

The

Collingtonian

Vol. 10, No. 1

A publication of the Collington Residents Association

Jan. 1998

Happy New Year!

Celebrating Ten Years

by Frances Kolarek

In October Collington will observe the tenth anniversary of its dedication, and this year, celebrating is the order of business.

A program scheduled for January 30 in the auditorium will feature Jim Gholson, Harry Smith and Malcolm Wall, all of whom served on the original Board established to build a continuing care community on land given by developer Homer Gudelsky.

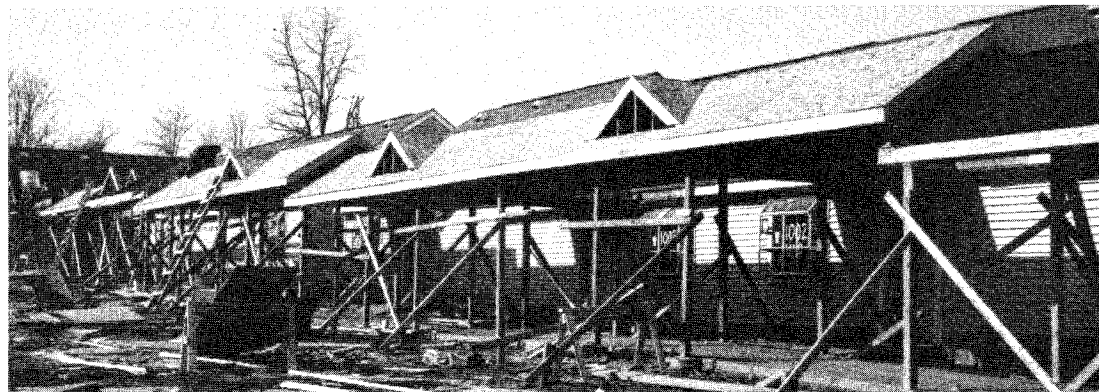
But Collington history really began in January of 1981 when Mr. Gudelsky approached the Episcopal Diocese of Washington with his idea about a retirement community.

Since that time there have been many milestones. As outlined by Gail Kohn, the most notable are:

Registering the corporation in March 1982.

The "Dog and Pony Show"--a highly successful effort on the part of Malcolm Wall and Jim Gholson to spread the world about this continuing care community idea.

The adoption of Collington's Philosophy Statement.



A walkway under construction in early 1988

Executive Director Gail Kohn will preside as recollections flow freely and the panelists remember how it was "back then."

Residents who came in 1988 will be invited to share their own memories. Legends were born as the residents began to arrive beginning in April. By the end of the year 239 people had moved in.

Site visits by prospective residents.

The formation of Future Residents Association in August 1985.

Ground breaking in April 1986.

Laying of the Corner Stone in October, 1987.

Dedication in October 1988.

And finally, the granting of the Certificate of Registration November 1988 by the County Office on Aging.

•Dog-Eared and New•

by Dorothy Brown

A knock on the door of Cottage No. 1012 triggers an outburst of insistent barking. Not unusual in this community, with a dog population of 14. The recently arrived canine resident of this cottage differs from the others, however. An orange disc attached to a bright orange-red collar carries the identification, "Hearing Ear Dog."

Tavi's master, Bob McCarthy, who moved here in November 25, has been impaired since birth with "profound hearing loss." Although he can't hear the door knocker, limited hearing in one ear and a now uncommon "body" hearing aid enable him to pick up the sound of barking as Tavi runs back and forth from the door.

Tavi's other duties are to inform Bob when the smoke detector and alarm clock go off. The small black and white Jack Russell terrier was trained to alert Bob to the clock's buzz by jumping on his bed.

"The first cold night, he jumped on the bed to keep warm," Bob says. Tavi had to be retrained and now puts his front paws on Bob to awaken him.

During his 32-year career as a cataloger at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, he lived in an apartment and considered it unfair to coop up a dog alone there all day. Upon retirement three and a half years ago, he applied for a hearing ear dog at the Connecticut K-9 Education Center in Newington, Connecticut. In addition to the tasks

Tavi performs, the Center trains dogs for other duties, such as alerting their owners to the ringing of a phone or the cry of a baby.

