

Kenny Howell

Managing Editor

Just a few years ago, Tia Rios found her passion.

While she went to college to do nursing, she learned that she had a knack for artistic endeavors. Soon after, she started making handmade gifts, many of them repurposed from things like old doors and window frames. That's not all, as Rios likes to make pillows, jewelry, and many other types of items.

"I love taking something old and making it new," said Rios of her shabby chic style.

She also got to put the hobby to work for Sparkling Tiaras helping make little girl birthday parties a blast.

"I'm very girly inside," joked Rios about her style.

She started loading up a trailer and going to trade shows and flea markets. She had to move away from her hometown Mt. Juliet due to her husband's job, but was able to return after a year, when he secured a position back in the area. That is when she decided to make her passion her business, and opened Tia's Shabby Chic Boutique.

Nearly everything in the store is hand made by Rios. She makes items on Monday and

Tuesday, then opens on Wednesday through Saturday for people to come see her creations.

Just 22, Rios has hopefully a long career ahead of her, and hopes to one day have her own line of products. Right now she is just happy with how her little boutique is going and is pleased with wherever she ends up.

"It's wherever God takes me," said Rios.

Tia's Shabby Chic Boutique is located at 3650 N. Mt. Juliet Road across from Mt. Juliet Middle School. They are open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. You can reach them at (615) 417-7823.

You can also check them out on Facebook by searching Tia's Shabby Chic Boutique.