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Collington Marriages Go Platinum

by Frances Kolarek

This is a love story. Four love stories, in fact, covering more than 280 years of marriage for four Collington couples who have attained their platinum (70th) wedding anniversaries

Don and Wanda Olson

The day Wanda Phillips's brother brought Don Olson home from San Diego, where both men were Navy recruits, Wanda fell under Don's spell. "I was just 14, but I had a crush on him," she confesses. It was clearly mutual, because two years later, when she was 16 and he was 18, they were married, with parental permission, by an all-night preacher in Las Vegas. That was in March, 1946.

Their first child was born in San Francisco in 1950. Wanda relates that for a number of years the family consisted of six children when, surprise! a seventh baby, a daughter, came along. Number eight and last, another daughter, arrived in 1970 at the Naval Hospital in Annapolis on Christmas Eve.



Wanda and Don Olson, March 1946.

At that time the family was living in Severna

Park, Md., while Don, still with the Navy, worked for the National Security Agency at nearby Fort Meade. Today, three of the children are scattered between Texas, New York City and West Virginia; the rest have stayed close to their Severna Park home within a few miles of Collington.

Olson grandchildren total 20, and there are six great-grandchildren, a number bound to increase over the years.

Chuck and Martha Smith

On a scorching August night in 1945 Martha and her twin sister Mary were married in a double ceremony at the Oskaloosa, Iowa, Methodist church when Martha Steward became Mrs. Charles Smith. Seventy years later, in June 2015, more than 60 guests from 17 states celebrated Martha's and Chuck's 70th anniversary.



Martha and Dick Smith, left, in their double wedding with Martha's sister Mary and Kenneth Hanna, August 1945.

Chuck's long career as a soil chemist arose from his early fascination at Iowa State University with phosphates in soils and how plants use

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them. He pursued this interest at Montana State University in Bozeman where the family spent 15 years. Here, in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, their six children grew up.

When Chuck joined the faculty of North Dakota University in Fargo, Martha says, "Living in flatlands felt like the end of the world, but the people proved to be so friendly that I soon adapted and enjoyed the five years we spent there."

Then it was on to Washington, where for 30 years Chuck held a position with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Martha made a home for the family near Mount Vernon, Va. Chuck became deeply involved with the American Society of Agronomy, and his expertise was sought in Spain, South Africa, the Canary Islands, Italy and the Soviet Union. Martha accompanied Chuck on his many trips abroad. Now they are settled down as enthusiastic grandparents. Martha announces proudly, "We now have ten grandchildren and 15 great-grand children."

Retirement brought them to Collington at the suggestion of their nephew David Slack, a member of Leading Age, an organization dedicated to promoting continuing care retirement communities.

Bill and Barbara Conklin

Bill comes from Nebraska and tells how his father indulged his boyhood wishes for a tree house, and later a tunnel, projects in which Bill played an active role. To some extent, he attributes his successful pursuit of a career in architecture to this youthful experience.

When the couple appeared before a magistrate to be married, Barbara was 21, but Bill had not yet reached his 21st birthday, Nebraska's legal marriageable age. His father, Bill explains, had con-

siderable political clout, and since the groom was on active duty in the military, the wedding went off as planned.



Bill and Barbara Conklin, April 1946.

Bill studied design in graduate school at Harvard, where he met fellow-students Mary and John Evans. The Conklins have traveled

widely in South America and China. They are the parents of one adopted son.

Bill is credited as architect of the city of Reston, Va., as well as the Navy Memorial on Pennsylvania Avenue between 7th and 9th Streets, across from the National Archives.

John and Mary (Ricky) Evans

John met Mary Richardson at Oberlin College,

Wedding picture not available

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The Collingtonian

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The Collingtonian invites all Collington residents to submit articles, photographs and story suggestions, preferably concerning Collington and its people. We also welcome "Letters to the Editor" commenting on the Collingtonian and its content. Submissions may be e-mailed to collingtonian@gmail.com or placed in the Collingtonian mailbox. All submissions are subject to editing for length, clarity and style.

