



HEART AND STROKE FOUNDATION

Community bands together to build a barn

By MELANIE BROOKS
Special to The Champion

Six-year-old David Parmley's dream has finally come true. For over 14 hours recently, carpenters, electricians, roofers, and siders toiled away at the Parmley home in Kilbride to build a barn for

David's pet miniature donkey, Patrick.

More than 100 people from as far as London and Mississauga attended the barn-raising, and dozens of local businesses and individuals donated supplies and workers to help make the day possible.

"I can't believe how many people showed up to help, and to show their sup-

port," said David's mother, June, looking out at all the workers. "It's amazing."

Although most of the workers and businesses that donated their time and money for the project had never met David, who is confined to a wheelchair and unable to speak, they said his touching story caught their attention.

"To be working for a little kid as great as David, after all he's been through, is a great feeling," said Craig Hardy, the head carpenter from London, who met David for the first time last week. "This was worth getting up at five in the morning for."

A team of seven workers from the Ancaster Home Depot was just as enthusiastic about the project.

"We really wanted to help out, because it was just such a great idea," said Jim O'Keefe, the team co-ordinator. "Building the barn seemed to be the best way."

Even though most of the day was organized in advance by the Make-A-Wish Foundation, people and businesses in the community that had heard of David and Patrick went that extra mile at the last minute to make the day a success.

After reading about David last week in The Burlington Post, Branthaven Homes offered to help with the barn, and came through with a much-needed donation of cedar wood for the donkey paddock.

Then, when June went into the Loeb grocery store on Upper Middle Road to get supplies for Sunday, she was met with yet another heart-warming surprise.

"Agnes Forester, the manager, insisted on donating everything we needed," said June. "The store gave us over \$200 dollars worth of groceries and paper plates, and she said if we needed any more to just come back anytime during the day. I couldn't believe it."

As for David, he was just perfectly happy to be with his best friend, Patrick. The donkey had been brought to the Parmleys' home that morning by the owner, Bruce Owen of Milton, who has given the donkey to David. David was all smiles as Mr. Owen took him around in a cart hooked up to Patrick.

David even got special attention from two of his favourite former physical therapists, Katherine Rolls and Liz Robinson, who travelled from London. Upon her arrival, Robinson surprised David with two cakes, one modelled after Patrick the donkey, and the other a three-dimensional red barn, complete with little candy donkeys, hay (cereal) and candy grass.

"That's the kind of thing that amazes me so much," said June. "The community has been so supportive, and everybody's gone out of their way to make David happy."

With the barn and paddock nearly complete, David and his father, Merv, plan to have a sleep-over in the barn with Patrick.

"I think that was my idea," he laughed. "Whenever we mention it to David, he gets so excited. He loves that animal. We'll always be grateful to everyone who helped in bringing Patrick home for David, to everyone in the community."

Owner arrested

A 47-year-old Mississauga man has been arrested in connection with a multi-million dollar house fire in rural Milton last February.

He was taken into custody Thursday by Halton Regional Police, who have conducted a joint investigation with the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office since the blaze.

The suspect is the owner of the Ennisclaire estate property, which was engulfed by flames as a result of the fire.

The house burned for seven hours, with the financial loss estimated at \$3 million.

He has been charged with arson for fraudulent purposes and will appear in Milton Court Monday, Sept. 29.

PONTIAC/BUICK/GMC'S 3rd ANNUAL CANADA-WIDE CLEARANCE

Great prices and 3.9%** financing on most '97 models (purchase only).

3.9%**

Limited time only
1.9%**
purchase only

'97 Pontiac Sunfire Coupe



Purchase \$15,888* **SMARTLEASE \$198** per month/36 months plus a down payment of \$2,000 or equivalent trade, security deposit \$300 and freight \$620.

Sporty fun for life on the go
2.2 litre engine, 5-speed transmission, air conditioning, rear spoiler, dual air bags, 4-wheel ABS

