Local businesses get involved in Lighten Up, Canada festivities

By JENNEFER PAUL

Special to the Independent/Free Press

Acton resident Jack Carpenter has begun a rage that has really taken off.

One year ago, Carpenter, a writer/broadcaster for CKCO in Kitchener, got the idea during a radio comedy skit to set aside one long weekend in February (because there aren't any) and just have some fun. It's called Lighten Up Canada, and the fun begins Friday, February 5 and includes...wearing a red nose.

Not just any red nose mind you, it has to be those big clown type red noses. These noses can be found at several locations now, and some even have the Lighten Up Canada logo on them.

Last year, Carpenter's idea became so popular, that his order for 12,000 noses quickly sold out. The leader in last year's race for the noses was Halton Hills.

This year, with the help of Chamber of Commerce, 100,000 red noses have been distributed, with a re-order for 25,000 more.

Carpenter wouldn't be surprised if this didn't generate a little indus-

With Kennedy Flags in Erin becoming involved by making Lighten Up Canada pennants, and balloon manufacturers using the logo, Lighten Up Canada Day seems to be taking jumbo strides.

This is supposed to be a fun, nonprofit weekend so Carpenter wants everyone to get involved. As he sees it, the more people who get carried away with this idea, the better.

"There's even been some malls that have gotten into the spirit by offering specials for people wearing their noses," said Carpenter.

"It's just a chance for people to have fun and lighten up, and for 49 cents, it's a cheap thrill."

Cheap or not, people have really warmed up to the idea. Last year adults all over town were involved, as were their kids, who could be seen wearing their little red noses at school.

The noses can be bought for a mere 50 cents, and found at such locations as Up Up & Away, The Paper Factory, Home Hardware,

Canadian Tire, Acton IGA, local video stores, and varied checkout counters. Stores offering discounts if a red nose is worn on Friday Feb. 5 include Home Hardware (discount on all purchase), Pizza Hut (buy one get one free) and Entertainment Tonite in Acton (get one free comedy movie when you wear your nose).

Carpenter also hopes to see more personalities getting involved such as Mayor Russ Miller.

"If people see the Mayor getting into the act," said Carpenter, "then maybe that will tell them something."

When asked if Carpenter would be wearing his nose, his reply was immediate.

"You bet," he said, "I carry mine in my pocket wherever I go!"

So slap on your red schnoz for the first weekend in February, and make people laugh. And also remember to take the Monday off—to get the long weekend movement in February going.

As for those people who can't get into the swing of things, Carpenter says, "well, Lighten up, eh."

Northview Centre

Mon. - Wed. 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Thurs. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Sat. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sun. 12 - 5 p.m.

(Guelph St. & Mountainview Rd.)



Acton's Jack Carpenter was involved in a little Eskimo style hanky-panky recently as he, and Kitchener Paper Factory manager June Farrow, took delivery of several thousand official "Lighten Up Canada Day" noses at the Kitchener store location. Lighten Up Day is February 5, and everyone is encouraged to wear a nose.

The Partners of O'CONNOR MACLEOD are pleased to announce that PAUL D. STUNT former Crown Attorney for Halton joined the firm on January 1, 1993 and will carry on a Criminal and Civil Litigation practice O'CONNOR MACLEOD Barristers & Solicitors 700 Kerr Street, Oakville, Ontario Canada L6K 3W5 Telephone: (416) 842-8030 • Facsimile: (416) 842-2460 134 Main St., S., Georgetown, Ontario L7G 3E6 Telephone: (416) 873-8000 • Facsimile: (416) 873-7865





232 GUELPH ST., UNIT 10, GEORGETOWN 873-2000



window blind service.

873-0288