



Ruth Pope-Gifted Artist, Homemaker

By Carmela Woodruff
Mrs. Ruth Pope, daughter of Madame Lili Kraus, world-renowned pianist, is a distinct personality in her own right. Gifted with a lovely soprano voice, Ruth has delighted

Yancey audiences on sundry occasions. Her well-rounded local activities are varied. "I espouse the cause of Music in the Mountains and am now President of the Board of Directors", she said.

Last year, she served as President of the South Toe School P.T.A. For three years, she taught a Montessori class for local children in her home, where she also ran the Children's Clinic. She participated as a vocalist in winter Music Appreciation Classes. Accompanied by Billy Gouge, Ruth sang at this year's commencement exercises at East Yancey High School. With Eve Lynne Reeve, founder of Music in the Mountains, as her accompanist, she sang at all the Yancey County schools, within the framework of Music in the Mountains winter classes. An additional hobby of this versatile young woman is painting.

The home Dr. and Mrs. Fergus Pope share with Madame Kraus in Celso is an architectural delight and commands an unsurpassed view of the surrounding mountains. It contains works of art and treasures (some of them museum pieces) from all over the world.

Surrounded by luxury today, Ruth has experienced deep privation, hard physical work and even poverty in her girlhood and youth. The war with Japan accounted for most of her early misfortunes. Separated from their parents, who were imprisoned in two prison camps in Japan, Ruth and her brother, Michael, lived with friends in Java where, she explained, "I learned to cook with practically nothing and believe it is the best way to learn because you use your imagination and creativity to prepare nutritious and palatable dishes". Upon the Japanese occupation of Java, Ruth and Michael, aged 12 and 11, respectively, became prisoners of war, living strenuous lives, engaging in road construction work and other arduous tasks. At the end of two years, they were reunited with their parents, but all four were confined in a family prison camp in Japan, living under rigorous conditions.

The decision to study singing in Vienna was entirely Ruth's. "It was the first time I cut the umbilical cord from my parents and went out on my own." With an eye to future eventualities, she also followed a course in secretarial skills. In 1948, she enrolled at the Old Vic Theatre in London, where in addition to singing she pursued the study of drama. She continued her singing studies in Paris.

Versed in many languages, Ruth next became a translator in London, where she met Dr.

Fergus Pope, an American. Even as a young student in Paris, Ruth found shallow people distasteful and was drawn to persons with character and substance. Dr. Pope made the grade and they were subsequently married.

Describing their early married life, Ruth related "We were really poor while my husband studied at St. Bartholemew's Hospital, living on the GI Bill in London slums and renting rooms to African students." Finally, in 1964, Dr. Pope achieved his goal of working with the illustrious Dr. Albert Schweitzer in Africa. Ruth said "The children and I joined him there but if it hadn't been for my prison camp experience I could never have stood Lambarene, Gabon, Africa." Following Dr. Schweitzer's death, they were forced to leave Africa. "We were at his bedside when he died", she recalled.

The Pope family came to the United States in 1967. Dr. Pope was associated with the Mayo Clinic for the next two years. He is now Medical Director of the Yancey Primary Care Clinic in Burnsville.

To be the daughter of a world-recognized musician was not always easy, Ruth admitted. "My mother was not only famous but beautiful and adored. I was an overweight girl who considered myself just a fat butterball who couldn't find herself. Even though I loved, adored and admired my mother, there were still moments of anguish and dissatisfaction and I was generally unhappy in my own shoes." Today, that pudgy girl, Ruth, is a beautiful woman with a sylphlike figure, an outgoing warm person who exudes charm. She has a confidence and poise that come from within. With only the faintest trace of an accent, her speaking voice is well modulated and pleasant. Ruth's fragile blond beauty and femininity contrast to the dark, strong masculinity of her well-known husband. Asked if she shared her mother's enthusiasm for Mozart, she concurred but added that Back and Schubert are also her favorite composers. Despite her dainty appearance, Ruth is an avid sportswoman, skiing, swimming and playing tennis.