Beginning with basic obedience training, Tavi and Bob worked together for three months at the Center. Completion of the program gave Tavi the same status as a seeing eye dog. When they travel, he can sit with his master on planes and trains.

Referring to another interest, Bob has "a knack for languages." After minoring in Spanish in college, he "picked up" Italian, German, Swedish and French, and has a "nodding acquaintance" with Hebrew, Chinese, Korean, Arabic and Sanskrit. He learned the Cyrillic alphabet and taught himself to use a Japanese-English dictionary for translating book titles into English.

Other hobbies include tending seven bonsai trees and watching TV and video tapes of operas. For the audio, he uses a receiver and ear mold directly connected to the TV. Incidentally, Tavi is short for

Octavian, a character in the cast of "Der Rosenkavalier."

He also takes advantage of text telephone communication which, through an operator, converts a caller's spoken words to a printed message on the screen of a specially equipped typewriter. He may be reached by calling the relay service, 1-800-735-2258, and asking for 301-925-7212.



Tavi with Bob McCarthy



New Star in Our Crown?

There is a new box in our chart of Collington organizations.

It is "Collington Management and Consulting Services," a for-profit subsidiary which is to turn over its entire profits to "Collington Care Services," our umbrella entity. No losses, should they occur, would be transferred.

Such revenue will originate with fees paid for consultancies, etc. performed on a part-time short-term basis by Collington administrators (specialists in their fields) for other entities such as continuing care communities.

This is not a new activity but has been put into a separate organization upon advice of authorities. One such contract, with an Annapolis developing retirement community, is currently being served.

Collington Executive Director Gail Kohn explained the new entity to residents at the December 19 community meeting. Such enterprises are undertaken, she explained, as part of on-going efforts to keep monthly fees paid by Collington residents at a minimum.

The Magic Number is 25

On Interstate 95 between the Capital and Baltimore Beltways the speed limit has been raised from 55 miles an hour to 65--a bow to today's traffic realities. Should Collington get in gear with the time by raising the limit on its own "beltway," the perimeter road?

The answer, of course, is an emphatic no. In fact, what should concern Collingtonians is how to get drivers to stick to the posted 25--a limit needed to protect our drivers, our scooter operators and our walkers. Some of the walkers do, of course, use the perimeter road and some suffer from limited eyesight, hearing and mobility. They need all the protection they can get.

A casual, unscientific look at traffic on the perimeter road detects four categories of speeders. Some are delivery trucks coming from outside Collington, a few are Collington's vehicles, a few are employees' cars and fewer still are cars of residents. All should be encouraged to slow down.

E. B.

Commentary

When the call went out from the Outreach Committee for toys, clothing and books for children of all ages helped by programs of Community Ministry of Prince George's County the big collection boxes in the clocktower and apartment areas filled up several times over. And the box for receiving checks did so to the heartening sum of \$819.

The Reverend Sharita Seawright, shown here with one of the boxes, is in charge of the Warm Nights program of the Community Ministry. She will distribute the gifts and the money among the other programs of the Ministry, the Sharing Fund and the Community Cafe, as well as the Warm Nights Shelter program.



The Rev. Sharita Seawright

•New Birds Keep Coming•

by Edward Behr

Each year it seems that the list of birds seen at Collington can no longer keep expanding. And each year it turns out that still more species are added.

In 1997 four more birds showed up at Collington for the first time on record. These brought our nine-year total to an impressive 153.

The most colorful newcomer was a rose-breasted grosbeak, seen by Alison MacLean in late September at her feeder in the 1000 cluster. This handsome bird, black, white and rose-red, was obviously migrating southward, perhaps to the West Indies.

A first-time visitor to the lake this year was a common loon, seen by several residents both in spring and fall. This big ducklike swimmer and diver can submerge for minutes at a time in search for food. It summers in Canada and often winters on the Chesapeake Bay.

Rarer than either of these was a red-necked grebe, another ducklike diver that appeared at the lake in late October. This visitor was a young bird, lacking the usual red neck and thus hard to identify, but yellow coloring on the bill was a giveaway. The grebe, too, may have been heading for winter quarters on the bay.

Finally, on one fine mid-December morning a still rarer visitor dropped in. This was a northern goshawk, a large hawk with a gray back, white front and near-white under the wings. For many minutes it sat in a magnificent oak tree near the northeastern corner of the Collington property; then it flew off to the north. The goshawk breeds farther north but in winter strays occasionally as far south as Maryland's coastal plain.

