

# Mrs. Crump, now 100, will be here in spirit

Several months after celebrating her 100th birthday, former children's librarian Mrs. Florence Crump is resting comfortably at The Meadows Nursing Center.

The library has been her life. She was the children's librarian until her retirement at age 70 and chairman of "Mrs. Crump's Book Booth" until health problems forced her to step aside three years ago.

Her protegee, Bennie Matchett, has named Mrs. Crump book booth chairman emeritus and kept her name on the booth. "If it weren't for Mrs. Crump, the book booth wouldn't be so successful," Mrs. Matchett said. "She was a wonderful teacher."

Mrs. Crump is unofficially known as "the first lady of the library" because of her love of children and books and her willingness to help out wherever needed. When the library moved to its new quarters a decade ago, she got up at 6 a.m. every morning to bake fresh cookies for the army of volunteers who came to help.

No job was beneath her dignity, for she loved the library and all who used it. Many adults now working at the auction remember childhood visits to the children's library, where Mrs. Crump recommended books which she thought might interest or challenge them. They remember her ready smile and the twinkle in her eye when she

talked with them. Although Mrs. Crump is unable to attend the auction, her spirit lives on in the neatly lettered wooden sign on the front of her book booth and the many memories shared by her friends at the library and in the community.

POST PHOTO: CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

**MRS. FLORENCE CRUMP, former children's librarian and founder of the book booth, was a fixture at the auction until four years ago.**



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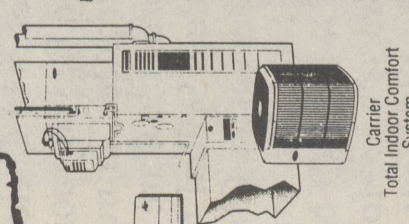
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## Odds 'n Ends

It's tough to miss the Odds 'n Ends booth - it's housed in the biggest tent at the auction.

Sybil Pelton (pictured) and her husband, Reese, and Mary George (pictured) and her husband, Peter, have organized a large selection of furniture, jewelry, knickknacks, toys, luggage, lamps and small appliances in working condition - just what's needed to set up that first apartment, dormitory room or summer cottage.

Numerous volunteers from the community and friends from the Back Mountain Jaycees will help set up and work the days of the auction.



POST PHOTO: CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

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