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## In Milton

# Beer, liquor stores open Sundays

By KAREN SMITH  
The Champion

Sales at Milton liquor and beer stores were reportedly slow on last weekend's first of three Sunday openings before Christmas.

However, store managers say they expect sales to pick up as consumers catch on to the idea of buying booze on Sundays.

Scott Norwood, beer store manager, said he believes many local residents didn't realize Milton outlets were open last Sunday and some consumers have been confused by the City of Hamilton's opposition to the move.

"One guy said he went to Toronto (to buy beer) last Sunday because he didn't know we were open," Mr. Norwood said.

The liquor store at Main and Bronte streets and the Millside Drive beer store were open last Sunday after the provincial government approved the initiative in the fall.

The Tory government granted permission for the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) and Brewers Retail Inc. (BRI) to open outlets on three Sundays in December — the 8, 15 and 22.

But the LCBO gave each municipality the opportunity to oppose the openings. Hamilton expressed concerns and its liquor and beer stores remain closed on Sundays.

Milton was informed of the plan in an October letter to the municipal clerk. Correspondence from LCBO officials told Milton that if it objected to the openings, the LCBO should be contacted no later than November 15. No one voiced opposition to the move when given the opportunity to do so at a November 4 council meeting, said town clerk Bill Roberts, and the stores opened as planned.

Milton liquor and beer stores were swamped when they opened their doors last year on Christmas Eve, which fell on a Sunday, store managers recalled.

Local beer and liquor stores are open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays before Christmas.

## Arts umbrella group under way

By BRAD REAUME  
The Champion

Arts Milton is the end product of a lot of creative energy.

The local arts group began life in May with a general meeting which laid the parameters for an official launch in November. The aim is to promote the arts in Milton.

Sub groups began work on a constitution, a calendar of events and an inventory of the arts in Milton. The constitutional work

was done first and was presented at the November meeting at Hugh Foster Hall.

According to Bonnie Ward, a coordinator of community programs and partnerships with the Town of Milton, a board of directors was elected, membership fees agreed upon and a small operating budget set. Memberships cost \$25 for individuals, \$15 for seniors and students, \$50 for groups and \$75 for corporations.

"The best thing was the diversity

of the group at the meeting," said Ms Ward.

"There were about 50 people, some representing arts groups, others were there as individuals and some people were there from groups such as LACAC (Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee)."

The first president of Arts Milton is Roy Metcalfe.

For more information on the group contact Ms Ward at 878-7211.

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