



VOUCHERS: Jon Bartlett gives a customer a voucher for a free set of SLEDs after accepting his strand of old lights, outside Acton Home Hardware Sunday afternoon. - Justina Pembleton photo.

Strands of old Yule lights are exchanged at Home Hardware

by Justina Pembleton

Project Porchlight continued in full swing in Halton Hills this past weekend with Acton Home Hardware holding the SLED event.

On Sunday, Nov. 18 customers were invited to exchange old strands of Christmas lights for a new SLED (seasonal light emitting diodes) strand. The new SLED lights will save homeowners a bundle in energy savings over the holidays when they switch. Incandescent large bulbs, which are five watts, roughly require 125 bulbs for the average home, costing homeowners \$10.67 a year in electricity. Incandescent mini lights, which are 0.5 watts, and require roughly 300 bulbs for the average house, cost homeowners \$2.97 a year in electricity. But the new SLED lights, which require roughly 300 bulbs for the average house, will cost homeowners \$0.33 per year in electricity.

SLED's are also safer and more sustainable, lasting ten times longer than the incandescent strands. They are also shock-resistant, shatter proof and have no filaments or glass to break. They also produce very little heat so there is a reduced risk of fire.

The SLED event at Acton Home Hardware between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. had Jon Bartlett heading up the event. Bartlett is the Director of Development at ONECHANGE, the company promoting Project Porchlight, along with the OPA (Ontario Power Authority). Throughout the weekend, select Home Hardware and Canadian Tire stores across Ontario were hosting SLED events.

"We're excited to see

people embracing energy-efficient seasonal lights," said Stuart Hickox, Director of One Change. "People see that, for a small up-front cost, they can conserve energy and save a lot of money in electricity costs by swapping their old, energy-wasting lights with something far more efficient and every bit as festive."

By 12:30 p.m. Bartlett had already accepted over 150 strands of energy-wasting lights. He predicted that by the time the event came to a close, as 2 p.m. he would have accepted over 200 strands. Acton was very enthusiastic about the event

and the employees of Acton Home Hardware were hard at work checking out lines of customers picking up their new SLED's.

The SLED event was Halton Hills way of continuing Project Porchlight, which had Halton Hills councillors Clark Somerville and Jon Hurst as well as Mayor Rick Bonnette going door-to-door handing out LED lights to Halton residence throughout October to promote energy efficiency. Acton had the most volunteers in Halton.

For more information on Project Porchlight go to their website at www.projectporchlight.com.

Flu shots best way to prevent influenza - MOH

Halton's Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Bob Nosal, again reminds residents that receiving influenza (flu) immunization is the best way to protect themselves, their co-workers and their families from the influenza virus.

"The Health Department is currently offering free influenza immunization at various locations throughout Halton," said Nosal. "I encourage everyone ages six months of age and older to receive annual influenza immunization especially young children, the elderly, pregnant women and people with medical conditions who can become seriously ill from flu-related complications."

Influenza (flu) is caused by a virus, which affects the lungs. It can spread easily from infected people by coughing and sneezing, or by touching contaminated surfaces such as toys, door-knobs, eating utensils and unwashed hands.

The flu affects people of all ages including the young and healthy and usually lasts from five to ten days. The flu can cause fever, headache, general aches and pains, and

fatigue and cough which can linger for several weeks.

Other steps can also be taken to help reduce the spread of the influenza virus including:

- Wash your hands often and will with soap and water. Use alcohol-based sanitizers if soap and water are not available.

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when

coughing and sneezing. If you don't have a tissue, cough into your sleeve.

- Avoid people who are sick and stay home if you are feeling unwell.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs are often carried on your hands.

- Clean hard surfaces that are touched or handled regularly such as doorknobs, toys and telephones.

INDIAN RIVER DIRECT

CITRUS TRUCKLOAD SALE

ACTON

TUES. NOV. 27, 12:30PM - 2:30PM
THE OLDE HIDE HOUSE PARKING LOT
(Eastern & Mill)

20 LB BOX OF FLORIDA
Seedless Navel Oranges **\$20.00**
or Ruby Red Grapefruit **PER BOX**

*For those who have suffered the loss of a loved one,
 Christmas can be one of the most difficult times of the year.*

*You, your family and friends are invited
 to join us for a multi-denominational*

Community Christmas Service of Hope

*Wednesday, December 5th, 2007
 at 7:30 p.m.*

**Trinity United Church,
 70 Mill St. E
 Acton**

followed by refreshments

**This service is being conducted
 under the auspices of the
 Acton Ministerial Association**

*If you would like to attend this service
 but need transportation please call*

Margaret and Bob MacKinnon
MacKinnon Family Funeral Home
55 Mill Street East, Acton

Ian Pasmore
Blue Springs Funeral Home
12 Church Street East, Acton

Castle's TeaBerry Cafe

**SPECIAL CHRISTMAS
 AFTERNOON TEA**
*Sunday, December 9th or 16th
 at 2:30 pm With a Special Guest*

Bonnie Ross, Psychic Consultant & Spiritual Teacher will be visiting tables with **Jewelry Readings, Tarot Card, Palm Reading, Aura Readings, etc.**

**We will be serving
 a Traditional Afternoon Tea**
Pick up your tickets - Early!

111 Main St., Rockwood
(519) 856-0188

*Reservations Accepted
 Fully Licensed*