

History of Stahl's Bakery

Stahl's Bakery was founded by Bob & Shirley Stahl in 1949. Mr. Stahl had been a baker at an Akron bakery before WWII, then in the Army during the war (although he was a cook, not a baker in the Army). After returning home, he and his young wife decided to start their new life off right by buying a small existing bakery in Kent and making it their own. At that time, the bakery was on the corner of Lincoln and Main Streets, in the same building as Captain Brady's (now Starbucks). Down a few stairs, the tiny 300 sq. ft. bakery served goodies and lunches to hungry Kent State and University School students and their teachers until the mid-60s, when the Stahls re-located the shop across Main Street to double their space. A very much-needed move as the original space was so small, Mr. & Mrs. Stahl kept extra supplies stored in the customer area – some folks even confused the bakery with a small grocery store! Since the Stahls' retirement in 1986, the bakery has changed hands three times, but all of the owners have kept the Stahl's name on the business as a sign of tradition and quality. To this day, we still use many of Mr. Stahl's recipes, including bread, cookies, and his local-legend white cake. Stop in and share your memories!