These were the highlights among the nature sightings reported at Collington

during 1997. In all, a few hundred observations of flora and fauna were recorded in the red notebook kept at the clock tower reception desk.

Besides the new birds, some others left vivid memories. In early December Bill Burleigh spotted a Cooper's hawk flying off into the woods from the 3000 cluster with a house finch clenched in its jaws. It proceeded to gobble down its prey--and left feathers behind for all to see. (Nature in the raw!) One January afternoon Elliot Richardson counted no fewer than 523 crows streaming overhead en route to their roost. And in March he watched a great horned owl being attacked by crows.

Once again our faithful spring-summer nesters produced healthy crops of young birds. Two pairs of Canada geese settled on the island in the lake--the first in April, the second in May; there were nine goslings in one brood. Purple martins nested successfully in both houses installed for them. Other 1997 parents included bluebirds, barn swallows, mallard ducks and, almost certainly, red-shouldered hawks.

Still more noteworthy birds were seen during the year--pileated and hairy woodpeckers, orchard and Baltimore orioles, parula and yellow warblers, great blue herons, kingfishers, hooded mergansers, wood ducks, white-breasted nuthatches and, just once, an osprey and a rusty blackbird.

There were memorable sightings of four-footed creatures as well. In early January Kelsey Saint reported seeing a herd of at least eight deer, presumably scouting for food, along the path south of the lake. In early April M.E. Wallen spotted a beaver at the lake shore; it slapped its tail on the water and carried off a

branch. Later this month a red fox boldly roamed inside the 2000 cluster, ran off to the 2100 area and disappeared. In July a raccoon clambered onto the roofs of cottages in the 2000 cluster and awakened residents at about 5 a.m. for three straight mornings.

The year's wildflower show as much like that of past years, starting with chickweed and star of Bethlehem in early March and continuing with spring beauty and jack-in-the-pulpit in May, Turk's cap lilies in July and goldenrod in September.

But something new was added last year: the wildflower meadow east of 3000. With bachelor's buttons, gaillardia, coreopsis, evening primrose and cosmos in bloom between June and November, the meadow provided a delightful display of color.

Land Next Door Still Unsold

Reporting on some considerations being given toward possible acquisition of the 17.5 acres of woodland adjacent to Collington's entry driveway off Lottsford Road, Executive Director Gail Kohn told our residents at the December 19 community meeting that with control of the future of the tract as the goal some possible partnerships in ownership are being studied.

Referring to the asking price of \$2 million for the tract she pointed out that it has been on the market for several years but that prospects for land developments in Prince George's county are favorable. Meanwhile, she reported, residents have pledged a total of \$30,000 so far toward a possible purchase by Collington Care Services, our umbrella organization.

If He Were British He'd Likely be Knighted

Bob Willing of the Music Committee has been shepherding Collingtonians to cultural events for close to ten years. He has helped dozens of ladies board the bus en route to Symphony concerts, rounded up stragglers at the conclusion of the ballet, escorted opera goers to Sunday performances and accompanied groups to the Arena stage. Did we leave something out? Oh yes. The Prince George's Philharmonic of which Bob and his wife Marion are devoted friends.

Now Bob is cutting back. Grace Langley is in charge of transportation to the Washington Symphony concerts at Kennedy Center. Judy Reilly will handle the trips to the Arena stage. And other members of the music committee are expected to help out with the rest of the agenda as time goes by.

Scores of Collingtonians owe Bob a hearty round of applause with many "thank you"s. "Lord Willing" has a nice ring to it, n'est pas?



Alice Campbell in a pink feather boa. See Page 11

Even at Collington, you can't eat your cake and have it too. Or your cookies. But not to worry. More cookies lurk around the corner. Thanks to the Hospitality Committee, hundreds of home-made pastries were consumed by residents and guests at 1997's parties, and more can reasonably be predicted for 1998.

Monthly tea parties on Level Two will again start the year's baking, with Mary Ellen Hines in charge of refreshments for those popular sing-alongs. Helping with the baking for them have been Elsie Schneir, Connie Schnaubelt, Mary Price and May Schoonover.

