

# Opinion

## Have your say

This week, the NDP Government has tabled into the Legislature, a new and more restrictive bill on Sunday shopping. The bill provides a common pause day and assures retail workers the right to refuse Sunday and holiday work.

This comes after a confusing two years of court battles by supermarkets and retail stores trying to obtain Sunday shopping. For eight months they were successful.

In the January 10, 1990 issue of *The Acton Free Press/Georgetown Independent*, we published the results of an informal survey conducted by this newspaper, tabulating our readers' opinions on Sunday shopping. At that time, 2:1 were against Sunday shopping — 180 were opposed, 92 in favor.

We again would like to know if our readers still hold to their opinions, or if in the intervening months of wide-open shopping, some have changed their minds. So we are again printing a ballot, allowing you to mark whether you are for or against Sunday shopping. We also like to know how many have changed their minds from a year ago. So fill out your ballot and let's see how Halton Hills feels about Sunday shopping.

CLG

## SUNDAY SHOPPING

**YES** I am in favor of allowing all retail outlets such as supermarkets and department stores to open on Sundays.

**NO** I am *not* in favor of allowing retail outlets such as supermarkets and department stores to open on Sundays.

Place X here if you have changed your opinion on Sunday shopping over the past year.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

Send your ballot to:  
Editorial Department  
Acton Free Press/Georgetown Independent  
211 Armstrong Ave.  
Georgetown, ON  
L7G 4X5

## Count yourself in

This is Census Week. The aim of the census is to count everyone in the country, from the youngest infant to the oldest adult. Statistics Canada also counts all those Canadians abroad, such as those in the armed forces or working outside the country.

Statistics Canada has to hire about 45,000 temporary workers at census time. That's 15 times the entire population of New France (3,215 people) when Jean Talon took the first census here in 1666.

## MULRONEY ADDRESSES JAPANESE INVESTORS ...



## Inept federal response to cross-border shopping spree

The cross-border purchasing spree of Canadian consumers is growing in all areas of Canada and seriously affecting our merchants.

With predictable lack of realism and competence, the minister of revenue, Mr. Otto Jelinek, is proposing more and tougher border patrols.

According to him, Canada Customs will have more inspectors, spotchecks and God knows what else to stop Canadians from purchasing less expensive goods in the States.

The solution offered by the minister smacks of the Middle Ages, when every village had its own collectors of taxes on produce, and goes smack against the concept of free trade.

In Europe, we see a trend - to become reality next year - to complete free flow of goods, services and capital. We are raising new barriers.

It is absolutely true that Canadians buying in American stores hurt our merchants and our economy. The unanswered question is, however, why are goods cheaper in the States?

The normal answer is that,

By  
**Carlo  
Testa**



in Canada, we have to tack onto our goods the cost of the "social services" we enjoy.

It is not a very credible answer: if a product costs 50 per cent more in Canada, is it possible the extra goes toward social services?

Don't forget that we pay for our social services through income tax, health tax, Canada pension, etc.

Sure, all those costs, plus the GST and the Provincial sales tax add to the cost of a product, but 50 per cent?

We cannot close our borders to goods purchased by Canadians in the States.

Any attempt will not only fail, but it will encourage smuggling and, with it, a new, lucrative line of criminal activity.

That Canadians have been rather honest in paying their

taxes is not due to a genetic predisposition toward taxpaying, but to the fact that Canadians have been rather satisfied with the social contract between State and citizen. We pay the taxes and we get a good health system, education system, road system, etc.

We have now reached the point where Canadians begin to question the validity of the social contract: taxes increase, and goods and services become more expensive and less affordable, while public service quality is declining.

Once the compact between State and citizen is broken, it will, like Humpty Dumpty, be difficult or impossible to put together again.

Our ministers should look at eliminating the causes of the higher prices, not attempt to close the borders.

Disastrous management of the national economy and administrative inefficiency are at the root of the problem: after six years in power, the Conservative government must face up to the reality of a situation which existed in 1984 and is slowly but surely destroying our economy and lives.

Halton Hills

# WEEKEND

The Georgetown Independent and Acton Free Press

**KEN BELLAMY**  
Publisher

211 ARMSTRONG AVE., L7G 4X5  
GEORGETOWN, ONT. (416) 873-0301

The Halton Hills Weekend, published every Saturday at 211 Armstrong Ave., Georgetown, Ont., is one of the Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing group of suburban newspapers which includes: The Acton Free Press, Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser, The Aurora Banner, Barrie Banner Advance, The Brampton Guardian, The Burlington Post, The Erin-Hillsburgh Echo, The Etobicoke Advertiser/Guardian, The Georgetown Independent, Markham Economist & Sun, The Milton Champion, The Mississauga News, The Newmarket Era, The Oakville Beaver, Oshawa/Whitby This Week, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, The Echo-Review, The Scarborough Mirror, The Stouffville Tribune, The Willowdale Mirror. Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing is a division of Harlequin Enterprises Ltd.

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with reasonable allowance for signature, will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate.

In the event of a typographical error advertising goods or services at the wrong price, goods or services may not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell which may be withdrawn at any time.

Editorial and advertising content to Georgetown Independent/Acton Free Press Week End is protected by copyright. Unauthorized use is prohibited.

Price: Store copies 50¢ each; subscription \$19 per year by carrier; \$52 per year by mail in Canada; \$75 per year in all other countries. Plus G.S.T.

EDITORIAL - 1-800-268-8719  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Robin Incoce  
EDITOR: Cynthia Gamble,  
Staff Writers: Paul Dorsey, Stuart Johnston, Janet Baine.  
Photography: Ted Brown

BUSINESS OFFICE - 1-800-268-8719  
Manager: Jean Shewell  
Accounting: Pat Kentner, Sherry Mitchell, Bev Nelissen

ADVERTISING - 1-800-268-8719  
Director of Advertising: Lorne Beechener  
Advertising Manager: Beth Snelgrove  
Display Sales: Charmaine Letts, Tammy Salt, Teresa Mills  
Telemarketing: Jeanette Cox  
Real Estate Sales: Kathy Toth  
National Representative: Dal Browne 493-1300

CLASSIFIED - 1-800-268-8719  
Manager: Carol Hall  
Staff: Barb Izzio, Arlene Bellamy

DISTRIBUTION/CIRCULATION/SUBSCRIPTIONS - 1-800-268-8719  
TORONTO LINE - 798-7950  
Manager: Nancy Geissler  
Staff: Jean Brander, Mark Esposito