

Seniors for the Future Maturing gracefully

By JOAN SCANNELL

There's no need to dwell on the disadvantages of growing older, which we all know about, but there are a lot of great things to our advantage as we mature gracefully. I was brought up in a strict way - never to be the first to speak to anyone, male or female, wait to be introduced, etc. Consequently, I would sit across from the same person on the street car every morning on my way to work, for months, but never a word or a smile would pass my lips.

Even when I was in my forties, and a new neighbour moved in; I could see that she was alone most of the time, and expecting a baby. I desperately wanted to go across and welcome her to the neighbourhood, but my "built-in" reticence prevented me from doing this until two months had passed. Then, after having rehearsed my little speech many times, and with sweaty hands (scared stiff of being rebuffed), I rang her doorbell and introduced myself. It turned out that she too was desperate for company and we became great friends.

I mention this because of what happened a few days ago. Coming out of a food mart, I noticed an older couple examining the geranium plants, obviously wondering whether to buy some or not. Before I realized what I was doing, I walked over and told them of another place which had beautiful plants at a lesser price, with a discount for seniors.

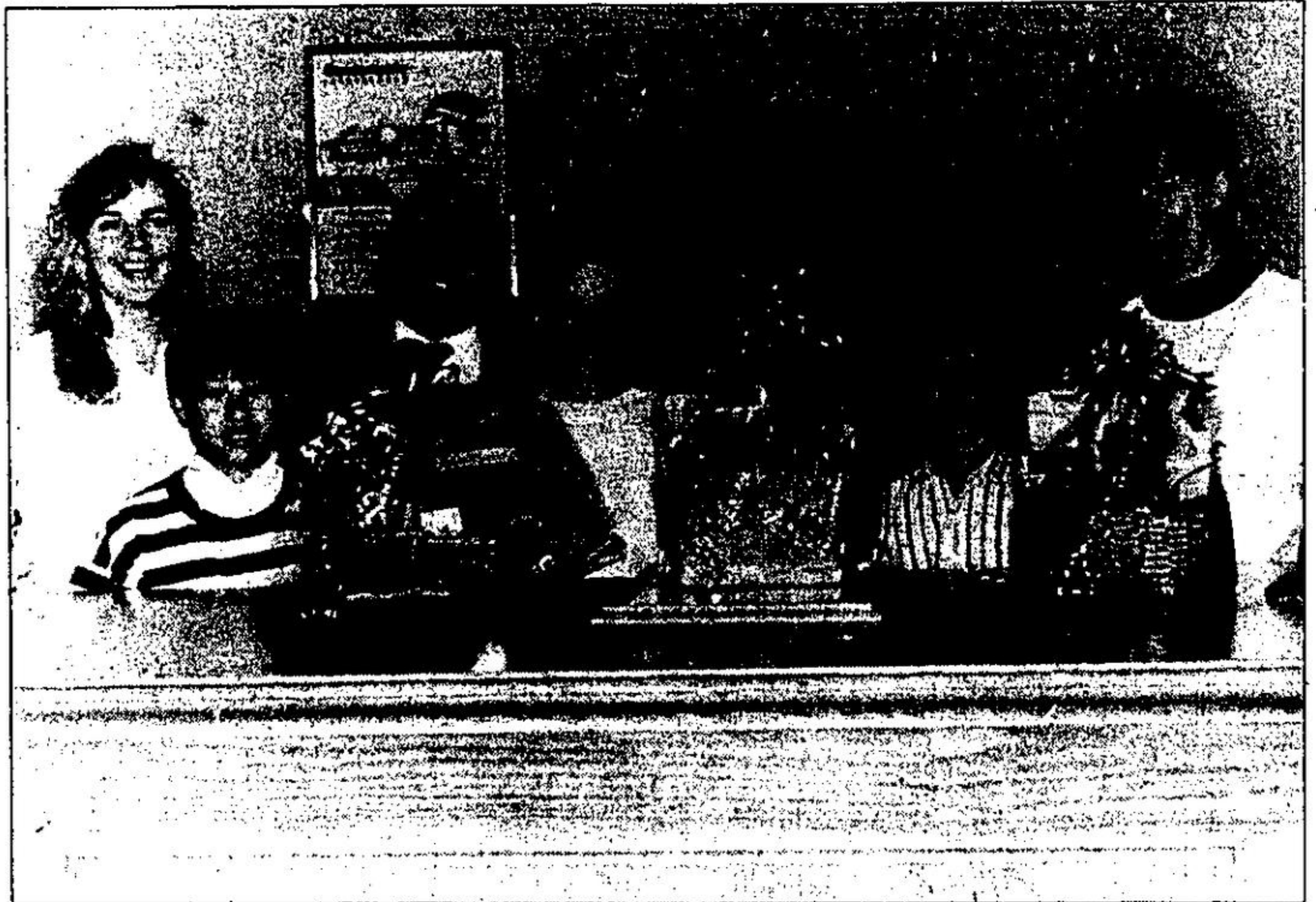
From there, our conversation went to gardening, Communism, world wars, and what should be done about the evils of the world. As we parted company, I said to myself "I actually went over to strangers and started a conversation", and it occurred to me that I had reached an age where I could do what I felt like doing, with no qualms or inhibitions. (I hope this tendency doesn't get out of hand.)

