



By Shirley Bloomfield, CEO NTCA-The Rural Broadband Association

Serious security

NTCA members are committed to protecting you

veryone should take cybersecurity seriously, managing passwords and being aware of all the possible threats to your personal information, finances and more. That's not meant to frighten you, because you do have help. NTCA member providers across the nation take your security as seriously as you do, and they work daily to secure the networks bringing you the critical internet-based services you need.

Recently, I had the opportunity to share more about NTCA's cybersecurity efforts for both consumers and broadband providers, including CyberShare: The Small Broadband Provider ISAC, through a meeting with U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Director Jen Easterly.

CISA recently launched the Secure Our World program to raise awareness about cybersecurity best practices and empower the public to take proactive steps to protect themselves online. Resources available to the public include a public service announcement, tip sheets on topics like phishing, multifactor authentication and the importance of creating strong passwords and updating software. And there is even a bingo board to make this critical topic engaging for the youngest internet users.

Also, Cybersecurity Awareness Month each October highlights these important issues and emphasizes that you're also part of the team helping keep us all safe. While NTCA members work behind the scenes, you can help by recognizing phishing attempts, choosing strong passwords and more. Visit cisa.gov/secure-ourworld for more.

Together, we'll help keep everyone safe and secure online.

Password management

Essential tools to keep you safe



Memorizing complex passwords for multiple accounts is difficult, or impossible. So, sometimes passwords are too simple and easily hacked. Password managers, though, can help.



THE BASICS:

A password manager is a software tool that organizes all your passwords. Then, a single master code unlocks this vault — encouraging use of long, complex passwords.

FREE BUILT-IN MANAGERS:

Web browsers, including Safari, Chrome and Edge, have built-in password managers, and these can be accessed across devices like computers and phones. These may suffice



for those with only basic needs, but they are limited. For instance, passwords in Apple's Safari aren't accessible on an Android phone running Google Chrome.



PAID TOOLS:

For more robust options, there is software like LastPass, 1Password and Bitwarden. These work across multiple types of devices and have additional features, such as the ability to generate passwords and integration into your favorite web browser.

TWO KEYS FOR SUCCESS:

Make your master password long, reliable and unique. Sixteen characters is recommended. Also, regularly review your stored passwords to remove passwords for accounts you no longer use.



From pages to pixels

E-books are changing the way we read

eaders today can find themselves facing a technological conundrum. While many book lovers treasure traditional books, electronic devices, designed to make reading more comfortable and accessible, are hard to ignore.

For some, there's nothing like the sensation of holding a book and feeling the paper as the pages turn. Printed books will always have emotional, if not monetary, value as collectibles. And they certainly aren't going anywhere.

These days there are countless options of things to download and read on our phones and tablets, but dedicated, handheld electronic book readers, often called e-readers, offer text and lighting customizations and many other conveniences to enhance the reading experience. Nonreflective, electronic-ink displays give them a paper-like look and make it easier to read outdoors compared with reading on a phone or tablet. And, dedicated e-readers present fewer distractions — you won't be interrupted by notifications, calls or texts.

Over the past few years, the price of e-readers has fallen while the hardware has improved. High-end features, such as backlit, high-resolution screens and waterproofing, are standard. If you don't have an e-book reader, there's never been a better time to invest in one.

E-READERS' EDGE

- Portability: E-readers are lightweight and can store thousands of books.
- Customization: Most allow you to adjust the font and size, background

lighting, etc. They can make reading accessible for individuals with visual impairment by providing text-to-speech and other customizations.

- Searchability: E-readers' built-in search functions mean you can easily find a favorite quote or passage in the book.
- Built-in resources: Dictionaries and thesauruses allow for immediate definitions.
- · Environmentally friendly and affordable: No trees are harmed in e-book production, and they usually cost much less than traditional books.

WHICH ONE IS BEST?

Amazon Kindle is synonymous with e-reader for good reason. According to both Wired magazine and The New York Times' Wirecutter, the Kindle is the most affordable, best and easiest choice for reading electronic books.