"A passionate rose grower" she tends her rose garden with loving care but, she explained, "I felt morally obliged to grow a vegetable garden but wage a constant battle because of my inexperience, weeds, bugs and lack of time." She is justly



Mrs. Ruth Pope

proud that she was able to produce 185 pounds of tomatoes from eight bushes last year.

A cosmopolitan woman, Ruth finds perfect contentment living in Yancey County. She stated "One of the beauties of living here is the close relationship one has with friends and neighbors. There is a reality of life here that is very hard to duplicate in any place around the world where I have lived. I am happy and proud to live here and can't envisage living anywhere else." The Papes have three children, including Clara, 14; Daniel, 12; and

Frances, 10. The two girls display musical aptitude.

Ruth Pope expresses strong convictions on the role of women. "The crisis of women's identity is acute. To my mind, marriage is still one of the best institutions devised and a woman's love and devotion to her husband do not mean that she cannot be a fulfilled person herself. If she wants to be a career woman—fine, an artist—fine, but if she wants to be a homemaker and mother, this seems to me to be perhaps the most difficult, important and fulfilling profession of all."

Social Security Questions And Answers

By D. H. Butler
Field Representative
Q. I'm 67 and my wife is 63. Our only income is a small pension I get from the last job I had. I don't get any social security checks. But I've been reading about this supplemental security income. Wouldn't we be eligible for that even though my wife is only 63?

me;ts when she's 65 or older, she'll get 100 percent of her husband's benefits rate if he never received reduced benefits before his death. If he was getting reduced benefits at the time of his death or if your mother applies before she's 65, then her monthly payments will be at a reduced rate. Any social security office will be glad to help with application and give her exact amounts.

A. You wouldn't be eligible now as a couple, unless your wife is blind or disabled. Supplemental security income payments are only for people 65 or older, or blind, or disabled, with little or no income or resources. However, you might be eligible as an individual, depending on how much other income and resources you have. If you are eligible, the amount of your payment depends on the amount of your income. You can apply for supplemental security income payments at any social security office. If you haven't already done so, you should also inquire about whether you might be eligible for social security retirement benefits.

Q. I've just finished my sophomore year at college, but I'm not sure I'll return to school in the fall. I get monthly social security payments. Should I have them stopped?

Q. My mother is a widow and, before she applies for widow's benefits, would you please explain under what circumstances a widow gets 100 percent of her husband's social security benefits. We're a little confused by this.

A. It's a good idea. Social security can continue payments up to 4 months in a vacation period to students who plan to return to school full time. Since you're not sure you'll go back to school, you should have your social security checks stopped to avoid the possibility of having to pay back some benefits. If you decide to return to school, social security can pay back benefits due you.

A. It's really very simple, if your mother applies for monthly social security pay-

Q. I am over 65 and have been receiving social security checks for several years. I am now disabled. Can I receive disability benefits too?

A. No, disability benefits are only payable to workers who became disabled before attaining age 65. At age 65 disability payments.

Mayland Technical Institute Announces Summer Classes

Non-Credit

Cake Decorating	July 10--Wednesday, 7-9 p.m.	Mildred Hartley	Room 3
Flower Arranging	July 9--Tuesday, 7-9 p.m.	Danny Erwin	Room 3
First Aid	July 9, 11--Tuesday & Thursday, 7-10 p.m.	William Hall	Conference Room
Interior Decorating	July 8, Monday, 7-9 p.m.	Frankie Cummings	Room 3
Photography	July 10--Wednesday, 7-9 p.m.	Craig Jenkins	Room 4

Adult Basic Education	July 9, 11, Tuesday & Thursday, 7-9 p.m.	Room 2
High School Equivalency Ed.	July 8, 10--Monday & Wednesday, 7-9 p.m.	Learning Lab

There will be a \$2.00 registration fee for each class. For additional information, call Mayland Technical Institute, 765-7644 or 765-7351

The Board of Trustees of Mayland Technical Institute agree that no person, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participating in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity at Mayland Technical Institute.