Another boon I have discovered is "talking books." Of course, they've been around a long time, and must be a real blessing for those whose sight prevents them from reading at all. I have always been a reader, and would often take books to bed, but lately my senior "partner" has been complaining about the light being on when he wanted to sleep. So off I went to our library, to try one of these books - and they're fantastic! I put the tape recorder on the floor beside my bed, plug in the earphones, and I can listen to chapter after chapter, read beautifully by the narrator. In the past few weeks I have "read" mysteries, romances and biographies.

Most of the winter activities are winding down now. The Golden Agers Bowling Banquet was held on May 14th, in the Legion Hall. Many trophies were awarded. Zoe Greenspan and Elmer Pendleton will be going to London, Ont. as finalists in the playoffs.

I joined the bowling league myself last September. I hadn't bowled in thirty-five years, so I joined with some trepidation, thinking I was getting kind of old for this stuff ... but then when some of the members started singing Happy Birthday to a bowler for his ninth birthday ... well gee ... I felt quite young. They are a great group, and a good rule (for me) is that a husband and wife are never on the same team. (Bill is a good bowler). So if any of you feel like joining us next year, come along at the beginning of September.

Seniors for the Future will be a regular column in The Herald Outlook, written for the seniors by the seniors.



Smiles reigned supreme last Saturday as the Georgetown Central Business Improvement Area Association announced the winners of its Mothers Day Essay Contest. Pictured above are the proud winners and members of the association. Front row, left to right: Michael Yee, Tracy Andrews and

Christopher Hunziger. Back row, left to right: Jackie McMullen, the Diet Centre, Gary Elliott, manager of Municipal Savings and Loan Corporation, Margaret Vint, manager of the downtown BIA and Martha Marino of Victoria Lane, chairperson of the essay contest committee. (Herald photo)

Mother's Day contest winners

The Georgetown Central Business Improvement Area group awarded three prizes to local students May 12.

Staff at the Municipal Saving and Loan Corporation were the judges for the contest.

Christopher Hunziger, Grade 2, from St. Francis of Assisi won the contest in the up to Grade 3 category. Christopher is 7 years old.

Michael Yee, Grade 6, from Centennial Middle School, won the Grade 4 to Grade 6 category. Michael is 11 years old.

Tracy Andrews, Grade 7, from Centennial Middle Public School, won in the Grade 7 to Grade 8 category. Tracy is 12 years old.

The contest was open to all students up to Grade 8. Students were asked to write what Mother's Day meant to them on one side of a normal sheet of paper. The three winners were notified by telephone

May 12. Each winner won a Mother's Day basket of goodies from the local downtown merchants.

Mothers are loving
Mothers are caring
They understand your needs
And they are hard working
But sometimes we fight
But we always forgive
When I'm hurt you help me
You are nice, kind and fair
This is the day I'm glad to say
Happy Mother's Day!

by Michael Yee.

Someone to lean on when you need a friend,
Dependable and caring, they will be

Just talk to them and you can see.

They give without taking,
That's just how they act,
Mother to child
Keeping things intact.
You really do a wonderful job,
My love for you no one can rob.

By Tracy Andrews.

It is a special time, and a good time for hugs and kisses for Mom. My Mom is good to me. I Love my Mom.

By Christopher Hunziger

Mothers are Mothers until the end.

