



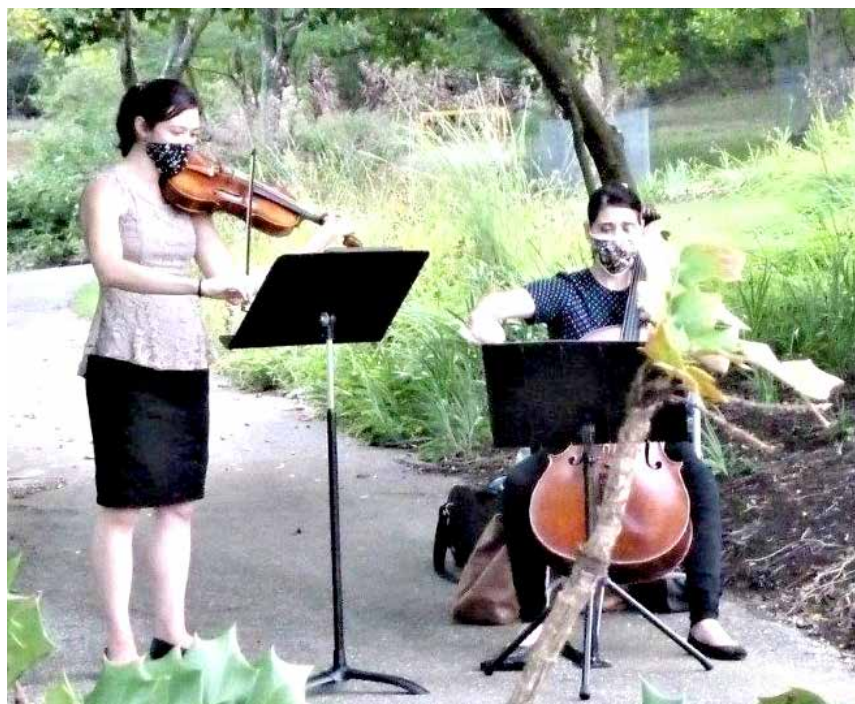
## COVID Can't Stop the Music

by George Newman

When Tonya Burton and Syneva Colle signed up to become musicians in residence at Collington, in the pre-COVID era, they expected they would be playing before capacity audiences and enjoying meals and social evenings with residents.

Instead, Tonya and Syneva (rhymes with “Geneva”) arrived at a time of social distancing and closed dining spaces. That has not quenched their enthusiasm for their new surroundings and new neighbors. Nor has it stopped them from bringing live music to our campus, even if in-person audiences are limited.

Tonya, who plays the viola, and Syneva, a cellist, represent the fourth set of graduate-student musicians spending a year at Collington under an



*Tonya and Syneva by the lake. Photo by Marian Fuchs.*

arrangement with the University of Maryland’s School of Music. Both are pursuing doctorates at Maryland.

Their initial impressions of Collington? “I love it,” Tonya said. “I love the pace of life. I love that people aren’t on their phones when you’re talking to them.”

They also believe they are more fortunate than the countless performers who have lost their audiences and their livelihoods in the pandemic.

“When we got here, we were so grateful to have a reason to perform.” Tonya said. “Playing outdoors is great.”

Syneva added that although they don’t get academic credit for their work at Collington, they

Music from p. 1

get invaluable experience. “When we did our welcome concert here, there was so many logistics. It almost felt as though actually playing was the least of my considerations that day. We had a small socially distanced audience of 10. Welcoming them, talking to them afterwards, I just started to realize that all of these are skills that I need to develop as a professional musician.”

Both musicians have extensive academic and practical experience. Syneva, who is from Nashville, has been teaching as well as performing and is not only a cellist but also an accomplished pianist. She has a bachelor’s in music from the University of Tulsa and a master’s from Middle Tennessee State University. She was a member of the Signature Symphony of Tulsa from 2005-2007 and performed at the Adriatic Chamber Music Festival in Termoli, Italy.