- Amazon Kindle: With a 6-inch screen and a high pixel density for sharper text, the least expensive Kindle around \$100 on Amazon — offers just about all the advantages of the more expensive e-readers. If you're planning on reading outdoors this summer, it's worth the extra charge, roughly \$50, to upgrade to the waterproof Kindle Paperwhite with its better lighting options.
- Rakuten Kobo: Japanese retailer Rakuten currently offers six Kindlecomparable e-readers ranging from \$110 to \$400. The Libra 2 has a physical page-turn button and Bluetooth

- support, so you can connect headphones and listen to audiobooks.
- Barnes & Noble Nook: The book retailer's e-reader features a touch screen and page-turning button, as well as the ability to annotate and highlight text. The devices start around \$100. As an added perk, Nook owners can read the complete contents of any book for free while in stores for one hour per day.

What will you read?

Once you've settled on an e-reader, where do you find the books? Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Kobo all sell tomes to download to their specific e-readers. But you could read for years without having to spend another dime. Sources of free e-books include:

- OverDrive.com, used by 43,000 libraries and schools worldwide, allows anyone with a library card to pull e-books, magazines and audio books.
- · Project Gutenberg, a library of more than 70.000 free e-books to download or read online. Thousands of volunteers digitize and proofread the books available at gutenberg.org.
- · Mybookcave.com
- Planetebook.com
- ManyBooks.net
- OpenLibrary.org
- · GetFreeEbooks.com

Enjoying our summer traditions

A time we celebrate together

e're in the dog days of summer. Did you know that phrase dates back to the Romans? When I hear it, I always think about long, hot days perfect for a dip in a creek or pool, or a family gathering beneath a shade tree. It's a time of year bookended by two of my favorite holidays — the Fourth of July and Labor Day.



RUTH CONLEYChief Executive Officer

One of the many things I enjoy about my role with Foothills is seeing all the ways our community comes together. We're more than a communications company. We not only want to provide you industry-leading services — like internet as fast as the summer is hot — but we also have a deep, lasting commitment to helping this place we call home thrive.

There's no better time than summer to experience the energy, bustle and cherished traditions that make being outdoors so enjoyable. From the Fourth of July with fireworks that light up the night sky to Labor Day and its laid-back barbecues, these holidays are benchmarks in the rhythm of the year. But they go beyond the festivities and events. They carry a deeper significance, a reminder of the values we hold dear and the ties that unite us.

For us, the Fourth of July isn't just about celebrating independence. It's about coming together as a community to honor our shared heritage and celebrate our freedoms. Whether it's an annual parade or a neighborhood party or church potluck, these traditions are uniquely our own. We see family and friends often enjoying the same events and places as our parents, grandparents and even older generations. Throughout it all, we also remember those men and women who served our nation, because we would not be where we are as a community or nation without their service and sacrifice.

And then there's Labor Day, a time to pause and reflect on the hard work and dedication that built our community and the nation's economy. Workers play vital roles in our past, present and future, and we're proud our services make much of this work possible. Often the economies of rural places like ours are dismissed, but we see the work and commitment that make the businesses in our region possible. These efforts are worth celebrating every day.

But perhaps what's most remarkable about these holidays — really this entire summer season — are the connections we make along the way. In a world that often feels increasingly disconnected, the traditions tie us not only to this place but also to each other, and we're all the better for it

At Foothills, we're acutely aware of the role we play in fostering this sense of community. It's a responsibility we welcome, whether that means providing access to high-speed internet, supporting our schools, sponsoring a game or any other service we can provide. Together, we make this place all that it is, and I look forward to seeing you out and about during the dog days.



The Foothills Connection is a bimonthly newsletter published by Foothills Communications, ©2024. It is distributed without charge to all customers of the company.



Foothills is a member-owned cooperative that has been serving residents and businesses in Eastern Kentucky since 1951. In the early days, we only offered telephone service over copper wires. Over the years, we have expanded our network and now provide broadband internet and cable TV services over fiber optic facilities to much of our service area, which includes Magoffin, Johnson and Lawrence counties, as well as parts of Boyd and Carter counties and Prichard, West Virginia. We love being part of the communities we serve. Our customers are our families, friends and neighbors.

Foothills Communications P.O. Box 240 1621 Kentucky Route 40 West Staffordsville, KY 41256 www.foothills.net 606-297-3501 Toll Free 888-262-3782

Foothills Mission Statement

"To provide the latest in communications at affordable prices with exceptional service."