We Welcome Our New Neighbors

By Barbara Fairchild, Peggy Latimer and Bobbie McCuskey

Marilyn Haskel

Cottage 2011, Ext. 7260. Marilyn has retired to Collington after 20 years of working in Manhattan and living in New York City. Her deep ties to the Episcopal Church, her desire for access to Washington and New York, and her comfort with Kendal values were the major motivations for choosing Collington. Her most recent position was organist and choir director at St. Paul's Chapel, a part of Trinity Wall Street Church in lower Manhattan. Marilyn has been active on the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music at the national level of the Episcopal Church. Prior to her position at St. Paul's Chapel, Marilyn worked at Church Publishing in editing music and producing recordings.

Marilyn was born in West Virginia and graduated in music education and organ from the Hartt School of Music, part of the University of Hartford. Her music education career took her to Massachusetts, Connecticut, California, and Texas, but her desire for a national job in the Episcopal Church brought her to New York.

Marilyn has had wonderful travel experiences "with an agenda" – that is, deepening her understanding of church liturgy and contributing to her spiritual development. Countries she has visited include Ethiopia, Cuba and Spain. In Ethiopia during the Feast of the Epiphany, she had the opportunity to study churches built in solid rock and ways of worshiping in the Fourth Century. In Cuba, she was part of a group hosted by the Episcopal Church. Marilyn also participated in the pilgrimage, "Walking the Camino de Santiago," in Spain.

Jim Holmes and Tim Sabin

Cottage 5005, Ext. 5074. Jim Holmes from Baton Rouge, La., and Tim Sabin from Cape Elizabeth, Maine, share their religious beliefs, their love of travel, and their love of each other.



After Jim graduated from Vanderbilt University and The Episcopal Theological School in Cambridge, Mass., he was ordained an Episcopal priest in 1972 by the Bishop of Louisiana. He then served various parishes in the Boston area.



Jim Holmes



Tim Sabin

Tim Sabin graduated from Bowdoin College with a degree in Latin and then did graduate work in Classics at Brown University. In the early 1970's, he worked in legal services in the Dorchester and South Boston districts of Boston, where he assisted an attorney who was a good friend of future Collington resident Joan Zorza.

Tim met Jim at a Beacon Hill church, and after dating for a year, they decided to share life together. In 1978 they moved to Washington, D.C., where Jim served as Associate Rector at St. John's Church, Lafayette Square, across from the White House. Tim worked in various large law firms, first as a secretary, then as a Human Resources administrator. His avocation was to study languages and literature, which he taught to adults at the Department of Agriculture's Graduate School, in his law firm, and at St. Thomas Parish, where Jim became Rector in 1992.

At St. Thomas, Tim founded a theater group called The Doubting Thomas Players, which grew out of adult forums that he led. The Players presented classical plays such as Euripides's *Bacchae* and Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*. Tim acted and directed, his most popular role being Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, a role that his friends say he continues to play to this day. His theory of directing is that "We can all act, and act well."

Tim was licensed as a lay preacher by Bishop Ronald Haines of the Diocese of Washington, who asked Tim to teach New Testament Greek to potential seminary students. He also taught simultaneous courses of Biblical Latin and Greek to parishioners at St. Thomas' Parish.

In 2003 Tim and Jim retired and moved to Baltimore, where Jim was a supply priest for Episcopal

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and Lutheran parishes. Just before moving to Collington, Jim was asked to be the long-term supply priest at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in downtown Baltimore. Tim conducted five Advent and Lenten programs there.

Jim and Tim, who in 2011 were married by Bishop Jane Holmes Dixon, had several friends at Collington even before they moved in. Jim worked with Crane Miller as a member of the Diocese of Washington's Financial Committee. He later succeeded Crane as the Committee chair. In 1968, future Collington resident Marilyn Haskel was the musician at a parish in Foxborough, Mass. where Jim was a seminarian. She was the organist at Jim's ordination. When Louise Lusignan was preparing to become an Episcopal priest in the Washington Diocese, Jim was her supervisor. Jim also knew Marion Henry, and John and Ricky Evans.

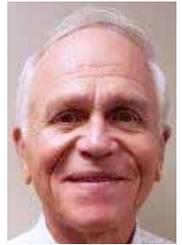
Jim and Tim's travels have included several summers in Hertfordshire, England, where Jim was a supply priest in village and city churches in the London metropolitan area. They have traveled to many countries in both Eastern and Western Europe, and for Tim's 65th birthday, took a 35-day cruise from Hong Kong to Athens. They have cruised the Danube, and from St. Petersburg to Moscow.