Chamber returns president

The Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce elected its new executive at their annual meeting Wednesday night.

The Chamber obtained two new executive members but president Dave Page will serve for another year.

Mr. Page said he did not know what the results of the election would be until it was over. He noted that last year's election was fairly clear-cut and he knew, before the vote took place, that he would win.

This year Mr. Page was running against Brian Dolotwicz. Mr. Dolotwicz was a vice-president last year.

The president and vice-presidents are elected by the directors of the chamber. The directors are elected by the members of the chamber.

This year's vice-presidents are Lori Kenter and Dave Pyke. The

two new vice-presidents replace last year's vice-presidents Barry Dunlop and Mr. Dolotwicz.

The members elected 25 directors at the meeting.



Dave Page

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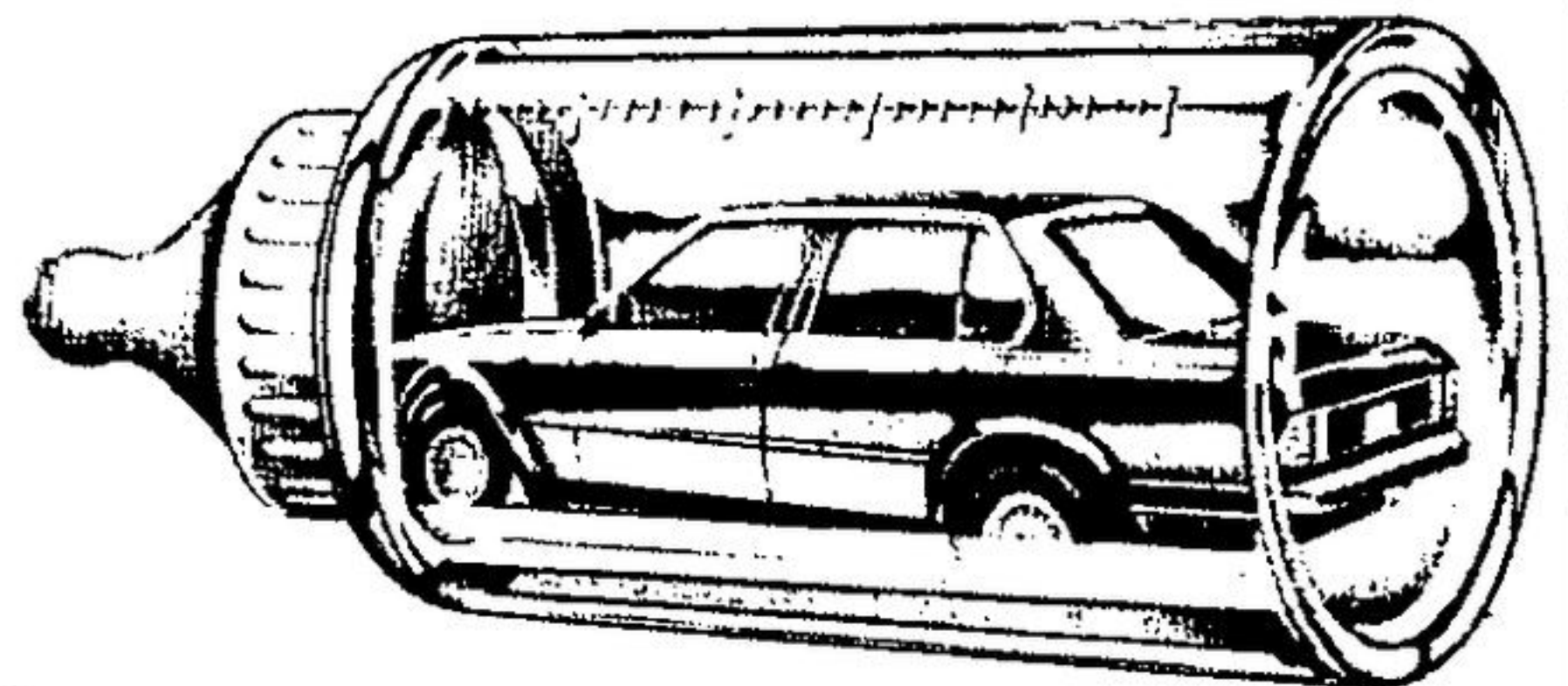
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