

Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch

By Glendy Pabst

If by "expansion" you mean more buildings, Collington experienced no change during April. If you refer to an enlarged attitude, however, expansion did occur. The new outlook, sponsored by a new committee named S.O.A.R.

"It's not about construction and renovation, but how to rise above it," explains Grace Langley, one of a pair of positive thinkers who activated the project. As second vice-president of the Residents Association, Grace quickly noticed that various committees were pondering how to ease expansion upheaval.

Mary Ann Pellerin, her partner in the idea for S.O.A.R., had learned from a fire in her house of worship; that "a church is more than a building." She suggested a formula: Strategize, Organize, Activate and Review, which condensed into S.O.A.R.

Together, Grace and Mary converted six other positive thinkers to form their

"brainstorming group:" Sophie Clagett, Dick Hartfield, Elisabeth FitzHugh, Fannie Jeffrey, Margaret Martin and Olivia Miller. At their first meeting in March, the group defined goals that would apply to all participants in the Residents Association. By April's end the committee had swelled to 20 members, all positively thinking of activities to cheer residents when invasive bricks and mortar arrive.

Amidst so much soaring thought, there was one negative fact: no material progress was visible. No ground broken for foundations, no bricks delivered. The cause of delay? Again, no permits.

Those pesky legal requirements were still waiting on action by the Prince George's Council. Glen Graeves, consultant who "co-ordinates actuarial projections," confirmed that physical delays could cause financial estimates to change.



Expansion plans have reduced the size of individual garden plots, so committee chairman DeWitt Patterson and his wife Charlotte use a giant tape measure to ensure that the plots are accurately measured.

Creighton Center's Hostess with the Mostest

By Frances Kolarek

Friday afternoons on Creighton's Center's Level 2 are festive occasions thanks to the talent and energy of Mary Ellen Hines and a dozen other residents. Freely admitting that they are "Not Quite Ready for Broadway"--the name of their songbook--the group entertains Level 2 residents in a session of songs, dances and, occasionally, funny sayings.

Mary Ellen stepped in to lead this activity when Ken Muldoon, its originator, took ill. Chuck Dell lends his voice along with Keith Raney, Mary Price, Martha Cox and Bob Aylward, as Virginia Colony accompanies on the piano.

Randy Walker, dubbed "poet laureate," recites from memory. Others who help add to the gaiety are Ruth Coale-Turner, Emily Baker, Jean Maxey and Grace Weinstein.

Once a month Mary Ellen, as the Hospitality Committee member for Level 2, lays out a "tea party" especially tailored to the tastes of her guests which run to cookies and punch.

Always on the lookout for variety to spice things up, Mary Ellen combed the area for a clown and learned that \$150 a performance is the going rate. Then, by chance, she found sitting behind her at Hope Presbyterian Church, a volunteer

clown who in striped suit, red nose and frightwig came to Collington for lunch and later gave the Level 2 crowd a special performance.

Mary Ellen is a member of the Collington Singers, and attends services at Hope because of its excellent 15-member choir.

Her association with the Interfaith Chapel committee--she schedules lay readers and plays hymns every fifth Tuesday at the Episcopal Eucharist service-- keeps her feet on the path she has followed her whole life--church work. Her five children were all baptised

at St. Luke's Episcopal Church not far from the famous Cloverly hardware store (see *The Collingtonian*, June 1994) which the family recently sold.

She stepped in a year or more ago to fill the late Irving Dow's shoes at the Friday night Trivial Pursuit game, and you will find her on Thursday evenings helping out at the Bingo. She is a member



Can we keep her after she's seen Paree?
You bet!

of Mary Agnes Heinze's book reading group, and the two women are now used to having us mix them up with each other. "When I get a phone call for Mr. Heinze," she says, "I know who it's for."

As *The Collingtonian* goes to press, Mary Ellen is in France visiting her daughter who lives in a Paris suburb. She says, "You can see the Eiffel Tower from her windows!" It is her first trip abroad and she is accompanied by Mary Ann Pellerin. Bon Voyage, ladies.

Newcomers with Old Ties to Collington

By Dorothy Brown

Moira and Herbert Nelson moved into Cottage 1002 this year, but their association with Collington goes back 14 years.

