

The Columbia News

<u>Name</u>	<u>LCCN</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
<i>Daily Columbia News</i>	86081637	5/12/1888	5/11/1923
<i>The Columbia News</i>	88080942	5/12/1923	6/19/1990

Extensive hard copy collections of the *Columbia Daily News*, the *Columbia News and Daily Spy* and *The Columbia News* are maintained by the Columbia Historical Preservation Society. These newspapers have been digitized through a partnership with LancasterHistory.org. Additional issues from other institutions have been digitized and added to make a more complete collection. They are available to researchers at the museum in word searchable PDF format.

The digital collection contains only a number of issues of the early years from 1888 to 1897. The later years from 1898 to 1990 are more complete with only some issues missing.

While the Columbia Historic Preservation Society owns the hard copy of many of the issues, we do not own the intellectual content or copyright and cannot grant or deny permission to public. The responsibility remains with the researcher for determining whether any such intellectual property rights exist and obtaining any necessary permission.

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials. Under certain conditions specified in the law, authorization is given to allow or furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is "not to be used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship, or research."

Columbia Daily News and The Columbia News History

Columbia Newspaper History, By Francis X. Reuss (from the *Columbia Herald* newspaper issues of 1906)

The first number of this paper made its appearance on May 12, 1888, being the centennial year of Columbia's Borough Charter, under the proprietorship of S.M. Paschall and Jacob Stultz, and in the small folder advertisement, an oblong 4 page circular, in size 3 ¼ x 4 ½ inches, printed in blue ink, it apologizes for its appearance on earth, in the following manner:

On the 12th day of May, the first number of the Columbia Daily News made its appearance.

Started as an experiment and being entirely dependent to the people of the town for its success, it was with a confidence in this support that it was brought out. While a very heart support has come from a large portion of the community; there is still a lacking the support of many who could by the trivial price of the subscription aid very materially in placing Columbia's daily abreast with the newspapers of other towns, and cause it to good in interest and usefulness to its readers, advertisers and citizens generally.

It is not simply as a duty to the town that we urge you to give the new enterprise your support. The paper is valuable to you for the news of the town. The news of the neighborhood, the political and foreign news.

The rates of subscription are: \$4.00 per year in advance, or 10 cents per week payable to the carrier."

The first publication office was in the old building once used as a school house; which, though slightly changed yet stands on the North West corner of Second street and Alley I., where in the older days stood William Wright's stable. The press used, was an old Country Campbell press, the power being furnished by a lever handled by a stout colored man. The old office is at present occupied by Weaver's wholesale fruit store, and the Pennsylvania Telephone exchange.

In December, of 1888, William E. Christ purchased the interest of Mr. Stultz, and the publishing firm became Crist and Paschall, and shortly after, the price of the paper was reduced from ten cents per week, to six cents per week, and its columns were increased 2 inches in length, and early in 1889, a small steam engine was purchased to replace the colored power producer, other improvements were made which gave impetus to the new daily, and like "the little peach in the orchard," it grew in wisdom and circulation. It was then a 4 page paper, 6 columns per page paper.



Daily News Staff in 1889.
Standing, left to right
Rutherford B. Fulweiler, Guy
Ferguson, Stephen M.
Paschall, William E. Crist,
Harry Smith, Henry Gundel,
Nattie Green, Samuel Brandt,
Ralph West. Sitting Joseph
Senft, Irwin D. Miller.

In the Spring of 1890, the plant was moved to 246 Locust street, which, to me, is better known as Caspar Seiberts old home, and now occupied by Wolfe's restaurant. In 1892, the partnership was again dissolved, Mr. Crist purchased the Paschall interests, and The News up till this time had been twice enlarged, and in 1893, it was again removed into their new building, erected on the site of Michael Conley's old home, now known as 326 Locust street. The old frame was razed and the present three storied brick, the first of the yellow brick fronts to be erected in Columbia, and the first issue of the News from this House, was in March of that year, and here came another enlargement, from a seven to an eight column per page issue, and the purchase of a double-cylinder Hoe press, and a Steinmetz folder was added, to facilitate handling. In August, 1904, the double cylinder press gave way to a new Duplex Angle Bar perfecting press, and to-day it is issued as a 7 column, 8 page paper, each column 20 inches long; the only 8 page paper in the county, and the only penny paper in the country issued continuously since it was established, eighteen years ago.

End of Francis X. Reuss article



Daily News Building, 326 Locust St.

On October 20, 1920, the *Columbia Daily News* bought the printing plant and good will of the rival *Daily Spy*, a morning newspaper. *The Columbia Spy* had started in 1830 as a weekly publication and in 1893 expanded to also include daily publication. After the death of John Warren Yocum on April 5, 1918, the Spy Publishing Company was incorporated, purchased the publishing plant from the J.W. Yocum estate and continued its publication, only to end a few years later.

