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Wednesday edition A Metroland Community Newspaper serving the town of Milton

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A&P not charged for opening on Sunday

By BRAD REAUME

The A & P store in Milton defied provincial law in remaining open last Sunday but they were not charged under the Retail Business Holidays Act and no one seems to know why.

Halton Regional Police suggested the lack of charges might have been an oversight on their part. They were unable to determine the exact reason no charges were laid. Sergeant Frank Phillips said that the situation will be monitored this weekend.

The store and others around the province will open again this Sunday according to Linda Weichel, spokesperson for the Committee For Fair Shopping, a lobby group formed by four major grocery retailers. The maximum penalty for opening is a fine of \$50,000. Brent Kears, Executive Director of Halton Region Business Development Office, said the fines are usually in the range of \$500 to \$5,000.

Survey cards were available at the stores to give shoppers a chance to express their opinions about the Sunday openings. Some other businesses are watching the developments closely and making noises about opening said Mr. Kears. "Retailers are eyeing the large Christmas market and that might affect their decision," he added.

Ms Weichel said that 56 of the 80 grocery stores open in Halton, York, Peel and Niagara Regions were charged under the provincial legislation. The Committee For Fair Shopping has been lobbying municipal governments

• see A&P on page 2.

Bring Santa's
letters to
parade Sunday



Playing on air

Photo by JOHN WARREN

Children's entertainer Jim Parker got his audience in the mood to make music Saturday at the Milton Community Nursery School's annual bazaar. He didn't have time for the popular air guitar portion of his act, however Jennifer Williams (left) and Stephanie Power had a chance to strum a few air tunes. Mr. Parker's performance was a highlight of the bazaar held at St. Paul's United Church.

Minister to discuss GST's effect on business

Halton-Peel MP Garth Turner will play host this weekend to the man responsible for federal policies affecting small business and tourism.

The Hon. Tom Hockin, Secretary of State, will be in Acton Friday night (Nov. 17) and Saturday for a number of events — including a public discussion on how Ottawa's proposed Goods and Services Tax will affect area businesses.

"It's no secret that a number of people are

concerned about the GST's effect on small enterprises," Mr. Turner said. "And the best way we can answer is to question the top guys."

That's why I asked Finance Minister Michael Wilson to come here a few months ago, and that's why Tom Hockin is coming now. The government has to stand accountable for all its decisions. I really hope that business people with questions about the GST or tourism or other matters bring them this

Saturday morning."

Schedule permitting, Mr. Hockin will join Mr. Turner Friday evening at the olde Hide House in Acton for its Celebrate Canada dinner. The following morning at 11 a.m. Mr. Hockin will attend an open meeting at Tjinity United Church, 70 Mill St., in Acton.

"I really encourage taxpayers and citizens to take advantage of it — it's an important way the decision-makers in Ottawa will know what we want and expect of the government."

INSIDE: POLICE 5, DATELINE LS10, CLASSIFIED 18-22, REAL ESTATE RE1-RE16.