Tonya, from Houston, received a master’s degree from Rice University after attaining a bachelor’s at the Cleveland Institute of Music. She has been a member of the chamber music group KINETIC, and has participated in the Perlman Music Program, Talis Festival and Heifetz International Music Institute.

The Collington Musicians in Residence program dates from 2017, when resident Mary McCutchan, a graduate of Baltimore’s Peabody Conservatory of Music, read about a Peabody program to send students to a Baltimore retirement community. Collington’s CEO at the time, Marvell Adams, approached UMd, and the Collington program began that fall.

The program has been featured in the New York Times and was the subject of a segment on NBC’s Today show. More important, it has



*In concert at the 2200 cluster. Photo by Ruth Ann Hess.*

enriched our lives at Collington. Despite the pandemic, it continues to do so.

## *The Collingtonian*

**Financed by Residents,  
Written by Residents for Residents**

10450 Lottsford Road, Mitchellville, MD 20721  
Phone: 301-925-7349

Published monthly (except July and August)  
by the Collington Residents Association, Inc.

Editor: George Newman; News Editor: Frances Kolarek.  
Proofreader: Pat Bozeman. Additional staff and contributors for this issue: Mary Bird, Mike Burke, Marian Fuchs, Jim Giese, Ruth Ann Hess, Peggy Latimer, Tiffan’e Markham, Alice Nicolson, Dorothy Yuan.

This issue and all past issues of the Collingtonian are now online at [collingtonresidents.org](http://collingtonresidents.org).

*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](mailto:collingtonian@gmail.com) or placed in the Collingtonian mailbox. All submissions are subject to editing for length, clarity and style.*

# Squeezing Lemonade from COVID Lemons

By Mary Bird

Closures, soft closures, restrictions, masks, visitors at a distance, no visitors, Instacart, curbside pickup, emergency trips only, no trips, six-foot distancing: the corona virus has turned our world on end. Still, an informal survey of Collington neighbors and friends reveals that many have found “silver linings” in the COVID-19 situation.

Barbara Anderson enjoys the increased activity out-of-doors, including time for gardening and learning and playing pickleball. Many others echoed Barbara in citing pickleball as a highlight and thanking Ann Marie Rahn for organizing the activity.

Joan Hoff had been keeping her bicycle at her daughter’s home, but brought it to Collington so she can cycle more. She seeks out flat routes within Collington and Rock Creek Park.

Helen Svensen loves getting her neighbors to play or watch games of cornhole with the equipment Collington recently placed in the clusters. She also enjoys the extra time to garden.

Starting a “sun” garden around the Comcast box behind their cottage has given Lynn Troy and Anne Chase a change from their shady cottage garden. Lynn starts each day with a smile by reading the “daily chuckle” – jokes, pictures and cartoons – e-mailed by a friend from Vermont.

Zoom has been the instrument of “silver linings” for many residents. Some have regular zoom meetings with family, friends, church, book clubs, and other groups. Charlie Harvey, for example, enjoys attending virtual church services from areas where she has lived in the past. Dave Honeyford has been able to keep up with a book club he’s belonged to for 20 years.

Some residents with specialized interests have linked with peer enthusiasts through the internet. Steve Woodbury and Ann Bauer discovered a couple of online ballad-singing communities to share songs, hear wonderful singers, and meet folks

from Brittany to Oregon. Bi-monthly discussions of selected Anthony Trollope novels, sponsored by The Trollope Society U.K., have brought Mary Bird in touch with more than 40 fellow fans of the 19<sup>th</sup> century British author.

The COVID restrictions have brought tranquility to some residents. Gary Anderson mentions “the spaciousness of the days to write, to turn inward.” He welcomes the time to take a fresh look at, and reframe, his work as a mentor for graduate students in social work and as a life coach. An on-line retreat led by Pena Chodros, who teaches Buddhist practices and cycles of life, is informing Amy Southwick’s “...unravelling of how best to use my time during and after the COVID crisis.”

The tranquility of candlelight suppers is the silver lining for George Newman and Barbara Fairchild. Perry Alers responded that “...the closure has allowed me, at 94, just to vegetate some more and catch up on my reading.” Uninterrupted time is a boon for Joey Drown, too: she has completed nine knitting projects already. Judy Collins is improving her arithmetic by doing KenKen puzzles.

