

The history of the Greensburg Daily News

Frank Trimble and Ed Lines, on Jan. 1, 1894, started the first daily newspaper to be published in Greensburg - The Daily News. At the turn of the century there were three daily newspapers in Greensburg, a city of 5,034 residents, as well as weekly publications.

The newspaper changed hands four times through 1902 and had a circulation of 200. By 1906 circulation had risen to 350. In 1915, there were four daily Newspapers: Daily News, The Evening Times, The Greensburg Daily review and the Daily Graphic. Two were Republican and two were Democratic. All four papers also published a weekly paper and a fifth weekly were also in the city. In 1918, after another sale of the paper, the roster was down to two dailies and two weeklies.

In 1928, the Evening Times ceased being a daily and was used as the weekly and was printed at the Daily news plant. On July 1, 1923, the Greensburg Daily News Publishing Company was incorporated and in August of that year, moved to its long-time home on the Southeast corner of the square. The building, now occupied by Hilliard-Lyons, still bears the engraved name "Daily News" on its face and served as the site of the publication of the Daily News for more than five decades.

It was during this period that the local newspaper achieved much success without competition from other papers published within the city. The Daily News enjoyed further success under the guidance of Walter B. Lowe, who became identified with the paper in 1919. He became the paper's president and publisher in 1947. It was during this period when the name Lowe and Greensburg Daily News became synonymous.

The paper continued under Lowe's leadership until September, 1973, when for the first time in its history, the newspaper was purchased and operated by an entity other than an independent, local owner. Worrell Newspapers, Inc.

Purchased the Daily News and assumed operation of the plant on October 1, 1973. T. Eugene Worrell, then president of Worrell Newspapers, Inc., named Edward A. Nichols as president and publisher of the newspaper. Lowe continued as assistant publisher until his death in 1976.

Just three months after Worrell took over the newspaper, plans were announced that the Daily News would move to a modern, new plant, which would include an updating of offset printing. After 50 years of publishing on the square, the paper was moved to 135 South Franklin Street, the site of the former A&P supermarket. It was in 1974 that the Daily News opened the new doors of its current home to the public in an open house. The most noteworthy advancement was the replacement of the old letterpress with the modern offset press. Not only did offset printing speed up operations, it eliminated much of the grime associated with printing by letterpress. Gone were the linotypes, the casting boxes and the mat roller. In their places were new typesetting machines and computers.

The first edition printed by offset was published March 1, 1974. The offset press can produce newspapers of up to 20 pages in one run at the rate of 14,000 papers per hour.

Today, the Daily News is owned by Community Newspapers Holding Inc., and has a circulation of more than 5,000 and prints weekly version of the Times and the Extra.

Owners, publishers and managers of the Greensburg Daily News since its founding are:

Ed Lines and Frank Trimble 1894 - 1903

James Caskey 1903 - 1915

Mabel Caskey 1915 - 1918

Luther Braden and Edward Hancock 1918 - 1947 Walter Lowe and Ruth Thom 1948 - 1954

Walter Lowe 1957 - 1973 Ed Nichols 1973 - 1976 Bill Kirkland 1976 - 1978 Arthur Powers 1978 -

1979 George Williams 1979 - 1982 C.F. McClughan 1982 - 1987 Jeff Jeffus 1987-1992 Phil Hart
1992-1997 Jeff Emsweller 1997- 2002 Mike Casuscelli 2002-2006 Pete VanBaalen 2006-present