

The first of '76

Olwen and Douglas Venn of Port Credit with their child, Lisa Alice Elizabeth — first baby to be born in 1976 in Peel. Lisa, the first child for the Venns, weighing eight pounds, two ounces at birth was born at 1:04 a.m., Jan. 1, at Mississauga Hospital.

Dixie food mart bows to 'silly law,' shuts for first Sunday in 65 years

By SID RODAWAY
Mississauga's leading opponent of the new law banning most Sunday store openings has closed his Dundas Highway food mart for the first Sunday in 65 years of continuous operations. He faced a \$10,000-a-day fine if he didn't comply.

Ross Indovina had launched a high-priced public relations campaign to convince the provincial government that Dixie Quality Foods should retain the right to remain open.

Indovina and several other employees waited Sunday afternoon for those customers who hadn't heard that as of Jan. 1 large retail operations must close down on Sundays.

About 30 of the market's average 2,500 Sunday shoppers showed up. They were handed a single-page announcement explaining the consequences of the government legislation and a list of the phone numbers of six Progressive Conservative members of the provincial legislature, including Premier Bill Davis, who Indovina has identified as particularly responsible for what he calls "a silly law."

Formerly known as the Dixie Fruit Market, the store grew over six and a half decades from a small country vegetable stand to the big supermarket-garden centre it is today.

Many of his patrons, according to Indovina, came from the greater Metro Toronto area and had made it a tradition to shop with their families at Dixie on Sunday.

Indovina has laid off 29 part-time and three full-time staff members and he predicts

a loss of 20 percent of his week's average business.

For now, he says he will play a waiting game, adding that eventually the firm may try to challenge the law in court.

His anger is particularly centred on recently-elected Mississauga East MPP Bud Gregory, who had personally supported Dixie's Sunday shopping policy. However, once Gregory was elected, he was never heard from again on the issue, Indovina says.

In the closing days of his battle to stay open, Indovina had unsuccessfully proposed a "grandfather" clause for the new law. This clause would allow non-chain stores with a lengthy tradition of Sunday shopping to continue that tradition.

"We've done everything we could to stop it," Indovina said Monday. As of March 14, the store will open its garden centre on a seven-day-a-week basis in accordance with loopholes in the law and on April 4 the fruit and vegetable department will follow.

All supermarkets with over 2,400 square feet of space and employing more than three people on the premises were closed last Sunday.

The new law received little opposition from the big food chains, which stressed at local public meetings that their main concern is fair enforcement of the law for all.

Building permit asked for controversial project

A building permit for the controversial Balsam Woods project, formerly Carlton Holdings, will soon be issued if the developers can satisfy the city engineering requirements.

Lawyer Gary Smith, who represents Balsam which is building 398 townhouses on the north side of Lakeshore Rd. just west of the former town of Port Credit, asked council Monday to grant the permit.

He noted that his company had agreed — after a series of fiery meetings in 1974 — to reduce its proposal for high-rise buildings accommodating 700 units to the 398 townhouses. The firm already had a building permit in hand from Port Credit to go ahead with the high-rises.

Balsam had voluntarily agreed to enter into a more modern engineering agreement with Mississauga, Smith said. Council had committed itself to issuing the permit quickly once building plans had been processed, he added. No outstanding matters of any consequence exist, Smith claimed, telling

councillors that he was not asking them to "second guess the engineering department."

Balsam wants to get the construction under way while approvals are being completed. They've been working towards those approvals for over a year.

In response to a comment by Michael Millard of the engineering department, who said there were some outstanding matters on improvements to the Tecumseh Creek, which runs through the property, Smith said a \$200,000 bond for the work had

been posted. The developer has already signed the new engineering agreement; he noted.

The Carlton Holdings issue was one of the most bitter controversies in Port Credit history. Opposition to the proposed high rises resulted in a march on town offices in Clarke Hall by angry ratepayers in 1973.

The building permit was granted to Balsam, subject to their supplying a letter of commitment to the city satisfactory to the engineering and legal departments.

Spotcheck warnings pay off

Drivers in Mississauga apparently took police spotcheck warnings to heart over the holiday season.

Although three police spotcheck crews stopped a total of 339 cars on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, only one driver was charged with impaired driving.

On Christmas Eve, however, police issued 25 traffic notices requiring drivers to make repairs to their vehicles and report later, with repairs proof to the police station. Spotcheck crews had stopped 141 cars.