Melva Wence provides a very special sweet for these gatherings, since many participants can't tolerate sugar. Her treats are sugar-free. Each of the other contributors has preferred recipes, but chocolate chip seems to be the general favorite. Nothing is wasted; what isn't consumed immediately goes into the freezer for next month.

The big demand for volunteer bakers, however, awaits Halloween, when dozens of children (and parents) arrive to trick, be treated, and consume. Mary Ann Pellerin, Halloween party chairman, has long relied on Mary Price, her cookie

chairman. A newcomer to the cookie game who has risen to the challenge, Mary says that just before October 31, "cookies come in big bunches, so fast you just can't count them." Connie Schnaubelt, new chairman, can't promise to count any faster, but confirms that the Halloween display was impressive.

Demand for sweets in 1997 reached its caloric peak in mid-December, with the annual tree-trimming followed soon by a popular children's concert. Bakers who responded to last month's call in addition to the regulars, included Anna White, Ethel Belinky, Maude Cahill,

Emily Baker, and two surprise entries: Tom Street, better known as actor-writer than baker, and Anonymous. The latter attached a recipe to a large platter of exceptionally succulent sweets, confirming that the offering was dangerously hi-

cal.

Public-spirited Tom countered this challenge to the community's health by offering his own favorite recipe, loaded with vitamins.

Potential volunteers are urged by Emily Baker, new Hospitality co-chair, to try one recipe or the other--or any other. At Collington, all cookies and their bakers are encouraged.

Tom's Good-drops

- 1 ripe banana 3/4 cup shortening
- 1 cup brown sugar 1 egg
- 1 tsp. vanilla 1 cup flour
- 1 tsp. salt 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 3 cups raw oats 1/2 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts.

Mash banana; beat with shortening, sugar, egg and vanilla till creamy. Mix dry ingredients and blend all. Stir in oats, nuts and raisins. Drop rounded spoonfuls on greased pan. Bake 15-20 minutes in 375° oven.

Sinful Snacks

- 2/3 cup melted butter 1 lb. brown sugar
- 3 eggs 1 Tbsp vanilla
- Pinch of salt (optional) 2 1/2 cups flour
- 3 tps baking powder 12 oz. chocolate chips

Dissolve sugar in butter; cool slightly; beat in eggs and vanilla. Sift dry ingredients; add to mixture. Add chips. Spread 1 1/2 in. deep in a 9 x 13" greased pan. Bake 20-25 minutes at 325°. Cool. Cut in squares.

•Out of Africa•

by Frances Kolarek

Kathleen Hill, Ph.D., Columbia, admits to being a collector. She has collected academic degrees, coins, stamps, and plates. "I must have 5,000 plates," she says, and many of them are arranged on shelves in her cottage (1214). There are Copenhagen Christmas plates, plates decorated with Dickens characters, and flowered plates--a variegated background for a woman with a colorful life.

Kathleen was born in Johannesburg, South Africa. As a child she was too ill to finish her schooling. She got her high school diploma while working at the Diocesan Office of the Anglican Church, and enlisted in a project to teach deaf children--black, colored, and Indian. Without realizing it, she had taken her first step into social work which was to consume her life.

At a convention in London of the Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, Kathleen met a member of the Juliet Lowe World Friendship Fund (Juliet Lowe founded the Girl Scouts in America) who offered Kathleen the opportunity to study at Case Western University on a scholarship. She earned her masters degree and took off on a trip across the United States on a scholarship from the Carnegie Foundation. Her task was to study youth organizations, and in the course of her travels she made contacts that she has maintained throughout her life. It was here that she first began "her love affair" with Howard University, which offered her a part-time job. The money allowed her to pursue her doctoral studies at Columbia University.

In 1958 Kathleen returned home to head the department of social studies at Natal University. The government's policy of apartheid had been introduced dur-

ing her absence, so now, working with students of other races and forming ties with them, knew she knew she was headed for trouble.

"It is difficult for Americans to realize that in a totalitarian state, when one family member is arrested, the entire family is in jeopardy," Kathleen explains. As she realized the police were following her, Kathleen became concerned about her brother and two sisters, married, with families of their own.

Her correspondents at Howard University, whom she kept informed of the situation in South Africa, urged Kathleen to rejoin their faculty, and with great regret, she left her homeland.

