

DOWNTOWN NORTHVILLE SEES NEW SMALL, LOCAL BUSINESSES OPEN AND OTHERS EXPAND DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

(Northville, February 15, 2021) – As small businesses continue to navigate through these unprecedented times the **Northville Downtown Development Authority**, has **seen new openings and expansions of local businesses during the pandemic**. Several Downtown Northville businesses have made changes since the pandemic – **Spice Merchants has expanded, Pear-aphernalia has relocated to a new space, TeaGather** has opened the downtown’s **first Bubble Tea Shop**, and **Sugar Lu’s** has brought a sweet candy shop to the business landscape.

“Small businesses are the heartbeat that move a community forward and our Downtown Northville businesses have adapted, with DDA support, while continuing to provide much needed services,” said Lori Ward, Director of the Northville Downtown Development Authority. “We have witnessed Northville citizens and businesses come together to minimize the potential economic impact of COVID-19, and we are thrilled to see so many businesses flourish and expand their footprint even during a pandemic.” added Ward.

Located within walking distance of each other - here is a look at what visitors to town can expect from these new and expanded businesses:

Pear-aphernalia:

A visitor-favorite shop for 20 years in Downtown Northville, the home décor **recently reopened at their new Main Street location – 111 E. Main Street**. Pear-aphernalia was established in Northville in 2001. In 2013, the business was purchased by Peggy Stoe & Jenny Grochowski a mother/daughter team who have the love, passion & work ethic to make their small boutique shop a success. The retail store features wall art, lamps, florals and home accents combining classic and modern style creating an atmosphere of comfort and easy conversation in your home. We are very proud of our gift line, a gift purchased at Pear-aphernalia is sure to be considered "special" by the recipient. For more information, visit pear-aphernalia.com and follow them on Facebook and Instagram.

TeaGather:

The newest and first Bubble Tea shop in Downtown Northville, **TeaGather – located at 135 E. Cady Street**. TeaGather’s menu embodies a combination of both the current and traditional essence of the Chinese culture. Our milk tea derives from the recipe brought by one of the earliest pioneers of the milk tea culture, which ensures each drink to be held to its purest and highest standards. Similarly, the ingredients we use to make our food goes through numerous selections and standardizes to ensure consistency in our product’s taste and texture. Our food menu is also exceptional due to our many years of expertise in operating food and dining establishments. We strive to carry through the authenticity of Taiwanese street food, with a focus on health. For more information on TeaGather visit northvilleteami.com and follow them on Facebook and Instagram (@northville.tea).

Spice Merchants:

A Downtown Northville favorite since opening in 2014, Spice Merchants expanded into a larger storefront in the summer of 2020 – seeing them move from their original space on Center Street to a larger space right on Main Street next to Town Square. The new space has allowed the specialty shop to carry more products than before, including 50 new teas and 15 new spices as well as doubling the selection of oils and balsamic vinegars. They're adding more craft cocktail bitters, and some specialty foods, including Conservas, a canned seafood delicacy from places like Spain and France. **Spice Merchants is now located at 134 E. Main Street.** For more information, follow Spice Merchants Northville on Facebook or Instagram.

Sugar Lu's:

Downtown Northville's sweetest candy shop, **Sugar Lu's (116 E. Main Street)**, carries a variety of sweets, from the classics like Charleston Chews, Chick o' Stick and more to the newest treats such as Sweet Treats, truffles, gourmet marshmallows, and vegan chocolates - satisfying anyone's sweet tooth. The new owner, Alicia Racine of Adorn Fine Flowers, opened the candy shop in August of 2020. Adorn (118 E. Main Street) is located right next door to Sugar Lu's. For more information on Sugar Lu's follow them on Facebook or Instagram.

For more information on Downtown Northville businesses, visit www.downtownnorthville.com. All media requests, please contact Jeanne Micallef of IMJ Communications at jeanne@imjcommunications.com or 313-410-1079.