Their daughter, Sandra Charles, joined the Board of Directors in 1986. Having served three terms as president, she is now vice president, health policy chairman, and a board member of Collington Care Services and the Collington Foundation.

Moira Nelson's 98-year-old mother, Alma Pollack, has been a resident of the Creighton Center for the past three years.

Born in Jamaica, West Indies, Herbert and Moira met when he directed the choir and she played the organ in the same church. They married in 1950.

For 28 years, Herbert was a member of the Jamaica Military Band, founded more than 150 years ago. A string bass player, he received the British Empire Medal for Civil Duty in the New Year's Honours Awards of 1965.

In 1967, Moira came to New York to pursue her lifelong ambition of a career in nursing. She began as a nurse's aide, and while raising eight children, qualified as a practical nurse in 1972. Meanwhile Herbert was employed first as a security officer in a department store and later as a methadone counselor in a Brooklyn hospital.

Moira received her degree as a registered nurse from Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn in 1928, the same year Sandra was awarded a medical degree from Howard University. They attended each other's graduation exercises.

With a specialty in occupational medi-

cine, Sandra is employed by the Library of Congress. She and her husband, a dental surgeon, live in nearby Woodmore with their four children.

Following Herbert's retirement, the Nelsons moved to Prince George's County in 1987. They have 20 grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Counting Moira's mother, that adds up to five generations.

An Oasis of Tranquility

Verna Dozier's room in Collington's Creighton center is her retreat where she is surrounded by "things that have meaning for me," she says; things that reflect her life in miniature.

Verna thinks of herself as a teacher-- a teacher of English in the District of Columbia public school system and a teacher of Biblical history to all who would hear. Her book shelves are filled with volumes that reflect her interest in the black experience, subject of many pictures on her walls. One group of eight, in particular, by artist Jefferson Rogers, all collected by her late sister Lois, show scenes of life in Africa, in urban African-American communities and finally, the unrest that followed Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination.

But what greets the eye like a rising sun is Verna's yellow-covered chair and the bright yellow oil painting on the opposite wall done by a fellow-teacher, Beverly Donnenfeld.

Since the death of her sister over a year ago and the decline of her own health, Verna has not been out into the world very much. But her friends come to see her.

F.K.

Our Own Katherine the Great

By Layne Beaty

There is a lot more to Katherine Kendall than being Scottish, writing an important book and traveling worldwide. (See March Collingtonian, "Our Global Scottish Lassie," by Edward Behr.)



Our neighbor, Katherine

She was our featured "Know your Neighbor" speaker in April when she described in entertaining detail her attraction to social service work and her move up the ladder to a

much-honored career in the international aspects of that field. Now, she has plans for more international travel in connection with her lifetime official honoree status. No one was surprised that there were standees in the filled auditorium.

She mentioned that her father in 1913 emigrated from Scotland to Canada for a land grant near Edmonton, but after various distractions of World War I decided to settle the family in Chicago instead. "Oil was discovered in Alberta and had I stayed there, I might now be loaded with Canadian dollars, but I have no regrets at all," she said.

She shared the lectern with a visiting long-time friend and associate, Sattereh Farmaan-Farmaian, authoress and veteran of social services in her native Iran. She

spoke of her experiences during the Iranian revolution and drastic changes imposed on life there by the Ayatollah Khomeini and of his cancellation of birth control programs and other social services, and of the later restorations of some of the programs.

Complimented later on the evening presentation, Katherine responded, "It was fun doing it." It was, too.

No Red Suspenders, Either

Kathy Tizol, our fitness trainer, is also a full-fledged volunteer fire fighter. Along with some ten other women she is a member of the West Lanham Hills Volunteer Fire Company, and she spends a couple of evenings a week there, waiting to answer a call.

All fire fighters take a course in CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation), learning how to revive heart attack victims and administer first aid at an accident. Techniques involve the proper method of applying chest pressure, but old mouth-to-mouth resuscitation methods have been replaced by a mechanical mask that does the job.

