

Three-year-old pickup truck "too old" 'We sincerely regret...'

By Doris Lindauer
Staff Reporter

During the past couple of weeks there has been a 1972 Ford F100 pickup truck touring the town bearing such slogans as "Buy a Ford and watch it rust," "Another rusty Ford" and "Quality by Ford."

This is just one of the steps which its owner, Tom Beeny of Georgetown, has taken in hopes of getting his message across to the public and conquering the proverbial "run around."

Tom purchased the pickup truck new from Stonehouse Ford in Brampton in 1972 and within one year's time of purchase he noticed serious and rapid deterioration of the doors and complete rusting of the outside door panels.

Shortly after, the seams on both sides of the quarter panels, the wheel wells and the interior box floor were almost completely rusted out and the area surrounding the bolts which hold the box had cracked.

It was at this time that Tom decided that

things had gone far enough and it was time to have the situation looked into. It was also at this time that Tom began to get the 'old run around.'

Tom contacted the service manager at Stonehouse Ford who advised Tom to personally approach the district office in Bramalea. The Bramalea office shut the door on Tom's face with a reply of "Sorry but the truck is too old and has too many miles."

"I don't use my truck for business purposes. I don't classify a three-year-old vehicle as being old nor do I classify 53,000 miles as too many miles," explained the frustrated owner.

Not willing to give up, Tom wrote a letter to the general service manager of Ford in Oakville and explained the situation, the steps previously taken, and his eagerness to have the necessary repairs made by the company.

About one month after writing the letter Tom received a reply from the customer relations department with an introduction of "We sincerely regret that you are encountering a rust problem" and a conclusion

of "We sincerely regret that due to the time and mileage now accumulated on your vehicle, we are unable to be of direct assistance to you in this instance."

About three weeks after receiving the letter Tom and his wife Sandy were watching the CBC consumers show "Marketplace" when the very situation they were caught in was discussed on the show. A number of consumers voiced their complaints on vehicles between the years of 1969 and 1972 with the largest complaint being rust.

Later in the program the national service manager for Ford in Oakville, stated that he would appreciate to hear from all the unhappy owners.

After hearing this Tom got on the phone only to hear "Sorry, but the service manager is on holidays." His next step was to contact Marketplace to tell his story.

Early Thursday morning a crew of three came to town to film Tom and his truck. The crew then told Tom that they had received a number of complaints from various consumers who had also tried to contact the national service manager but were unable to

reach him.

"It seems he was conveniently on holidays, etc.," told Tom.

For the time being Tom is sitting tight. However, he has not given up.

"The painting on the truck is only poster paint but sometime during the next couple of weeks I'll paint the truck with stuff that won't wash off in the rain. That paint is going to stay on that truck until it's fixed."

"Buying the truck has been a regret from day one. It's the worst move I have ever made but how were we to know at that time what was going to happen," questioned Tom.

"Some people have told me that I have a lot of guts to drive around town like that but someone has to stick up for themselves. That's the problem today, none of the little people are willing to stand up for themselves against the big corporations. But I am."



NOW THAT'S QUALITY says Tom Beeny of Georgetown owner of a 1972 Ford pickup. Tom is making it very clear to the public that he is not going to give up in his fight to get his truck repaired.



CARVING A JACK O'LANTERN IS A TRADITION at Holy Cross Separate School. Robert Sales, Amanda Galvo, Darren Boudreau and Terry Flynn surgically design their pumpkin.

Fund campaign \$23,900 short

Initially hoping to receive over \$25,000 in donations, the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded has so far received donations totalling only 1,600. The association has thus been forced to take out a \$20,000 mortgage on the new complex for 17 mentally retarded adults.

The ministry of community and social

services paid 80 percent of the \$290,000 project located on Trafalgar Road near Hornby, leaving the association with a deficit of \$60,000. Previously raised funds totalled close to \$30,000, half the money needed.

"We had hoped to get a good chunk of the money we needed from donations. The way things are going we won't even get half of that

amount and we are greatly appreciative of the money which Georgetown's Branch 120 of the Royal Canadian Legion, the Dublin Women's Institute and the Beaver Bible Club have donated," explained president of the association, Russell Hunt.

The new complex is planned to be completed early in December.

\$25,000 for new municipal site

One of Halton Hills more important bylaws received perhaps the quickest treatment of any to appear before town council in its two-year history Monday night as council agreed to a bylaw authorizing the purchasing of land for the town's new municipal complex.

The land is a 2.958-acre parcel of land immediately to the west of the former Township of Esqueping's municipal building on the Seventh Line.

Selling price for the land was in the area of \$25,000.

Owners of the property are the operators of Rockwood International Livestock Ltd.

The bylaw had been drawn up by members of council's special building committee and delivered to deputy-clerk Delmar French's home late Monday, just prior to the council meeting.

There were no comments by any council members as the bylaw received three readings.

Later the council approved a resolution

calling for the town treasurer to draw up an agreement with the Ontario Municipal Board to cover the issuing of debentures, not ex-

ceeding \$300,000, on the project. The OMB has already granted approval to have the project debentured.

Georgetown will stay with Peel in new riding

Georgetown is going to remain with Peel in the new federal electoral riding. Peel's regional solicitor, Len Stewart, is reported to have told Peel regional council that the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission has notified him that it is not prepared to alter the boundary of the proposed new Peel-Halton riding.

That riding includes Georgetown and the

northwest block of the former Township of Esqueping with the Town of Caledon, King Township and the Towns of Vaughan and King.

Excluding Georgetown from this riding, as both Peel and Halton wanted to do, would not be possible the commission told Mr. Stewart, since this would reduce the population quota below acceptable limits.

Stewarttown subdivision revealed

Plans for 39 new homes within the urban limits of Stewarttown were presented to Halton Hills subsidiary planning board last week.