The consolidated newspaper was printed at the Daily News building and named *The Columbia News and Daily Spy*. The following year the name was returned to the *Columbia Daily News*. With the May 12, 1923 issue the name was changed to *The Columbia News*.

CRIST FAMILY

The local history of the Crist family originates with John Martin Crist, who with his wife, Anna Catrina, came from Germany and initially settled near what is now Elizabethtown area, Lancaster County, in September 15, 1729. George H. Crist, the grandfather of William E. Crist, was born in Chambersburg, Franklin county, Pennsylvania. He began farming and in time acquired a farm of 110 acres, upon which he resided until his death. He married Miss Anna Gerhart of Franklin county, and they had a son, Samuel.

Samuel was left an orphan at the age of twelve years. He then made his home with an uncle and was given a common school education. When old enough he learned the blacksmith and coach making trade. Shortly after mastering his trade he married Miss Mary Catherine Cleverstone, and soon after moved to Decatur, Ill. They remained there two years but then returned to Greencastle, Franklin county where he engaged in the business of carriage and coach making. He died October 31, 1892, at the age of fifty-two years. His wife died December 19, 1891, at the age of forty-nine years.

William Edward Crist was born December 1, 1860 in Decatur, Ill., son of Samuel and Mary Catherine Crist. When he was an infant, the family moved to Greencastle, Franklin county. He attended school there until he was seventeen years of age. Shortly after leaving school, W.E. Crist became interested in the printing business and served as an apprenticeship with the local paper, the *Valley Echo*. He left and filled several positions in printing offices of the East including in Philadelphia and then returned to Greencastle where he spent five years in the hat and men's goods business. At that time, the editor of the *Valley Echo* became incapacitated for active work and William Crist accepted a position as manager of the *Valley Echo*.

In 1881, he married Ida, only daughter of Samuel and Nancy Smith, residents of Greencastle. They had children: three daughters, Elva S, wife of Melvon E. Parker, Nancy Catherine, wife of Glenn and Janet Smith, wife of Russell A. Adams; and two sons, Edward Nevin and Samuel Smith.

After purchasing and becoming partner in the *Columbia Daily News* in December 1888, William E. Crist moved to Columbia. He was a member of the Columbia Rotary Club, the Columbia Chamber of Commerce, the Columbia Assembly Artisans, P.B.O.E. and the Keystone Fire Company.

When William E. Crist died October 7, 1930, his widow, Ida Smith, continued publication of the paper until her death five years later, on July 29, 1935. Then their son, S. Smith Crist took over the task of publisher.

On February 2, 1942, the *Columbia Broadcaster* newspaper merged with *The Columbia News*. The *Columbia Broadcaster* was a weekly advertising paper started in 1931 by John J. Wisler, Jr., editor and publisher. The *Columbia Broadcaster* frequently covered Columbia history.

Also in February 1942, S. Smith Crist incorporated *The Columbia News*, at 326 Locust Street, Columbia.

S. SMITH CRIST

The son of William E. and Ida Catherine Smith, Samuel Smith Crist was born June 19, 1898 in Columbia. He attended Columbia High School, Mercersburg Academy and Franklin and Marshall University. For 51 years he served in various capacities with *The Columbia News*.

A lifelong resident at 341 Chestnut street he married Jeannette Bernard Crist on May 6, 1920 at Grace Lutheran church in a small ceremony. They had two daughters, Jeanne B., and Dorothy, wife of Clair P. Smith, Jr., and two sons Edward Nevin and Samuel Smith Jr.

He was a member of the Columbia Hospital board of directors for 22 years, vice president of the Columbia Central Building and Loan Assn. and a member of Columbia Lodge 1074, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks.

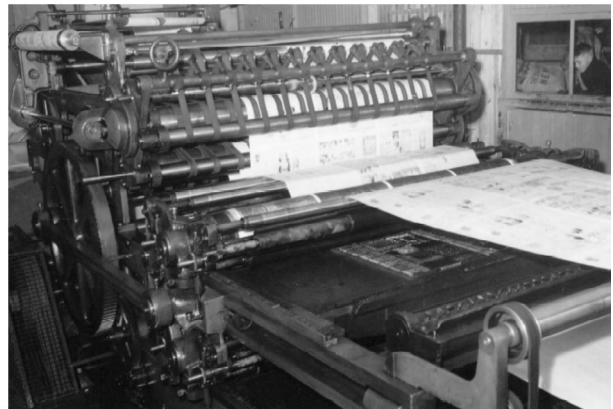
In July of 1947, the publishing plant was moved to 341 Chestnut Street into a newly constructed building. With the July 28, 1947 issue, the newspaper was printed using a new Model E Duplex press, installed in the basement. The first floor contained all supporting operations and the second floor was used for storage. The building was forty feet wide and extended from Chestnut Street to Avenue F in the rear. With 12,000 square feet of floor space, it was double that of the old location.



