

ENTREPRENEUR SPOTLIGHT

Project Outcomes:

(June 2, 2003 to March 31, 2008)

- ◆ Total Clients Assisted: **432**
- ◆ Businesses Started: **33**
- ◆ Businesses Expanded: **12**
- ◆ Jobs Created: **120**
- ◆ Businesses Retained: **7**
- ◆ Jobs Retained: **32**
- ◆ Tune-Ups of Existing Businesses: **48**

For more information about Enterprise Facilitation, contact:

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Board Chair
Jim McAnerney
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C&J Welding and Fabrication Opens for Business

In late March, Jeremie Hetz of Atchison launched C&J Welding and Fabrication. The business is the culmination of 17 years of experience and follows Jeremie's recent completion of the Industrial Welding Technology program at Northeast Kansas Technical College.

C&J Welding offers arc, mig, and tig welding as well as custom cutting. In addition to repair work, Hetz is happy to fabricate items including ornamental pieces. He is willing to take on any job whether big or small.

Hetz decided to open his own business after working at a privately owned welding shop in St. Joseph last summer. "I enjoyed the combination of welding and working directly with

customers," Jeremie said of the experience.

While Hetz officially opened last month, he spent many weeks ahead of time planning and preparing. He was assisted in this effort by Northeast Kansas Enterprise Facilitation. "I couldn't have done it without her," Hetz

said of Facilitator Janet Griesel's help.

C&J Welding and Fabrication is located in Bowen's Service Station at 10955 US Highway 59 in Atchison and is open Monday through Friday from 8 am to 6 pm. You can reach the business by phone at 913-674-6187.



Debbie Coleman, owner of Coleman Nursery & Tree Farm, talks with a potential customer as part of Enterprise Facilitation's display at the 6th Annual KNZA Home, Garden, & Sports Expo in Hiawatha on March 29, 2008.

Business Incubator Available to Area Entrepreneurs

For the past year or more, EF has been collaborating with Glacial Hills RC&D, Highland Community College, and the SBDC's at Washburn and KU to bring a business incubator into being in Northeast Kansas. The result is the Glacial Hills Enterprise Center. The Center aims to provide

entrepreneurs affordable, ready-to-use facilities to house and grow their new ventures.

Each of the Center's three locations (Highland, Perry, and Wetmore) offers rent at a reduced cost; high speed internet; shared services such as copiers, faxes, break & conference rooms; and access

to business counseling, financing and other support services. Technology, back office, service, and light assembly businesses are ideal candidates for the current space though other businesses may also be accommodated.

For more information on the Center, call Gary Satter at 1-866-GLACIAL.

Upcoming Events:

May 1, 2008

6:00 pm - Board Meeting at the Jackson County Senior Center, 312 Pennsylvania, Holton, KS.