Each man and woman in the company wears a regulation fire-fighter's suit consisting of pants, coat, boots, hood, helmet and gloves. While not as heavy as Carrie Fein's thirty pound hiking back pack, it's still a weighty outfit.

We asked Cathy if she slid down a pole at the firehouse. "No," she said. "No poles. And no dog. We had a Dalmatian once, but there was nobody around all the time to take care of it." F.K.

A Committee Faithful to its Mission

By Dorothy Brown

Collington's Interfaith Chapel is aptly named. In keeping with the Chapel Committee's Statement of Purpose, the room "serves all residents and staff as a center for meditation, spiritual renewal, and services of worship based on an interfaith concept."

Services are held every Sunday at 4 p.m. Committee member Ardyce Asire invites clergymen of many denominations to officiate on the second and fourth Sundays. Services on the remaining Sundays are conducted by Elder James E. Lewis and his wife, Carolyn, of His Image, a non-denominational ministry. Elder Lewis' mother, Bessie Lewis, is a resident of the Creighton Center.

Father Michael King of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Largo conducts mass in the chapel at 10 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. Gertrude Wallace is the contact for these services and for the Catholic Mass on Christmas Eve.

Maribeth Walsh, Social Services director, brings Episcopal clergymen from the area for the weekly Eucharist on Tuesdays at 10, followed by a short service in the Creighton Center.

Bob Browning is the contact for a Thanksgiving Eve service.

Use of the interfaith chapel is especially heavy in December. Ruth Coale-Turner coordinates the Chanukah Festival of Lights, and Bob conducts the Service of Lessons and Carols. A New Year's Eve meditation rounds out the calendar. Mary Ann Pellerin is the contact.

Bob also arranges five services in observance of Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

Residents of all faiths gather for the Passover Seder and dinner sponsored by the Chapel Committee and planned by Phyllis Sternau.

Several groups meet regularly in the interfaith chapel. Mary Ellen Hines leads the Old Fashioned Hymn Sing at 7:30 on the first Wednesday of the month and Martha Cox is the contact for Bible Study directed by the Reverend Kevin Knab of Hope Presbyterian on Thursdays at 4. On Monday mornings, Rosemary Allender of Social Services coordinates meetings of a support group on the aging, Sharing Life's Paths.

Memorial services held in the chapel and auditorium are under the supervision of Social Services. Once a year, deceased residents and staff are remembered at a special service. Mary Ann is the contact.

The interfaith chapel is increasing in demand for weddings preceding the receptions catered by Dining Services.

As part of the renovation, the existing chapel, which seats sixty, will be replaced by a room with a capacity of forty-five in the new apartment wing on the second floor. The seating can be doubled by opening a folding partition which will separate the chapel and the new Game Room.

The committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month and welcomes suggestions from residents from programs and speakers. Officers are Mary Ann Pellerin, chair and secretary; Ardyce Asire, treasurer; and Esther McCauley, altar guild chair. Bob Browning is in charge of special services.

Carrie's Trek

By Tom Street

"Whan that Aprille with his shoures sote
The droghte of Marche hath perced to the
rote...
Then longen folk to goon on pilgrimages."

Carrie Fein may not have looked at it that way, as a re-enactment of Chaucer's story of the pilgrimage to Canterbury, but it appears from the reports she is sending back that it partakes of many of the same aspects. As it is now, she writes accounts of each day's doings and mails them to her mother who posts them on the Internet. Kathy Tizol posts them on the bulletin board opposite the Fitness Center which Carrie heads when she is not off hiking for six months.

She got off to a rocky start at Springer Mountain, Georgia on March 15 with heavy rain making travel out of the question on the next day for about 20 hikers. The names of the other hikers, their so-called "handles," are imaginative, not to say bizarre. Names like "Lone Wolf," "Gecko," "Pirate," "Red Ryder" appear throughout the accounts. They are of varying ages and sexes. Carrie's handle is "Dreamer."

After her first ten-mile day, she spent the night in a motel and took the next day off, what she calls a "zero mileage" day. And so the days pass, "wake up, eat, get ready, hike, break, hike, break, hike, set up camp, sleep, repeat," as she says. On March 22 she heard "Hey, Dreamer, happy birthday!" followed by a serenade.

