

Crispell

(continued from page 1)

and his face has room for a lot more lines. Summing up, his general condition for that many years on this planet (remember, 86!) is not just excellent it's miraculous. His sense of humor still works too.

Harry was born on March 22, 1909 in Forty Fort. The family moved to Beaumont and Harry moved to his present home on Fairground Road so far back the date is fuzzy, but he knows they've been on the road through its four name changes.

Crispells are scattered all over the Back Mountain, like cousins Claude, Earl, Lester and Kenny. Most are, or were, long-lived. Lester at 82 would be farming still if his barn and equipment weren't destroyed by a fire several years ago. Harry's two sisters, were in their 80's; Minnie saw fit to leave 15 offspring behind. Harry's Dad, a Beaumont farmer, also had a team of horses which delivered coal from the Pettebone breaker for D.W. Davis. He too, was "up in years" when he passed on.

Nephew Ken Crispell of Ken's Garage in Luzerne says, "Don't be surprised about anything you hear when it comes to Crispells. It's in their blood." Harry's Uncle Albert of Levittown says, "The only word for Harry is 'amazing'." Dr. Albert, 40 years in education, is 77 himself, and founder of the school-house museum at Harveys Lake. He does not believe however, that pack-a-day is in any way responsible for Harry's continued good health. He too thinks "it's in the blood."

Harry met his present wife, formerly Helen Wancho, at a farmer dance only 14 years ago when she attended with her sister and two cousins. (His first wife left him early during World War II to work in the shipyards and never returned. He did not appear to be broken up over this.) Harry himself had a draft deferment and had started at the Northeastern Bank as a window washer, eventually rising to chief maintenance superintendent.

"He's jump-started hundreds, winter or summer, rain or shine."

Mike Kelly
Co-worker at Back Mountain Auto

Some job overlapping in Harry's career makes it difficult to pin down dates, but a parade of employers is clear. When he left the bank he worked for each of these owners in turn at the ESSO station on Rt. 309, now housing the new Orloski's: Clyde Birth; Jack Downey Sr.; Jack Downey, Jr.; Bill Spurlin and his son, Dave Spurlin, Harry's present employer, the Back Mountain Auto Specialists in Shavertown.

It was Dave who first suggested this feature on Harry, long overdue in his opinion. Dave says, "I could never pay him what he is worth and I could never replace him. Maybe this is thanks."



Harry Crispell, at age 86, still works every day at Back Mountain Auto Specialists. Among his duties, he runs the wrecker and takes calls to get people into their locked cars.

POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Spurlin explains with no trace of awe: "This man is supposed to start at seven. He doesn't. He is always there early, six days a week. He opens up. He makes coffee. He changes tires and he fixes tires. He picks up customers, or drives them home. And then there is the wrecker. That, you won't believe."

"You see," Spurlin goes on, "We are the AAA rep and get about 200 calls per month. At least a third are answered by Harry, who can winch you out of a ditch if necessary. And we get 15 calls a week from people who have locked themselves out of their cars. Harry gets them unlocked."

By a coincidence, realtor and cousin Mary Crispell locked herself out and Harry rescued her. She says, "He's only a distant cousin but a kinder, more helpful gentleman doesn't exist."

Spurlin can recall only one case of a sort of sick leave for Harry. He had picked up a severe infection

requiring hospitalization and was in over the weekend. On Sunday he badgered the attending doctor to let him go home Monday so he could get back to work.

The "BMAS" mechanics almost take Harry for granted, but if questioned, their respect shows. Mike Kelly says, "There isn't much about a disabled car Harry can't fix. He's jump-started hundreds, winter or summer, rain or shine. I'm not sure I could do what he does at his age...heck I'd like to retire at 40!"

Some of Harry's friends and contemporaries have thinned out while he is still going strong. He had an agreement with one, Dick Disque, from the funeral home on Memorial Highway. They were to give each other "two weeks notice" and each would not go in to work when the other passed on.

Neither kept his part of the bargain. Dick gave no notice, and Harry went in to work as usual. That is quite likely to go on, and on, and on.

It's in the blood.

KT begins bagged leaf collection

Kingston Township's annual pick up of bagged leaves has been scheduled for November 6 - 17, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Residents should have leaves bagged and placed at the curbside for pick-up.

Road superintendent Robert Chamberlain asks the cooperation of residents in refraining from sweeping leaves into gutters and roadways, which block storm drains and poses a serious maintenance problem for the Road Department.