On New Year's Eve police stopped 198 motorists. Again, the cars, not the drivers, were the problem. This time 30 traffic notices were issued.

Insp. Graham Hills added, however, that the high volume of calls on New Year's Eve occasionally required the crews to leave their posts temporarily to assist other officers.

5 juveniles charged following 19 break-ins

By JAMES BAILEY
Five juveniles aged 10 to 15 years used a cutting torch and drill in a safecracking attempt during one of 19 break-ins they committed throughout the east Mississauga area, according to the Peel police youth bureau.

Two of the young people involved are girls aged 15 and 14, and three are boys aged 10, 13 and 14. All are from Lakeview and two pairs are brother and sister.

Police said the series of break-ins was solved when a uniformed officer was dispatched to the Family Fair store in the Dixie Plaza in response to an alarm in the early morning hours of Dec. 27. The officer waited for a store employee to arrive with a key, then searched inside and found a 15-year-old girl and a 13-year-old boy hiding in a storage cupboard. They

were turned over to Constable Rick Tower for investigation and, as a result, three more young people were arrested.

All five will appear in juvenile court charged with the 19 break-ins which occurred in local schools and stores over the past four months.

Police said Cawthra Park Secondary School was entered three times and on one occasion, a drill and small torch were used in an unsuccessful attempt to break into a safe. At the Dixie Plaza, the Aikenheads hardware, Family Fair and Astro Golf stores were broken into and a total of \$763 in cash stolen. The only damage occurred at doors where entry was gained.

Cawthra Park Arena was entered twice and \$80 in merchandise taken. Later, an electric drill was stolen from the garage of a private home.

South Peel secondary school and Lynwood public school were visited twice by the juvenile gang and Byngmount senior public school once. Total vandalism to schools was \$11,000, involving broken typewriters and adding machines, walls defaced with paint and other damage.

Lynwood United Church was entered three times and Lakeview United Church once for a total take of \$115 in cash. Both churches received minor damage.

Also broken into were the Dairy Queen at 715 Lakeshore Rd. E. and Village Bowl, 191 Lakeshore Rd. E.

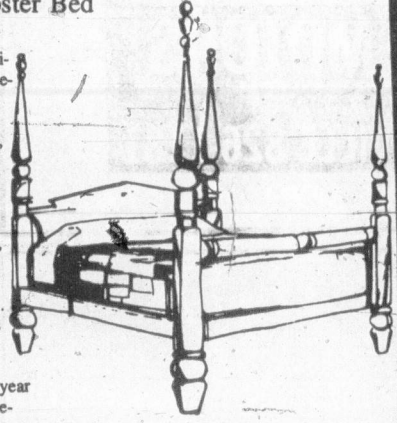
Police said a total of \$13,000 in damage occurred during the rash of break-ins. About \$1,200 in cash and goods was stolen of which \$600 in cash and \$150 in stolen property has been recovered.

Two of the youngsters are being held at the juvenile detention centre at 311 Jarvis St. in Toronto.

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City wants board to split land cost

The Liquor Control Board of Ontario will be asked to pay for 50 percent of the acquisition costs of the Elmwood Ford property in Port Credit because an estimated one-half of the land will be used for parking at a nearby liquor store.

Council decided Monday to press the LCBO for additional financial assistance for the

property on the north side of Lakeshore Rd. just east of Highway 10 in Port Credit. The LCBO has said it could pay one-third of the costs. Officials in the city engineering department say at least half of the proposed parking area will be needed for customers and employees of the liquor store at Lakeshore and Woodlawn Ave.

Commission seeks views on salaries and boundaries

A number of Mississauga ratepayer associations are expected to comment on politicians' salaries and city ward boundaries at a public meeting tomorrow night.

Blake Goodings, chairman of a commission examining political salaries and boundaries says the holiday season has meant that few formal briefs have been submitted to the commission. Tomorrow night will be the only chance for the public to express views to the four-man commission, which is to submit its final report by the end of January.

The commission has held several meetings. "We're gathering information, and accumulating a lot of data," notes Goodings, adding that a final technique to approach the subjects has not been decided on.

Other members of the commission are the Very Reverend Canon Matthew Berko, G. Gallagher, president of Local 183 of the Laborers' International Union; and Merle Zoerb, director of programming for Maclean-Hunter Cable Television Ltd.

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