Two lonely little Hostess Apple Fruit Pies fill D3 in the snack machine on the second floor of The Herald building.

On Friday, Hostess announced it would close after decades of providing beloved snacks to young and old alike.

No more Twinkies, CupCakes, Ding Dongs, Ho-Hos, Struessel Cakes, Suzy Qs, Fruit Pies, Donettes, Zingers or Coffee Cakes.

No more soft, moist cake with cream filling of perfect consistency. No more smooth, melty fudge over chocolate cake. No more Coffee Cake loaded with brown sugar and cinnamon. No more fruit pies with sweet, juicy bits of apple in a smooth filling. No more CupCakes with the 8 perfect loops on the top.

How did this happen? How could something that has been a part of my life forever just go away?

Well, maybe not gone entirely. Rumor has it some other company may pick up a few of Hostess' offering.

Hostess is blaming the company's demise on unreasonable union workers. The workers say Hostess had already filed for bankruptcy and they had given some concessions and the money from those was to be plowed back into the company. Workers say it never happened. Top management was given 80-percent raises while the company was still in bankruptcy. Blah, blah, blah.

Let's not quibble here. There's too much at stake.

I craved the Apple Fruit Pies when I was pregnant for Cameron. I had to have one every day. I mean I HAD TO HAVE ONE!

As a child, nothing was more delightful than seeing that box come out of the grocery bag.

Now they're gone, gone, gone. Sob. Sob.

The Hostess CupCake was first sold on May 11, 1919. The poor CupCake won't even see its 100th birthday. It's a crime, truly.

According to Kitchenproject.com, "Twinkies were introduced in 1933 by The Continental Baking Company in Indianapolis, which also made 'Wonder Bread' and had a snack line you're probably familiar with called Hostess. Baker James A. Dewar got the idea for the 'Twinkie' while he delivered one of their products, a cream- filled strawberry shortcake. The machines to make these sat idle when the strawberry season was over so he came up with an idea to use them to make a snack cake filled with a banana filling and only charge a nickel for a package of two. It was good idea as money was tight for people during the Great Depression.

Just like the song went "Yes We Have No Banana's" during World War II because bananas were rationed, Hostess had to come up with a different filling."

They switched to vanilla creme and it was popular so they never changed back.

Other snacks followed to fill out the variety we know now.

And the rest, as they say, is history.

Hey, does anyone have a Hostess Apple Fruit Pie they are willing part with? I feel the need coming on.

Oh, yeah. I'll just go get those two in the vending machine. I'll eat one and maybe I can get a taker on eBay for the other. You never know. There just might be someone out there who likes them more than I do — but I doubt it.

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