Residents are also reminded that burning of leaves requires a township burning permit. Also, no burning of leaves in gutters along roadways will be permitted because of the damage to the asphalt.

For more information call the township office at 696-3809.

First Family

(continued from page 1)

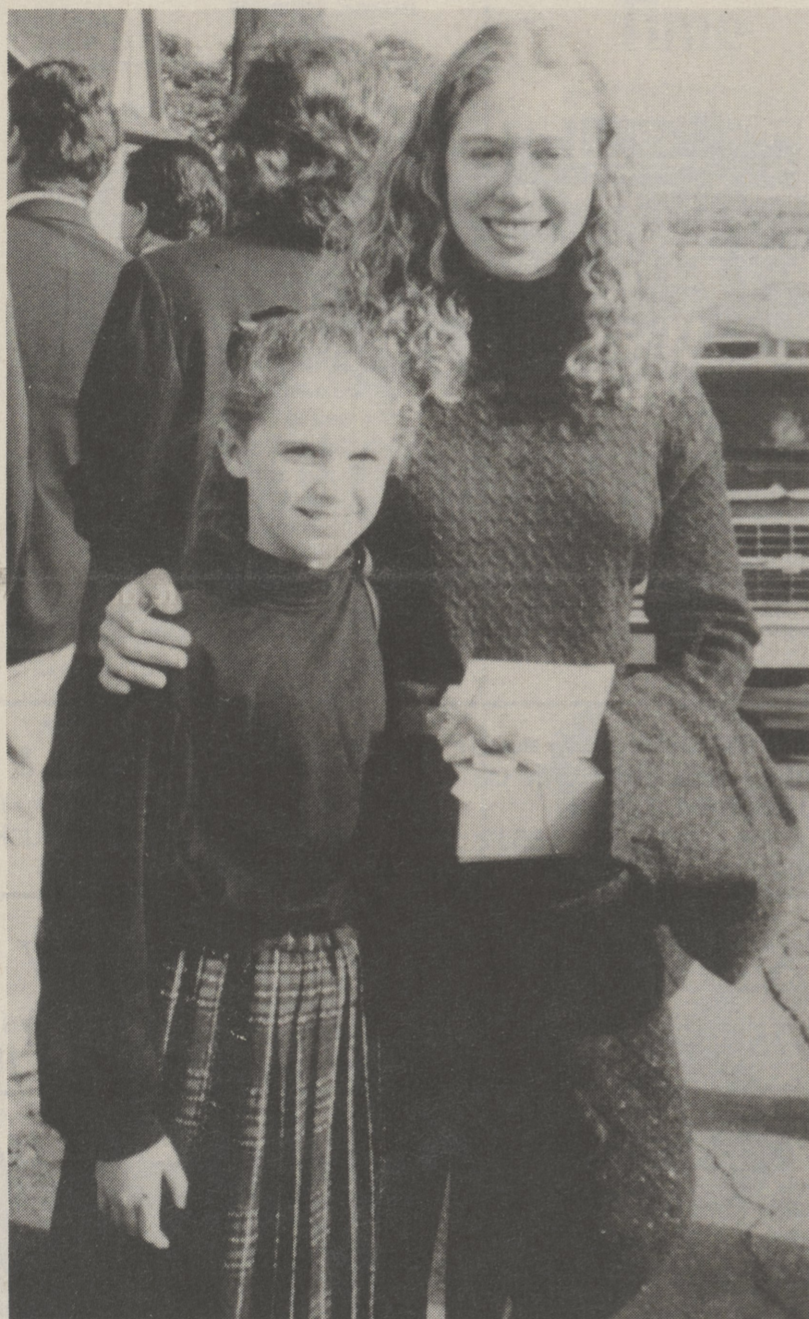
"Chelsea was very nice," Kelly said. "We stood outside the church for a few minutes, talked and had our picture taken together. She thanked me for the gift."

She hopes Chelsea will find time in her busy schedule to write to her.

Selecting the gifts was almost as much of an adventure as meeting the Clintons, Kelly said.

"Uncle Pat took me to Helen Schwartz Gifts in Scranton," she said. "Everything was made out of glass - I kept my hands in my pockets the whole time."

After the service, Kelly and Rogan joined 50 other guests invited to the home of a Rodham family friend for a small reception for the baby.



Kelly Lenahan of Dallas met the First Family when the Clintons came to Scranton for the dedication of a godchild. Kelly spoke with Chelsea Clinton, and has written to her since.

