

Grace

(continued from page 1)

tion in eight years," says Carolyn. Their Oak Hill neighbors have been a great help, and Grace has a companion, Ruth Roan, who comes in once a week for four hours.

But the Strakas do have their season tickets to the hockey games. "And we tell her in advance we're going because she does have some separation anxiety," says Straka. Besides that and some glaucoma, Grace Webster is a picture of good health at 101. She takes no medication, except for an appetite enhancer and some aspirin.

Grace Webster, born in Crown Point, New York, 101 years ago on August 11, 1903, has seen a lot. She lived in Albany, Utica and then in the Clearwater and Tampa, Florida areas for 20 years.

"She and my father were always very active, golfing, walking, gardening. Her secret to

long life is to keep moving and keep busy," says Straka.

She was a graduate of Albany Business College, a typist, and remembers working on a "comptometer," an early version of a calculator. She volunteered at the hospital and belonged to the women's Kiwanis affiliate.

The couple traveled to all 50 states, the Holy Land, Canada and Mexico, and Europe. "We, as a family, took a whole month off to see all the national parks one year, my father saved up his vacation time. It was an experience of a lifetime," says Straka.

Grace still loves chocolate, deviled eggs, fresh fruit, and more chocolate, "Want a bite?" she offers.

She has five grandchildren



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Lena Baur, Carolyn Straka, Ed Straka, Kevin Straka, Richelle Straka, Noelle Straka and Kevin Straka Jr. helped Grace Webster celebrate her 101st birthday last week.

now, and eight great-grandchildren, two of whom attended a party at the Strakas' house on their great-grandma's 101st birthday.

Grace gets up and heads for the couch. Asked if she can

walk, she quickly quips, "Yes, it's the only way I can get around, but I have to use the walker." Her son-in-law jokes that she doesn't handle the snow blower very well anymore, though.



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK



Hot time in Huntsville

The fourth annual Huntsville Days celebration kept folks busy in that part of the Back Mountain August 7, with a variety of activities for all ages.

In photos, clockwise from top: Alexie Metz and grandfather Skip Davis explored the nature of the beasts that were used to draw wagon rides; Caitlyn Metz had the first part of this scarecrow under control at the scarecrow making spot; the father-son team of Brian and Kyle Lewis manned the grills; Susan Pall, Jim Pall, Christine Balberchak, Shirley Nicely and Norma Wright helped sell homemade pies at the Huntsville Methodist Church; John Hudak, Lisa Baker and "Sky" Sym had the best job in Huntsville, judging the pie baking contest.



Teen

(continued from page 1)

babysitting.

There are six judging categories. The program states; "the categories provide a thorough and accurate means of selecting a well-rounded candidate for the State Titleholder." The candidate chosen for the title of Miss Teen Pennsylvania has the opportunity to compete for the National Title of Miss Teen of America.

Debra scored the highest out of 249 girls for the Scholastic Record Award. The other categories are judge's interview, poise and personality projection in formal wear, service and achievement, personal development and general awareness.

Debra's many past and present academic achievements include; the National Honor Society, honors with distinction, National Language Arts Olympiad finalist, Science Olympiad winner, President's Award for Educational Excellence and The Accelerated Reader Award. (She held the school record for 7th and 8th grade and was first in her class.)

She's in her church choir, youth group, a reader and vacation Bible school volunteer. She participates in many school clubs and sports. She is a Senior Girl Scout and donates much of her time helping those less fortunate than her any way she can.

In 2001 she donated 16 inches of her hair to Locks of Love which makes wigs for children undergoing chemotherapy. She donated another 13 inches in 2004.

Her hobbies include reading, writing poetry, babysitting and traveling. During the summer of 2000 she visited 18 national

parks during a cross-country road trip with her family.

Debra has always gotten good grades, according to her mom. "I think she got one B in her life. The one thing I can recommend is reading. Mr. Martinelli (Dallas Middle School Principal) always said, 'Kids who read get good grades.' Well I can attest to that." Debra got hooked on reading from the Nancy Drew books when she was younger.

Debra is not sure what school activities she wants to participate in this year but she knows she doesn't have time for the swim team again. "During swimming, it was really rough. I'd practice at the middle school until 6, eat dinner at 6:30, and two nights a week go to church for chime and choir practice and some nights I'd have Girl Scouts. Then I'd have to do whatever homework I had."

She hasn't decided what college she wants to attend. "I think it would be cool to go across country or even to a different nation for college. I have a list of about 30 different jobs that I want to do," she said. One of her aspirations is to run for President of the United States in the year 2024. She's interested in politics and is following the presidential campaign. "It kind of disgusts me the way they'll do anything to get elected."

She said that being in the pageant was a good experience. "It was a lot of fun. Everyone was so nice. I wasn't nervous about being on stage. I was more nervous about the interview, but when I got in there, the judges were so nice. I felt like I was talking to my friends at home," she said.



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Richard Ketchner holding Thomas, Mary, Debra, Jane and Greta Ketchner pose for a photo. Debra wears the dress she wore at the pageant, and holds her medal.

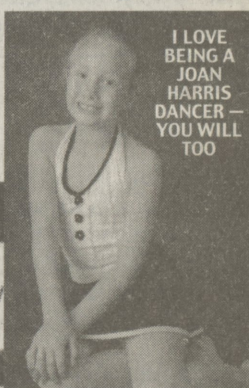
Send your news to The Post by e-mail.

thepost@leader.net

Digital photos welcome, too!

Deadline for submitted copy and photos is Wednesday at noon

JOAN HARRIS CENTRE
Twin Stacks—Dallas
674-3699



I LOVE BEING A JOAN HARRIS DANCER— YOU WILL TOO

NOW ENROLLING!!

BALLET—TAP—JAZZ—HIP HOP
A Community School With An International Reputation!
Featuring The Premiere Tap Program In The Back Mountain!

www.joanharrisdancers.com

Get more free time this summer.



All the support you need to achieve your commonsense weight loss goals is waiting for you at Curves. And for the rest of the summer, it's free.

Curves
The power to amaze yourself!

PLAINS 270-4554
HANOVER 270-5588
NANTICOKE 740-2777
LEHMAN 674-5588

Join Now
Rest of Summer
FREE

Over 7000 locations to serve you.

Leap For Learning



Trucksville Nursery School
40 Knob Hill Road
Trucksville, PA 18708

"Providing "Quality" Early Childhood Education for children ages 2 1/2 to 5 years old for over 35 years!"

Limited Openings Available!

Call Today: 696-3899

Session Times
9:30am-12:00 Noon
1:00pm-3:30pm

REALTY WORLD BROKER NETWORK
HOURIGAN REAL ESTATE

"No One will work harder or more professionally, for less drayage, to sell your home for the most money than we will." — Frank Hourigan, Proprietor

CALL US FOR A FREE MARKET ANALYSIS NOW!
"Large Enough to Serve You — Small Enough to Care."

"SERVICE IS WHAT LIFE IS ALL ABOUT!"

(570) 403-3000

14 South Mountain Blvd., Mountain Top

SATISFYING YOUR NEEDS

Your Car has More than **2,000** Working Parts. We **Cover** Every One of Them.



To find out more about our auto insurance — Call me... Stop by... Log on — it's your choice!

GORDON-SMITH Insurance Agency
Charles W. Gordon, Associate Agent
Lauren M. Smith, Agent
570-675-5234
smithL68@nationwide.com



Nationwide Insurance & Financial Services

Nationwide Is On Your Side!

Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and Affiliated Companies, Home Office: Columbus, OH 43215-2220 AS 11/00