When they are not traveling, they enjoy life here at Collington, entertaining friends new and old at dinner, and serving the wishes of their two cats: Alice, named for Alice Roosevelt Longworth, and Emma, named for Emmeline Pankhurst, the British Suffragette.

Sue and Rich Regen

Cottage 4203, Ext. 7367. Sue and Rich had much in common from early childhood. Both grew up in the New York City area, Sue on Long Island and Rich in New Jersey. Both attended Antioch College in Ohio. They met when Sue was 17 and Rich two and a half years older. Two years later they became engaged. They married after Sue graduated, and moved to Ann Arbor, Mich., where Rich obtained a Master's in Guidance and Counseling and Sue taught school.

After his graduate study, Rich sought a guidance counselor position in the East so he and Sue could be near their families. This led the couple to Penfield, N.Y., near Rochester. When her younger son reached the sixth grade, Sue returned to work, teaching in the same school as Rich. Obtaining a Master's in Teaching Reading and later in Administration, Sue developed a Reading and Study Skills Program that is still being used.



Rich and Sue retired from teaching in the late 90s but remained active with Quaker organizations and volunteer work. Sue was the Presiding Clerk of the Friends General Conference for six years, recently retiring from that position. They moved to Collington after living in the Rochester area for 49 years.



Since moving to Collington, they find their time very busy with their five grandchildren who live nearby. Sue has joined the Hobby Shop (formerly known as the Woodshop) where she hopes to be able to continue her hobby of making wooden ornaments that she plans to sell at the Collington Bazaar in November. Since 2004, she has led 65 workshops at Friends retreats throughout the country on forgiveness as a spiritual practice

Rich is an avid fan of bluegrass and country music. Although he does not play an instrument, he has a large record collection he is willing to share.

The family owns a cottage on Martha's Vineyard that belonged to Rich's grandmother and enjoys gathering there when it is not rented out.

Caroline Gheblian

Apartment 206, Ext. 7524. Caroline moved to Collington just days before the Blizzard of 2016. She and her late husband, Oscar, had lived for half a century on the Potomac River in Indian Head, Md., and she felt it was time to move on. Carol, as she likes to be called, says she was busy doing things all her life. "Now I'm looking forward to doing what I want."



Carol grew up in Staunton, Va., the middle child in a

Board Welcomes New Members

By Mike McCulley

Although most residents don't often see members of the Collington Board, these are important people in our lives. Board members carry ultimate responsibility for the financial, social and physical well-being of the Collington community. The Board recently added four new members. Here's an introduction to them:

William J. Carrington is the son of residents Paul Carrington and the late Bessie Carrington. Will is an economist with a Ph.D from the University of Chicago. He is the principal analyst for the Congressional Budget Office's Microeconomic Studies Division, a position he has held since 2010. Will has been a prolific author of articles in academic journals as well as many published by the CBO. He lives with his family in Bethesda.

Michael A. Nolin has for two decades served as deputy director of the University of Maryland's Hilltop Institute – a health research organization with expertise in Medicare and other publicly financed health care systems. In addition, Mike serves as adjunct faculty in the Sociology Department of University of Maryland Baltimore County, teaching courses pertaining to healthcare issues and organizations. He holds a master's degree in city and regional planning from Howard University.

Norman Prince is no stranger to Collington, having served on its Board of Directors in the early 2000s. He is retired from the Department of Health and Human Services, where he was chief of staff to agency heads. As such, he supervised Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Privacy Act activities for several agencies. Norman has served in a variety of roles for the Episcopal Diocese of Washington.

Peter Howard Rheinstein holds an M.D. from Johns Hopkins and a J.D. from the University of Maryland Law School. He has held several high-ranking positions at the Food and Drug Administration and served as senior vice president for medical and clinical affairs for Cell Works Inc., a Baltimore-based

research organization. Peter is President of Severn Health Solutions, where he specializes in geriatrics and pharmacology. Peter is a good friend of former Residents Association President Grant Bagley.

