



**For Immediate Release
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**Brookside Barkery Expands & Serves Growing Interest
in Natural Pet Food Alternatives**

Grand Opening This Weekend at New Lee's Summit Location

KANSAS CITY — Brookside Barkery & Bath announces an April 26 – 27 grand opening for its third full-service location at 817 NE Woods Chapel Road in Lee's Summit.

The grand opening celebration hours are 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 26; and Noon – 5 p.m. on Sunday, April 27. Wayside Waifs will be in attendance offering pet adoptions from Noon – 4 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday. Pet owners can register to win an ultimate pampered pet experience valued at over \$150.

“We are thrilled to offer a new location in Lee's Summit. With the success of our original Brookside location and the second location in Olathe, it's been a race to keep up with the demand for our all-natural and raw pet foods. Kansas City pet owners have indicated a demand for natural alternatives to conventional brands,” store co-owner Delena Stout said.

Stout's business partner, Debra Manfield, added that the new location offers the same selection as the Brookside and Olathe locations. “We have all-natural and raw pet foods, supplements, treats and toys, and we will still maintain the neighborhood atmosphere that has made our customers and our employees feel cared for. This is at the heart of our past success, and will be so in the future.”

In 2003, Stout opened the Brookside Barkery and Bath, a concept she originally envisioned as a self-service dog washing business. The concept quickly expanded to become one of the area's most comprehensive sources for a range of all-natural and raw pet foods, supplements, and treats.

Stout's interest in the subject of natural pet food was piqued when her then two-year-old St. Bernard, Aspen, began suffering from allergies and digestive disorders so severe she could barely walk. After conventional treatments failed to relieve Aspen's allergies and her weight kept dropping, Stout began extensive research on her own, eventually trying a new diet for her – one composed of dog food free of corn, by-products, and preservatives. Such diets were hard to come by, however.

It was then Stout began an odyssey that ultimately led her to become an award-winning entrepreneur and a source of hope for many other local dogs and their anxious owners.

“I felt so passionate about this that I wanted to educate other pet guardians about nutrition,” said Stout.

Today Aspen is 125 pounds of healthy, fluffy fur and energy, and she continues to be Stout's inspiration for her four-year-old business, which was chosen as one of 25-Under-25 small business award-winners by *Small Business Monthly* last year.

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