BELMONT — Debbie Cousineau grew up in a catering family. “On your 13th birthday, you got a cake. The next day you got your butt in the kitchen.”

With many siblings working in the family business, Cousineau had to find her niche, which turned out to be baking. As adulthood approached, though, she turned toward the world of marketing, where she worked at a desk and didn’t go home with flour in her hair. But the world of baking wasn’t through with her.

Cousineau, through no fault of her own, started a baking company AbracaDebra’s at the end of 2011. Originally working out of her Manchester home, she recently moved into the basement of the Osborne’s Agway gift shop building in Winnisquam, which had previously been the home of a catering company.

Believing in word-of-mouth marketing, Cousineau didn’t plan to start her own baking business, demand for her products grew like a word-of-mouth wildfire. She now operates AbracaDebra’s out of the basement of a building in the Osborne’s Agway in Winnisquam.

A year ago, though, Cousineau wasn’t working at all, having left work to be a full-time mom. The only baking she did was for her family — and if there were leftover cookies or an extra pie, she’d give them to her daughter’s bus driver. That proved to be her undoing — the bus driver, a kind woman, coaxed Cousineau into baking several pies for her Thanksgiving gathering. Her pies were powerful advertising, and by the next major holiday several more people wanted to buy her products. “I was so busy the week before Christmas I didn’t sleep for three days,” she said.

The orders continued to flow in, this time for Super Bowl parties. With the interest growing, and her daughter old enough for her to go back to work, she figured, “It’s time to go big or go home — word of mouth was just spreading.” The bakery market undoing — the bus driver, a kind woman, coaxed Cousineau into baking several pies for her Thanksgiving gathering. Her pies were powerful advertising, and by the next major holiday several more people wanted to buy her products. “I was so busy the week before Christmas I didn’t sleep for three days,” she said.

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guest fans put her in touch with the Osborne family, which operates Agway stores in Concord and Hookset, was preparing to open a new store in the Winnisquam area of Belmont, and had a fully-furnished kitchen they were looking to rent. Along with a kitchen full of industrial-grade equipment, the lease deal also came with three big customers. Cousineau bakes pies, muffins and cupcakes to be sold at all three of the Osborne’s Agway stores.

She will also add items such as cookies, brownies, whoopie pies and sticky buns. AbracaDebra’s will also take custom orders, and Cousineau said she’s willing to take a crack at whatever a customer desires. “A lot of this is researching old family recipes, which is a lot of fun.”

When possible, she plans to use locally-sourced products, such as eggs, apples and maple syrup. “I’m willing to take a crack at whatever a customer desires. “A lot of this is researching old family recipes, which is a lot of fun.”

Cousineau originally planned to renovate the kitchen and open it to the public as a retail shop, but decided that current demand is all that she can do gluten-free items for customers who wish. Explaining her sudden success, she thinks her business is one that has benefited from the sluggish economy. People are restraining from costly indulgences but still want a little sweetness in their lives. “There aren’t buying the expensive homes, the expensive cars, but they treat themselves to a $3 cupcake.”

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The Traditional Latin Rite Mass has been celebrated and continued as “irreversible.”

We say that growth and solid financials are two parts because the German economy has not been sufficient, and that markets and European Union citizens alike need to view the euro currency as “irreversible.”

“We maintain that if four countries as important and diversified as ours can find a convergent line, this can help force a strong consensus at the EU Council,” Monti told a closing press conference. Monti has warned of severe consequences for the 17 countries that use the euro and the world economy if next week’s summit fails.

A large part of Europe would find itself having to continue to put up with very high interest rates, that would then impact on the states, and also indirectly on firms. This is the direct opposite of what is needed for economic growth,” Monti said in an interview with six newspapers published Friday.

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Reserve and at the Treasury Department in the Obama administration. “The tone has changed, in part because the German economy has not been doing as well recently.”

Merkel has come under rising pressure to give ground on key pro-growth measures.

“We say that growth and solid financials are two sides of a coin,” she said. “Solid financials are not sufficient.”

Monti, who met with his fellow leaders at a government villa in Rome, is trying to build a bridge between Merkel’s insistence on fiscal discipline and the focus on growth by recently elected Hollande. He acknowledged that steps taken so far have not been sufficient, and that markets and European Union citizens alike need to view the euro currency as “irreversible.”

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Lucky duck
Gary Drake and Cale Laurence (pictured) of Drake Electric were working at Laconia High School on Friday morning when they discovered a duckling that had fallen through a grated area and become trapped. With the aid of a ladder, the bird was rescued and has been named “Lucky Drake” by school personnel. The duckling is said to resting comfortably while trying to recover from his traumatic adventure. (Courtesy photo)