Commenting on these additions, Board Chair Andrea Giles said "We are excited to have four new members join our Board, all of whom bring a great deal of talent and experience. This is the culmination of a year-long effort to further diversify and improve the skill set of our Board."

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very strict Presbyterian household. A graduate in music from Mary Baldwin College, she worked as a music cataloger at the Library of Congress and then became head librarian at a Navy Ordnance facility near her home. "I went from music to missiles," she says.

Oscar was first oboist with the U.S. Air Force Band. Taking early retirement, the couple worked in the antique business for 30 years, concentrating in lamps and art glass. It was hard work, she recalls, "but we so enjoyed it."

Carol immersed herself in environmental and community activities. For 25 years she served as secretary of Citizens for a Better Charles County, a well-respected non-partisan civic group. And through the Southern Maryland Audubon Society she worked to save more than two miles of Potomac River shoreline that had been scheduled for 4,600 homes. It's now Chapman State Park.

Carol's handsome apartment is filled with a multitude of memories. Oscar, who was of Armenian background, played the oud. The stringed instrument sits in Carol's living room as a beautiful work of sculpture. An avid orchid grower, she brought just one to Collington, an exotic Butterfly Orchid. After she completes a little more unpacking, Carol is looking forward to "poking around a bit" including pursuing her passion for birding. She already has identified 28 species just looking out from her window.

Rapt About Raptors



Collington residents filled the Auditorium on April 13 for a presentation on raptors by Suzanne Shoemaker of the Owl Moon Raptor Center in Boyds, Md., in northern Montgomery County. For Suzanne, it was a happier occasion than her earlier visit to Collington, chronicled in the March Collingtonian, when she sought to rescue a wounded red-shouldered hawk, at left. Although the hawk didn't survive, the contact with Suzanne brought Collington a fascinating evening. Photos by Joe Howard and Mike McCulley

The First Blush of Spring



Collington residents always look forward to spring, and not only because our aging bones are mightily tired of winter. The campus springs to colorful life as blossoms transform familiar scenes, as in this view of the apartment parking lot.

Photo by George Newman

Joys of a Historic Movie House

By Jim Giese

For many Collingtonians, the movie venue of choice is the Old Greenbelt Theatre in historic Greenbelt, preferred because of its selection of quality films and large, curved single screen. What few know is that this theater is now owned by the city and operated by a non-profit corporation.

The theater, which opened in 1938, is part of the historic planned community's commercial center. When the federal government sold Greenbelt in about 1952, the commercial center became privately owned and the theater leased to an operator. With the advent of television and large multiplex theaters, it became unprofitable. The theater closed in 1976. It reopened in 1987 but remained unprofitable. The city bought it in 2003. In 2014 it undertook major renovations. Bathrooms were modernized for handicap accessibility and the lobby restored to the art deco style of the 1930s. Modern digital projection equipment was purchased, although the theater continues to maintain its 35mm film projectors to show historic films. Wheelchairs can be accommodated in back rows and seat recesses in some rows, but the floor does gently slope. With the help of grants, further renovations are planned, but with the theater remaining open.

Upon its reopening, the city council selected Friends of the Greenbelt Theatre (FGT) to operate it. Its executive director is Caitlin McGrath, whose doctorate from the University of Chicago is in cinema and media studies. Serving with her on the board of directors is a historic preservationist (the only non-city resident), a media preservationist, an Associate Professor of English who is a core fac-



*Collington residents Cate Richie, Don Lindsey and Irene Wood on a January visit to the Old Greenbelt Theater.
Photo by Jim Giese*

ulty member of the film studies program at the University of Maryland, a retired librarian, a person actively involved with the annual Greenbelt Utopia Film Festival and a local businesswoman. The organization has open membership and seeks new members for a nominal fee (for information, visit the website at greenbelt-theatre.org).

McGrath says the theater would like to do more to accommodate planned group trips. However, first-run film scheduling is a problem. The larger nearby multiplex theater has first dibs on new releases and Greenbelt cannot show them concurrently. When acquired, a first-run movie will usually run for at least two weeks, but this can't be guaranteed as distributors may suddenly pull a movie off the market or a financially more promising one may come along.

