Kirksville resident creates her own cookie baking and delivery company based on love

BY EMMA MUELLER

Susie Gall

A shiny coat of butter glistens on the skin of an oven-roasted turkey. The aroma is sweet, earthy and so much more. It's the smell of Christmas, the smell of giving. For Susie Gall, it's also the smell of a doozy.

“Doozie is from my past,” Gall said. “I had a friend in high school who was a baker. She used to make them for all of us. It’s just a really good cookie, one that I adjusted a little bit and worked with,” Gall said.

Gall said that her business is built on the foundation of love and the belief every cookie can be a piece of a gift. “You know when you’re giving a gift, you can’t really give anything more. The cookie, it’s just part of it,” Gall said. “It’s also running everything. It’s really, really important and making the kitchen and wherever you are, you can see with that, your life is just fuller. “

For those who will be staying in Kirksville during Thanksgiving week beyond the borders of their own dinner tables, Kirksville is no exception in taking part in these holiday festivities. Whether it’s indulging in mass quantities of comfort food, serving others in the community or giving thanks at church, the Kirksville Catholic Church parish center, 107 States Ave., will be offering a Thanksgiving meal.

“Barnett said the residents of Kirksville actively participate in Thanksgiving in Kirksville, broadcast cookies to residents of Adair County.

 Residents give back to community

Kirksville residents prepare Thanksgiving dinner for about 27 students from the international area.

BY ANNA MEIER

A skit of better flavors could be the idea of an average American household when it comes to Thanksgiving. A good dinner is crucial. For some, you can’t have it without a dessert. A cake. Or a pie. For others, it’s just the turkey. For many others, it’s something in between.

At some point of the thanksgiving festivities, a cake or a pie is included. In Kirksville, Missouri, the Kirksville Catholic Church parish center, 107 States Ave., will be offering a Thanksgiving meal. A different chef than usual is coordinating the meal and the menu hasn’t been set yet. The meal will include many typical parts of a Thanksgiving dinner.

“Be thankful for the opportunities we have to give and receive,” Gall said. “I think she’s really excited about this,” Gall said of her business partner, Jack Magruder. “He is always filling the cookie boxes, and we have other dessert boxes to.”

Butter, sugar, flour and eggs are the basic ingredients of a doozy. But Gall doesn’t see it that way. “I have some favorites from my childhood that now I make every year,” Gall said. “I always fill the cookies myself, and we still put cookies in to other classrooms. As a student of school, that is one of the first things I think of.”

For Gall, it’s about giving back to the community and providing an opportunity for the students to celebrate the holiday. After giving back to the Kirksville community, today’s doozies are served inside the Kirksville Catholic Church parish center, 107 States Ave. (the church near the First Baptist Church in Kirksville), the Kirksville Catholic Church, the Lincoln Cathedral and other locations.

“Not just the baking part, but the baking process is where I find my niche and what I really love, then that shows through in whatever it is that I do,” Gall said.

At the Kirksville Catholic Church, the business is hard, but it also has other meanings as well. “Doozie means something special in our family and small family, but it has other meanings as well. “

In the fall last year, 1969, and Gall’s favorite quote anytime, anywhere, is “My favorite quote anytime, anywhere, is “My favorite quote anytime, anywhere, is ‘You can do great things, but we can all do small things with great love, and out of what we can do, there is greatness’,” Gall said.

“McMillan and his wife, Jill, asked the president of the University, Jack Magruder, if they could help the international students who don’t have anywhere to go for Thanksgiving. The couple worked with Joyce Brown at the president’s office, who gave them a list of foreign students who would be staying in Kirksville for Thanksgiving that year. Paul and Mac McMillan had a friend who was going to teach in Kirksville for a week in November, and they asked if they could come to Kirksville.

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The two families, along with Gall, McMillan and Magruder, hosted about 20 students. “We always try to make sure that whatever we do, we can do it with love, and so this is what I can do,” Gall said.

Gall said that her business is in the way of changing minds and the community. “My favorite quote anytime, anywhere, is “My favorite quote anytime, anywhere, is ‘You can do great things, but we can all do small things with great love, and out of what we can do, there is greatness’,” Gall said.

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