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BUSINESS VENTURES

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Pop-up shop of artisan goods comes to Boca



POP-UP Janelle Lang brought a pop-up display of handmade local artisan goods from her Shoppe 561 to the Athleta store in Town Center at Boca Raton.

MARCI SHATZMAN/STAFF PHOTO

The display in the center of Athleta featured handmade soaps, candles, bracelets, hair wraps, cosmetic bags and colorful jewelry dishes, plus information on classes. There was even natural deodorant.

"This is our first foray into Boca," owner Janelle Lang said on a recent Saturday about her one-day, pop-up display with handmade artisan wares from Shoppe 561, 319 Belvedere Road, in West Palm Beach. "This is a small piece of what we really have."

The merchandise was a perfect fit for customers of the yoga, athletic, swim and sportswear shop on the Tiffany & Co. and Saks Fifth Avenue end of Town Center at Boca Raton mall. Lang, in fact, was a 25-year Gap executive, and the company owns Athleta.

But stepping away from her corporate life,

Lang started the 1,200-square-foot shop with space for group and private classes. The business has a nonprofit component on human trafficking and House Hope Florida, a safe haven for victims, is a core issue on its web site, shoppe561.com/pages/human-trafficking.

Ten percent of sales that day went to Place of Hope at the Leighan and David Rinker campus on Boca Rio Road in West Boca, a state-licensed children's organization providing family-style foster care and other services and a temporary home for young women who have aged out of the foster care system.

"Janelle Lang of Shoppe 561 has been a longtime supporter of various Place of Hope programs and instrumental in raising community awareness and support to restore hope to these chil-

dren and youth in desperate need," executive director Charles Bender said in an email.

"If you to come into the Shoppe, it's Esty on steroids," Lang said, referring to the website on which people sell and buy handmade and vintage items.

Shoppe 561 opened in November 2013 and now has 70 artisans.

"We're always adding and changing and growing," she said.

Wares are accepted on consignment. They also take part in a Sunday green market weekly in Palm Beach Gardens.

The shop has classes starting in April and May on cold and botanical soap making, essential oils, citrus perfumes for spring, creating bath salts, sugar scrubs, and tea and chocolate and wine pairing.

Visit shoppe561.com or call 561-557-7278.