A number of people welcome the swaths of uninterrupted time they can dedicate to an unfinished project or pursue a goal. Eloise Branch writes, “I always promised myself I would set aside time for meditation and prayer.” She is fulfilling this goal and says maybe that’s why the COVID restrictions aren’t frustrating for her. Margaret Bagley completed a novel she began years ago. Expect publication of *Dear Kiss* in November. Mary McCutcheon is practicing flute with a goal of becoming proficient enough to join a group.

Dave and Nancy Honeyford, who live in a cottage, have enjoyed meeting and sharing laughter with residents from the apartments when they

see Silver Lining, p.10



# *We Welcome Our New Neighbors*

## **Amy Southwick: International Teaching and Library Service**

By Mary Bird

A junior year abroad with Smith College in Germany was life-changing for Amy Southwick.



She was born in New Jersey but didn't like suburbia. Hamburg, on the other hand, even as it struggled to rebuild from World War II, was an international city with efficient public transportation and a no-waste lifestyle, including recycling. Amy revelled in the access to music, museums, and travel as she spent breaks going around Central Europe and Scandinavia with other Smith students.

After graduation, Amy began work for her master's degree in library service in the summer and then returned to Germany to work as an English-teaching assistant in a West Berlin high school, which gave her an opportunity to travel into East Berlin and Czechoslovakia.

She returned to New Jersey to finish her master's degree at Rutgers, then back to Germany, Frankfurt this time, to organize the library at the international school nearby. She taught teachers as well as elementary and high school students how to use an American school library. Next, she moved to a civilian position with the U.S. Army overseeing two Post libraries in northeast Bavaria. As she arrived the first day, the Soviet Union invaded Prague, just over the border. She immediately bought a TV to follow the events, having gotten to know a family in Prague over the Christmas holiday in 1964 and visiting them several times while at the international school.

Amy met and married another civilian working for the Army, a San Franciscan whose Czech parents had settled in California after World War I. Amy's daughter, Julia, was born in Amberg, near the Czech and East German borders. In this rural

area, borders weren't well-marked or guarded, so sometimes while sightseeing they drove into forbidden areas.

When the family returned to the States, they moved to Portland, Ore., and were astonished by the President Nixon's resignation, among the many other changes during her 10 years abroad. After separating from her husband, Amy was a user documentation librarian and technical writer for eight years with the Ohio College Library Center (OCLC) in Columbus. She wrote the first user manual for online interlibrary loans, and in 1985 moved to Richmond, Va., to become the automation consultant for the Virginia State Library's cooperative library network.

In the late 1960s, the Library of Congress had begun working with IBM to transform their cataloging, moving from printed cards filed in physical catalogs to automated online cataloging, ultimately creating detailed coding in-house to mimic printed catalog cards and making shared electronic cataloging possible.

In the late 1980s, Amy moved to Arlington, Va., commuting to a position as automation systems analyst at the Library of Congress. During the tenure of Dr. James H. Billington, a Russia expert, as Librarian of Congress, George Soros established a program to bring East Bloc librarians to study in the U.S. Amy, with her facility in German, was involved in a reciprocal tour in Central European national libraries in 1991 and returned to Prague for a sabbatical in 1999.

She retired in 2000 and moved with her second husband, who had Parkinson's disease, to northern California. Together, they travelled extensively as long as he was able to do so. She experienced the wildfires in Santa Rosa in 2017 and again last fall, just before moving to Collington to be closer to her daughter in Arlington.

Amy's father's ancestors had Quaker roots going back to the 1630s when they immigrated to the Massachusetts colony. As Quaker sympathizers, they were exiled for hosted visiting English Quakers and starved to death on Shelter Island, so named because Catholics there gave

them refuge. Though long curious from meeting Quakers in several places, Amy didn't become a Quaker until she attended the Friends meeting in Richmond. It immediately felt like "coming home," she says, and it has become central in her life.