She offers us some things she learned on the trail: Anyone who says "It's all downhill after that mountain" is a liar. Oatmeal is not good uncooked. Positive

Mental Attitude (PMA) is everything.

On March 26 she crossed the Georgia-North Carolina State line and she and her friends celebrated the new state with wine and cigars, having celebrated the previous night, the last in Georgia, with wine, hot dogs and grapes. Chaucer would have approved.

After about 100 miles, on March 29 she notes that she is not really making the miles she had planned to on account of the cold rain, but has no regrets, "meeting tons of fun people." On April 1 she climbed up to Siler's Bald, "beautiful and unusual! My first bald." That's an open grassy area on a mountain. She also put in her first 10-plus mile day in a while.

The next day, in the rain, she slipped on wet leaves and "face planted" in the mud. "It was a beautiful landing, but I turned my ankle." She hobbled on it more than five miles till she found a hostel where she spent the night. The next day she got a ride to the Nantahala Outdoor Center, a well-known training spot for canoeing, kayaking, hiking and other outdoor recreation.

There she rented a 3-bedroom cabin with a pull out futon and a couch which she shared with eight other hikers. She says her mom asked her if she was hiking or socializing and Carrie went on to say, "Honestly, this hike, for me, is both! I want to enjoy every moment of it and if that means a zero mileage day to escape rain and hang out with good people, I'll take it. This may be the only time I get to do this, so I am going to 'roll in the roses.'"

By April 7 at Fontana Village she had covered 161.7 miles, an average of 6.7 per day.

Census Job Tests Tester's Mettle

By Dorothy Brown

When Ardyce Asire took the test for prospective Census Bureau employees in November, she had planned to work part time as an enumerator this spring. Instead, impressed by her high score, the agency persuaded her to begin working forty hours a week immediately as a recruiting assistant. Her job was to administer the test to other applicants.

"What an adjustment for this lazy retiree!" she comments.

(Lazy, she is not. A recent issue of the Gazette Community News contains a lengthy article summarizing Ardyce's many years of volunteer work.)

Putting other commitments on hold, Ardyce tested 1,200 applicants over the next three and a half months. She drove 3,000 miles to ninety test sites.

There were challenging moments. "One of the first sites I established was the Village Baptist Church in Bowie," she relates. "On the morning of the very first Saturday that I was to give a 1:30 test, the church burned down." The site was switched to the Bowie City Hall. "So from 12:30 to 1:30, I stood on the road with a CENSUS 2000 sign to catch the people who'd signed up for the test. Then I led a 'funeral procession' of ten cars from the church to the city hall."

And there were the noxious fumes. The basement floor of a fire house was being painted while Ardyce conducted tests upstairs. "The fumes made us all a bit woozy. I found myself slurring words." She learned later that some of the firemen had passed out.

On another evening at the same site, Ardyce and the takers arrived at the fire house only to discover that all the tables

and chairs were locked in a closet to which only the fire chief had the key. He was not available. So Ardyce had the test takers stand while using the stops of stacks of ceiling tiles as their writing surfaces.

Despite these crises, Ardyce said, "The whole experience is a positive memory. I met many nice people, worked from an office full of staff dedicated to the mission of the Census, and learned my way around Prince George's County's many neighborhoods."

Here at Collington, Ardyce is on the Chapel Committee and helps with Leisure Pursuit activities for Creighton Center residents. She also works as a volunteer at Woodmore Elementary School and at Prince George's Hospital Center.

After graduating from college, Ardyce joined the U.S. Air Force and served as a weather forecaster in Japan. There she met her husband, a fighter pilot who was killed in the Korean War. For twenty-one years she was employed as a biostatistician at the National Institutes of Health.