"I feel I owe a great debt to the people of this country," she says. "They have given me the opportunity to pursue the work I always wanted to do, an opportunity denied me in South Africa." And so, with some regret, she relinquished her British citizenship and became an American.

She has, however, managed to return to South Africa at least once a year in spite of a crippling bout with knee surgery which has kept her largely confined for several years.

When Kathleen retired and came to live here, she was astonished to discover that her cottage was next door to that of the late Caroline Ware, a dear friend to whom she had recommended Collington. And she was able to renew acquaintances with two other bright lights in the world of social work--our neighbors Katherine Kendall and Dorothy Lally.

Well, How About That?

The "George Spelvin" by-line on a piece about home talent dramatics in the December issue is a phony name that was often listed in the casts of traveling vaudeville companies when one member performed a second role. The real writer of our story was the prolific "Anonymous."

One "Rest of the Story" we would like to hear is of the thief who fled with a lady's suitcase leaving the Staten Island ferry as she headed for a pet cemetery carrying the remains of her late Dachshund.

"Glendy" (as in Pabst, our fellow scribe) is not a nickname nor a contraction. It is an official, christened, time-honored name, especially in her native Louisiana.

Two of our resident musicians perform beautifully together and often-- Betty Williams on violin and Virginia Beaty on piano. Nevertheless, one wag occasionally refers to them as "The Carpenters," as "one hammers and the other saws".

Residents who nightly travel the uncovered walk from the clocktower to the 1000 and 2000 clusters would like to see those yellow side markers brightened up for safety.

How did people in the old days know what year it was? Did Gaius Julius Caesar know that he was born in 100 B.C.

New Jersey recollections get lively when ex-Newarkites Sam Saben and Mike and Becky Elephante get together. They used to see young Frank Sinatra playing a ukelele in the park, they say. They also deny that anyone there ever says "Joisey."

An Ode to the Joy of Walking

by Frances Kolarek

Dear George Dankers:

This comes to you as Chairman of the Lake and Trail Committee and it is an appreciation.

Because this afternoon, Tuesday, November 18, was irresistably sunny and windless, and because I am celebrating my 80th birthday and wanted to give myself a present, I went walking on the trail with my dog, Mitzi.

We entered at the point where Mary MacMartin has planted the wildflower garden and headed toward the hilltop garden, passing the spot where Georgia Paine has shown the way to the boundary marker of the Waring property. Not far along we ran into Kevin Shaver with his clip board doing his monthly inspection walk, accompanied by his girl friend, who stopped to speak to Mitzi.

Then past the bench and the dormant asparagus plot, down the incline (after my knee surgery I was sure I would never dare that steep hill again), along the trail to the bridge. I noted with pleasure how healthy the young grass looks at either end of the bridge.

A short rest on the bench that is often the site of an iceskating pond after a thaw and a hard freeze, then on to the newly laid path just beyond the picnic table. It was covered with yellow tulip tree leaves which glowed against the clean grey surface.

Getting a mite tired I rested on the bench beside the lake for a spell, chatted with a passerby, and returned home.

I had a lovely time. I was proud that I could still manage this walk I have loved so much since coming to Collington, and Mitzi was in dog heaven. So I thought I would say thanks to the Lake and Trail committee for helping keep things in such wonderful shape.

(Editor's note: This memo and was read to the Lake and Trail Committee on Dec. 4. Copies went to Administration honchos.)

•Christmas Symbols•

by Tom Street

The courtyard Gallery exhibit cases are filled with artifacts of Christmas disgorged from closets and arranged in a colorful spectacle that merits close inspection. Starting at the far left facing the dining room, one sees a pottery creche complete with wise men, shepherds and local inhabitants. They come from Betty Clark's travels to Colombia. Careful observers will note that all but the babe are wearing hats. Beside it an orchestra of angels is giving forth. Elsie Schneir provided the players. In the next section a model of an interurban coach is an eye-catcher from Virginia Colony, and the locomotive with a cowcatcher and the switching engine and car below are courtesy of Mae Schoonover.

The adjoining section is all christmasy with a hefty Santa Claus from Mary Ann Pellerin, real sleigh bells from Mildred Wyckoff and Helen Eisenhart and mittens on a cord to wear around the neck to keep them from getting lost. Remember? Mae Schoonover contributed them.