FGT is trying a variety of alternatives to attract more moviegoers. At times, two films a day are shown. Documentaries and historic films are added to the mix as well as features for children. Some films, even current ones, are accompanied by talks by guest speakers. Under consideration is a monthly historic film/lecture series, possibly sponsored by SAGE, the Prince George's Community College senior-learning program. Even the snack bar is being used as an enticement to bring in customers, with fresh homemade popcorn and special snacks offered from the Union Kitchen of Washington including cake in a jar, BBQ peanuts,

see Movie House p. 10

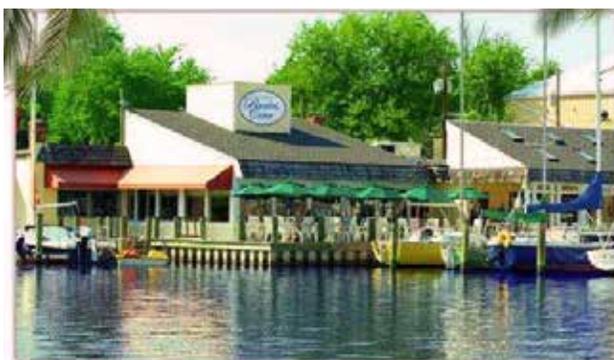
Restaurant Review: Great Seafood by the Bay

By Carl Koch

In Galesville, Md., on the Chesapeake Bay just 25 miles from Collington, is the Inn at Pirates Cove. This restaurant, beloved for decades by the residents of southern Anne Arundel County, can be reached via a pleasant drive east on Central Avenue (Route 214) and south on Route 468, and then a short way east on Route 255. After you cross Route 301 your drive is through mostly farm country and you finish at a beautiful harbor with several marinas.

My wife and I lunched there recently and the experience was terrific. We enjoyed oysters on the half shell, cream of crab soup, fried oysters and shrimp 'n grits with two glasses of New Zealand sauvignon blanc. As a lifelong resident of Maryland I selected these dishes to test the kitchen.

The oysters were fresh, crisp, tasty and shucked skillfully. The cream of crab soup was perfect. The soup was thick, but not so thick that you could stand a spoon in it, as is often the case, and with bits of crab meat that added to the flavor. A small vessel of sherry was served with the dish without the usual necessity of a special request. Fried oysters this good are rare. The breading sealing in the barely cooked juicy oysters signaled an experienced cook in the kitchen. The shrimp were also cooked to perfection but the grits were boring. The traditional dessert for a "bay meal", a hot fudge ice cream sundae, was ordered and did not



disappoint. This was truly wonderful food.

Our waiter, David, was a gem. He showed up when appropriate but not otherwise, removed plates before bringing out the next course and was pleasant at all times. The view of

the harbor and boats was beautiful. Noise level did nothing to inhibit conversation. Our bill was under \$72 with tax but not tip.

Ten red wines, ten white wines and four sparkling wines were offered evenly divided between domestic and imported varieties. Half of these wines were available by the glass for \$7. Wine prices were good, though the selection was meager.

Other dishes available on the menu included 12 appetizers, six salads and three soups. Twelve entrees are offered and range from seafood platters for the larger appetites to sirloin steak. Three "comfort food" dishes – fried chicken, pot roast and meatloaf – were also available. Eight sandwiches/burgers and four desserts rounded out the menu. The dining room is wheelchair accessible.

A beautiful drive, scenic views, good service and good food adds up to a wonderful afternoon. Take a peek at the Chesapeake Bay region and taste its food---you'll love it.

The Inn at Pirates Cove Restaurant, 4817 Riverside Drive, Galesville, MD 20765, 410-867-2300, piratescovemd.com

Lunch served Monday through Saturday – 11:30 to 4 p.m.

Dinner – Monday through Thursday – 4-9 p.m.

Friday and Saturday – 4-10 p.m., Sunday – 1-9 p.m.

A Sales Job That Helps Us All

By Frances Kolarek

When we see the notice "Estate Sale" listing items abandoned by the heirs of a late resident, a huge amount of work has gone into its preparation by either Sara Case or Sandi Lee and the many volunteers who work with them



"We would both rather fill a job that involves physical effort than something more sedentary," Sara says and Sandi heartily agrees.

