

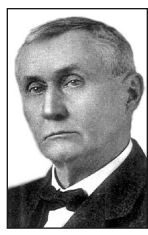
Dakotan

From Page 5A

Kingsbury became the sole owner in 1866, then sold it to Charles H. McIntyre and James S. Foster, who then sold it themselves six months later to Arthur Linn. In 1870, two more rivals opened in Yankton. *The Weekly Yankton Press*, born out of a split in the local Republican Party, was started by Kingsbury (again) and James M. Stone. That same year, the *Dakota Herald* was started as a Democratic paper by Maris Taylor and T.S. Singiser. In 1873, Stone sold his interest in the *Press* to S.V. Clevenger, and the publication then merged with the *Dakotan* to become the *Press & Dakotan* in 1873, with E.M. Brown, Clevenger and, yes, Kingsbury as the owners. The following year, gold was discovered in the Black Hills, and that opened the floodgates for western expansion (although it was technically illegal because the Black Hills was still Indian territory by treaty.) To meet the demands of the new arrivals, Kingsbury joined with Wisconsinite Wheeler S. Bowen to form *The Black*

Hiller, a daily publication. It proved so successful that Bowen and Kingsbury, operating as W.S. Bowen and Co., moved the *Press & Dakotan* to a daily publication on April 26, 1875 — and it is from that date that the newspaper's volume numbers still run today. This began an uncharacteristic period of stability for the newspaper as the wild territory became a state in 1889 and a new century arrived. In 1902, Bowen and Kingsbury sold the newspaper to David E. Lloyd, who sold the paper a year later to W.C. Lusk, who came to town in the late 1890s and purchased another local publication, the *Gazette*. From 1903-1907, the paper was known as the *Press & Dakotan-Gazette*, after which the latter tag was dropped and the newspaper became the *Press & Dakotan* for good.

Lusk owned and published the newspaper for 37 years. When he died in 1940, his son, Robert, acquired the stock. In 1944, Fred H. Monfore, who had joined the company in 1920 and became the newspaper's editor in 1940, purchased controlling interest in the company. The *Press & Dakotan* remained in the



Bowen



Lusk

Monfore family for 35 years until it was sold to Stauffer Communications of Topeka, Kan., in 1979. In 1995, the Stauffer company — including the *Press & Dakotan* — was purchased by Morris Communications of Augusta, Ga. That company owned the *P&D* until 2008, when the Yankton newspaper was one of several Morris publications sold to Gatehouse Media. In 2008, the ownership carousel came full circle as *P&D* publisher Gary Wood purchased the *Press & Dakotan*, along with the *Vermillion Plain Talk*, the *Missouri Valley Shopper* and the *Broadcaster*, under the banner of Yankton Media, Inc. Once again, the ownership was local, bucking the trend of that time. Obviously, changes are a constant at the newspaper; they are too numerous to list here. But in the last two decades, the *Press & Dakotan* has seen sweeping and noteworthy technological changes. The newspaper switched from an afternoon publication to a morning paper in 1993, then set up its Website in 1997. The paper went to all digital photography in 2004. Just this year, the *Press & Dakotan* began

Former Publisher Commends P&D

BY ADRIAN PRATT
Former P&D Publisher (1998-2000)

Sitting on the other side of the world in New Zealand, Amy and I can honestly say that we deeply miss South Dakota and the wonderful people and places we so enjoyed for almost seven years. Yankton schooled us in the wild ways of nature — I'd never before experienced anything quite like the thundersnow storm that assailed us soon after we arrived. But it also taught us about the importance of community. The kindness, concern and sheer decency of the folks we met in Yankton have stayed with us in the years since we have left.

The *Press & Dakotan* was my first opportunity to be a publisher. I would have failed horribly had it not been for the talent, dedication and loyalty of the amazing people who worked there. I can't remember how many newspaper crises we went through during my time at the *P&D* — but I do remember that none of them ever beat us, because we had people ready to come in late, work long and get the job done. We didn't always have the most modern equipment or money to spend, but we sure had the best people. And that's a South Dakota sort of thing.



Pratt

offering an online e-edition and recently expanded its video components. Oddly enough, change has been part of that straight line that has carried the newspaper from those first days in a log cabin to the 21st century. It figures to be part of

the *Press & Dakotan's* future, as well, in whatever form it delivers news and other information to its readers. In that respect, the mission has never changed from that very first day.

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Let's Celebrate Yankton's 150th Birthday!



McVay-Gurney-Stephenson home on Pine Street



Grandma Linda as Mother Goose with Grandson David



Linda & Daryl Stephenson Family

Linda Stephenson loves Yankton history! She and husband Daryl live in the historic McVay-Gurney-Stephenson home in Pine Street.

Linda and Daryl raised their family in Yankton and several of their children and grandchildren reside in the area.

Linda is the owner of Linda's Angel Crossing Crossing in Morgen Square, a specialty store featuring fashions and accessories for ladies and children. She previously owned Mother Goose, a children's store in Historic Downtown Yankton.



Linda's Angel Crossing

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