The plans are the latest proposal by developer Emil Zuber and Lynbrook Developments for the area between the Canadian National Railway tracks and the strip of homes along the west side of the Seventh Line.

Bob Clipham in presenting the 39-home proposal, explained that Lynbrook's original 1974 plans for the Stewarttown area, had shown a total of 44 lots, but after it had been termed premature by the planning board, the number of homes had been cut down to 39. Minimum size of the hamlet

lots, Mr. Clipham explained would be 15,000 square feet.

Water services would be extended from Maple Avenue into the development. The existing town watermain that services Stewarttown would be too small to handle the extra load and would therefore have to be added to, Mr. Clipham said.

The homes would be on septic tanks although planning board members suggested that a complete sewage handling system be installed and capped so that, should the Georgetown sewage system be extended to service Stewarttown sometime in the future, it would be a simple matter to uncapped and connect it to the town system.

Mayor Tom Hill questioned the developer's proposed method of separating the new homes from the nearby railroad tracks by a raised line of trees and shrubs.

"We've already had considerable contact with the people living along the Seventh Line about the noise from the trains. I hope the developer makes it perfectly clear to any new people moving in that it's their problem and not ours."

Town planner Mario Venditti explained that in-filling in hamlets such as Stewarttown is limited in the town's Official Plan to only two percent of the existing homes per year. That would limit the growth of Stewarttown to six or eight new homes per year, he said.

thus necessitating a change to the town's Official Plan if the Lynbrook plan is to be carried out.

Planning board members, before sending it to the planning department for

further study and a report, voiced agreement that full municipal systems be incorporated into the plans now, even if connections with the town's systems won't be available for 10 or 15 years.

By installing a capped sewage system as well as septic tanks "we'll be allowing urban growth without having to wait for expansions to our present sewage systems," said Councillor Pat McKenzie.

Baron charged

Horst Baron, 49 RR2 Acton charged with the attempted murder in the shooting of his wife and two boarders was remanded in custody last Wednesday after appearing in a provincial court bail hearing in Milton. All three victims suffered gunshot wounds to the chest during the Oct. 27 shooting at the Baron farmhouse two miles east of Acton.

Hospital spokesmen in Toronto and Guelph reported Monday all three are in improved condition.

Nine-year-old Wayne Mayer is in good condition following surgery early Tuesday morning, spokesmen at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto said. He suffered severe damage to the liver, diaphragm and spleen due to gunshot wounds.

The boy's father Guy Mayer, 48, is generally improving from chest wounds at the Toronto General Hospital. Police said a .38 calibre revolver was used.

Mr. Mayer and his son were boarders at the Baron residence, police said.

Mrs. Baron 50, remains in satisfactory condition in Guelph General Hospital where she was transferred from the Glenlea Clinic in Acton Monday.

The shooting incident of Oct. 27 is still under investigation, a police spokesman said.



DAMAGE EXCEEDING \$2,000 was done to the cars of Joseph McMenemy and Sheila Dudley, both of Georgetown. The collision

Glen Gray new recreation director

Glen Gray has been selected the new recreation director of Halton Hills. His appointment was announced at Monday night's town council meeting.

Mr. Gray the well liked area recreation co-ordinator for Wards 3 and 4, was chosen following interviews with approximately 25 candidates for the job.

Herald will sponsor second Carnegie course

Bill Evdokimoff, publisher of the Herald, announced this week that this newspaper will sponsor the world famous Dale Carnegie Course for the second time in the Halton Hills area.

"This course is being offered again because of the high degree of interest in this area," said Mr. Evdokimoff. "Many people have requested a second class here because the first class was filled before they had an opportunity to join."

The organization of the class will be under the direction of Teresa Holland of K.D. Krone and Associates, who present Dale Carnegie Training in Ontario.

Dale Carnegie classes are presently running in Burlington, Woodstock, Fergus, Kitchener, Fort Erie, Oshawa and Huntsville as well as in 30 other communities in the

province. The course is presented in 52 countries and has graduated over a million and a half people in the past 63 years.

"The Dale Carnegie Course has been helping men and women to live happier, more successful lives through the discovery and development of their talents and abilities," Mrs. Holland said, "such as the development of greater self-confidence and a keen memory." She went on to say that most people want to be able to get along even better with others.

The course has a limited enrollment, so that the instructor will be able to give individual attention to each student.

Teresa Holland will be in this area to discuss the course with interested individuals. More information can be obtained by calling the Herald at 877-2201.

Quiet Halloween in Halton Hills

Halloween 1975 may go down in the historical journals of Georgetown as being the most uneventful All Hallows Eve in recent years.

Police report a quiet night with very few acts of mischief on the part of Halloween celebrants. A few smashed pumpkins, eggs and tomatoes were found on the streets the following morning but no serious damage was noted.

Questions raised over weed cutting

Costs that increased 90 percent in two years; jobs that took a suspiciously long time to complete; and a lack of co-operation between town departments were listed as just some of the questions that have cropped up

since the town's works committee began to review the responsibilities and duties of the town's weed inspector, Keith Leslie.

Mr. Leslie met with the works committee last week and from that meeting a decision

was made to place the weed inspector under the authority of the town engineer.

"It's more co-operation than supervision," explained works committee chairman Councillor Joe Hurst. "The engineer isn't going to have direct control over every inspection that is made but if the weed inspector runs up against a problem where he thinks the costs could be too high then he's going to have someone to go to directly."

But that step didn't entirely satisfy other councillors. "I would suggest that the job of weed inspection has not been done in the town's best interests," said Councillor Roy Booth. He mentioned one instance in which the weed cutting firm hired by the town to cut unwanted weeds had taken 14 hours to cut a three-acre field.

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