"Chelsea was very nice... She thanked me for the gift."

Kelly Lenahan
Met the Clintons in Scranton

"The Clintons had to eat fast, talk a little and run, so there wasn't much more time to visit with them," Kelly said. "Mrs. Clinton was very nice. She told me she liked my suit and it looked like one she would wear. With everything going on and so many people there, she still remembered my name every time she said something to me - and even made her limousine driver wait for her until we were finished talking together."

Describing the First Family as "regular people," Kelly said she was impressed with them.

Kelly is a "regular person" too. The daughter of Kathy and Bob Lenahan of Dallas Township, she's in Mrs. Crabtree's fifth grade at Dallas Elementary. She has two brothers, Bobby, 8, and Connor, 6, whom she occasionally gets to boss around because she's the oldest.

She plays soccer with the Scorpions, a great Back Mountain team. Her favorite position is defense, although she's done them all.

In addition to reading (especially mysteries), Kelly loves to write and draw. She hopes to write and illustrate books when she's older.

When she came home from Scranton, she immediately wrote down her impressions of the visit so she wouldn't forget them. Her mother suggested she take the paper to school to show her teacher. Later Kelly read her essay to all Ms. Reiss's social studies classes and the next day to the entire student body on the school's morning radio show.

"My fourth grade teacher, Mr. Jones, said I'll be a famous writer one day," she said smiling. "He said he wants 10 percent of my earnings when I'm a rich and famous author."

The day I met the First Family

By **KELLY LENAHAN**
Dallas Elementary School

On Sunday, Sept. 24, the President of the U.S. (Bill Clinton), his wife, Hillary and his daughter, Chelsea, came to Scranton for the dedication of Hillary's brother's son, Zachary Rodham.

The dedication was held at the Methodist Church in Scranton with a party afterward at their friend's home in the East Mountain part of Scranton. There were only 50 people invited to the church and the party. I was thrilled to be one of those invited guests. I accompanied my uncle, Attorney Patrick Rogan. He is a friend of the Rodham family.

The event started at the church. The First Family, the Rodhams and the new baby sat in the first seat. The Secret Service sat in the second, the presidential aides sat in the third and Pat and I sat in the fourth row. We were extremely lucky to get such great seats. During the Sign of Peace, the president came to me, after his family, and shook my hand.

Zachary, the baby was dedicated during the ceremony. The President and Mrs. Clinton were his godparents. Zachary's mother is Jewish and his father is Methodist. The female minister ex-

plained to the congregation why he was dedicated instead of baptized. This allows him to choose his religious faith when he is old enough to make his decision.

After the church, all of the people at the service went to a house for a small party. At the house I was very privileged to have my picture taken with the President, Mrs. Clinton and four times with Chelsea.

The Clinton family was very nice to me. They didn't act special. They were real people. They remembered my name each time they spoke to me.

As the Clintons were leaving the party to go to the airport, my uncle and I walked Mrs. Clinton down to the driveway to her limousine. The limo driver said, "We're ready to go Mrs. Clinton." She replied "Just a moment." Then she finished her conversation with Pat and me. Even though they are very busy people, the Clintons took the time to talk to each person and never seemed to be in a big hurry to finish with anyone.

While I was at the party, a lot of people said to me, "You will remember this day." I know I will remember. I will always remember the day I was privileged to meet the First Family.

College to stage Crimes of the Heart

The Theater Club at College Misericordia will present Beth Henley's comedy *Crimes of the Heart* November 3-4 and 10-11 at 8 p.m. in Walsh Auditorium. Tickets are \$5, or \$3 for students and seniors. For more information call 674-6719.

