



Sweet Tooth Cakery now open in Fruitport

Story and photos by Harry Wojahn

If you are in the mood for a special treat, be sure to stop in at the Sweet Tooth Cakery and see Abby Welch. She will be sure to find something to excite your taste buds. Abby has loved to bake since she was a child. She has been working in the business for eight years. She says that her daughter Candace inspires her to be the best baker she can be so that she can give her a great life.

Abby has that natural, self-taught baking skill that helps her make some of the sweetest treats you have ever tasted. I asked her what would be the one special dessert she would choose and why. Her answer was that she is unable to choose any one item after putting all of her heart and soul into everything she makes to make sure everyone is satisfied.

She said the most positive effect that chocolate can have on someone is that it can take a person back to the time of waiting in Grandma's kitchen for those sweet chocolate chip cookies to come fresh out of the oven. She hopes to have the same effect on her customers to make everyone as happy as possible.

Abby says business has been great since she opened, and that all of her customers leave with a happy smile on their faces. She even said that she has one faithful customer who comes in daily.

Abby attended Nuvo College of Cosmetology to become a hair stylist, but soon discovered that her true calling was to become a professional baker. Although she was born in Grand Rapids, her family moved to Fruitport where she grew up.

Sweet Tooth Cakery offers cinnamon rolls, sticky buns, 12 flavors of brownies, and two varieties of muffins and cupcakes. She likes to add a new treat to the selection every day to keep her patrons guessing.

The bakery is located at 6574 Airline Road next to McDonalds. It is open Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to noon. Phone (231) 366-7170.

P.J. Hoffmaster State Park

By Harry Wojahn

Since our state added the new state park permit to our license plate, a lot more people have been able to enjoy what places like P.J Hoffmaster State Park have to offer. It is cheaper now by about \$10 to \$15. My wife and I went out to our local state park the other day. I was in the mood to take some photos. The visitor center has a lot of information to offer. For example, they have a theater where you and your family can learn about different facts about the park.

They also have a walk-through interactive room on the top level where you can learn about all the different sorts of creatures you will possibly see while out in the park. On the lower level, there is a reptilian room where you can view different sorts of reptiles. There is also a viewing window for taking photos of many different types of animals. It is equipped with a speaker system so you can hear the sounds from outside, without interfering with the animals' natural habitat.

If you get the chance and want to have a great time learning more about your local state park, be sure to check out the visitor center. There are also some amazing hiking trails that you can walk through and have fun seeing the interior of the park while getting some fresh air. There is a public beach access when you first come into the park after you pass the check-in booth. The public beach is the first drive on the right. There are also other drives for picnicking and family events.

The visitor center is open until mid-November, Tuesday through Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. or until funds run out.

For more information, visit the website at www.GilletteNature.org or call (231) 798-3573.

Fruitport Area News • October 2012 • Page 5

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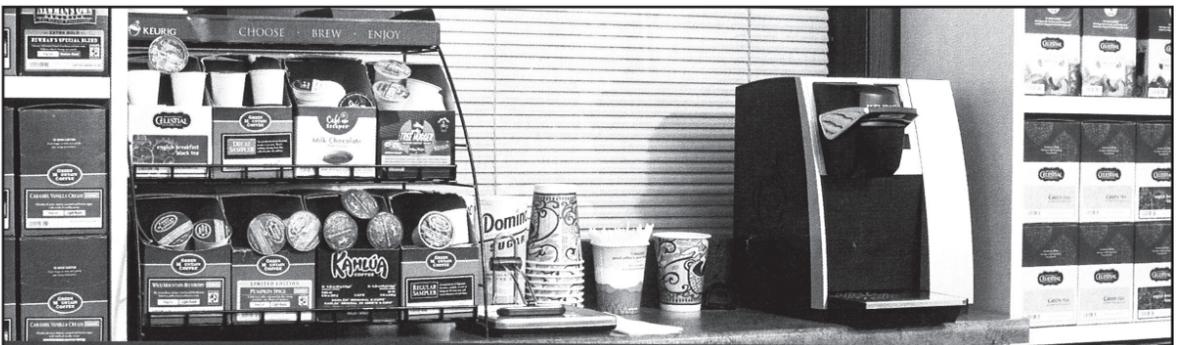
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Abby Welch, owner of Sweet Tooth Cakery, is shown in her kitchen.

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