

# Memories Live On With Readers

The history of any community is really the history of its people. And that history can range from the profound to the personal, the huge moments that affected everyone to the little memories that may coax a smile or tear from those who remember it.

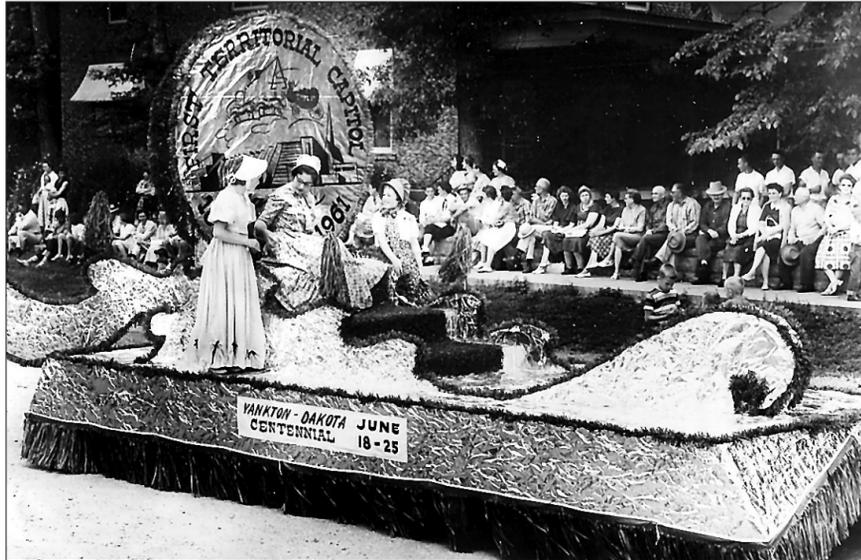
History is about big things and small things. It's about experiences and recollections that define each of us in some unique, cherished way.

For this 150th anniversary section, the Press & Dakotan asked readers to submit some of their personal recollections of life in the Yankton area. Here are some of their responses:

## RUTH BICKNELL LINDEMAN

I welcome your invitation to write about growing up in Yankton. I had such a happy childhood there. Our house was one my parents built in 1920 on the southeast corner of the intersection of Douglas Ave. and 15th street when 15th was the last north most paved street in the city. Hitchman's farm was on the northwest corner! From that point south on Douglas, however, multiple nice homes had already been established; most built, to my remembrance, by families whose male bread winners were established in the Yankton business community.

I was so advantaged to have contemporary playmates in the two houses just south of my home. It was not just proximity to them by which I was favored. The mothers were all exclusive homemakers during my childhood and there was a collegiality



From Carol Shuff Winter: "While I was in high school and attending Yankton College, I worked at the Chamber of Commerce. The Centennial celebration was held in 1961 and was a week-long celebration. There was an official centennial office on Walnut Street, south of the P&D where you could purchase many different souvenirs. Centennial coins were also available. I was actually paid in these coins one week. Everyone wore centennial clothes and many of the men had long beards. The picture of the Chamber of Commerce Centennial float was taken during one of the parades. The float traveled to many neighboring communities that summer. I am seated in the middle (part of my job was to ride on the float), with my sister on my left. I don't remember who the other young girl was."

among the households that so favored our upbringing. My daddy was a dentist; Mr. Margolin owned the Jo Ellen Ladies Ready-to-Wear, and Mr. Keating owned Keating Creamer.

My father's July neighborhood birthday celebration was in our big backyard. Mrs. Margolin always baked the cake. It was in Mrs. Keating's presence that she said to me one day: "Ruthie, I

don't think your Mother would want you to use that word." I no longer remember what the word was, but I stopped. I knew if Mrs. Keating didn't think that was a wise word to use, my mother would not either!

There was a vacant lot just north of my house which neighborhood fathers prepared for "kitten ball." Mr. Keating always pitched. My Daddy was the

catcher. Mr. Keating had the glorious ability to "call the game" like a radio announcer. That made it such fun! He pitched slow balls for us smaller players and fast balls for the bigger kids.

When I grew up and was planning my wedding, of course, Phyllis Margolin and Ann Keating were invited to be my bridesmaids!



This photo, submitted by Mary O'Connor, shows James John Griffin and the Fitzgerald family of Mayfield traveling in Yankton County (date unknown).

## KATHERN MCINTOSH

I grew up in Utica; the oldest of 10 kids. We lived across the street from the school where I went from kindergarten through eighth grade. I remember that most of the time I left for school when the bell rang, went home for lunch and again returned when the bell rang. It was policy back then for girls to wear skirts or dresses (although in winter we were allowed to wear slacks under the skirt to school to keep warm) and boys wore slacks or jeans.

I was fortunate that my class of 5 was usually the largest. There were spelling bees; playing fox and goose (a winter snow game); kick the can; softball and having to go outside to use the toilet. There were circus days;

visitation days (where another school would come to visit and party); art classes on Friday; field trips to Morrell's Packing Plant, Coca Cola, Old Home Bakery, Cimpl's, and every year there was the circus which we all attended as a group. There were usually about 12 students in the school and when I was in 8th grade, half of the school was my family.

In the 8th grade we were having a taffy pull (Rose Arrundale made the taffy). When we went to pick up the taffy at her house she had the radio on. It was in that moment we heard that President Kennedy had been shot. We took the taffy back to school and told everyone what had hap-

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