

“Since we do have a family, we wanted to strive to make it a place where college kids can hang out, but also a place where a family can come and feel just as at home.”

**Stacey Kramer**  
Mocha Hut Owner

## New Owners | Two families have opened different restaurants and share goals for their places

**Continued from Page 9**  
owner of the Mocha Hut, said he came into coffee through an unusual route.

“Coffee has always been a hobby for me,” he said.

Kramer said he researched coffee and learned more about it through online communities. He bought his own French press and started testing and tasting coffee with it.

“Coffee is a lot of art and science,” he said. “You have to taste coffee and find out what is wrong with it and then use a kind of scientific method to figure out how to improve it.”

Kramer said he enjoys running the shop and being a part of its day-to-day environment as a barista.

“We own it [Mocha Hut], and we are the ones that make the coffee,” he said. “Here, I can serve it to a customer the way I want to.”

During its first days, Mocha Hut has been hectic, but Kramer said he hopes it gets even crazier.

Stacey Kramer, who deals more with the business aspects, said they plan to stay open until 8 p.m. instead of 5:30 p.m. once the semester gets started.

Kramer said that when they planned to open Mocha Hut, she thought a remodel of the same building made more sense than finding a new location.

“We talked about it and at the time, there was just Java Co,” Kramer said. “Part of it [was that] the timing was right. ... We didn’t borrow any money, we used our own.”

They also renovated the building themselves with help from their three young daughters. They reopened for business Dec. 18.

Kramer said Mocha Hut is best known for its specialties: Fair Trade coffee and chocolate. They also roast their own beans and have an importer for all-natural chocolate.

They have a wholesaler who travels the world and checks with different Fair Trade plantations for eco-friendly coffee beans, then tests them out and brings them back to Drew, she said.

Kramer said she goes through a similar process with the chocolate to make sure it is all-natural, without any fillers.

As for the name Mocha Hut, she said they chose the term mocha (coffee served with chocolate) because in the coffee world, mocha means a dark chocolate. Mocha is also a region where coffee and cocoa is grown.

The idea for the term hut came from the building, she said, which now looks like a tiki hut.

Kramer said Mocha Hut also serves lunch, with a soup of the day. She also plans to include more types of tea in the future.

“Since we do have a family, we wanted to strive to make it a place where college kids can hang out, but also place where a family can come and feel just as at home,” Kramer said.

# Barn’s history revealed

BY SHANNON WALTER  
Staff Reporter

A well-known landmark used to be much more than a storage facility and an indicator that the walk to Barnett Hall is nearly finished.

## Historical Places

The Red Barn in Red Barn Park was built between 1916 and 1917 as a demonstration farm for the University, conceived by John Kirk, the fifth University president, according to the 1979 Adair County Historic Inventory. The agricultural department was very important to Kirk, who grew up on a farm. He intended for the farm to be an edification tool for farmers in the area and an important facility to draw in more students. The demonstration farm was the first of its kind at a state educational institution in Missouri, according to the historic inventory.

Elaine Doak, special collections librarian at Pickler Memorial Library, said the barn was not originally red, and the name started after the building was painted antique red, before classes that year were underway.

“They repainted it right before freshman week one year and when all the students returned, there was a big picnic in the park christening it Red Barn Park,” Doak said. “I do wonder what they called it before then, but have never found that information.”

Many of the dates associated with changes to the barn are unknown. A farmhouse, no longer there, was built in 1917 where the Bulldog kennels currently are, she said. Agricultural study ceased at the barn in the 1960s,

but horses were still boarded in the barn for several years, according to the historic survey.

“They closed down that farm in the 1930s but they kept the barn and the horses in it until the 1960s or 1970s,” Doak said.

The Department of Public Safety boarded a horse in the barn until 1976. His name was “Hal’s Prince.” Students and DPS cared for the horse. He was the last horse to be kept in the barn.

The University purchased 132 acres where the current farm is located in the southwest corner of town in 1980. The Red Barn has been a storage facility since then. In 1999, the University purchased an additional 268 acres, adding up to 400 acres and several student opportunities.

Sophomore agricultural science major Claire Zimmermann said she is glad to have the larger facilities at the current farm.

“It would be convenient to have the farm where Red Barn is, but I like going out there and working to forget about my classes for a while,” she said.