The case on the right side of the center corridor features baby Whitney, star of a Smithsonian craft show and contributed by Priscilla Atkinson. Also meriting more than a passing glance, two eggs, somewhat in the Russian Faberge style, open to show two creches. A country-style angel and a cloth Pinocchio round out this section, along with a large really truly nutcracker doll in full Hussar or whatever uniform.

The late Henry Parrish made the woodblock medieval village in the next section. Mary says there are even more pieces than shown here. An antique gold Christmas tree in a carriage case holder

is quite exceptional in this section. It is from Jean Van Wageningen. Two dolls and a mouse that ran up the clock round it out. The last section on the right displays a large advent box from Peg Chatten, books, including the immemorial "Night Before Christmas," Dent family Christmas cards, a Russian doll in colorful handmade dress, a mouse clock, a Bavarian music box and a metal rocking horse. Amazing, the whole show.

Why the Grass Won't Grow

A study that began October 30, 1996 has produced a detailed report complete with diagnosis and prescription. Frank J. Coale is the agricultural consultant who has labored and brought forth the good news and the bad news. The good news is that "Collington Episcopal Life Care Community is the proud owner of a collection of very rare and unique soils."

The bad news is that: "These soils are notoriously difficult to manage and may require intensive remediation to make them productive." It seems that we have acid sulfate soils and that they are rare in North America.

But the situation is not hopeless. Environmental Services is ready to go with the treatment and will be applying to the twelve study sites approximately 700 lbs. per thousand square feet of hydrated limestone to a minimum depth of six inches in the spring. This, with careful monitoring, should do the trick. Kevin Shaver has the full report and will be glad to share it with those thirsty for more detail.

T.S.

These are Attention-Getters

The arresting collection of aerial photographs hanging in the West Gallery are the work of Alex MacLean, one of Alison and Paul's five children.

While he was a student of architectural and landscape design at Harvard, Alex learned to fly and was captivated by the scenes below. Today, with a 35 mm camera equipped with a gyroscope to reduce wobble, he makes photographs from an open window of his plane. He flies solo.

He is the owner of a company in Cambridge, Massachusetts called Landslides which takes photographs from the air for real estate developers and other clients. His work hangs in airports and is especially popular, Alison says, in law offices.

Two books of his photographs have been published to critical acclaim.

Robena Taylor is responsible for getting and hanging the pictures, as well as producing a list of their titles and prices. The pictures are numbered on the lower right side of each frame.



About Thanksgiving Dinner

Responding to the rare but readily acknowledged criticism regarding the slowness of some turkey orders during the Thanksgiving dinner, Dining Services Director Rich Baker told the community meeting on December 19 how things are shaping up in his department.

Besides time spent on learning how to use the newly-acquired computer software for planning menus, ordering supplies, regulating ovens, etc., there has been a vacancy in top kitchen management, but interviews are now under way toward filling that vacancy.

Ending his brief presentation Baker asked for questions from the residents assembled. This brought not a single question but a proposal for a round of applause for the "excellent Christmas dinner" served the evening before. The applause was enthusiastic.

A Visit from St. Nicholas

The regular Friday afternoon sing-along of Creighton Center's second level turned into a hilarious visit from Santa on December 19. He bestowed hugs and candy canes on the about thirty resident who were prepared for the event and wheeled to the reception room by Rita Chapman and her therapeutic residents activities staff. Chuck Dell and partner Ken Muldoon (this time in the red suit) are regular entertainers there along with pianist Virginia Colony, song leader Mary Ellen Hines and occasional poetry readers and story tellers. Ho, ho, ho!



Gatsby Would Have Loved It

A blue-ribbon Christmas party sub-committee of the Hospitality committee led by Emily Baker, planned it and staged it, the party on December 18 with the "roaring twenties" theme.

It will take many days, weeks, probably months for the memories to dim of that splendid affair, the speakeasy with the peephole through which you said "Joe sent me," the soaring grace of the ice sculpture of Pote (Paul) Cirachittevin of Dining Services, the beautiful old sleigh, courtesy of Fran Meloy's nurseryman friend, Mr. Watson, and the decorations and gorgeous, vintage 1920s, maybe outrageous to some, costumes courtesy of Hilda Jay of the Op Shop. Of course, an all-time favorite with aging males is the electric toy train provided by our woodshop.