Throughout Amy's life certain themes are consistent. She loves to learn and dives into the local history, civic life and issues, arts, architecture, and natural environmental issues wherever she lives. In Portland, Amy volunteered for the National Organization for Women hotline. In California, she became a certified docent at a nature preserve, the Sonoma-Petaluma State Historic Park and the Sonoma Coast State Park. Amy feels her current interests closely match her Quaker values: peace initiatives, earth care witness, anti-racism and women's equality.

### **Jeannette Jones and Terry McGuire: The Family Business – Professors**

By Peggy Latimer

Terry McGuire grew up in rural Chippewa Lake, Ohio – "next to River Styx, Ohio."

His father was a maintenance man and his mother a homemaker. Jeannette Jones grew up in many places as part of a military family.

Jeannette majored in math "and then added the experimental (neuro/cognitive) side of psychology" at Radcliffe College. She received her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from Michigan State University. Terry attended Ohio State University and received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where his dissertation was "Behavior-Genetic Analysis of *Phormia Regina*" (i.e. flies).

Jeannette's "first and permanent job" was at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J. She was the "woman hire," as she puts it. But it was at Rutgers that "I made my best friends, had the privilege of amazing students, and made an interesting professional life."

Terry began teaching at Rutgers in 1979. When he retired in 2014, he was Vice Chair of the Department of Genetics. His research has

been in the fields of "Mendelian, behavioral, and ecological genetics." He has also been involved in science education through the National Center for Science & Civic Engagement and a senior associate and core faculty member of Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities. In 2007, Rutgers appointed him a Presidential Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Fellow.

Both have published extensively in their fields.

Jeannette and Terry had previous marriages. They met at Rutgers. There is a total of five children, four from Jeannette's first marriage. And now three grandchildren. The children's careers are wide-ranging: art curator; theater executive, manager, and producer; two university science professors; and the garden business.

In 1999, Jeannette was offered a contract "to provide evidence for the proposition that flowers make people happy," although she initially thought it was a prank. It led to 20 years in a new direction, the founding of a Rutgers institute, Innovations in Sensory Science, and even an article in "Oprah." Jeannette explains, "We discovered that a wide variety of fragrances, or semiochemicals, affect many different emotions. We also discovered that humans produce effective mood semiochemicals. I can smell your happiness or fear or disgust. And so, we moved to DNA studies, biochemistry, and the amazing world of the subconscious."

For 30 years, they've played and worked in Pennsylvania's Endless Mountains, restoring a barn and land that had been depleted. It has become the extended family gathering place. After retirement, they wintered in Santa Fe for five "glorious" years. In this very different environment, they earned Master Gardener badges. Terry also became a Master Composter; and he was known as the "bug man" for the Santa Fe Master Gardeners. Jeannette joined the local weaver's guild, following her passion of many years.

see Newcomers, p.10



# Collington Celebrates ‘Food Truck Friday’

By Mike Burke

The skies were gray but the mood was bright as the Collington Foundation and the Timber Pizza company teamed up to bring fresh oven-fired pizzas to the campus on Friday, Sept. 11. More than 400 meals were provided from the truck-pulled mobile ovens, complete with surprise cannolis and complimentary beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages.

“Nothing says community like shared food,” said Foundation Chair Nadine Hathaway, a resident. The Foundation sponsored the event to celebrate the community in a year that has been dramatically altered by coronavirus-related restrictions. “We just wanted to create goodwill and community during a time of lockdown,” Nadine added.

Timber Pizza, headquartered in the Petworth section of Washington, D.C., arrived on campus early to fire up the ovens. Jerold Selikson, chief of the two five-member teams, reported that the ovens had been preheated the night before so they would be ready for hungry residents. At precisely 3 p.m., Anne and Peter Gray grabbed the first two boxes, each containing half of a medium pizza, before heading over to the dessert and beverage table. Action was non-stop until the last residents were served after 6 p.m. The event was scheduled to not interfere with the annual 9/11 remembrance program, which began at 6:30.

