

Exchange helps give away, find items

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Recycling Group has a new electronic exchange service for people who want to give away items they no longer need or are looking for items.

Users are asked to be accurate in describing the condition of the item. This site is not for items that are for sale.

To post an item you want to give away or are looking for:

• log on to www.worknotes.com/on/Stouffville/recycle

• e-mail recycling.group@sympatico.ca • or phone 905-640-8294.



WANTED! NEW SOCCER REFEREES

Referee Training Starts Feb 16!

- Open to ages 12 to adult (we already have some adults signed up)
- Preparation - Wednesdays Feb 16 - Mar 30 7-8 PM - Mount Joy Community Centre
- Formal Training / Testing April 2nd & 3rd - you must attend both days.
- Previous soccer experience is preferred but not mandatory.
- Cost: Preparation sessions are free. Formal session is \$60.
- Those completing the program successfully will be given assignments in the MSC House League.
- Registration form and more information: www.markhamsoccer.org gary@markhamsoccer.org

of the liver, Acute hepatic failure, Alagille's syndrome, Anderson's disease, Biliary fistula, Byler's disease, Cancer of the liver, Caroli's disease, Cholangiocarcinoma, Cholecystitis, Choledocholithiasis, Cholesteryl ester storage disease, Cori's disease, Crigler-Najjar syndrome.

FIGHT OVER 100 DISEASES WITH ONE DONATION

These are just a few of the over 100 liver-related illnesses that threaten the lives of more than 2 million Canadian men, women and children. For 25 years now, the Canadian Liver Foundation has been leading the fight against liver disease and to continue, we need your help. One simple act of kindness can go so very far. 1320 Yonge Street, Suite 301, Toronto, Ontario MAT 1X2 1-800-563-5483 This message brought to you as a community service of The Economist & Sun/Tribune



STAFF PHOTO/SUSIE KOCKERSCHIEDT

Shirley Heatherington, owner of Blue Star Farm, poses with a thoroughbred horse named Rolex. The farm could close if new provincial taxes are approved.

Tax hike would hit riders

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increase," he said. "The reassessments have actually been going on for many years."

The equestrian industry's lobby group formed a task force to press the issue with politicians, including Mr.

Sorbara, members of the assessment corporation and agricultural groups, said Andrea McGill, marketing and communications co-ordinator for the Richmond Hill-based Ontario Equestrian Federation.

Meetings are going on now and the committee has launched a letter-writing campaign asking federation members to appeal directly to the government.

The assessment corporation initiated an "aggressive" program of reassessments across the province over the past two years, task force committee chairperson Leslie Brooks said.

WILL NOT SURVIVE

"MPAC has begun to apply a little used legislative provision to reassess the property tax classification for boarding and lesson stables," Ms Brooks said. "The financial impact is so severe, many horse barns will not survive."

Furthermore, "MPAC makes the reassessments retroactive up to two years for newly assessed buildings, resulting in, for many equestrian facilities, property tax bills for tens of thousands of dollars, some due and payable in a matter of weeks," she said.

"Individual barn owners simply don't generate the revenue commercial property rates were established for. The changes for the future years are bad enough but the retroactive bill can be financially disastrous."

The issue is far reaching, Mrs. Hetherington said, noting it applies to riders, horse owners, students, barn owners and related horse industries.

HORSE CAPITAL

York Region is known to some as the horse capital of Canada, being home to 1,365 horse farms and 17,612 horses.

Riding establishments are not the "playground" of the wealthy," Ms Brooks said. "Providing riding lessons to children and adults, children's summer camp programs, therapeutic riding programs for the disabled or boarding and caring for horses is much more a labour of love than a lucrative business venture."

"Many families make sacrifices so they can enjoy time with horses in a rural setting. Most stables are small agri-businesses with very high input costs and narrow profit margins. It is simply not feasible to expect a riding establishment could pass on a commercial taxation rate to their customers and stay in business."

