

Shoppers, residents favor Sunday shopping—survey

Halton residents want to shop Sunday, think stores should have the right to open Sunday, and say they have no problem with their children working Sunday, a report by a grocer's coalition says.

The Committee for Fair Shopping - an "ad-hoc coalition of grocery retailers and distributors" - telephoned 304 residents, both male and female heads of household, to get their opinions on Sunday shopping.

The survey was conducted between Sept. 27 and 30.

Three representatives from major national grocery chains were at Halton Region last Wednesday to share the findings with acting Regional chairman and Burlington Coun. Rob Forbes.

Executive vice-president of A and P and Dominion Wayne Luedtke told reporters some stores in Halton are presently open Sun-

days. A legislation passed in February by the provincial government scheduled to be implemented next February could close the doors on many more stores.

The survey, published by Goldfarb Consultants, says 73 per cent of Halton residents say store owners should have the option of opening Sunday.

Three-quarters of those surveyed said they would like to have the option of shopping Sunday.

Those who want to work should be able to, 80 per cent of telephone respondents said, but workers should not be bullied or forced to work, the survey found.

Government legislation under the Retail Business Holidays Act, will give them that option, and pro-

tect their right to refuse work, Mr. Luedtke said.

Over 80 per cent of respondents in the survey said Dominion, Loblaws, Food City, Miracle Mart and similar stores should be allowed to open Sunday if large-sized food and produce stores can open.

The report says that 79 per cent of people who responded said it is "unfair" to close large grocery stores Sunday while allowing fruit markets to remain open.

The survey reports that 71 per cent of Halton residents say store openings should be the choice of individual store owners.

The report says that most people oppose the present law that gives Sunday opening rights to selected stores. Over 90 per cent of people questioned for the survey said everyone should have the option to work or not work Sunday.

Eight in ten people surveyed said they would allow their daughter or son to work Sunday to earn extra money.

"Sunday shopping is already widespread in Halton as 58 per cent of those surveyed said they shop on Sunday now, and as many as 37 per cent of those surveyed say they shop on Sunday 'quite often', the shopping survey says.

Trucking firm owner John Bouwman dies



John Bouwman

Popular and well-known local businessman John Bouwman, 55, died in Inverness, Nova Scotia, Friday of a heart attack.

Mr. Bouwman owned Bouwman's Truck Service Centre Ltd. on Todd Road in Georgetown for 22 years. He recently sold the company to enter semi-retirement.

"One thing about John is that no matter where you went in Canada, you would meet someone who knew John Bouwman and spoke very highly of him," Bill Lawrence, a friend of Mr. Bouwman's for the past 30 years, said Tuesday.

"If you met John, you'd immediately like him. He was that kind of warm person," said Ray Marshall, who purchased Mr. Bouwman's truck service over a month ago.

"He spent his whole life building the business up," Mr. Marshall said.

Mr. Bouwman came to Canada from Holland and worked in his father's bake shop. He later worked for Domtar mill and then for Harrison's Garage in Georgetown. He then worked for an auto-electric company that would become Bouwman's Auto Electric in 1968.

"What can you say about someone who was a close personal friend," Rene Tellier of Georgetown said of Mr. Bouwman. "I'm going to miss him a lot."

Mr. Bouwman leaves behind his wife Anne, his daughter Darlene Van Ravens, his son Robert of Orillia and three grandchildren.

Friends of Mr. Bouwman were received at the J.S. Jones and Son Funeral Home. The funeral service was held yesterday (Tuesday) at the Christian Reform Church in Georgetown.

The Bouwmans asked friends to contribute to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario or to a preferred charity.

Peel's new birth centre popular in Georgetown

By ALAN MACKIE
Herald Special

Through a chorus of cackles, giggles and squeals the Brampton Peel Memorial Hospital celebrated the first anniversary of its Family Birth centre on Friday, Oct. 6.

Although the hospital is in Brampton, people from Caledon and Halton Hills have used the centre.

Georgetown resident Cory Booker, wife of Les Booker, gave birth to Daniel last mother's day (May 14). Daniel is her fifth child and she said the experience she had in the centre was enjoyable.

The centre is set up to be as close to a home setting for child birth as possible within a hospital.

Mrs. Booker appreciated her four older children could be a part of the birth and although they tried to be there for the birth the strain of five hours of labor was too much.

She also liked that a nurse visited her at home before and after the birth to check up on her.

"It's also nice to know, the hospital facilities are there if you need them," Mrs. Booker said.

The Family Birth Centre is the first of its kind in Ontario.

Hospital President Bill Macleod said the centre was "an opportunity to do something different and innovative."

The medical director of the centre, Kerr Leggatt, said "It hasn't been all roses."

There has been the odd philosophical and technical difficulties that have been overcome, Mr. Leggatt explained.

The centres record for the first year is: families registered - 232, deliveries - 180, transferred before birth - 29, transferred during birth - 23, transferred after birth - five, readmissions because of jaundice - four, and Caesarians - 16.

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