To facilitate distribution, the ovens moved across the 125-acre campus during the afternoon. Starting at the Clocktower parking lot, they were moved to an area across from the tennis courts and later to the 4000-district parking area. The mobile ovens offered three options: cheese, pepperoni, and the “green monster,” a pesto, zucchini and kale pie. Gluten-free pizzas were



**Foundation Chair Nadine Hathaway and Collington CEO Ann Gillespie at the “food truck” event.**  
*Photo by Tiffan’e Markham.*

also available for those on restricted diets.

Natalee Zimmerman, Collington’s activities director, facilitated delivery to people in the Creighton Center, which serves Assisted Living, Skilled Nursing Care, and Memory Care residents. Foundation Board members helped deliver pizzas to Independent Living residents who were unable to venture out.

The Collington Foundation is the philanthropic adjunct to Collington. The Foundation offers three types of financial assistance, which totaled over \$200,000 in 2019.

- General Fund grants are provided primarily for improvements to the Collington campus that are outside the scope of the capital budget. Examples from 2019 include new shelving for the Library and improvements to the pickleball court. Grants also go to community outreach, such as backpacks for local elementary students.
- Scholarships: The Collington Employee Scholarship Fund awards up to \$2,500 to employees who are furthering their studies. In addition, The Iris & Stewart Ramsey Scholarship Fund, a 2017 bequest of the former residents, is a restricted fund that offers larger tuition grants (\$5,000 to \$10,000) for employees who are pursuing graduate or undergraduate degrees in a broad range of disciplines that assist older adults.
- The Fellowship Fund was established in 1984 through a gift of \$250,000 and supplemented by annual Foundation fundraising. Designed to support racial and religious integration as well as economic diversity among residents, the fund provides economic support for residents whose financial circumstances are inadequate to meet the initial entry fee and/or monthly expenses. Recipients are kept confidential.



# For Collington Walkers: Regent Forest Trail

By Dorothy Yuan

Residents who walk along the woodland trail surrounding Collington may have wondered why there are two sets of red bricks located a few feet west of Trail marker



*The Regent Trail. Photo by Dorothy Yuan.*

sign Number 9, which marks the beginning of a track. Curious walkers who explore this track will, after about 200 feet, come upon a log seeming to block further passage.

But beyond the log, one can glimpse a leaf-covered paved trail. This is actually a Prince George's County-maintained trail that follows for about a mile adjacent to the Collington boundary. The trail leads to a boardwalk, at the other end of which it becomes part of a residential area. From here the trail continues to Oxbridge Way and in another half mile to Campus Way North.

The Regent Forest Trail runs through a forest that is mainly populated by beech, tulip poplar, and oak trees that come alive every spring in a verdant canopy that lets in only streaks of sunlight. In the summer the forest offers cool shelter from hot sun. In the fall, the relative paucity of maple trees in the forest cannot compete with the color display inside the campus but it does sport varied shades of yellow and rust. On windy days, the dense forest shields the trail from gusts

as the wind howls over the tree-tops. Best of all, the undergrowth of various ferns and occasional wild orchids is virtually free of invasive vines that plague our

own woodland trail.

Occasionally, the county Parks and Recreation department sends a team to sweep the trail to reveal its full width of 6 feet and to remove fallen debris. In 2018, Collington Weed Warriors signed a formal agreement (Friends of the Trail) with the Park Services for us to maintain the cleanliness of the trail.

Two posts mark the trailhead leading either from Campus Way North or from Oxbridge Way, but there is no indication that they lead to a trail. Thus, Regent Forest Trail is seldom used and known only by residents who live close to it. So, it seems almost to exist for our sole enjoyment. I encourage all to take advantage of this wonderful addition to the natural environment in Collington. Be aware, however, that our Sara system does not extend to the trail area but cell phone reception is excellent. Bring your phone for safety.



## Golden Crowned Kinglet

The sky was that blue unique to winter, endlessly deep and crystalline clear, like a polished sapphire. Against that cobalt expanse, a pair of noisy crows were heading toward the Clock Tower.