Produced for Foothills Communications by:



On the Cover:



Salyersville's Kaelyn Greene sells clothes for every occasion in a range of sizes from her mobile shop, Those 2 Sisters Boutique. See story Page 12.

ioto by John Michael Laney





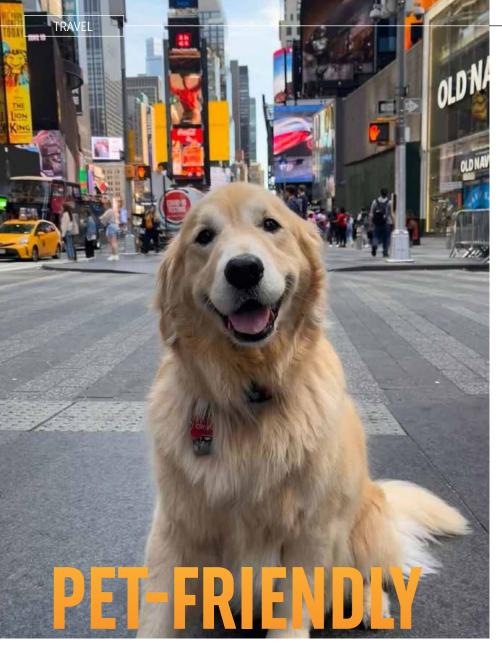
Enjoy a safe and fun Independence Day. In observance of the holiday, our office will be closed on Thursday, July 4.





Foothills Communications

July/August 2024 | 5



ADVENTURES

Map out trips with furry friends





Story by KATHY DENES

ummer typically means travel time, whether scenic road trips or flights to vacation destinations. And more than ever before, beloved pets are tagging along for the ride.

Pet-friendly travel is a hot topic. It's addressed by top vacation resources like Conde Naste Traveler, which has an online list of nationwide hotels and Airbnbs it deems best for accommodating pets, especially dogs. On travelandleisure.com, search "pets," and you'll unleash a wealth of helpful articles.

Even financial companies are weighing in. NerdWallet compiled a list of Best Hotels for Pets in 2024, based on factors like fees and amenities, and rated air travel options, topped by Alaska Airlines. But if you don't want to do the research yourself, there are travel agencies that specialize in planning and taking care of the details for you.

Hotels, resorts, parks and campgrounds usually post their pet policies, fees and amenities, as do airlines, trains and even cruise lines that allow passengers with paws. There are also numerous websites focused entirely on petfriendly travel, across the nation and around the world. Just browse by city, state or destination at resources such as:

- · bringfido.com
- petswelcome.com
- tripswithpets.com









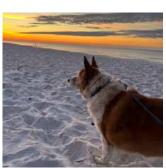












EXPERT ADVICE

"Before deciding to bring your pet along on a trip, you need to ask yourself whether or not it's in your pet's best interest to do so," says Dr. Rena Carlson, president of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

What's a fun adventure for us might be overwhelming for our pets. "If you choose to include your pet, a pre-trip veterinary visit is a good idea, to make sure your pet is healthy and up to date on vaccinations and microchip registration, and to obtain a health certificate, which is required by law if you're traveling to a different state with your pet," Carlson says.

Your veterinarian can also provide vital information about the risk of parasites and other diseases that your pet may be exposed to at your destination, as well as possible preventive steps or treatments.

"Make sure to plan for their comfort in transit, whether by land or air, with regular breaks and by choosing the least stressful travel options," Carlson says. "Confirm in advance that your destinations are pet-friendly, and try to maintain your pet's routine as much as possible to help them feel secure. Your careful planning can ensure a safe and enjoyable trip for everyone involved."



For more great tips for traveling with your pet, check out:

- » pettravel.com
- » petfriendlytravel.com
- » avma.org

YOUR OWN MASSIVE BACKYARD

Whether taking your pooch along for a carriage ride in Charleston — child's ticket required if Fido won't fit in your lap — or entrusting it to doggie day care at Dollywood while you ride the Mystery Mine, the Southeast is loaded with places that welcome four-legged travel buddies. Here are a few destinations that receive high marks from people traveling with their pets:

- Little River Canyon National Preserve atop Lookout Mountain in North Alabama welcomes dogs parkwide, but they must be leashed.
- **Chattanooga** has inviting options, from downtown patio dining and parks to mountain trails and attractions.
- Dinosaur World in Cave City extends a Kentucky welcome to leashed dogs and provides water stations.
- Barkwells, gated retreats in Asheville and Brevard, North Carolina, have dog-centric cabin and cottage rentals, each with a fenced yard and a range of amenities to make it a haven for both pets and people.
- For South Carolina excursions, check sciway.net's pet travel guide for info on rentals, parks, beaches, eateries and more.
- **St. Augustine, Florida,** gets a nod from AAA for pet-friendly options, like strolls, visits to popular attractions and perhaps a stay at the historic Bayfront Marin House.



