

How Sweet It Is!



It is more than a century old and is known by people all over Kentuckiana. Nestled in the historic district of Jeffersonville, Ind., Schimpff's Confectionery has held a piece of our history since 1858.

Carried on through four generations of the Schimpff family, it has become a sweet surrender of home-made chocolate and hard candies.

Gustav Schimpff Sr., was the first to establish Schimpff's in Louisville, Ky., and by 1891, Gustav Sr., and his son, Gustav Schimpff Jr., decided to come to Jeffersonville, Ind., bringing their candy along with them.

With the constant success of the family-owned business, it has just celebrated its 112th birthday. Since 1990, Warren Schimpff, grandson of Gustav Jr., and his wife, Jill, have been the owners of this hidden treasure.

"We are a living museum," Jill said.

When the couple first took over the business, they were living in Claremont, Calif., just outside of Los Angeles. Working for the local water company, Warren would travel back to Jeffersonville occasionally to make candy and oversee the business. Back in Claremont, Jill was teaching English at Pitzer College as a second

language.

Only thinking to own Schimpff's for a year, they found themselves going way beyond.

"We said we would try it for a year and now here we are 12 years later," Jill said.

Jill and Warren have now resided back in Jeffersonville, living right above the historic business, which also has been lived in from past generations.

"You don't hear of that often anymore," Warren replied, "in fact, Business First in Louisville did an article on people who live about their place of business and we were in the article."

Television stations, such as PBS in Indianapolis and local news channels have visited Schimpff's to share a piece of history with the public.

"The best thing about this place, is that we still are using old recipes since 1858 and the old chocolate dipping tools, but most of all we are using a stove that is more than 80 years old and a cooling table that is 112 years old," Jill explained.

Suffering three major floods, the store still remains as it was when it first opened. As you walk in, you feel you are living in the past. Candy fills

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**Story and Photos
by Ben Allman**



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