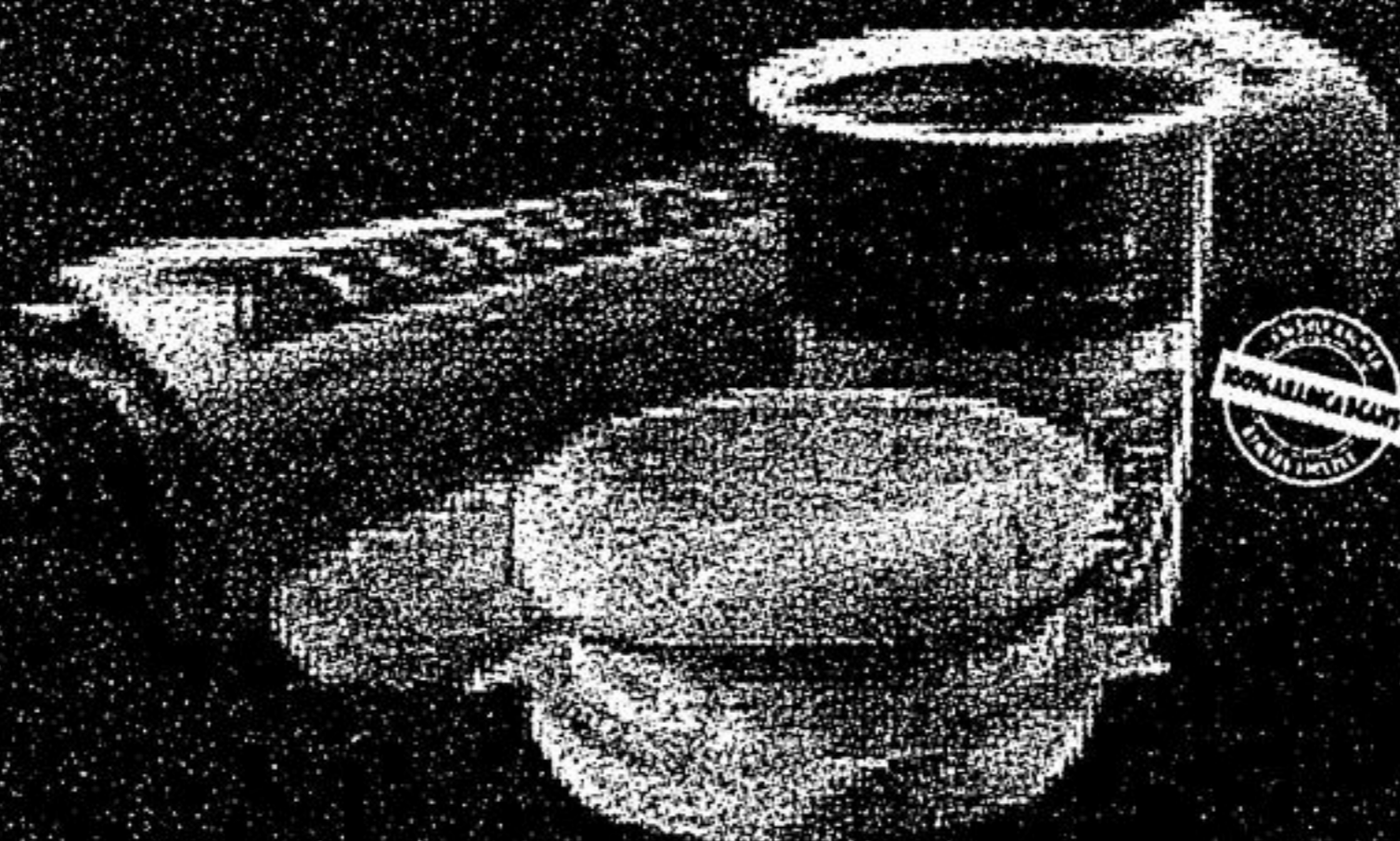
BIG NEWS

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Newspaper with the purchase of any breakfast item.

*During breakfast hours only, from November 15, 2004 - March 15, 2005. At all Markham & Richmond Hill Locations. Limit one free newspaper per customer per visit. Quantities limited. While supplies last.



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SEEK AND FIND

FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

BIZARRE BOXCAR CAR CIGAR CZAR FAR GUITAR JAGUAR JAR MEMOIR SCAR SNACK BAR

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

A V G W U I O E K H
T R J E S D F R F G
S N A C K B A R Y M
C I G A R U R A Y E
Z G U I T A R Z I M
A J A R I R Q I S O
R O R P N G X B C I
S D R E B O X C A R
P U Y R E E C A R W
W V D E W Y U O C M



Hilary Eng



Interests/Hobbies:

Playing on the computer and talking on MSN, shopping, and talking with friends.

Saving Money/Points:

Money for a car & university, points for a cellphone.



Adam McGilvary



Interests/Hobbies:

Snowboarding, hockey, basketball & volleyball.

Saving Money/Points:

Savings and a trampoline.



Shawn Ragell



Interests/Hobbies:

Basketball, playing the guitar, and listening to rock music.

Saving Money/Points:

A new guitar.



Colin Shier



Interests/Hobbies:

Skiing, hockey, running and mountain biking.

Saving Money/Points:

Saving money for a new mountain bike.



Sean Thomson



Interests/Hobbies:

Skate boarding, BMX biking, skiing, sledding and Family Guy.

Saving Money/Points:

Money for a remote control car & points for X-Box, chair and Wild Water passes.

To be a carrier for the Economist or Tribune call (905) 294-8244