Christmas for Kids started in 2022 after COVID-19 shut down some of the local organizations that helped families at Christmas. In 2023, the one-day gift-giving festival served nearly 600 children and fed about 900.

Shining Stown

Local organization works year-round to give kids a merry Christmas

STORY BY JEN CALHOUN

hen the COVID-19 pandemic rolled through Eastern Kentucky, it took some long-standing holiday traditions with it, says Brandon May, a lawyer with Teeters & May in Paintsville.

"There had been different organizations in the community that had their own toy drives to get Christmas presents to kids," he says. "But 2020 came along, and those were kind of shut down."

It was a problem that worried Brandon, who, along with his wife, Brianna, and

his law partner, Brad Teeters, knew it was important to donate to the toy drives. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, more than 26% of the population in Johnson County was living in or near poverty in 2022, which likely means many local children could go without at Christmastime.

SANTA CLAUS COMES TO TOWN

So, in 2022, Brandon, Brianna and Brad formed Christmas for Kids of Kentucky, a nonprofit that provides as many presents

as it can to as many children, from birth to 12, as possible. The gift giveaway celebration, also called Christmas for Kids of Kentucky, is part of an annual event that features appearances by Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus and the Grinch. Attendees enjoy hamburgers and hot dogs and crafting activities. All the gifts are age-appropriate, and they're "the good kind of gifts," says Brandon, who serves as the organization's president. Brianna is vice president.

"When the kids get there, they'll go to the toy line," he says. "We have girl toys and boy toys, toys for older kids and younger kids. We try to make sure it's all of equal value and that it's as fair as possible. Last year, we gave out tablets and scooters."

In addition to the gifts, the meal and the activities, the group gives away winter coats and gloves to children who need them and offers free family photos by a professional photographer at the event. Families can also leave with fresh fruit baskets. The fruit comes from Davis Produce in Johnson County.

8 | July/August 2024 Foothills Communications





To brighten the holidays for as many children as possible, Christmas for Kids launched efforts to generate interest in its celebration and to raise funds to continue the festivities. The organization bought a cotton candy machine and hands out the sweet treat at local festivals throughout the year to raise awareness of its mission.

The group also organized an annual twoday golf tournament in June, known as The Greiner, to help bankroll its holiday celebration. The tournament is Christmas for Kids' primary fundraiser, and it's named in honor of the late Paul Greiner, a treasured community member who loved golfing and helping children. "He was a great man," Brandon says. "He's kind of a poster child for what this organization is all about."

After The Greiner's initial outing in 2022, the organization invested in a professional golf organizer to take the tournament to the next level and raise even more funds. The event was expanded to add a gala on Saturday night, and an award was created to recognize the year's outstanding youth volunteer.

"We learned quite a bit in our first year about what worked better than other things and how we could manage our time more efficiently and economically," Brandon says. "But we also knew we needed to build the golf tournament and make it bigger and better."

The improvements worked, too. In its first year, Christmas for Kids spent about \$50,000 on its holiday celebration, with over 500 children receiving presents.

About 750 people were served hamburgers, hot dogs and pizza that day. The next year — 2023 — the event grew by about 40% thanks to the group's fundraising efforts. "We served almost 600 kids last year, and we fed 900 people," Brandon says.

HELPING OUT

Prepping for the annual Christmas event is a 364-day affair, says Brandon, who relies on dedicated volunteers to raise money, organize publicity, staff the events and more. For him, it's about giving back to a community that helped raise him, as well as showing his own children what serving others is all about.

"I want them to grow up seeing and understanding the value of what it means



TOP LEFT: A volunteer elf tries out one of the gifts during a past year's Christmas for Kids event.

ABOVE TOP: The Greiner, an annual golf scramble organized by Christmas for Kids, is the nonprofit's largest fundraiser.

BOTTOM: Volunteers for The Greiner and Christmas for Kids say their participation is both fun and rewarding.

to donate your time and effort for a purpose that's beyond you," he says. "As a parent, that's really what fuels me to work hard at this."

Learn more about it

Christmas for Kids of Kentucky is a tax-exempt nonprofit that organizes an annual Christmas event for children and their families in Paintsville. During the event, children meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, receive age-appropriate gifts, complete craft projects and enjoy hot dogs, hamburgers and other treats.