On December 16 the Drama committee offering of the 1930s play, "Once in a Lifetime," produced and directed by Marcia Behr, had already set the mood. The smooth saxophone combo got the celebrants out on the floor at the party.

All of it was topped off by sumptuous eat and drink. Congratulations and thanks to all whose imagination and hard work made it happen.

(Editor's note: That "speakeasy" was back to its normal formal decor as the Courtyard Conference Room early next morning.)

(See photo on Page 5.)

⌚ *Mystery!* ⌚

How does that perennial New Year's baby get so old and rickety in just 12 months?

Computer Problem? Dial 2020

Not really. Just kidding. Don't do it. We just used that as a way to get into a story about a computerly-challenged resident who has had some epic encounters with the computer in the library. It seems that every time he goes to it full of happy anticipation of delivering himself of a minor masterpiece of English composition he encounters obstacles of one sort or another.

Either the program is set on AOL instead of Word Perfect, or the printer won't print, or in an extreme case the whole contraption was lifeless. In each case he runs down the list of possible helpers, Clem Welsh, Jim Reilly, Al Folop, Debbie Munro, but on three occasions, finding none of them available or admitting competence for the particular problem, he has gone to the Security desk for help, and each time Security has come through.

It's not in their job descriptions, for sure, and he doubts that he should admit appealing to them or giving the credit they are due, but each time either Kendall Brown, Terrance Tomblin or Marc Evans has responded when he could be spared briefly, and like magic each has quickly analyzed the problem and set the beast working respectfully. What a multi-talented team we are blessed with. Jason Felder, security and communications coordinator, says some of his staff might not be able to help, but if they can't, they'll tell you. So be it.

If you wonder "Where are the snows of yesteryear?" be careful what you wish for.

Walking, or the Equivalent

Our own Carrie Fein, Impresario of the Fitness Center, has come up with a "sure-fire" campaign to get us up and going. "Collington Walks Across America," broke on our consciousness from posters on billboards just before Christmas. This was just in time to jog our anticipatory guilt feelings about all the rich foods we would undoubtedly consume.

It is a clever idea, that we can collectively "walk across America" by collecting campaign points which can total the 3,000 miles across our country. Carrie heard about some campaign like this in North Carolina. She has tailored it to our circumstances.

Coincident with this campaign, fortunately, the Lake and Trail Committee is preparing a pamphlet of circuit hikes that can be done in 30 minutes of moderate walking, plus one for strolling or scooter touring. The hope is that this can be a helpful adjunct to the "Collington Walks Across America" campaign. T.S.

The Collingtonian is published monthly (except July and August) by the Collington Residents Association, Inc., 10450 Lottsford Road, Mitchellville, MD. 20721-2734.

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100 Years at Collington

Ten staff members will celebrate their tenth anniversary with Collington in 1998. They came to us through many different agencies and do many different jobs.

When Betty (Flack) Farrar was hired in March of 1988 there were only 15 employees on the staff. Of that number, she, alone, remains. She worked as personnel assistant under Bill Himmelreich, no longer with us, concerned largely with hiring Health Services staff. However, education was Betty's forte, and she moved into the job of Education Coordinator, training and educating staff. She tells us that all staff members receive half an hour of education every week covering anything from how to plant a tree to how to serve a meal.

Over time, Betty has moved up to the position of Director of Education, the job she now holds.

Answering a newspaper advertisement for a bookkeeper, Jennifer Foster came to work in Administration and is in charge of billing residents for their monthly fees. She sends out between 400 and 450 bills a month, including those for residents of Levels One and Two of the Creighton Center, both transient and permanent. Jennifer has developed great tact in fielding our beefs about errors on our bill. Most of the time she is right. Her many fancy cats are her great love, and she'll produce pictures of them quicker than a new grandma.

Kevin Shaver and Reed Harris came on board at about the same time, followed by Ann Hammond, Bill Young, Priscilla Atkinson, Charlean Johnson, Helen Cole and Rich Baker. As we gear up for a grand celebration of our Tenth Birthday, The Collingtonian will tell you more about these people who helped shape Collington. F.K.