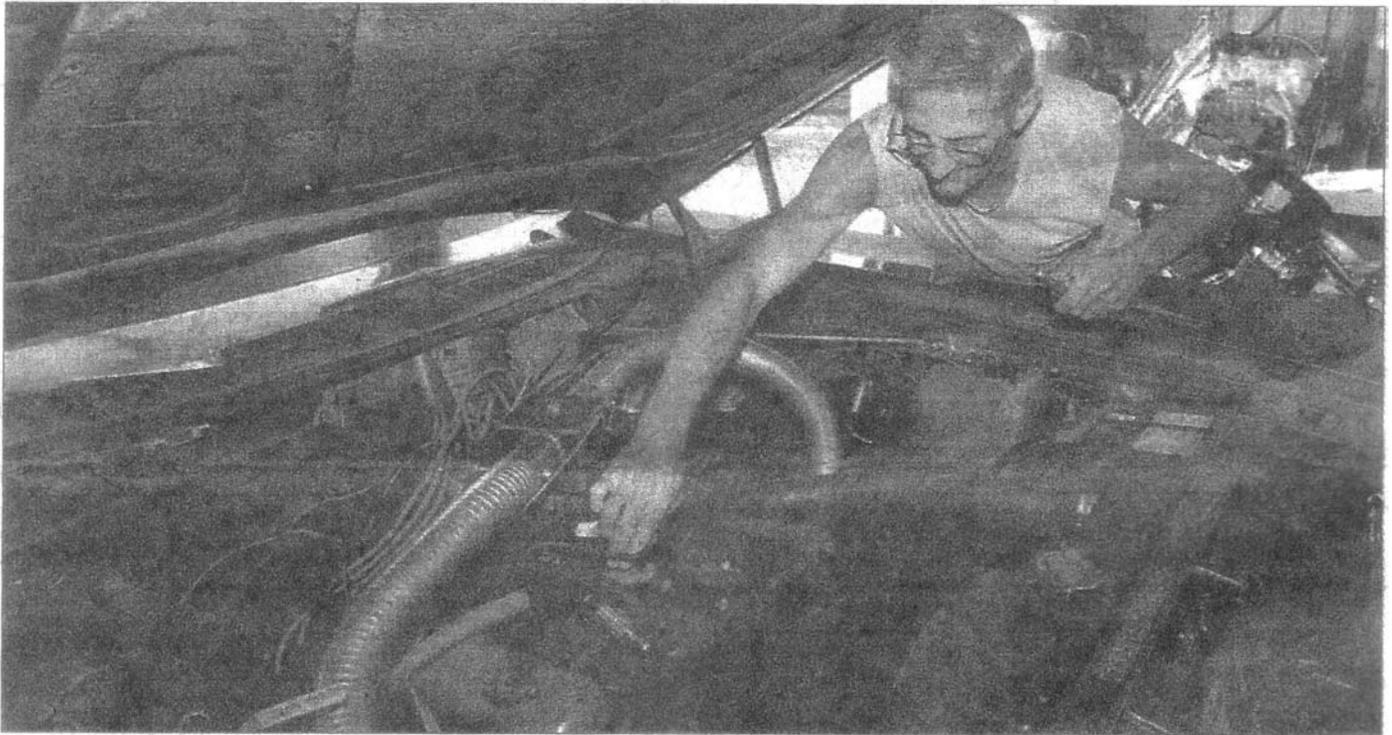


Hillsboro

'Vaporizing' innovation



ANDREW JANSEN PHOTO

Bill Caine removes the gas line on his 1970 Plymouth Fury Thursday to prove that the car can run on nothing but gas vapors.

Self-taught mechanic claims 1970 Plymouth runs on gas fumes

By KEVIN KIDD
(Staff writer)

Bill Caine 59, turns, over the modified engine of his 1970 Plymouth Fury and lets it warm up for about 10 minutes. He detaches the gas line and something unusual happens - the car keeps running even when Caine revs the engine past 4,000 revolutions per minute. "I've always been taught the proofs in the pudding," Caine said. "The only way to prove something is to do it. I've had it running without the gas line for three hours straight before."

The Hillsboro auto dealer with a mechanical inclination has built a vaporizer for the car's engine to allow the Plymouth Fury to run on gasoline fumes. It's an attempt at handily conserving fuel. "I started on it back in the '80s and I figured the way things are now with emissions and gas prices, it's probably a good time to start it up again," Caine said. Caine proudly displays several local and national newspaper articles from 1981 about his innovative work on engines. Many of them proclaim that a full-size car modified by Caine was getting 50 miles per gallon and that he had hoped to stretch the number to 100. He declines to disclose why he scrapped the project just after Japanese manufacturers had begun to show interest in his work. Now he has picked up where he left off and has his car running on gas fumes. Caine said his Fury puts out no emissions once the fuel line is detached, "It's got more throttle response too," Caine said. "The motor runs smoother and it gets more power. The most explosive part of gas is the fumes." Caine's next step is to measure the car's gas mileage. "That's what I'm going to be working next," Caine said. "I got the emissions down that's done. My hope is to get it to produce the mileage I want it to and then I'd like to put (the vaporizer attachment) on every car on the highway."

Caine chose a 1970 Fury for the project because it's a big old heavy boat, buddy 4,200 pounds. "We get mileage up on this and just think what that would do to a little car," Caine said. The vaporizer he has constructed fits on fits on the Fury's carburetor. He would like the vaporizer to eventually replace the mechanism. "I want to get it where it bolts right where the carburetor is and take the carburetor off," Caine said. "Same thing for fuel injected cars. Carburetors and fuel injectors are wasted parts. I say that because they force-feed the engine."

This innovative thinking comes from a man with no formal mechanical training, just hand-on experience and a dream. "I had an older brother who piddled who around with old cars when I was little," Caine said. "I put my first motor together when I was 13 years old, all of the parts."

Now, 46 years later, Caine may be ready to revolutionize the automobile industry. (A demonstration video is [here](#))