

# Godfrey Meat Market named RBGA Business of the Month

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Staff report

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The Godfrey Meat Market was named RiverBend Growth Association Small Business of the Month for August.

**GODFREY** — The RiverBend Growth Association recently named the Godfrey Meat Market as the Small Business of the Month for August.

Owners Ian and Lori Warford thanked the association for the award, their first, and gave credit to their employees and customers for making the store what it is today.

“We’re a family-owned business. That’s something that’s a rarity, and it’s supported by the community. We have great support in and around the community, but I also have to tip my hat to my employees. They’re great with service and taking care of folks. Whatever the customer needs, that’s what we try to fill,” Ian Warford said.

The grocery store started off under the ownership of Marge and Carl Rosa more than 60 years ago, according to the company's website. In 1967, Mike Neuhaus and his wife, Cookie, purchased the store and took over operations.

The store, then known as the Godfrey Food Shop, was always known as a neighborhood mainstay where meat was cut to order for each individual customer.

The name changed to the Godfrey Meat Market in 1990 when Dan and Phyllis Bechtold bought the business. After a complete renovation in 1998, the Bechtolds changed the name to the Godfrey Meat and Gourmet Shoppe to compete with growing grocery store chains.

The business underwent a handful of name changes before the Warfords bought the business in July 2010 and changed the name back to the Godfrey Meat Market.

"There's a great history of the building that had laid a foundation for us to buy the store," Ian Warford said.

Ian Warford is a chef and Lori Warford is a director with the Pampered Chef, a marketing company that sells kitchen tools and other products.

The Godfrey Meat Market, which employs about 14 individuals, specializes in selling deli meats, lunch and dinner specials, meat bundles, wine and beer. The business is also involved with a variety of donations and charitable fundraisers.

The store is located at 6017 Godfrey Rd. and can be contacted at 618-466-6111. Their hours are 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Closed Sunday. For more information, visit [www.godfreymeatmarket.com](http://www.godfreymeatmarket.com).

The RiverBend Growth Association is both the chamber of commerce and the economic development organization for the communities of the Riverbend. Each month one association business is selected as Small Business of the Month. The monthly winners receive approximately \$3,500 worth of marketing. The association can be reached at 618-467-2280.