Sandi came to Collington with a wealth of experience at the Chevy Chase, D.C., Opportunities Shop and immediately volunteered here. Sara, a member of the team of volunteers assisting Ria Hawkins when she was responsible for the sales, took over when Ria resigned. Today, Sara and Sandi alternate between jobs.

An e-mail from Karen Cheney alerts the women when the key to a unit has been turned in by the heirs. Then Security enters the picture, opening the locked door to the empty unit every time a volunteer needs to enter and locking up when they leave. Both women have nothing but praise for Karen's help and the cheerful cooperation of the Security staff.

Once inside, the first job facing them can be cleaning up. Dirty kitchens and chaotic disorder often await. Once sorted out, a lot of the leftovers go directly to the Op Shop. Roanne Dahlen-Hartfield carries away Glass Cases gewgaws and costume jewelry. The Salvation Army or other charities are frequent beneficiaries.

Both Sara and Sandi emphasize how heavily they depend on volunteers to help with this effort and give special thanks to Carol Edner,

a particularly faithful member of the team, while welcoming Nancy Long, who pitched in during a recent sale.

Sometimes leftovers from a previous sale may be incorporated into the current one. Here Joe

Howard, chairman of the Opportunities Outlet, is ever ready to cooperate. Joe is on sick leave at we write but expects to be back on the job shortly. He casts an eye over the contents, bringing any antiques or other valuables to the attention of an assessor, and his team of muscular volunteers helps move the heavy stuff.

Every effort is made to time the sales for the convenience of staff, who constitute about half the custom. Once the door is opened the place is overwhelmed. "It's a zoo!" one volunteer exclaimed, and the cashier of the day can expect a hectic half hour as early buyers compete for her attention. This job alternates between Louise Huddleston, Anne McCulley and Charlotte Melichar.

The sale completed, purchasers of items too large to take away must commit themselves to a time when they can arrange for pickup. The job has by no means ended when the last customer has hauled away an outsized purchase. Leftovers and clutter have to be dealt with so the empty unit can be spruced up for marketing to sell.

Deflecting praise and gratitude, Sara Case remarks: "We are all standing on the shoulders of Hilda Jay, who originated the Op Shop, and her successors."

Many Routes to Annapolis

By Jim Giese

Editor's Note: This is the second in a series on "Sunday drives" from Collington.

Collingtonians have many reasons to go to Annapolis, including the excellent facilities at Anne Arundel Medical Center and the shops at nearby Parole. The city, which served briefly as the nation's capital in 1783-84, contains many historic and scenic sites, including the State House, the U.S. Naval Academy and the Severn River waterfront. There are also numerous dining venues.

The fast way to get there is to take the Beltway to U.S. 50 east, getting off at Route 2 for the medical center and Parole shopping and at Rowe Boulevard to reach the historic town center. But a number of other ways are more scenic, if slower.

Taking Central Avenue (Md. 214) east is direct and reasonably fast without the heavy traffic of superhighways. You have three choices for accessing Central Avenue, all beginning with Lottsford Road east. At the third traffic signal, you can turn right onto Enterprise Road (Md. 193) and at the next signal turn left onto Central.

Alternatively, stay on Lottsford Road, now called Woodmore Road, to the next light and turn right on Church Road. This will take you alongside Seton Belt Woods on your right, one of the few virgin stands of trees left on the East Coast. Turn left at the next signal to get on Central.

Or you can skip the turn on Church Road and continue straight, the road now becoming Mount Oak Road. The next signal is Mitchellville Road. If you turn left, you will reach the shopping areas and medical facilities of Bowie. But for



Looking toward the Maryland State Capitol in Annapolis.

the scenic route to Annapolis, turn right. Cross US 301 and continue straight ahead on a narrow, curvy road. Eventually it becomes Queen Anne Bridge Road. At any intersection, bear right until the road intersects with Central Avenue, now a two-lane highway, just west of the Patuxent River Bridge.

Now you are in Anne Arundel County.

Stay on Central Avenue through Davidsonville and past Homestead Gardens. Another mile or so on the left is the turn for Riva Road. This road will take you across the South River to Parole. At West Street (Md. 450) a left will take you to the other side of U.S. 50 to the Westfield Mall and the Anne Arundel Medical Center and a right will take you to historic downtown Annapolis.

