

For Immediate Release
Contact: Hilary Woods, EAG
816-842-0100

Brookside Barkery & Bath Opens New Location in Johnson County

The Brookside favorite now offers convenient access to self-service baths and natural foods for pet owners in the southern metro area

KANSAS CITY — July 31, 2007 —

Brookside Barkery & Bath's newest full-service location is now open at 14040 W. 119th Street in Olathe. A grand opening celebration is planned for Saturday, September 22.

"We are thrilled to bring everything our customers love about our Brookside store to our new Olathe location," store co-owner Delena Stout said.

Stout's partner, Debra Manfield, added that the new location will offer the same selection as the Brookside location. "We will 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."

That future will be celebrated on September 22 when the Barkery invites current customers, new neighbors and their pets to a grand opening event at the Johnson County store.

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

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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 he could barely walk. After conventional treatments failed to relieve Aspen's allergies and his weight kept dropping, Stout began extensive research on her own, eventually trying a new diet for him – 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 long, healthy, fluffy fur and energy, and he continues to be Stout's inspiration for her 4-year-old business, which was chosen as one of 25-Under-25 small business award-winners by *Small Business Monthly* last year. .

The search for a new Johnson County location to call home ended when Stout and Manfield found a space on 119th Street in Olathe. They opened the store on Monday, July 23, bringing to pet lovers in the southern metro a convenient source of information and access to a wide choice of natural pet food products. Stout, Manfield and their employees are happy to spend as much time as needed with customers seeking information about the foods offered in the store.

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