The organization's primary fundraiser is The Greiner, an annual golf tournament in June. Visit the Christmas for Kids of Kentucky Facebook page for donation and contact information and the latest updates, https://www.facebook.com/ChristmasforKidsofKentucky.

Foothills Communications July/August 2024 | 9

Planting Ideas farmer froberg uses social media to provide lessons, laughs

Story by MELANIE JONES

earing a plaid shirt and a gray Froberg's Farm cap,
Tyler Froberg shares a cool fact about a favorite
fruit with youthful viewers. "Every strawberry in
the world is picked by hand," he tells eager young minds. "And
it takes half an hour to pick one row."

Most fruit and vegetables are harvested by machines, which helps the fourth-generation farmer talk about farming as a STEAM — science, technology, engineering, arts and math — career option he promotes in a video for Lego's education branch, known as Rebuilding the World with Agriculture.

Tyler has made a few videos for Lego, promoting schoolbased projects like building a strawberry-picking machine that won't destroy the delicate fruit. But his screentime isn't limited to collaborations with Lego. As Farmer Froberg, Tyler has more than 780,000 social media followers learning about gardening, farming and life on a fruit and vegetable agritourism farm.

TEACHING THROUGH VIDEOS

When he first got out of the Army, Tyler worked on the family farm in Alvin, Texas. "I decided that I had my GI Bill, so I should probably go to college," he says.

After earning a degree in agriculture, he worked for a year as an agriculture science teacher. "I loved it, and when you love something, you tend to be good at it, and when you tend to be good at it, you get recognition for it," he says.





A nonprofit recognized Tyler as the person it needed to run a program teaching farm skills to fellow veterans. "When I was there, though, I missed the spark that you got with young people, whether it was seeing a seed germinate or seeing an animal being born," he says. "While I was teaching

Around that time, TikTok became popular, and Tyler got an idea. "I should make little videos, like ag lessons," he says. "I'm still a teacher, and maybe that will scratch that itch. And so, I did."

adults, I didn't see the same spark."

In the first two months, several of his videos got a respectable number of views. "I had a video hit 10,000 views, and then I had a video hit 250,000 views, and I was like, 'Huh, there might be something to this.'"

Tyler has posted a few poems, tried growing square watermelons and loofahs, and succeeded in growing star-shaped zucchini. He's even zipped layers of jackets to the tune of "Stand by Me" — which got over 5 million views the first time he posted it. But his favorite videos to make are any with his sons in them. "We just laugh and have fun," he says, talking about "Little Frobergs" Dusty, Carson Lee and Tommy "Tomcat."

"I'm not one of those content creator parents that are like, 'No, no, no. You have to say that this way," he says. "It's only been three years, and so, it's still kind of new for us. They get excited to go out and film with me." Tyler's wife, Kristi, known on social media as "Momma Froberg," also gets the occasional guest spot.

STAGES TO SUCCESS

Tyler's made plenty of silly videos. His personal favorite involves being a rubber duck farmer. "There were these rubber ducks everywhere, and it was just a lot of fun," he says.

Despite his following on social media, Tyler doesn't consider himself an influencer. "Influencers are putting on makeup trying to influence you to use this certain brand or product, or there are ag influencers who create content for people in the ag industry. They work with brands and influence followers to use certain brands or products, and I don't feel like I do that."

Tyler says there are a few stages every content creator goes through. The first step is embarrassment. "You don't want anybody you know to know that you're creating content," he says.

LEFT: Tyler, right, and his uncle, Alfred Froberg, show off watermelons grown at Froberg's Farm.

BELOW: Tyler enjoys making social media videos with his sons, or, as he calls them online, "Little Farmer Frobergs." Tyler and his son, Dustin, have fun sharing gardening lessons.



"Then comes, 'So you're still doing that thing?" he says. "That's when you see your mom and she's like, 'Oh, you're still making the little videos. It's so cute.""

The third phase is thinking content creation is a waste of time. "You're starting to take it more seriously," he says, "but you're not getting a lot out of it yet."

Then there's the final step — success. "For me, I got invited to give a commencement speech at a college graduation, and walking out on stage and realizing, 'oh wait, I think I did it.' I'm still not 100% sure, but I think I achieved something that I never thought I would through social media."

What about those strawberry-picking machines?