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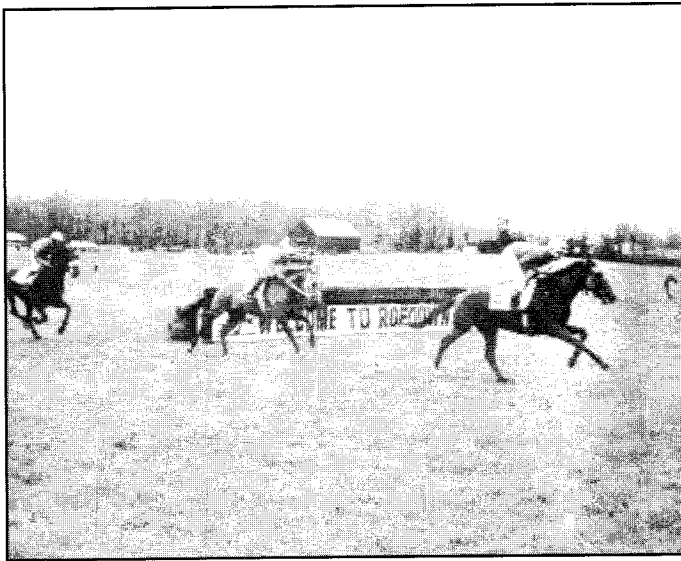
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A Day at the Steeplechase Races By Tom Street

If you go on highway 214 toward Davidsonville and turn right before you get to the main crossroad you will enter a different country, of sweeping vistas of green pastures bordered by wood fences with tall trees in the background, an occasional farm pond and sometimes a stately Georgian home on a hill. This is Maryland hunt country, familiar to Fran Meloy Klein when she was mistress of Billingsley on the Patuxent. It is also where the Twenty-Sixth Running of the Marlborough Hunt Races took place at Roedown on the first Sunday in April.

Roedown was originally part of a grant over 2,000 acres made by Lord Baltimore in 1668. According to the records, a parcel of this land, amounting to 800 acres, more or less, known as Roedown, was sold in 1670. The rector of All Hallows Church bought the property in 1742 and built the early Georgian brick house that stands on a hill on the property today. Mr. and Mrs. John M. Begg bought the property in 1945 and restored both it and the farmland, deteriorated

since the Civil War. The more than 218 acre present estate is used primarily for raising, breaking and boarding Thoroughbred horses. The course has been acclaimed as one of the best point-to-point courses in the country.

It made a brilliant scene, despite an overcast sky and passing shower, with cars and families all over the spectators' hilltop and aroma of grilling barbecue piquing the senses. A hardened urban cynic was astounded to discover no gambling and unbelievably small purses.

The *Washington Post* reported highlights of the results of the ten races in its sport section next day.

It's in the Water

The fourth Annual Regatta featuring Skipjack model races between members of the Collington Model Boat Club and the Solomons Island Model Boat Club will be sailed on our lake in the afternoon of Saturday, May 13.

This is the kickoff event for Fun-d-a-Thon 2000 and Collington residents may pledge donations to their favorite skippers. CMBC expects to enter its five boat fleet sailed by Cap'ns Bob Browning, Bill Burleigh, Charlie Trammell, George Dankers and Jack Yale at the controls of Jim MacMartin's boat. Jim expects to be in Ireland on Regatta day.

Our race official is Laretta Dankers assisted by record keeper Emily Baker. For the spectators, Carolyn Browning will provide a running commentary on the course of the race and other pertinent information. Muriel Parry, donor of the Model Boat Club cannon, will present the trophies.

Still More Books

By Edward Behr

For a second time this year the Collington library has acquired stacks of new books sure to entertain, challenge and educate readers.

No fewer than 49 books have lately been added to the collection--11 mysteries, 20 other novels, eight biographies, five histories and a few others. There are big-name authors--people like Susan Sontag, E. L. Doctorow, Dick Francis, John Updike and Salman Rushdie--and there are others almost unheard of.

Among mysteries an inevitable choice was *The Brethren* by the ever-popular John Grisham. It has topped the hardcover bestseller list for eight straight weeks. The book tells a tale of three imprisoned judges who cause trouble for the CIA.

Another mystery fast winner readers is *Lavender Lies* by Susan Willig Albert, one of the China Bayles series. It's billed as describing "secrets best left six feet under."

Then there's the final book in the Detective Morse series, *The Remorseful Day* by Britain's Colin Dexter. Morse, who does the London Times crossword every day in 10 minutes or less, is the thinking man's sleuth; appropriately enough, the setting is Oxford.

