



TAMPA BAY TIMES PHOTO BY SARA DINATALE

**Maria Diccio browses items at the Bungaleaux on Central. Diccio, a jewelry maker, has gone on several of the mystery resale bus tours.**

## THRIFT

FROM PAGE 1D

Mare had found a red purse with intricate beading.

"She knew I'd love it," Diccio said. "For \$15? I asked where the other zero was."

Diccio also held on to a leather belt that was branded with "Oldsmobile," another inexpensive find. Meanwhile, Sandra Martin from Siesta Key found a couple of designer skirts and jewelry she was happy to splurge on.

Maggie Ory opened the Bungaleaux about four years ago. She noticed the appetite for vintage growing.

"People want quality," she said. "If

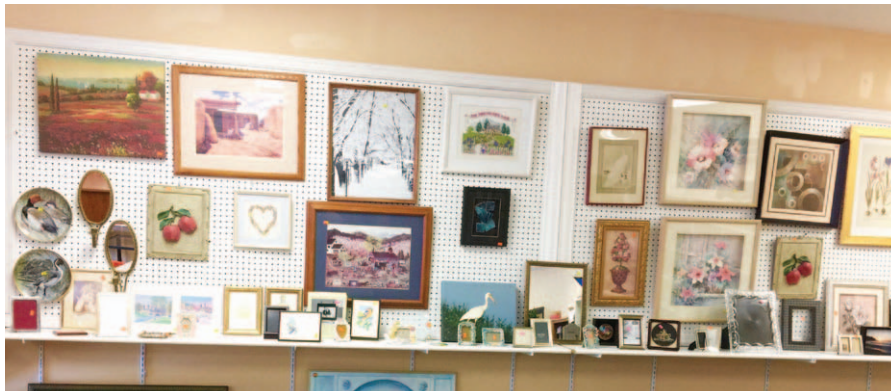
you go to Ikea, you're getting particle board. People like one-of-a-kind vintage."

Ory has held her own customer appreciation events, but she has never hosted a busload of new shoppers. She put out wine, cheese and crackers and opened the shop a little earlier than normal.

Before she started the bus tours, Clark would point out thrifting honey pots to close friends. They were always impressed with her accumulated knowledge of the best spots.

"I'd joke, 'One of these days, I'm going to load you all up on a bus and take you to them all,'" she said.

Eventually, she realized that was actually a good idea.



SUN FILE PHOTO

**St. Francis Animal Rescue Thrift Store in Venice.**