

19  35

# Wheeler's

## Restaurant

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## The Wheeler's Story

It began in 1935 as an entrepreneurial dream and a savvy business move. Mr. Arthur Wheeler, then a cook at the Standish Bakery, decided to establish his own restaurant along Main Street to serve the thousands of tourists heading to northern Michigan. Wheeler's Restaurant became a by-word among travelers who liked good, wholesome food and service and aided materially to putting Standish "on the map."

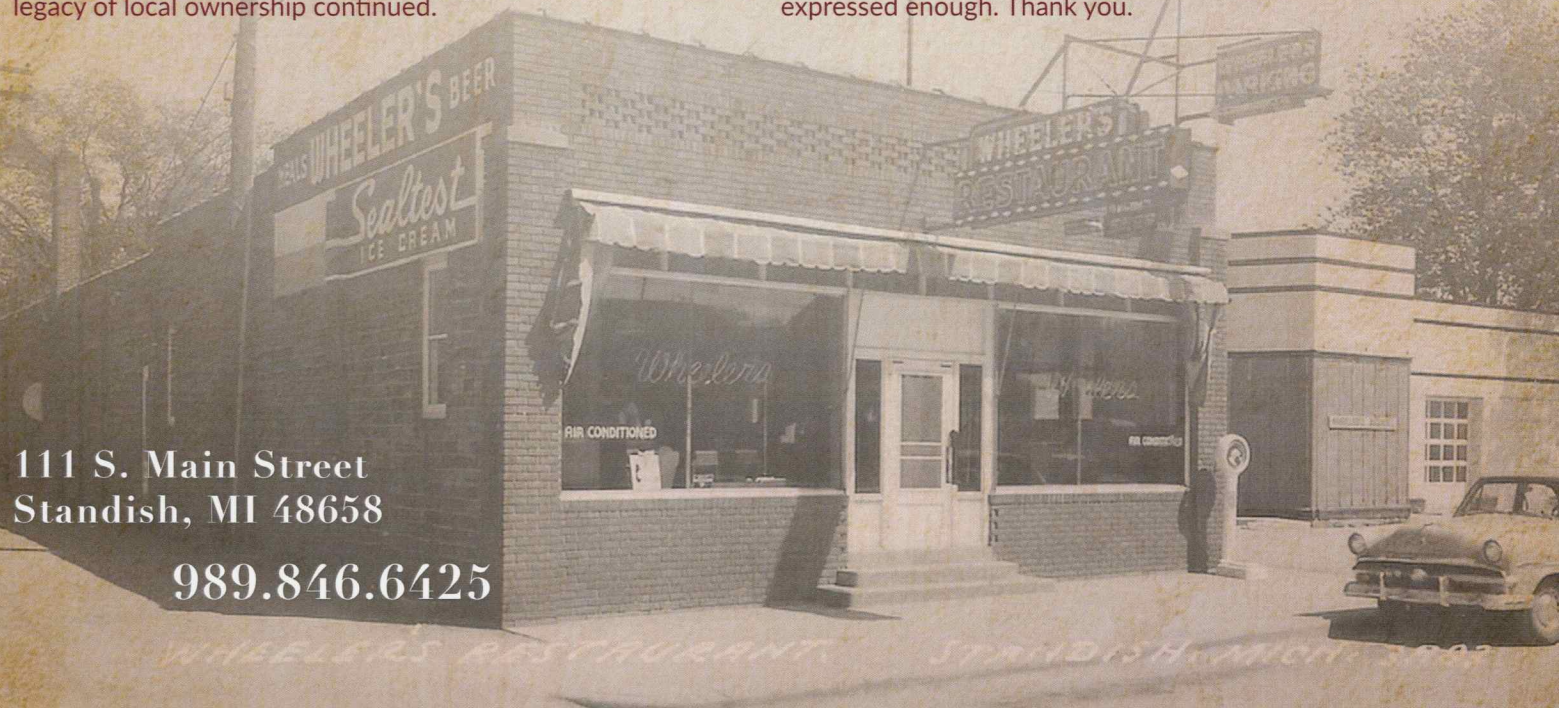
Upon Art Wheeler's death in 1942, his sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Thompson, came down from their home in the Upper Peninsula to find the right people to continue Mr. Wheeler's legacy. Having someone local was paramount to them. Luckily, they found willing buyers in Mr. Irwin Major and Mr. Nuttal. They then secured the management of Mr. and Mrs. Luke Eyrich.

After his passing, Mr. Major's estate sold the building and parking lots to Mr. Bob O'Brien. Mr. O'Brien owned and operated the family Dime Store located next to Wheeler's. The legacy of local ownership continued.

Around 1977, Mr. O'Brien sold the restaurant to Phil and Mary Ann Pelton. Phil and Mary Ann successfully operated Wheeler's Restaurant and the Standish Bakery, staples of the Standish community, until they decided it was time to pass down Wheeler's to their son Perry and his wife Rose in 1990. From there, Perry and Rose warmly welcomed tourists and locals alike for three decades.

On January 1st, 2019, the legacy of local ownership of this Standish landmark continued when Adam Kroczaleski completed the purchase of the establishment. The original purpose of Wheeler's Restaurant - to serve traveling tourists wholesome meals with friendly service - lives on to this day.

The greatest asset Wheeler's has, which has allowed it to survive the Great Depression, WWII, political ups and downs, the Great Recession, and even a Global Pandemic, is its loyal customers. Whether you are a frequent or occasional guest, the appreciation of the Wheeler's Restaurant family cannot be expressed enough. Thank you.



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