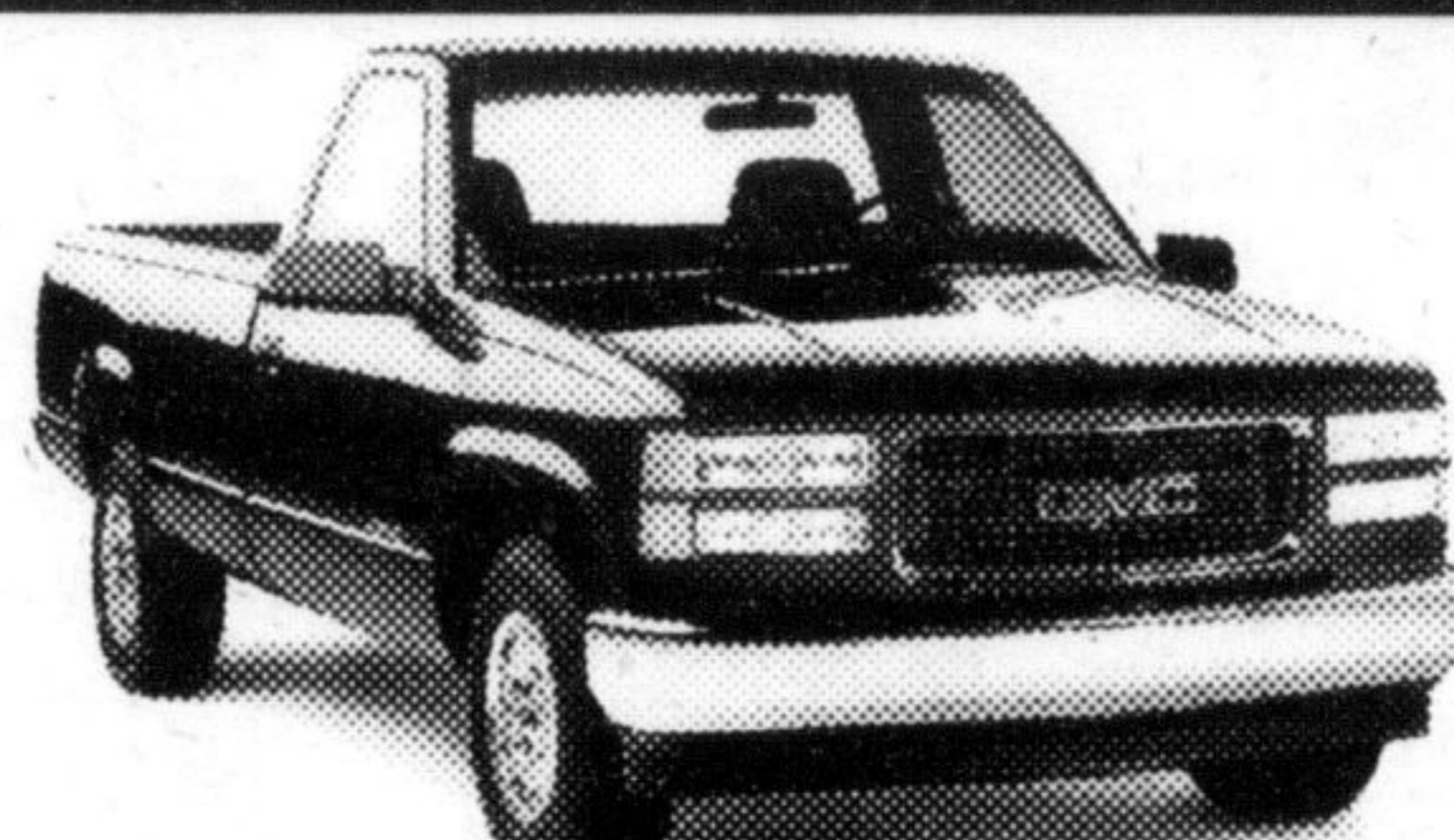
3.9% '97 Pontiac Grand Am Sedan



Purchase \$17,988* **SMARTLEASE \$228** per month/36 months plus a down payment of \$3,420 or equivalent trade, security deposit \$300 and freight \$620.

Built for Drivers
155 HP 3.1 litre SFI V6 engine, 4-speed automatic transmission with enhanced traction system, 4-wheel ABS, air conditioning, power door locks, PASSLock® theft deterrent system, rear door child safety locks

3.9% GMC '97 GMC Sierra Regular Cab



Purchase \$19,988* **SMARTLEASE \$198** per month/36 months plus a down payment of \$1,800 or equivalent trade, security deposit \$300 and freight \$895.

365 days a year
200 HP Vortec 4300 SFI V6 engine, 4-speed automatic transmission, cloth seats, air conditioning, 8 ft. cargo box, two-tier loading, deluxe chrome grille

GMC '97 GMC Safari



Purchase \$20,488* **SMARTLEASE \$198** per month/36 months plus a down payment of \$3,500 or equivalent trade, security deposit \$300 and freight \$845.

When your life is larger than a minivan
190 HP Vortec 4300 V6 engine, rear wheel drive, 4-speed automatic transmission, 4-wheel ABS, dual air bags, side-guard door beams, 5,500 lb. towing capacity, deep tinted glass, air conditioning, 8-passenger seating (3.9% purchase financing does not apply to the GMC Safari)

3.9% GMC '97 GMC Jimmy



Purchase \$31,888* **SMARTLEASE \$298** per month/36 months plus a down payment of \$3,998 or equivalent trade, security deposit \$350 and freight \$695.

Conquer the world you drive in
190 HP Vortec 4.3 litre SFI V6 engine, automatic transmission, power windows/locks/mirrors, air conditioning, remote keyless entry, 6-way power driver's seat, overhead console

Get what you want from your Pontiac Performance Team.



Financing on approved GMAC credit only. Example \$10,000 at 3.9% APR, the monthly payment is \$225.33 for 48 months. Cost of borrowing is \$815.84. Total obligation is \$10,815.84. Example \$10,000 at 1.9% APR, the monthly payment is \$216.51 for 48 months. Cost of borrowing is \$392.48. Total obligation is \$10,392.48. Down payment, trade and/or security deposit may be required. †Based on a 36 month lease for vehicles equipped as described. Annual kilometre limit 20,000 km. \$0.08 per excess kilometre. Other lease terms available. *Price/lease for vehicles equipped as described. Freight, as indicated, licence, taxes and insurance not included. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Offer applies in Central Ontario to qualified retail customers only. Limited time offers. Not all vehicles available at all dealers. Quantities limited while supplies last. Offers may not be combined or used with other offers. OAC. See dealer for conditions and details. www.gmcanada.com is a trademark of General Motors Corporation.