

Negotiating for my wintertime car fixes on TV

OK, we're into fall, and Ol' Man Winter will soon be breathing down our necks.

Being a car guy, I've now officially parked the Mustang for the winter and have been driven inside to keep warm.

I find myself settled in front of the TV to pick up my car show 'fixes' which come in a myriad of different forms.

Sometimes I've gotta bump The Sidekick off the sofa or find something she will watch with me. (I refuse to bargain for TV time because it would involve me watching Say Yes to the Dress or 90 Day Fiancé and I just can't go there.)

I've found some programs are acceptable to The Sidekick - in moderation, of course.

We watch the Legendary Motorcar (BNN) show, as owner Peter Klutt, his family and staff, feature various cars from around the world.

I know Peter personally, from my days as a photographer with the Independent & Free Press. I'd be in his showroom, salivating over the cars in stock - all to-die-for classics, as we photographed cheque pre-



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sentations, donating to the local hospital.

Legendary Motorcar is also a Halton Hills business.

I've been a Top Gear (BBC) fan for some time, when original hosts Jeremy Clarkson, James May and Richard Hammond hosted a 'sort of' car program.

Yes, they featured various vehicles and did ruthless reviews, but they also went through the antics, playing tricks on each other, or some of their guests on the show.

The three of them were recently replaced by Matt LeBlanc (of Friends fame in another life), and to be honest, I don't care for LeBlanc's style. I don't usually tune in when he's on unless there's a really cool car on the program.

The three Brits were

outlandish, and certainly entertaining - so Top Gear has been relegated to my back burner for now.

Counting Cars (History Channel) has been around for a while, which features Danny The Count Koker, who operates a custom car shop in Las Vegas. He restores and customizes classic cars and motorcycles, then flips them for a profit.

Danny is a bit of a biker, and I must say he's growing on me. There are some cool cars created in that shop.

Fast n' Loud (Discovery Channel) is another program that I'm not in love with, as Richard Rawlings of the Gas Monkey Garage in Dallas, Texas searches for derelict classic cars to buy and restore.

Generally I only watch that show when there's nothing else on (car show wise). But that changed last week.

But I recently saw the premiere of Garage Rehab, where Richard Rawlings of Gas Monkey Garage hosts another program - this time searching for struggling garage owners where he can step in, and help the owner back on his financial feet.

He's sort of the 'restaurant saviour Gordon Ramsay' of custom car shops.

Rawlings brings along his business expertise, as well as project manager Russell Holmes and garage designer Chris Stephens, who make the transformation happen in a short time.

It's certainly not easy. The three of them must deal with out-of-touch owners who have been operating in a dream world, longtime employees with attitude, and lots of mechanical challenges within the actual garage structure.

But I'm impressed with that show - it illustrates another perspective of the custom car shop world.

I watched two back-to-back episodes, one in Grapevine Texas, the other in Las Vegas.

And the hosts seem to be genuine.

So as the weather outside deteriorates, I'm gonna be found cozied up on the sofa, watching the world of cars from my own vantage point.

Six months down the road, I can once again roll the Mustang out of storage.

And then, all will once again be right in the world.

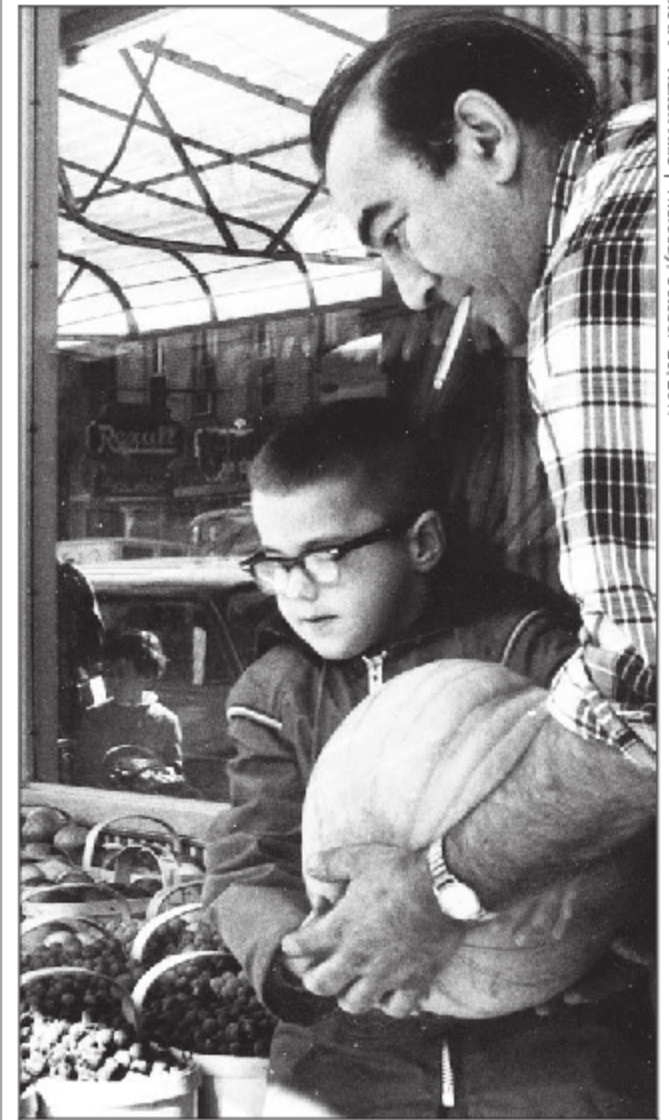


Photo courtesy of Esqueusing Historical Society

In this 1967 photo, kindergarten students from Harrison Public School visit Caruso's Fruit Market on Main Street in Georgetown to choose pumpkins for a class project. Pictured are Herb Kewley, a student from Miss Runham's class, and assisting him with his Jack-o-Lantern choice is Enrico Caruso.

LETTER

Halton Hills Minor Baseball swings for the fences

The Halton Hills Minor Baseball Association had a record year in many ways on and off the diamond this past season, and we have

many individuals to thank.

On the diamond, our representational teams secured four OBA championships and hosted our own OBAs here in Halton Hills, bringing 24 teams to Limehouse, Glen Williams, Gellert and Fairgrounds diamonds.

Thank you to our spon-

sors and supporters who provided these visitors with all of the wonderful things that Halton Hills can offer.

Off the diamond, we focused on the needs of our baseball community to have larger diamonds to accommodate the necessary 90-foot base paths and

mounds for our older players.

Under the leadership of league president Larry Fitzgerald, our Field of Dreams project has been put in motion, with a commitment being made to the Town of Halton Hills. A GoFundMe page has been established gofundme.com/

HaltonHillsFieldofDreams) and a submission of an application to the Trillium Foundation.

A special thank you goes out to Janet Hanlin for her many hours of volunteering in ensuring that the Sweet Spot was staffed and stocked throughout the season.

We are so proud of our league and the many things that we have been able to do accomplish during the 2017 season and are looking toward the future and seeing all that we can accomplish together.

Dee Dee Haynes-Ridley, GLPL, HHMBA, Georgetown YBC

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