Light Construction
Electrical Installation
Maintenance

Accounting
Business Administration
Secretarial

Child Care Worker
Child Care Specialist

THINGS ARE POPPING AT MAYLAND TECH

GET IN ON THE ACTION! APPLY NOW FOR FALL TERM

Telephone 765-4261

Practical Nursing
Cosmetology

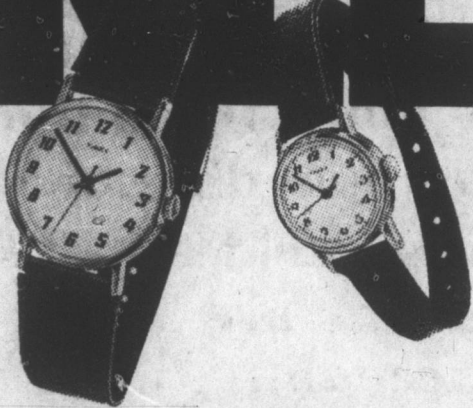
Member N.C. Community Colleges

Courses VA Approved

Office Technology
Auto Mechanics
Diesel Mechanics

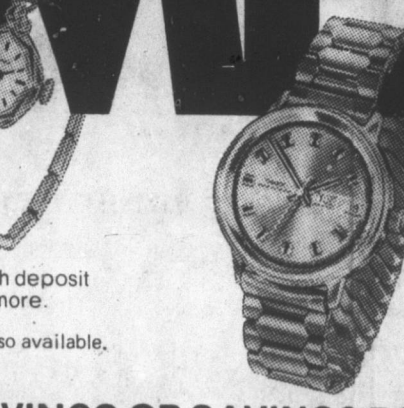
FREE TIMEX

A man's Mercury watch with sweep second hand. Free with deposit of \$500 or more.



A lady's Petite watch with sweep second hand. Free with deposit of \$500 or more.

A lady's Cavatina watch with two 8-facet diamonds and expansion bracelet. Free with deposit of \$5,000 or more.



A man's Marlin day-date calendar watch, water and dust resistant, with chrome-plated bezel, link expansion band and sweep second hand. Free with deposit of \$5,000 or more.

Other Timex models are also available.

FREE GIFT SAVINGS OR SAVINGS BOND PLANS REQUIRED AMOUNT FOR ALL PLANS: \$500 OR MORE.

RATE		EFFECTIVE ANNUAL YIELD
5%	REGULAR SAVINGS ACCOUNTS. Interest is compounded daily and automatically added to your account.	5.13%
**5½%	90-DAY PREMIUM PASSBOOK PLAN. After initial deposit, deposits may be added in any amount at any time. Interest is compounded quarterly and automatically added to your account. After initial 90 days, you may withdraw with earned interest during the first ten days of any calendar quarter, or upon 90-day written notice.	5.61%
**6%	ONE YEAR SAVINGS BONDS. Interest is compounded quarterly and automatically added to your account.	6.14%
**6½%	THIRTY-MONTH SAVINGS BONDS. Interest is compounded daily and automatically added to your account.	6.81%

**You may redeem all or part of Savings Bonds or Premium Passbook Plan before maturity upon written notice of hardship. Federal regulations require that banks impose a substantial penalty on such withdrawals, and that these withdrawals earn at regular savings rate for the period held less 90 days interest. Funds not withdrawn continue to earn full interest.

We'll give you the world's most popular watch just for doing something for yourself. These Timex watches are both handsome and durable. Open or add to one of our high-yield savings* or savings bond plans described with \$500 or more and select from the watches shown above left. Or you may select a Welby electric digital clock. Deposit \$5,000 or more and select your free watch from the even finer watches shown above right. Or you may select an Edison electric digital alarm clock. All watches are covered by the famous Timex one year guarantee. Only one watch or clock per customer, please.

Please note: Because our supply of Timex watches is limited, this offer may be withdrawn without notice.

*Free gift earning deposits to a regular savings account must remain on deposit for a minimum of three months from date of deposit.

During Money-Moving Time to First-Citizens Bank.