

Party Time

Jane Philpott was all smiles as she celebrated her victory in the October 19 Federal Election with hundreds of friends, volunteers and family members at Nineteen on the Park. Dr. Philpott will represent the newly formed Markham-Stouffville riding as part of a majority Liberal government in Ottawa.



Gary Chan, EpicFocus Photography.



Family shot: L to R: Sons David and Jacob, Jane, husband Pep, daughters Lydia and Bethany. Gary Chan, EpicFocus Photography.



Gary Chan, EpicFocus Photography.

Coupon Clippers Group A Hit With Stouffville Bargain Hunters

By Kinjal Dagli Shah

The virtual world brings together a variety of people and interests, with Stouffville residents as quick as any to climb aboard when an opportunity presents itself. Such has been the case with a recent start up group offering a program for 'extreme couponers and price matchers', which has seen a growing number of people from this town sign up and save.

The outfit, called Canadian Savings Group, was started on Facebook last winter. According to founder Pat Hollett, the aim is to make their members smart shoppers by taking advantage of buying opportunities that are available to anyone. "In our group we teach how to price match, find coupons, look for deals, and get cash back for shopping," said Ms. Hollett. "Members learn how to create their own shopping hauls and build a stockpile of free or almost free items. Ultimately they save a lot of money."

Ms. Hollett said it was only after she took on her first administrative assistant last spring that the idea started to take off. "I started the group last winter but didn't do anything with it until this spring when we started to develop the ideas for the group. It has taken off, and I've added three more admins, Felicia Stein, Dee Colgrave, and Diana Lynn Hollett."

The group has grown from 93 to over 5,000 active members in a matter of a few months. Stouffville resident Farzana Malik recently joined in the hope of keeping her grocery bills in check. "The



Felicia Stein, an administrator with the Canadian Savings Group, displays a collection of grocery products purchased at deep discount prices using the group's strategies.

savings group was advertised on another group I am a part of. I thought it would be interesting to follow and save some money especially since groceries are becoming very expensive nowadays," she said.

Daniela Booth, another Stouffville resident, also joined and within two weeks found that she was already garnering savings. "I am on maternity leave with my second child and money is tighter than it has ever been," she said. "The group has helped me save money by telling me which coupons are coming out and where I can find the best sales. It has even shown me the best money saving apps to use. I think the benefits of saving anything is worth the effort."

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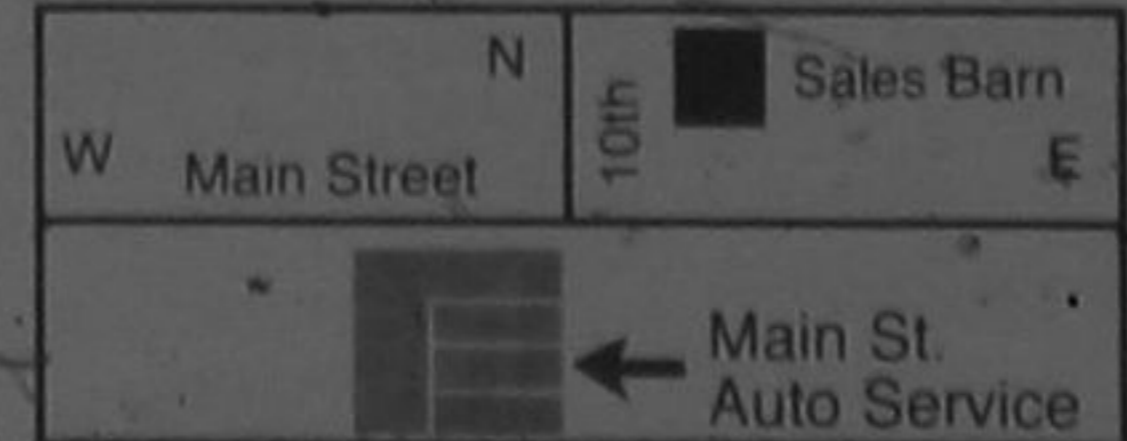
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