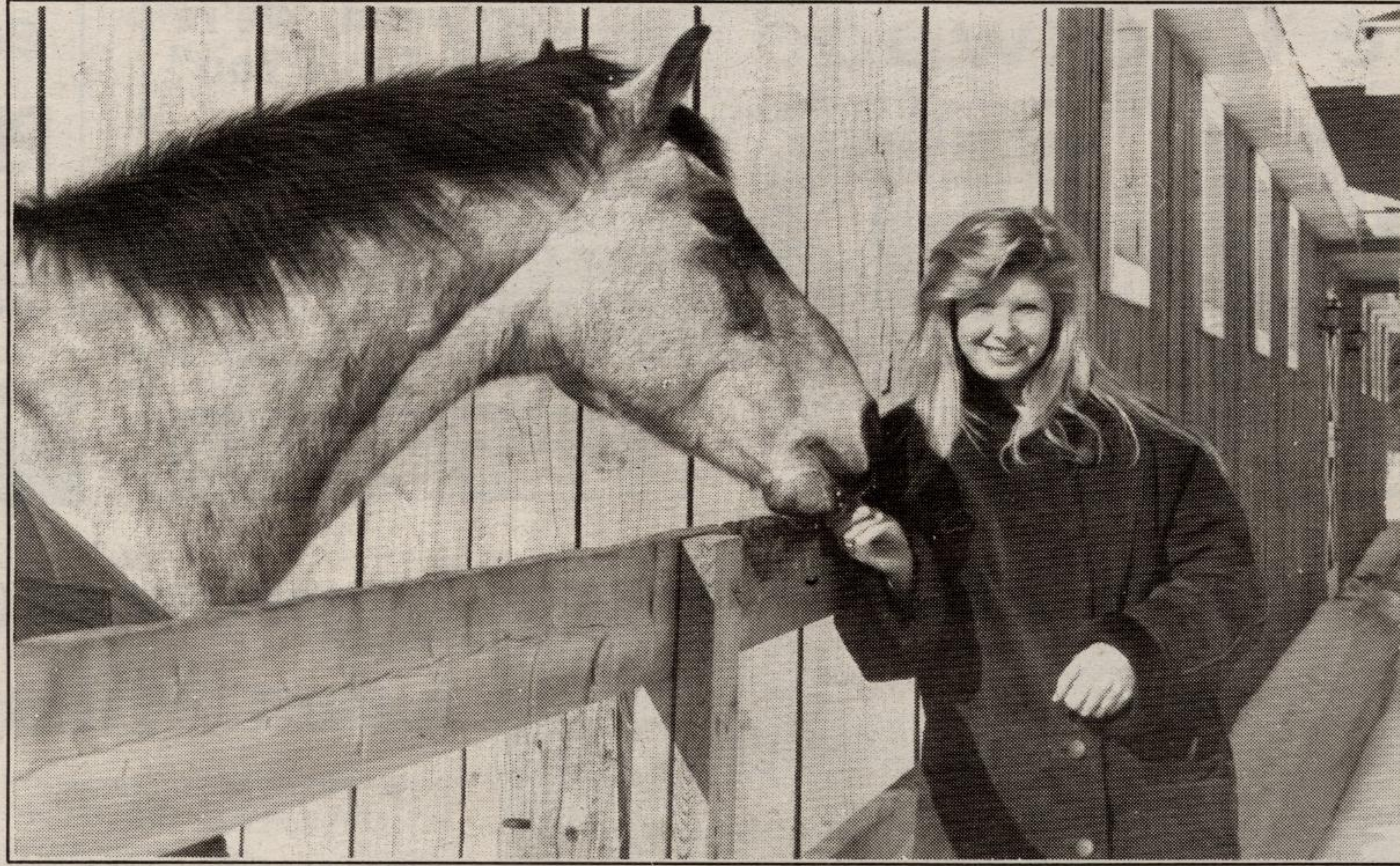
"When it's 90 degrees and you're riding in a helmet, it's great to be able to jump in the pond."

Grist-Aditajs has 10 students now, but hopes to bring the number closer to 30. If the numbers grow significantly, she says she'll have to start looking to add to her five horses. She gives her students a

one-hour lesson per week, with the hours increasing in the summer. Grist-Aditajs says you can never be too young or too old to start riding.

"Most places will not take young children, but I'm open to all ages," she says.

To find out more about riding lessons at Deer Run Stables, call Grist-Aditajs at 856-9322.



GETTING A TREAT: Riding instructor Laurie Grist-Aditajs gives Phoenix a carrot at their new home just north of Rockwood. Phoenix is one of five horses used for riding lessons.

## Garbage pick-up to be on Tuesdays

As of May 7, Rockwood's garbage will be picked up on Tuesdays, not Mondays.

The change, endorsed by Eramosa Township Council last Monday, was requested by the BFI, the private company that currently picks up waste in Rockwood.

BFI said that there have been a lot of complaints from people following statutory holidays that fall on Mondays.

People forget that waste will be picked up on the Saturday before the holiday Monday and end up hanging onto two weeks' worth of garbage.

The County will continue picking up recyclables on Mondays and the new waste pick up day will be publicized in the Rockwood Hydro bill and in a flyer to be distributed by BFI.

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## Study of Geology and Groundwater in Rockwood

During the next few months you may notice personnel from the University of Waterloo working around the University property situated northeast of and adjacent to the Grand River Conservation Area in Rockwood.

These are scientists and technicians from the Department of Earth Sciences who are preparing to undertake studies of geological conditions and groundwater movement in the fractured and karstic rock which is characteristic of the Rockwood area.

They are setting up a project to drill research boreholes on the site, which will be used for the development and testing of borehole instrumentation technologies designed especially for the study of hydrogeological conditions in karst. The boreholes will also be used for educational exercises to be conducted by students enrolled in a course on

hydrogeological field methods offered at the University of Waterloo.

The Department of Earth Sciences hopes to conduct research and instructional demonstrations at this site for many years, and therefore supports and encourages the efforts of the University and the community of Rockwood to preserve this scenic location from any type of development or environmental damage.

All drilling, testing and research undertaken at the site will be conducted according to regulations set by the Ontario Minister of the Environment and Energy (MOEE) and supervised by hydrogeologists from the University of Waterloo. The research personnel will be in and out of the area frequently as they inspect the site and do preliminary evaluations in preparation for the drilling crew, who will be on-site for about two days in March.



SWEETHEARTS DANCE: Sandy and Todd Smith of Rockwood enjoyed a dance together at the Rockwood Nursery School Sweetheart Dance last Saturday. (Eve Martin photo)

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