It was November 2019 and we were enjoying our new home at Collington: a comfortable apartment, fascinating neighbors, and the bucolic 125-acre campus. We were taking a roll-and-stroll (me in my scooter and Pat on foot), getting to know the grounds, enjoying the crisp weather, and idly looking for birds.

We were scanning the trees by the 3000 cluster when I heard a “tsii” from the trees behind us. I swung my binoculars into action and quickly found several small birds flitting about in the conifers. Carolina chickadees came into view, but another bird really caught my attention, one even smaller than the diminutive chickadees. It had a black-and-white face and yellow feather edging. I was looking at a golden crowned kinglet.

Kinglets are exceedingly small. When they hatch, they are the size of bumblebees. Full grown, they are just 3-4 inches from beak tip to tail end. Full grown, they weigh 0.2 ounces. Despite their size, these kinglets are hearty birds, regularly braving temperatures below freezing.

The golden crowned kinglet has a pale olive green back and is gray below. It has white wing bars and yellow edges to its flight feathers. The species has a short, thin black bill. A black stripe runs through the eye and is topped by a white eyebrow. Above that, thick black bars often conceal orange-gold feathers. The male raises its crest in claiming territory, during courting, and

when alarmed.

Most kinglets breed in the boreal forests of Canada every summer. Although they breed where the seasons are short, kinglets often produce two sizeable broods annually. A cup nest is built up to 60 feet high in a conifer, usually near the trunk. The clutch will consist of 3-11 eggs. When they hatch, chicks are tiny and helpless. The female continues to provide protection in the nest while the male provides food for his spouse and their offspring. As soon as the first batch fledges 16-19 days later, the female will start a second brood. The male continues to feed the young and the female for the next two weeks while the half-inch long eggs incubate. By the time they hatch, the first brood is on its own.

When cold weather sets in, these literal snowbirds head south. Typically, they spend from late October to March in the lower 48 states. In Maryland, they usually arrive in November.

Winter provides terrific opportunities to view the ducks, swans, and geese for which the Chesapeake is legendary. These wonderful waterfowl are big and often boisterous. The golden crowned kinglet offers a different kind of cold weather viewing pleasure. Its small size belies its hardiness, and the bright crest adds a delicate touch to its miniature beauty.

Sometimes it's easy to overlook the small wonders in a world of big distractions. But careful watching is often amply rewarded. The kinglet had provided just such a prize... and a memory to cherish at our new home.



*Golden crowned kinglet. © Dick Daniels, Creative Commons Share-Alike 3.0 License. Used with permission.*



# Don't Forget to Vote!

By Jim Giese

The 2020 Presidential Election is being met with excitement, hopes and trepidations throughout the country and here at Collington. Maryland voting has already begun and ends Nov. 3, election day. Don't rely on the ballot automatically coming to you as it did in the Primary Election. You must either ask for an absentee ballot, complete and return it, or vote at a polling place.

Collingtonians who requested absentee ballots should have received them by now and can complete and return them either by mail or by placing in a drop box. Residents are helping other residents to use drop boxes. You can still request an absentee ballot by completing a request form online at [www.elections.maryland.gov](http://www.elections.maryland.gov), but it will take time for you to receive a ballot and return it by Nov. 3.

Early voting is also ongoing and can be done any day of the week until Nov. 2 at designated places, the nearest being the Bowie Gymnasium, 4100 Northview Drive.

Election Day voting is from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. You can vote at any one of many polling centers in the county with the nearest being at Charles H. Flowers High School, 10001 Ardwick Ardmore Road, where our voting precinct polling place used to be (Although it's usually not required, take an ID card or your voter registration card, just in case).

This election is about more than electing a president. Voters will also choose a member of Congress and judges and vote yes or no on state and county ballot questions.

Five political parties have presidential candidates on the ballot: Republican Donald J. Trump (incumbent), Democrat Joe Biden, Libertarian Jo Jorgensen, Green Howie Gresham Hawkins and



*pixabay*

Bread and Roses (for new socialists and non-socialists) Jerome M. Segal.

