

# Chef's Stop

## *celebrates two years in Festus* Store is full of culinary delights

By Kevin  
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Mary Hatfield has been providing chefs of all skill levels the finest bakeware, cookware, foods and food products for almost two years.

Hatfield will be celebrating the two-year anniversary of Chef's Stop in Festus next month with fun and food. The store's birthday bash is scheduled from 10 am to 2 p.m. Nov. 1. There will be a raffle to benefit the Jefferson County Food Bank, a culinary trivia game and, of course, some delicious food. Hatfield is planning on whipping up Barefoot Contessa Chocolate Ganache cake for attendees.

"It is a rich, deep dark chocolate," she said.

Customers have grown fond of the delicious food samples that often can be found at the store, however, Hatfield provides them with the tools to recreate just about any culinary delight in their own homes.

She continually adds to her stock of flavored coffees, bread mixes and gadgets. She tests all of them before offering them for sale.

"It's a lot of fun because I'm constantly bringing in new wonderful foods," she said.

Hatfield has added a new line of food products by Earth & Vine Provisions, including Spicy Apple Garlic Jam and Red

Bell Pepper & Ancho Chili Jam The store is set to receive holiday teas and jams, both of which were popular throughout the holiday season last year.

Wassail mixes will also be coming soon. The piping hot apple cider based drink tastes good and permeates homes with a sweet aroma.

The store's comprehensive line of flavored coffees continues to grow in popularity as the temperature drops. "It is quite amazing," Hatfield said. "When the temperature took its first little plunge earlier this fall, we sold pounds and pounds of our flavored coffees "

Other seasonal foods that are already in stock are maple pumpkin butter and spiced rum butterscotch sauce.

Just because the foods sold at Chef's Stop are healthy and delicious does not mean they all take a lot of time to prepare. The store's garlic angel hair pasta can be ready in less than a minute.

"And you can top it with Mama Patrino's Sicilian Style Red Sauce, which can be heated in a microwave," Hatfield added.

She has been expanding the store's line of culinary gadgets as well. The newly added hot chocolate maker is

dishwasher safe and comes with a splatter-proof frother. You simply add milk, microwave and stir in the mix. Nonstick cake and muffin pans, made from cast aluminum, are perfect for celebrating birthdays and holidays. The Food Loop Flame lets chefs grill stuffed pork, filet mignon and stuffed fish with ease.

"The beauty of this is you can use it on your grill, and if it gets in the flame, it doesn't matter." Hatfield said. "It's flame-proof!"

All-Clad's new line of bakeware is now available at Chef's Stop. Like the company's stove-top cooking pieces, all bakeware products have stainless steel exteriors and interiors, with aluminum cores.

"My customers that have purchased the bakeware just rave about it," said Hatfield.

Chef's Stop offers complimentary gift wrap and gift bags for all purchases. Hatfield hosts ongoing cooking classes. A class on cooking casseroles, pies and tarts is scheduled for Oct. 27 at 6:30 p.m. Registration is required and many classes fill up quickly.

Chef's Stop is located at 1170 W. Gannon Drive, Festus. For more information or to register for cooking classes, call 636-937-3333. ^