KT tax face value period ends Nov. 15

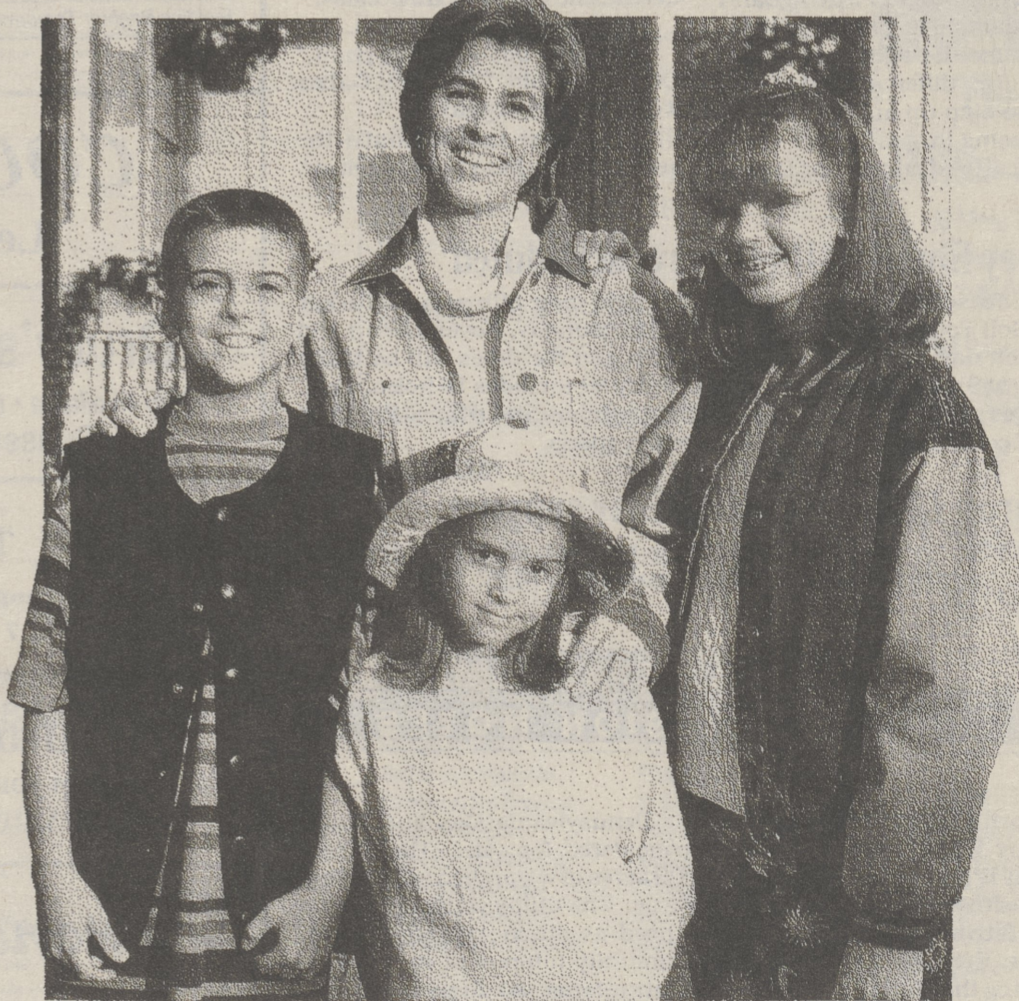
Kingston Township tax collector Janice Castellani reminds residents that face value on 1995 school tax bills will end November 15. All taxes will be due at penalty value after that date. Hours at the township office, 11 Carverton Road, Trucksville are Mon.-Wed.-Fri., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Final collections for the year will be December 15.

Phone Lines
Open 7 Days A Week

Life Improvement LoansSM

Fixing Up The House Was Always In Her Plans.
We Made Sure A Broken Furnace Didn't Change Them.



When the furnace broke, she thought all of her plans would have to be put on hold. Until she came to Mellon. We gave her a Home Equity Personal Credit Line that she could use whenever she needed. Plus, we helped her get a lower rate on her loan and savings on other bank services with our Smart AccountSM. Visit a Mellon office today or call 1 800 MELLON-2 to apply for a loan that gives you what you need.

6-MONTH SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY RATE
3.99% APR

Rate As Of 11/1/95 If Not For This Special Offer:
9.70% APR

Mellon Bank

© 1995 Mellon Bank Corporation. *Special introductory rate applies to first six full monthly cycles of new Variable Rate Home Equity Personal Credit Line accounts. Annual percentage rate after special introductory period may vary but will not exceed 25%. All rates 1/365th higher in leap years. Hazard insurance required. Title insurance may be required on lines greater than \$100,000 on a \$101,000 line would be \$908.00. Closing costs charged and estimated at: mortgage recording \$29.00; mortgage satisfaction \$19.00; appraisal \$225.00; file search \$80.00; Flood Hazard Status Verification \$19.00. Actual costs may be higher or lower. Special introductory rate will be discontinued in case of 30-day delinquency. Special introductory offer not available on interest-only accounts and may be modified or discontinued without prior notice. Mellon Bank, N.A. - Member FDIC, Northeastern Region.