A different brand of fiction is *The Cider House Rules* by John Irving, a prize-winner. It tells of "a teenage orphan who tries to flee the only life and home he knows." Last year it became a top movie; Sean Connery won an Oscar for best supporting actor.

Also winning readers is *In America* by the versatile and prolific Susan Sontag. It's a fictionalized biography of a real-

life Polish actress who came to the U.S. in the 1880s and bowled over theatergoers with her talent, beauty and charisma.

Don't overlook other new novels by established names. Among them: *Undue Influence* by Anita Brookner, *Fortune's Hand* by Belva Plain, *Timeline* by Michael Crichton, *City of God* by E.L. Doctorow, *Evensong* by Gail Godwin and *Heavy Water* by Martin Amis.

Many readers will surely devour their favorites among the new biographies. Two of these celebrate the lives of opera stars: *Marian Anderson* by Allan Keiler and John Vickers, *A Hero's Life* by Jeanie Williams. Two others focus on top political names: *Hillary's Choice* by Gail Sheehy and *Edward M. Kennedy* by Adam Clymer of the New York Times.

A dual autobiography recounts the life stories of the TV news personalities Cokie and Steve Roberts. The book has ranked fifth on the *Washington Post's* bestseller list for non fiction.

A far different life story is told in *Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire* by Britain's Amanda Foreman. It's described as "a rollicking, delectable account of the life and times of the 18th-century political power broker and doyenne of high society." Miss Foreman seems well suited for this biographical task; she is a blonde beauty who has been dubbed "the luscious historian" by the British press.

As for straight history, the top choice may well be *Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II*; it won the Pulitzer Prize for general nonfiction. But four other attractive histories are vying for attention.

That's not all. Several new books of science, philosophy and nature also await readers. Take a look.

It Was Our Third

This year's Elderhostel, co-hosted by Collington and Prince George's Community College, attracted visitors from as far away as the State of Washington and as nearby as Laurel, who signed up for a "Trip Around the World in a Week."

A tour of Washington's monuments by night kicked off the events on April 2. Under the wing of Mark Croatti, of the college faculty, visits to the Embassies of Japan, the Netherlands and Colombia, and trips to the National Gallery of Art and the Freer Gallery came in the days that followed. The theme this year was flowers, as in cherry blossoms, tulips and the tons of cut flowers Colombia exports to florists all over the world.

Our dinner menus included some dishes native to the three countries. Judy Reilly, our leisure services coordinator, provided transportation for the travelers who were housed at a nearby hotel. F.K.

"An Artistic Discovery"

Congressman Albert R. Wynn will present awards to winning artists from area high schools here on Sunday, May 7. The work by students from 20 high schools in the Fourth Congressional district will be hung and judged earlier in the week.

The show is part of the annual Congressional High School Arts competition and the winning work will hang in a corridor of the Capitol.

Ian Brown of the Collington Foundation arranged for us to participate in this event of great importance to youngsters with artistic aspirations. F.K.

100 Years! So What?

By Anne Cadman-Walker

She's a 10-year resident who will be 99 on December 17. She's Ann Brewer. She adds that to be 99 will be 'creative' although, "I had nothing to do with it. But to be 100 does not seem very original. It does not interest me."

A geology major who graduated from Bryn Mawr in 1923, she pursued a career in social work. In time, she became enthralled with a hobby, fly fishing, and was active in the Women's League of Fly Fisherwomen. "I've done fly fishing all over the world," she noted, adding that "it is beautiful to see the line go up against the sky..."

However, she says that her husband, George Emerson Brewer, and their four children were the focus of her life. Her husband (who died in 1968) was a noted playwright, author of *Dark Victory*, both a play featuring Tallulah Bankhead and a movie starring Bette Davis. The Brewers lived for many years in New York City. Both traveled extensively and promoted environmental projects.

"I loved New York, still do," she says, "and I also loved the Adirondacks where we had a cottage. I still go up every summer and many times my daughter, Ann, or others of my children or grandchildren join me."

"However, I had a maid for 30 years who said she would not retire until I did! We were both in our eighties. One day I picked up a catalog and read about Collington and said that's where I was going."

