

Reverse mortgages require thought

Reverse Mortgages allow people who are house rich and cash poor to remain in their homes and borrow money using the house as collateral. When the owner moves or dies, the loan and the accumulated interest become due.

There are many companies offering reverse mortgages and their programs vary considerably. Many factors come into play; i.e., your age, value of your house, interest rates, etc. The money can come as a monthly payment, a lump sum or a combination. Or it can be borrowed as you need it. Which company you choose depends on your needs and the company's options. It pays to shop around.

First, you must look at your needs - When do you need your money and how



much.

Be sure to consider inflation if choosing a monthly annuity as \$500 might be sufficient now but may not be enough in 10 years.

Determine the costs - Check the mortgage and annuity rates and ask whether the assumptions about future growth in house values are realistic. Find out what would happen if the house value went up less than anticipated. (Homeowners should request a limited liability clause in the agreement so that estates won't be held liable for any extra funds paid out by the lending insti-

tution.)

Look at the options - Would it be cheaper to sell your house and move to a condo? Would a relative or friend like to buy an interest and share the house? If the money is for repairs, there are grants available instead of the mortgage. These are worth thinking about as the cost of borrowing can be quite high.

How flexible is the plan - Can you change your mind about the whole thing or change the amount of the payment? Can you buy the loan out or can your family member buy the mortgage? What type of penalties are included for these changes?

If you wish more information, please call Sue at 853-3310 or stop by Acton Social Services and Information Centre at 19 Willow Street North, Acton.

Front-end loader smashes car window

A red Mazda, passing a front-end loader at the construction site on Guelph St. near Maple Ave. in Georgetown, had its rear window smashed and back door dented by the shovel of the loader. According to a police report, the construction worker did not notice the vehicle attempting to pass him and was not able to raise the shovel quickly enough.

Car repainted

An Acton woman exited her Acton Blvd. home July 9 to find the roof, windshield

Police Beat

and hood of her red Pontiac Grand Prix covered with a thick coat of green paint. Police have no witnesses or suspects.

Domestic assault

A 34-year-old Georgetown man repeatedly hit his common-law wife about the face and head July 8, causing bruising and swelling to the eye. He was charged with assault and will appear in court August 9.

Car rolls over

A 24-year-old Marsville

woman, traveling southbound on Sixth Line south of 32 Side Road in Halton Hills, was not injured when her car rolled over into a ditch. According to a police report, the wheels of the vehicle hit the gravel, causing the vehicle to spin and eventually roll over.

Mailbox vandalism

Police are looking for suspects who are shoving firecrackers into rural mailboxes and setting them off. The second incident occurred July 9, on the Sixth Line in Georgetown.

It doesn't hurt to listen

By Sally Plackett

I came across this poem by an unknown author and thought I would share it with you.

Memos from your child

Don't spoil me. I know well I shouldn't have all I ask for.

I am only testing you:

Don't be afraid to be firm with me.

I prefer it. It makes me feel secure.

Don't let me form bad habits.

I have to rely on you to detect them in the early stages.

Don't let me feel smaller than I am.

It only makes me behave stupidly "big".

Don't correct me in front of people if you can help it.

I'll take much more notice if you talk quietly in private.

Don't protect me from the consequences.

I need to learn the painful way sometimes.

Don't make me feel my mistakes are sins.

It upsets my sense of values.

Don't take too much notice of my small ailments, sometimes they get me the attention I need.

Don't nag - if you do, I'll have to protect myself by appearing deaf.

Don't make rash promises. I feel badly let down when

On the Home Front

promises are broken.

Don't forget I can't explain myself as well as I would like to.

This is why I'm not always accurate.

Don't tax my honesty too much.

I'm easily frightened by telling lies.

Don't be inconsistent.

It completely confuses me and makes me lose my faith in you.

Don't put me off when I ask questions.

If you do, you'll find I stop asking and seek the information elsewhere.

Don't tell me my fears are silly. They are terribly real to me.

Don't ever suggest that you are perfect or infallible.

It gives me too great a shock when I find out you are neither.

Don't every think it's below your dignity to apologize to me.

An honest apology makes me surprisingly warm toward you.

Don't forget I love experimenting.

I can't get on without it, so please put up with it.

Don't forget how quickly I'm growing up.

It must be hard to keep pace with me but please try.

I hope you enjoyed that

poem as much as I did. I suspect the writer was an adult who obviously brought up children. As a mother of two adolescents, I really can see some important advice in it. Motherhood is one of the jobs we get no lessons in, so listening to other people's advice is important.

Summertime handy tips

1. To keep the containers you have had fresh flowers in fresh, soak overnight in a vinegar and water mix;

2. Make ice cubes of your favorite drinks you serve on a hot day then they won't dilute the taste of the drink;

3. Natural flea remedy: Put skins from oranges into a food processor until cut up small then put into a saucepan of water (enough to cover). Simmer 15 minutes. Cool thoroughly. Dampen a soft rag with the mixture and rub onto your pet's fur.

4. Instead of using gravel at the bottom of your flower pots, use cut-up pieces of sponge. It will absorb water better and keep dirt from sifting out.

Quote of the week

Promises may get friends, but it is performances that must nurse and keep them.

For hints or help on sewing or alterations, contact Sally at 873-8500.

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