The other election contest is for 4<sup>th</sup> District Congress representative, where incumbent Democratic Anthony G. Brown is running against Republican George E. McDermott.

Five judges for our county's Circuit Court 7 are up for election and face challenger Gladys Weatherspoon.

These judges are appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Maryland General Assembly but must later stand election, where they can be challenged, usually without success. There is also a yes or no vote on continuing in office Court of Special Appeals At Large Judge E. Gregory Wells.

With the governor a Republican and the legislature strongly Democratic, voters are being asked to approve an amendment to the state constitution (Question 1) to broaden the legislative powers as to increasing, decreasing or adding to the governor's proposed budget, beginning in 2024. The budget must still be balanced and the governor's proposed total expenditures left unchanged. The Maryland constitution is quite restrictive on legislative powers in budgeting.

Ballot Question 2, on allowing commercial sports betting, is the most controversial. The U.S. Supreme Court, in 2018, effectively declared that states may determine whether to allow sports and events betting. Maryland State Law makes it illegal, but 22 other states now allow it. If it is approved, the General Assembly will be authorized to pass a law allowing the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to issue licenses to offer betting "for the primary purpose of raising revenues for education." Promoted by the gam-

see Vote!, p.10

Silver Lining from p. 3

come by the Country Store, where the Honeyfords volunteer. Another way residents are getting to know their neighbors better is by regular cluster conclaves in the outdoor verandas. For her birthday, Joyce Fish received a box of “conversation starters” that spark discussion at the 1200 cluster’s get togethers.

When watching too much television was getting Ruth Hanssen down, her daughter sent her a paint-by-numbers kit. Ruth had done small pieces in the 1950s when this was the rage, but nothing since, and nothing so large. Don Collins framed the first of her three new pieces in the Collington frame shop and it now hangs in the hall outside her door.

Elizabeth Poole has revived a life-long impulse to draw and paint. The artistic talents of her mother and brother may have intimidated her. But at Collington, she’s only received encouragement: Janyce Watt and Clarita Ricketts have answered many of her questions. Susan Ireland has gone on open air sessions with Elizabeth and put her in contact with a Seattle artist for coaching.

A life-time multi-tasker, Elaine Murrell started out the closure with a “to do” list filled with decluttering and organizing projects. Then, she says, she had an “a-ha” moment and since then has refocused on “enjoying the gift of leisure time and the clear calendar that have come along with COVID-19.”

---

Vote! from p. 9

bling industry, similar past ballot questions, easily approved, authorized the state lottery and casino gambling. The problem is that the word “primarily” enables up to half the proceeds to not go to education, and other education resources can be reallocated to other purposes, so there is no guarantee education will benefit. Critics claim that is what happened when the state lottery was approved.

Prince George’s County has five bond-issue questions on the ballot. This is regularly done and routinely approved. The county has a property tax levy limit and other revenue restrictions, so it can’t over-borrow. It also maintains excellent bond ratings.

---

Newcomers from p. 5

Why Collington? Jeannette and Terry had been looking for many years, largely at Friends communities, including Kendals. But not Collington. They visited here just to check it out for a Santa Fe friend. Eventually, Cory Hall’s perfect responses to their detailed “checklist,” an ideal villa, the people, and the Ivy Bar sold them. Jeannette calls it “a very random walk.”

Because the couple arrived just two weeks before the shutdown, Jeanette commented that it’s been particularly challenging for them as new residents. Though physically isolated in Santa Fe, “we would have had the security blanket of people and places we knew well.”

As for what they are doing now and want to do: Terry is busy as head of the Garden Committee’s composting and vice chair of the Woodshop Committee. He’d like to make beer and elderberry wine again, hobbies in which he is very skilled. He’s also crafting painted bird houses and garden benches.

Jeannette is working with neighbors in organizing improvements of the grounds in the 5000s common areas and has begun helping with plans for the 5100s and the lakeside. She would like to extend her old research connecting plants and happiness to landscape and social well-being. She imagines using Collington’s strengths in diversity as a theme. She also thinks Collington might enjoy some mohair goats, guinea hens, or peacocks to help residents with landscape maintenance, “these beautiful creatures eat everything you want to be eaten.” Jeannette would also like to set up her loom here. It takes up a lot of space, however, and “it’s not a group sport.”