"Mom, you're crazy," the children said. "But here I am. And the maid did retire! And that all happened ten years ago!"

Our Tax Heroes

By Edward Behr

Income-tax season has come and gone and many Collington residents owe a resounding chorus of thanks to our own tax preparers.

These unselfish men are now five in number--John Jay, Roger Dixon, Ernest Jennes, Art Longacre and, starting just this year, Walter Sharp.

In the tax season just past, these heroes have helped almost 90 Collington residents to make their annual peace with the Internal Revenue Service and the State of Maryland. But that's not all. For 11 weeks they toiled often several times a week to area libraries to help some 180 taxpayers who live outside Collington.

"You have to have that spark of insanity," says Walter Sharp. But, adds Ernie Jennes, "it warms your heart" to be able to help those in need of such help.

They started their annual chores last October, attending a series of updating training sessions run here at Collington by the accountant Terry Reinhart. This is a training program for the entire county but it's sponsored by Collington. In all, as many as 60 volunteer tax assistants take the three-month course and pass an exam in order to qualify to serve.

Most of the returns they handle for people outside Collington are relatively simple. But here at Collington, residents' financial complications can make the tax job a real workout.

Collington residents, in return for such help, generally make a volunteer donation, not to the preparers, but to the residents association or the Fellowship Fund.

Lewis and Clark? No, Jackson and Longacre

Two of our most active residents, Faith Jackson and Art Longacre, couldn't find enough to do despite serving on multiple committees, gardening, doing other people's tax returns, directing home talent programs, traveling abroad, writing pieces for the *Collingtonian*, writing and delivering speeches in Florida, etc.

So they fought off boredom by exploring, in thirteen different hikes, the entire length of our Western Branch from its beginnings at Collington's eastern boundary, to where it joins the Patuxent River, 20 miles or so downstream, near Billingsley, our colonial mansion where our Frances Meloy Klein for years was the chatelaine. (Remember our big party there?)



Where the branch meets the river.

Faith and Art have written a thrilling and detailed saga of their sometimes soggy safari which we plan to make available to our adventure-minded and geography-aware readers in later issues of *The Collingtonian*.

The Wicked Flea



A prayer for our time? "God, grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked, the fortune to run into the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference."

We have overlooked the news that Bob Browning has a new harmonica. It's a gift from the group that stages the weekly events on the second floor of Creighton Center, thanks for the occasional tootlings.

Our thanks to Kay Shaw for informing us that geese do not fly in "skeins" like ducks, as we had said last month that they did. Now, should we notify *Webster*, *Random House* and *The American Heritage*?

Elsie Seetoo, who walked across a large part of China, will be the speaker at the "Know Your Neighbor" session on May 12.

Two groups of Nancy Enright's dance students, with a wide range of ages, delighted celebrants at the April birthday party sponsored by residents of the 3100 cluster. The groups had performed at the Christmas party also, but not on the main staging area, and were missed by many of us.

"SUPERCALIFRAGELISTICEXPIALIDOSIOUS" was one of the familiar ditties a group of about 20 ladies called "The Bo-

wie Sounds of Music" sang for us on a recent Sunday evening of Broadway tunes. That one, of course, is from *Mary Poppins*. The concert was one of 224 arranged by our Music Committee since 1990. Harriet Simons is chairman.

Why are so many girls named for the pleasant months of spring and so many boys named for the hot days of summer, but nearly none for the harsh cold ones. Hard to figure, isn't it?

Collington has begun to advertise its delights in some of the local media with the aim of attracting more young, vigorous residents to augment those who came on board a decade ago and may now feel a tad sedentary. Also, to occupy some of those planned new living quarters. Certainly, the time to join a retirement community is before you really need it.

Residents here are watching carefully the proposals and plans for development of the area centered on our nearby intersection of Lottsford Road with highway 202. Edward Behr of *The Collingtonian* staff is our eye on those proceedings. Recently announced plans to transform the existing US Air Arena into a shopping and entertainment center may alter the direction of some other planned building.

Some residents prefer to watch our movies in Channel 10, but the screening of "The King and I" recently drew a respectable live audience of the faithful.