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Fancy That to open tea boutique

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Fancy that, an online rental company based out of Walpole, is expanding its business - in a backwards kind of way.

"In a way, we did things backwards. We started out on the Internet and now we're opening a retail location," co-owner Brad McCracken said. "Most people do things the other way around."

The company first started in 2003 renting vintage teacups and saucers for weddings, showers and parties.

"I started collecting vintage tea cups a number of years ago," co-owner Sarah Erlandson said. "When I had 50 of something, we could do a small shower."

The business has grown so much that the couple can now provide vintage teacups, saucers, dessert plates and flatware for an event of 300 people.

"I love to give the pieces a new life when they would otherwise have been forgotten," she said.

In addition to the rental portion of the company, the retail space of Fancy That A Tea Boutique will be selling both vintage and new teaware pieces. They will also be selling imported and unique jams from France and England with flavors like rose, lavender and violet. The loose flavored tea Fancy That A Tea Boutique will be selling is also imported. Other items you'll find include clotted cream, lemon curd and lime curd. The boutique will also be selling jewelry that has been made from broken China pieces.

"We're looking to sell unique pieces you won't find anywhere else," Sarah Erlandson said.

The couple have designed the boutique around what they wish they could find.

"It's fun to source new products and find unique things that you can't find locally," Sarah Erlandson said.

Fancy That A Tea Boutique will be holding an open house from 1-4p.m. on Saturday, May 28. There will be samples of hot tea, lemon tea bread and scones.

Fancy That A Tea Boutique is located at 272 Main St., Walpole. Phone: 888-323-2TEA(2832).



WICKED LOCAL PHOTO BY SEAN BROWNE

Fancy That A Tea Boutique will be opening at the end of May.