The Columbia News building, 341 Chestnut Street



Linotypes



Duplex Press

Effective May 19, 1962 a new Goss Suburban Offset Press was put into operation. The old linotype and press printing process were retired. This was the first newspaper offset printing in Lancaster County. The upgrade was humbly announced in a short article with an apology:

Understandably, such a major transition poses numerous problems with which we are being faced during the first issues. We are endeavoring to work out these difficulties and hope that

within a very short time we will serve our readers a much improved paper, clearer in type and increased content.

On February 1, 1965, *The Columbia News* absorbed *The Marietta Times*. Established in 1876, *The Marietta Times* was published weekly until December 10, 1964. It was published by I. R. Crork, who with his wife had assumed ownership of the paper in November of 1946. She died in 1959 and was then carried on by I. R. Crork. After the sale, he moved to New Orleans to be with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Crane Fitzwilson, who operated the Cosmopolitan Shop.

Upon the death of S. Smith Crist on August 15, 1970, his two sons, E.N. Crist and S.S. Crist Jr. took over to become the third generation of the Crist family management.

EDWARD N. CRIST

Edward Nevin "Ned" Crist was born November 22, 1921 in Columbia. He attended Columbia schools and received his Eagle Scout award in 1935. At the time, he reportedly was the youngest to earn the award.

After attending Columbia High School, he entered the US Navy during World War II. While still in the service, he was married Jean Keiper Crist on March 8, 1945. They had children: three daughters, Patricia C., wife of Gerald W. Beck, Kay L., wife of Charles Beaston, and Terry J., wife of William H. Hougendobler, Jr.

Ned Crist started his career as a newspaper carrier. He was instrumental in obtaining the first offset printing press in Lancaster County. After more than 50 years at *The Columbia News*, in 1984 he retired.

He was a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge 1074 of Columbia and the Columbia Canoe Club. He was a member of the Columbia Hospital board of directors. He died April 22, 1997.

The Columbia News remained a family owned newspaper until the Crist family sold the newspaper to the Johnstown Tribune Democrat Publishing Company in January 1987. Later that year, *The Columbia News*, was sold to the Media General News Group. In June 1990 the newspaper was discontinued, ending over 100 years of publishing.

SAMUEL S. CRIST, JR.

Samuel Smith Crist, Junior was born September 18, 1931 in Columbia. He attended Columbia schools and graduated from the Columbia High School in 1949. He served in the US Army in the Korean War.

He began his career as a carrier boy and worked his way into advertising position in March 1955. A few years later he was promoted to management and obtained title of General Manager.

In June 1958 he married Nancy Wallick. They had four daughters: Karen, wife of Jeffrey McMichael, Annette, Valerie Sherwin and April, wife of Bryan Todd Erb.

Samuel S. Crist, J., died June 15, 2018 at Lancaster General Hospital after a brief illness.

THE COLUMBIA NEWS

Digitized Issues Available

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
1888				Start	30				26-30	3-6		
1889												
1890												
1891						6						
1892	15			28		21						21
1893		24			8, 30	7, 13	21, 22, 29	12, 28	2		30	22
1894	8	3		11					22		7	
1895		8			14-31							
1896					1-8, 29			10				
1897		8				7						
1898					8-31							
1899												
1900												
1901												
1902											1-10	
1903					12-31							
1904												
1905												
1906												
1907												
1908												
1909												
1910												
1911												
1912												
1913												
1914												
1915												
1916												
1917	10-31											
1918												
1919												
1920												
1921												
1922												
1923												
1924												
1925												
1926												
1927												
1928												
1929												
1930												
1931												
1932												
1933												
1934												
1935												
1936												
1937												
1938												
1939												

date(s)

Complete Month

Available Days

No Issue Available

THE COLUMBIA NEWS

Digitized Issues Available

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
1940												
1941												
1942												
1943												
1944												
1945												
1946												
1947												
1948												
1949												
1950												
1951												
1952												
1953												
1954												
1955												
1956												
1957												
1958												
1959												
1960												
1961												
1962												
1963												
1964												
1965												
1966												
1967												
1968												
1969												
1970												
1971												
1972												
1973												
1974												
1975												
1976												
1977												
1978												
1979												
1980												
1981												
1982												
1983												
1984												
1985												
1986												
1987												
1988												
1989												
1990							End					
<div><div>date(s)</div><div><div>Complete Month</div><div>Available Days</div><div>No Issue Available</div></div></div>												