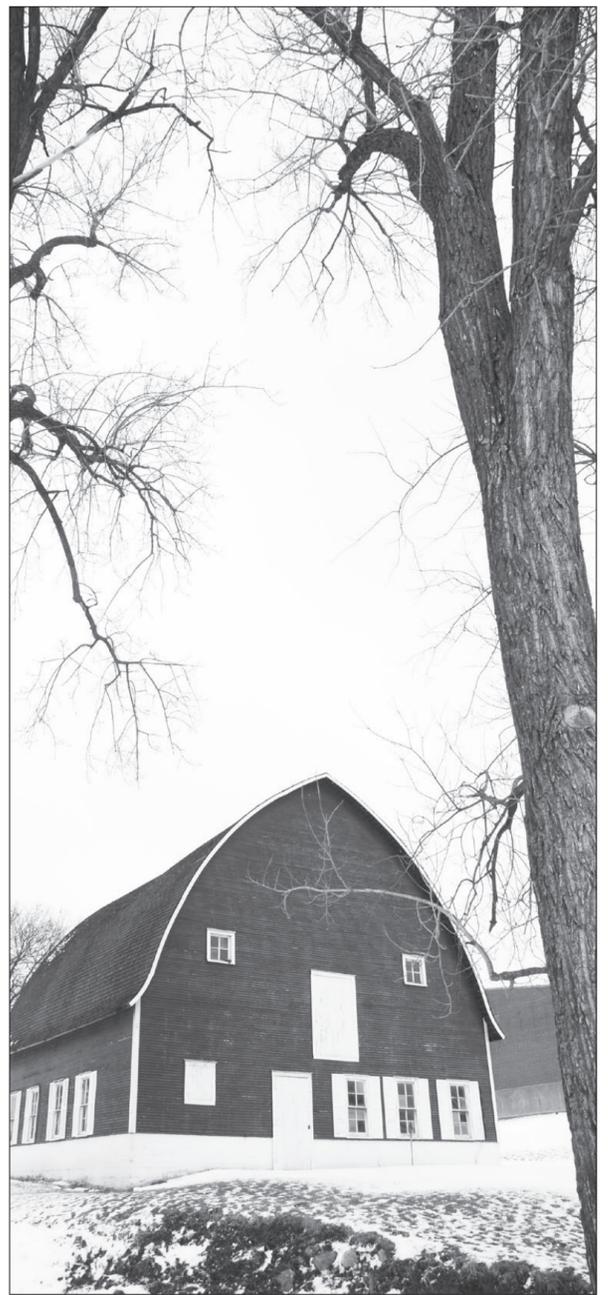
Zimmermann said the space out there is so much better than the space that could be provided at Red Barn.

“The barns and fields are great for everyone,” she said. “There’s so many research opportunities and I’m glad the University has that as a resource.”

Campus planner Lori Shook said the University has no plans for the Red Barn at this time.

“As far as I know, it is simply used for storage and is staying that way,” she said.

Pershing Building renovations and construction have stretched over to the park, but the construction will not be affecting the barn.



Brian O’Shaughnessy/Index  
The Red Barn was built in 1916 as a demonstration farm for the University. Although the barn did house horses and farming tools, it is now a storage unit for the University.

# Local feels stress of two jobs

BY SHAWN SHINNEMAN  
Assistant Features Editor

Regular visitors to Pancake City have most likely been greeted at their tables by Kirksville resident Fay Hays. Delivering a pleasant smile with every cup of coffee or breakfast platter, Hays is a waitress at Pancake City two nights a week.

What Hays’ customers probably don’t realize, however, are the hours she logged before even arriving for her job as a waitress. Hays was let go from her job as a store manager at a local business more than two months ago and now works full time at Pizza Hut in addition to her job at Pancake City. It doesn’t take long for her to pinpoint the reason for her tireless effort.

“My kids are my inspiration, just knowing that I am doing it for them,” Hays said. “I have to take care of my family.”

Hays has two kids still in school, 15-year-old Elizabeth and 18-year-old Anthony. The oldest, 19-year-old Drew, has graduated and is now working full time. Hays said she has felt the eminent stress that accompanies working two jobs.

“Knowing that you have to get from one place to the next, leaving

on time and trying to make enough money to cover everything,” Hays said. “The economy is rough right now, there aren’t too many jobs out there.”

Hays’ story is one of many that have been affected by a dismal economic climate. Missouri lost more than 70,000 jobs from November 2008 to November 2009, according to the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC).

In Kirksville, small businesses have struggled to stay afloat. The ever-changing business landscape suggests local business owners struggle to compete with nationally owned corporations like Wal-Mart and Hy-Vee.

Wal-Mart store manager Doug Nichting said local businesses do best when they find their niche.

“The quote-unquote ‘little guy,’

the ones that are successful are the ones that found a place to not compete against Wal-Mart, but kind of feed off Wal-Mart, because there are obviously things we can’t and don’t supply to customers,” Nichting said.

“The quote-unquote ‘little guy,’ the ones that are successful are the ones that found a place to not compete against Wal-Mart, but kind of feed off Wal-Mart, because there are obviously things we can’t and don’t supply to customers.”

**Doug Nichting**  
Wal-Mart store manager

Nichting manages a work force of about 375 people. To help with the holidays, he said they hired about 15 more employees, six of which have been retained permanently. Nichting said it is unlawful to take personal stories into account when hiring. “Basically, we have to go by their work record and then look at their experience or what they have done,” Nichting said. “But as far as personal things ... whether they’re a single mom, you kind of have to keep out of the equation.”

Unemployment in Missouri cur-

rently sits at 9.2 percent as of November, slightly below the national average, according to MERIC. Adair County’s unemployment rate, however, is far below average. As of November, unemployment within the county was at just 5.7 percent, a big improvement from the 8 percent seen in June.

Locally, neither Wal-Mart nor Hy-Vee, which employ about 625 people combined, have had to lay off employees to account for the dipping economy.

Nick Haider, manager of perishables at the Kirksville Hy-Vee, said he thinks Hy-Vee is one of the only companies that has continued to hire people and open new stores in the past few years. But he said, at least to a degree, Hy-Vee has not been immune to economic factors.

“You feel it when people kind of cut down their dollars [spent], but nothing extremely significant,” Haider said.

As for Hays, it appears her 12-hour work days are soon to come to a welcome end.

“Actually, we are leaving in June or July, so it will be done after that,” Hays said, unable to hold back her genuine smile and laughter. “Hopefully we’ll have everything caught up and taken care of.”

**Take advantage of your good fortune.**

Whether you’re ticked or tickled, the INDEX accepts letters to the editor every week.

You have a charming way with words. Write a letter this week.

Can You See Through The Clutter?

- www.trumanindex.com -