



At Tidy Car it's possible to have a rustproofing job, a preservashine and upholstery guard. These are what owner Chris Bydevaate calls "protection" services. Seen here are full-time staff members Alex Donaldson and Audrey Bydevaate. (Herald photo)

New location helps Tidy Car grow even bigger

Chris Bydevaate has no regrets about moving his Tidy Car franchise to the corner of Guelph Street and Sinclair Avenue in Georgetown.

The 53-year-old businessman moved next to Home Hardware in May, from his former location on Mountainview Road South.

Mr. Bydevaate has a bit more space, but the biggest difference in the new location is that he's on a busier road.

"It's a much, much better location because of the better visibility, which brings more traffic, and, it looks a heck of a lot better here," he said.

As well, rustproofing is now done at the same location as the rest of the Tidy Car services, instead of being in a separate unit as before.

It was eight years ago that Mr. Bydevaate started the franchise business in Georgetown. At the time, he was operating his own janitorial service called Reliable Janitor Service.

"As Tidy Car grew, I phased it out. Two years ago I phased out the last of it," the slim man said.

Cleaning up is his forte, and that's one of the many things the Tidy Car franchise does.

However, the top three services which make up the backbone of Tidy Car are: rustproofing, preservashine and upholstery guard. These are what Chris calls "protection" services.

On top of these three "backbone" services, Chris and his two fulltime staff - daughter Audrey and Alex Donaldson - put in sunroofs, do pinstriping, put side running boards onto trucks, clean interiors, wax,

add trimming, car covers, car mats, and side mouldings.

Although most of his customers are from Halton Hills, Chris also has customers from Brampton and Bramalea, Erin and Fergus.

"My biggest business is from ordinary people coming off the street wanting to make their car better," Mr. Bydevaate said. "In the summer, I had people driving by who were hot in their car, and just by impulse, they would come in to get a sunroof."

Getting into the Tidy Car business was a gamble and moving onto Guelph Street was another one. Both seem to have been successful moves by the hardworking Mr. Bydevaate.

The second week after his move, he found his sales doubled. "We had a record sales week over what we ever had," Chris said. "It's levelled off, but it's sales are higher than last year, which was a poor year for us."

Mr. Bydevaate has been a frequent winner in the Tidy Car business, and operates one of the top sales per capita franchises. He's often pointed out as an excellent example to other franchise operations. Two years ago, he won gold and silver medals for having the highest sales volume in North America. Last month, he won a 10-speed bike for sales again.

Tidy Car president and founder Gary Goranson recently chose the Georgetown man to appear in car magazine ads for Tidy Car.

Mr. Bydevaate is a member of the Kiwanis Club and a director of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce.

Couple work together at Nissan dealership

Donna and Norm Coulter work together and love their work, even if it means working many hours of overtime.

The couple own North End Nissan on Highway 25 just south of the 401 in Milton.

They've been selling Nissans in Milton since they were Datsuns. In 1969 they opened their Datsun dealership which changed to North End Nissan in 1981, Mrs. Coulter said.

Between the two of them they do more than sell cars. Mr. Coulter manages, is a licensed mechanic and even pumps gas at the Gulf gas station on site if someone can't make

it to work. "It's the old fashioned kind of service station where you get your windshield washed," Mrs. Coulter said.

Mrs. Coulter's main duties are bookkeeping and publicity. There is more bookkeeping to be done since North End Nissan built an addition with a show room and four more offices. The number of employees of the dealership have grown with the company.

"Many of our employees have been with us 10 to 19 years," Mrs. Coulter said. A mechanic and the parts manager started with North End Nissan as attendants at the gas bar, she said.

"We believe good service is the key point," Mrs. Coulter said. A thorough pre-delivery inspection is part of that good service, she said.

The Coulters believe a customer should know the warranty. At North End Nissan the staff takes the time to go over it thoroughly. Assistance with financing, and mechanics who receive regular training on the latest mechanical developments - are another part of their quest for the best possible service, Mrs. Coulter said. "If you've got a problem call us."