"I would like to think that Lego went as far as they could with that and got hundreds of thousands of submissions for strawberry-picking machines, but I don't know that to be true," he says. But he planted the seed of an idea. Now it's time to see what grows. \Box

CHECK IT OUT!

Tyler Froberg's videos are available on Instagram and TikTok at farmer.froberg. His YouTube and Facebook accounts are under the name Farmer Froberg. For more on his family's farm, go to frobergsfarm.com.

Going Places

Mobile boutique takes off

Story by JEN CALHOUN -

aelyn Greene always loved clothes and shopping, but she didn't like leaving Salyersville to get her fix. That's why she started Those 2 Sisters Boutique, a mobile clothing shop built out of a renovated box trailer.

"It's really fun, but we also needed it so bad," says Kaelyn, who opens the shop most days after she gets done with her job as a second grade teacher. "When I go back to my 'why,' it's really that I wanted to do something for my community."

Inside, the trailer is packed with colorful racks of women's clothing and accessories, including blouses, pants, rompers, shorts and dresses. Sizes range from small to 5X, and styles span the gamut from casual outfits to work attire and special occasion dresses. "We have a little bit of everything — every size and every style," Kaelyn says. "That was really important to me."

ONLINE AND ON THE MOVE

The boutique generally stays parked near Kaelyn's father's business, Magoffin County Farm Bureau, on Gardner Trail. However, she sometimes travels to festivals and other special events. "It's kind of like a hidden gem, because people can't imagine what's on the inside," she says. "Pictures don't do it justice, either."

Kaelyn also sells through the shop's Facebook page, which boasts nearly 6,000 followers. Thanks to Foothills Communications' internet service, she's able to reach buyers all over the world. She's shipped her products to at least 30 of the 50 states, and sales are so swift she might sell out of an item just minutes after posting it on the social media site. "The internet is my biggest sales channel," Kaelyn says. "I also use it to find suppliers and shop for merchandise and promoting and advertising. It's absolutely the biggest driver for my business.

"When you post something, you better be ready to go back and forth with people online or over the phone," she adds. "I can take a picture of a dress or a shirt lying on my living room floor, and it'll sell in, like, five minutes. It's the craziest thing. I'm not sure anybody can understand."

After opening two years ago, Kaelyn started selling clothing through a website. But orders moved so quickly, she couldn't keep up and continue her regular job. "It was getting to where there would be, like, seven to eight orders a night while I was sleeping," she says. "When I woke up, I'd have to go to work. I couldn't immediately fill those orders. It was selling more than I could keep up with."



Kaelyn Greene, a teacher, started the mobile boutique as an affordable way to open her own shop.

GETTING INTO THE GROOVE

Kaelyn initially started the shop with her sister, Lakeyn Greene, hence the name Those 2 Sisters Boutique. Lakeyn soon had to step away from the venture due to other obligations. However, Lakeyn and her daughter, Lynlee Meade, lend Kaelyn a hand as often as they can. Kaelyn and Lakeyn's mother, Sherry Greene, was a huge help in renovating the trailer and getting the shop started, as were other friends and family members.

Although Kaelyn never studied business in school, she's always excelled at research. "I looked up everything," she says. "It started slowly, and it was a learning process." Despite her knowledge of shopping and clothing, she was surprised to realize buying clothes for retail was a skill to be learned. She soon discovered the kinds of items that sell quickly and those that tend to languish on the shelves. "So, it was just kind of finding a groove there," she says. "But once it got started, it took off quickly."

In the future, she hopes to expand and possibly even find a brick-and-mortar storefront. It's what people expect when they come looking for her shop, after all. But for now, Kaelyn feels like she has it made. "There's no rent on the trailer, and everything's paid for," she says. "I have no overhead. Everything's working out just fine."

12 | July/August 2024 Foothills Communications



66 The internet is my biggest sales channel.

 Kaelyn Greene, owner of Those 2 Sisters Boutique

GETTING THE LOOK

Those 2 Sisters is a mobile boutique that's often parked at 758 Gardner Trail in Salyersville near Magoffin County Farm Bureau. It can also be found on location at festivals and events. The shop carries women's clothing and accessories with styles ranging from casual to special occasion wear. Sizes run from small to 5X.

For more information, or to shop online, visit the Those 2 Sisters Facebook page. This is where owner Kaelyn Greene lists when and where the shop's going to be. She also posts pictures and descriptions of new arrivals, answers questions and takes orders. Also, make sure to scan the QR code below using the camera on your mobile phone. When a message with "dot.cards" appears in the picture window, click on it. It will take you to the shop's business and payment information.