## Alice Nicolson on Gardening



### To Everything There is a Time

We've had a half a year – two full seasons, most of our annual growing season – trying to live our lives and do our various jobs, but handicapped by the challenge and uncertainties of a major pandemic. Now we're entering the third season, fall, which is nature's slow-down time; a folding-up of the shop, putting nutrients into storage for the dormancy ahead.

We've had lots of rain this growing season (rather too much sometimes) and the veggie gardens have yielded an abundance of produce, which gardeners have kindly shared with the rest of us via the Groaning Board. Having a garden allowed the gardeners to lead a pretty normal life once the initial panicky rush to get seeds, plants, fertilizer and tools had abated.

The freedom to work outdoors, well-distanced from others and unmasked, proved a great spirit-lifter. And of course, nothing can be finer than fresh beans, cucumbers and tomatoes eaten straight from the vine – except perhaps the exquisite taste of your own sun-warmed melon! Alas, these annual vegetables have mostly run their course, and gardeners may be planting for a late fall or winter harvest of greens, or perhaps adding some organic material or other amendments to give the soil a head start for next spring's plantings.

Those of us who have flowers in our personal gardens are starting to see a shift. Summer annuals that have bloomed steadily for months are starting to lose their luster, or perhaps their sameness has become stale over time. Suddenly,

the rich green mounds of chrysanthemums covered with bursting buds seem like just the thing to give a fresh punch to the flower bed.

Of course, gardens with colorful coleus are just coming into their prime, spreading their multicolored and patterned foliage to make a stunning crescendo which will come to an abrupt end with the first frost – unless their owners have taken a few cuttings to root and carry over into spring, when they can be planted outside again to start another year's symphony. And those gardens which contain an olio of perennials, each of which may bloom for only a few weeks, are transitioning out of late summer's offerings of lobelias, liatris and rudbeckias—and the hostas whose fading foliage still glows in the slanting rays of the afternoon sun. Now is the season of the blues of aconitum and gentian and aster, and the pinks and reds and yellows of perennial chrysanthemums.

In shrubberies around campus, some hydrangea flowers have faded to a fascinating mix of purple, pink and gray-green, while oak-leaf hydrangea foliage is showing soft fall coloring, and the sweet-spire are putting on a real show of color. Big old rose bushes are giving a magnificent fall flush of bloom, and trees are beginning to turn in what should be a very good year for fall color.

In this time when our future seems filled with uncertainties and anxiety, it is comforting to see that Mother Nature continues her rounds of changing seasonal display, unaffected by petty human squabbles. Let us all try to get outside as often as possible, absorbing the calming beauty of clouds in brilliant autumn skies and the rich dabs of color as trees and shrubs signal their imminent shutdown.



## The Lawns Fill with the Sound of Music



***Collington's arrangement with the University of Maryland music school brings us not only resident musicians but also performances by other artists affiliated with the school. On Oct. 3, residents enjoyed a concert by Arco, a 12-member string ensemble, performing at the "Broadway" walkway intersection. The surrounding lawns filled with a socially distanced crowd, above. Photo by Marian Fuchs.***



***Timber Pizza staff man the portable oven (left). Helen and John Hindinger with their pizzas (right). Photos by Tiffan'e Markham.***



***Bartender Yolanda Johnson supplied wine, beer, soft drinks, and, in a sign of the times, hand-sanitizer access. Photo by Marian Fuchs.***

---

Food Trucks from p. 6

Ann Gillespie, CEO of Collington, serves as the Foundation's President. The Board is composed of eight resident members and three outside community members.

The Foundation's "Food Truck Friday" effort was widely praised. Joyce Koch represented many when she remarked, "What a good idea to bring us all together." Jeanne Slawson chipped in, "Thanks to the Collington Foundation for an innovative, delicious way to bring everyone together. Inspired." Other residents added their praise, from "a terrific treat" to "yum!"