Chances are you will be talking with one of the Coulters.

Quality is the watchword for Custom Car Sound

When Gord Vidler of Custom Car Sound sells a car stereo he doesn't want to see that stereo again for a long time.

It's not that he wouldn't be around to repair it, it's that he prefers to stock car stereos which have a record of high quality and don't need to be repaired, he said.

Mr. Vidler is the owner of Custom Car Sound on 55 Sinclair Ave. in Georgetown. He has been on Sinclair since 1978 and plans to remain in Georgetown a long time, he said.

"We have the largest selection of car stereos by far in Halton Hills," Mr. Vidler said. The store may be "off the beaten track but that helps keep the expenses down and hence keep the prices down."

Custom Car Sound has customers from Toronto and Hamilton. They are people who used to live in Halton Hills, as well as customers who have heard about Custom Car Sound from other buyers.

"We have a good reputation and a lot of our business is from word of mouth," Mr. Vidler said.

The range of car stereos available at Custom Car Sound allows the staff to offer a system suitable for the customer's car, tastes and budget.

Every car is different and must have the speakers placed in the right place to achieve the best sound, Mr. Vidler said. The staff at Custom Car Sound can tell you how to get the most from your sound system through placement of speakers.

They have installed stereos on boats, planes, motorcycles and the most expensive cars, including Rolls Royces, Mr. Vidler said.

More than just a place to buy a car stereo, Custom Car Sound repairs them. They are authorized to give warranty for everything they sell including their most recent Blaupunkt line. Custom Car Sound is also a warranty station for Pioneer, which they do not sell.

Visiting Custom Car Sound is "a lot quicker than sending it back to the manufacturer," Mr. Vidler said.

Mr. Vidler is a certified engineering technician who has been in the business of repairing electronic equipment for 15 years. Between 60 and 70 per cent of the time he and his two assistants spend at Custom Car

Sound is spent doing repairs.

They repair stereos, portables, CB

radios, turn tables and now they are even fixing VCR's.

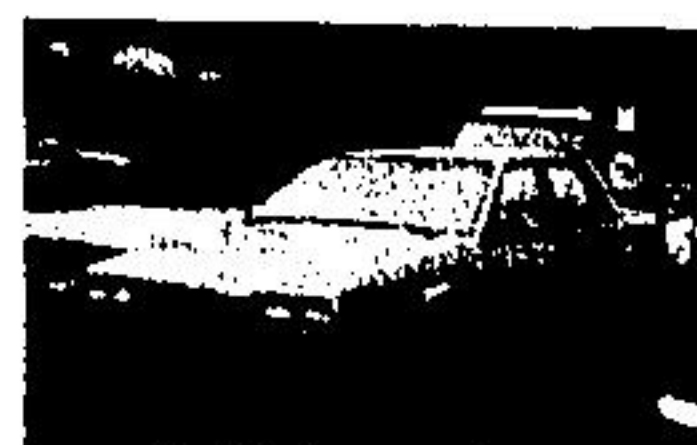
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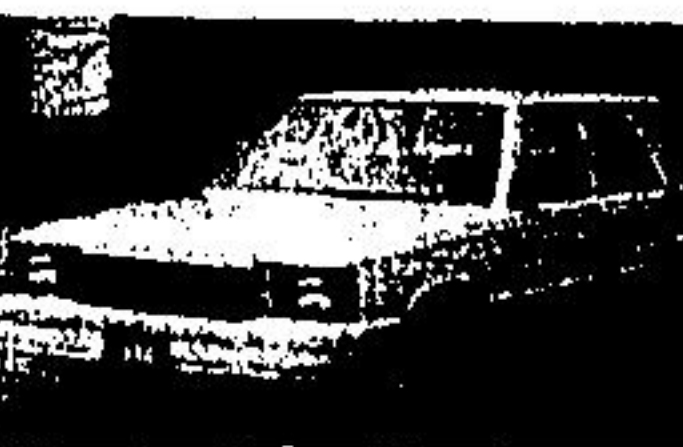
\$4495.



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