For a pretty drive on roads that are even more rural, turn left onto Patuxent River Parkway at the first traffic signal on Central after crossing the Patuxent River. Follow this road to Governor Bridge Road and turn right. (Turning left could take you to Bowie, but the bridge over the Patuxent is usually closed.) Eventually Governor Bridge Road intersects with Riva Road, where a left turn will take you to Parole.

Movie House from p. 7

Undone Chocolate bars, and Thunder Beast root beer.

To get to the theater from Collington, go left on Lottsford Road to MD 193, turn left and go to Greenbelt. Immediately upon crossing over the Baltimore-Washington Parkway turn right onto Southway and go two blocks. Roosevelt Center and the theater will be kitty-corner to the right.

Bill Preston on Gardening



Garden Joys, Here and Elsewhere

Spring is here and it is time to enjoy gardening, especially if someone else does the digging, planting, and weeding! You must admit that we at Collington are living in a garden, and some of our dedicated residents and our hired landscape contractor see to it that the grounds are constantly beautiful.

But what about looking at some area gardens where professional gardeners work hard to produce displays we can enjoy? I'm thinking about nearby Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens with waterlilies and lotuses in June and July. Also consider the acres of gardens at Brookside Gardens and the thousands of azaleas at Brighton Dam, both in Montgomery County. You might also want to consider the Colonial Garden in southern Charles County.

In Washington, D.C., there are several gardens and estates you would really enjoy seeing: Dumbar-ton Oaks, Hillwood Estate, Enid Haupt Garden (behind the Smithsonian Castle), the inside and outside displays at the Botanic Garden, and the nearby National Arboretum, with so much more to see than just beautiful azaleas.

Overlooking the Potomac River is River Farm in Virginia, home of the American Horticultural Society. Some of us Collingtonians took a bus trip there last year, and we toured a dozen or more gardens around the mansion. Another interesting garden to visit is the Ladew Topiary Garden in Monkton, Md., which features an extensive display of trimmed and sheared shrubs that resemble animals and people.

A longer drive will take you to the famous Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania and the gardens at the DuPont mansion in Delaware.

I've visited all of these gardens and have fond memories of each site. Hope you and your friends can find the time and opportunity to visit some of these wonderful, interesting, and beautiful gardens.

Platinum from p. 2

where her nickname was "Ricky." They were married in October 1943 in Washington, D.C. with John's father, a clergyman, officiating. At the time, John says with a smile "I was a Pfc -- a Private in the Army." His enlistment completed, he entered Harvard for postgraduate work. There John and Mary found themselves living in the same Boston apartment building as Bill and Barbara Conklin, while Bill was enrolled in the School of Design. It was in Boston that the first Evans daughter was born.

With his advanced degree, John was offered a government job that took him to Sweden for some three years. Back in D.C., the couple settled in suburban Virginia where their second daughter was born. Mary, meanwhile, had taught in school systems wherever life took them and later gave private piano lessons.

John, an Episcopalian and a clergyman's son, felt a call to the ministry and enrolled in the Virginia Theological Seminary where one of his professors was Murray Newman, who with his wife Janet, are Collingtonians. Once ordained, John was assigned to St. John's Church, Lafayette Square, as an assistant minister, where he came to know the Rev. James (Jim) Holmes, a newly-arrived Collington resident.

John's deep involvement with Collington's earliest days as Bishop Walker's assistant in matters of aging, was reported in the January Collingtonian. That assignment completed, John joined the staff of the National Council on Aging.

In time, the couple made the decision to move to Collington where so many of the threads of their rich lives are entangled. Since one person named Mary Evans already lived here, Ricky decided to revert to her college nickname to avoid confusion.

A World of Art

Collington resident Peter Wilson lived in China as a girl and in Ethiopia in the 1960s, when her husband was Peace Corps director there. Those experiences and her other travels have resulted in an extensive art collection, much of which has been on display in the Clock Tower exhibit cases.



More than a collector, Peter is an accomplished sculptor. These three examples of her own work are included in the Clock Tower collection.