ABOVE LEFT: Those 2 Sisters sells women's clothing and accessories with styles ranging from casual to special occasion wear. Sizes run from small to 5X.

LEFT: Built from a box trailer, the boutique can travel to festivals and other special events.





Control of the Manager of the Manage

Foothills Communications July/August 2024 | 13

Sensational

mong summer's many charms are vegetables and fruit blooming with flavor, and it doesn't take a lot of effort to turn them into delicious salads.

These recipes cover all the salad bases. From crisp leafy tossed salads to sturdy mixes that can sit out for a couple hours while the kids play in the yard and you visit with friends. Keep it easy and choose a makeahead recipe featuring hearty pastas, grains and beans that can work as a side dish or a full meal, or throw together fruit or vegetable combinations that hit sweet or savory notes.

Summer salads are versatile, so feel free to swap out lettuces, and use a variety of fruits instead of just one kind. After all, it's summertime, and the living — and cooking – should be easy.



Food Editor Anne P. Bralv is a native of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Photography by Mark Gilliland Food Styling by Rhonda Gilliland

BLUEBERRY PEACH SALAD

- 1 pint fresh blueberries
- 2 peaches, diced (leaving the skin on adds texture, vitamins and color)
- 2 cucumbers, sliced
- 1/2 cup crumbled feta cheese
 - 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
 - 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
 - 1 tablespoon honey
 - 1 tablespoon olive oil
 - 1 tablespoon finely chopped basil Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

In a large serving bowl combine the blueberries, peaches, cucumbers and feta.

In a jar with a lid or measuring cup combine the lemon juice, Dijon, honey, olive oil, basil, salt and pepper. Whisk together until well combined.

Pour the vinaigrette over the salad and gently mix everything together. Taste for seasoning and garnish with extra basil. Serve or cover and refrigerate the salad until ready to serve.



SUMMER CORN SALAD

- 3 cups corn kernels (approximately 4 ears)
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes, quartered
- 1 cup cucumbers, diced
- 1 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 1/4 cup red onion, diced
 - 3 tablespoons olive oil
 - 3 tablespoons rice vinegar
 - 1 tablespoon fresh parsley Fresh basil ribbons Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil and add the corn. Cook for 3 to 4 minutes or until the kernels turn bright yellow. Drain the corn and cool completely. Use a sharp knife to remove the kernels from the corn cob, scraping the cobs to get all the "milk" from the cobs.

In a large bowl, combine the corn kernels, cherry tomatoes, cucumbers, feta cheese and red onion. Drizzle the olive oil and vinegar over the salad.

Season generously with salt and pepper, to taste, and toss well to combine. At this point, the salad may be made ahead. Just before serving, sprinkle with fresh herbs, and toss to combine.



MAIN DISH TORTELLINI SALAD

Grilled chicken heightens the flavor of this salad.

- 2 (10-ounce) packages cheese tortellini, prepared according to package instructions
- 2 cups shredded chicken
- 1 cup halved cherry tomatoes
- 8 ounces fresh mozzarella pearls
- 1 cup roasted red bell peppers, chopped into 1/2 -inch pieces
- 1 cup basil pesto (store-bought or homemade)
- 11/2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil Fresh basil ribbons, for garnish

In a large bowl, combine the tortellini, shredded chicken, cherry tomatoes, mozzarella, roasted peppers, pesto and olive oil. Cover and refrigerate. Can be prepared up to a day ahead. When ready to serve, top with fresh basil.



SUMMER SHRIMP SALAD

- 2 pounds shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped red onion
- 1 rib celery, finely chopped

Dressing:

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 lemon, zested and juiced
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt Pinch of freshly ground black pepper

Bring a pot of water to a boil. Add the shrimp and boil for 2 to 3 minutes, until cooked through and pink. Plunge the cooked shrimp in an ice water bath to cool.

Meanwhile, make the dressing: Stir together the mayonnaise, lemon juice and zest, dill, mustard, garlic, salt and pepper.

In a mixing bowl, stir together the cooled shrimp, red onion, celery and dressing, until creamy. Serve plain or nestled on butter lettuce leaves garnished with fronds of fresh dill, if desired.





P.O. Box 240 1621 Kentucky Route 40 West Staffordsville, KY 41256

