

Dining Out

The same funky atmosphere in a bigger space

More visibility a half block away and more room

Susan S. Yeske

Annette Coletta had an established clientele at her Zen Den café, tucked back into a cozy location behind State Street in Doylestown.

But she wanted better visibility for the restaurant, so when Shaving Grace at 41 East State St. closed down, she jumped at the chance to relocate a half block away.

It's made a world of difference. Since she opened the new café on Nov. 3, she has more room and new customers are finding what has been described as a "funky, chic coffee boutique."

"We more than doubled our work area," she said, including building a full kitchen to turn the site into a restaurant.

She and her staff also revamped the menu. "We added more health-conscious and vegan options," she said.

Especially popular is the avocado toast, a vegan combination of sliced avocado on crusty bread with olive oil, salt and pepper. "We go through six cases of avocados a week," she said, because customers like it so much.

Other breakfast options include a breakfast burrito, power wrap, egg sandwich, oatmeal and a sunrise bowl of bacon, avocado, hard-boiled egg, quinoa and roasted tomatoes.

A top seller from the lunch menu is the Buddha bowl, which is a plate filled with crispy roasted chicken, quinoa, mixed greens and housemade red pepper sauce. Soups and quiches are made daily, and for meat eaters there is a chicken curry wrap



Annette Coletta moved her popular café, the Zen Den, to a more visible location on East State Street in Doylestown.



Avocado toast, made on crusty bread with a drizzle of olive oil, is a top seller on the menu at the Zen Den.

and the crimson bowl, which includes roasted chicken, quinoa, roasted red peppers and beets and mixed greens with more of the red pepper sauce.

A different flatbread is featured

each week and that can feature meat as well.

The breakfast and lunch menus are served all day at the Zen Den.

The coffee list is extensive. In addition to lattes, macchiatos



Small tables and cozy seating areas are still the hallmark of the Zen Den.

Photographs by Susan S. Yeske

and cappuccinos, Coletta offers espressos, pour overs, Americanas, and Vietnamese coffees. Special coffee flavors are displayed on a board near the front of the restaurant and include flavors such as campfire mocha, Mayan mocha, Nutella mocha and Sicilian Kiss.

Tea drinkers can opt for chai lattes or organic black, green or herbal teas in a variety of flavors. Cold drinks include coffee, iced tea, lemonade, chai, cider, smoothies and frappes.

The new version of the Zen Den has the same collection of small tables and clusters of cozy sofas and chairs, and is decorated with recycled materials. The décor includes oversized flowers painted at strategic spots on the walls. Live music is performed Friday through Sunday nights.

Despite the new location and

expanded menu, Coletta said the café is the same comfortable, funky place it has been for the past seven years. "It's just a different setting."

susan.yeske@gmail.com

ZEN DEN

41 E. State St., Doylestown
267-880-6205
zendencoffeeshop.com

Cost: Breakfast \$4.50-\$8.75, lunch \$5.50-\$8.50, coffee \$2.55-\$5.20.

Hours: 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Mon.-Thu., 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Sat., 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Sun.

Customer favorites: Avocado toast, Buddha bowl, Crimson bowl, Quiche.

Family Service opens two units at homeless shelter

Family Service recently opened two new family units at the Bucks County Emergency Homeless Shelter, thanks to a \$150,000 donation from the Matthew P. Pellegriño II Memorial Foundation and support from Bristol Township.

Family Service is a nonprofit organization that serves more than 26,000 people in need each year. It offers a variety of programs and services including emergency housing, suicide prevention, parent education, recovery support, counseling, job coaching and more. Family Service also operates the Bucks County Emergency Homeless Shelter, a temporary residence for individuals and families who have lost safe and stable housing.

The funds from the Foundation named after the late Matthew P. Pellegriño II covered the cost of materials and other supplies for the new family units at the Bucks



Members of the Pellegriño family at the build last fall.

County Emergency Homeless Shelter.

Last year, Franco D'Andrea, a close friend of the Pellegriños and an ongoing shelter supporter, suggested the project to the family and they immediately accepted the recommendation to support Family Service and the Bucks

County Emergency Homeless Shelter.

In addition to funding the project, the Pellegriño family formed a team of approximately 100 volunteers to build the shelter's new family units. D'Andrea, who had led the teams for renovations to the shelter's kitchen and bath-

rooms over the past few years, served as the project manager.

The two new units each consist of a sleeping area large enough for four people, and a family-sized bathroom. These additions allow the shelter house up to an additional 10 people at a time. Residents of the new units can include two-parent families with children, and family groups for whom the dormitory-style housing is not appropriate or does not work well, such as a father with a young daughter, a mother

with teenage sons, or a person with physical disabilities requiring handicapped-accessible restrooms.

If you are or someone you know is homeless or experiencing a housing crisis, call the Bucks County Housing Link at 800-810-4434 or visit fsabc.org/shelter. To learn how to support the Bucks County Emergency Homeless Shelter, contact Joanne Boggett, Chief Development Officer, at 215-757-6916, x211 or jboggett@fsabc.org.

Golden Star Diner

Chicken Française over rice...\$15.95

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THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

Timberlane hosts annual Wing Bowl for employees

Timberlane Shutters has ordered more than 1,000 wings for its biggest employee event of the year, the annual Wing Bowl, on March 23.

The Montgomeryville firm has partnered with Country Sweet Cooking Sauces, which has provided its wing sauce for this event.

Nearly all of Timberlane employees attend the wing Bowl, and more than 40 percent participate.

In addition to the main event, there will be cheerleaders, beer

pong, and plenty of noncompetitive eating. There will also be wing bowl shirts, which get a fresh design every year, and every employee goes home with one.

The rules of the game are simple: participants must eat as many wings as they can in 10 minutes.

The triumphant eater gets a cash prize and bragging rights for an entire year. Each employee creates an alter ego and has the opportunity to claim victory over "Just In My Belly" Justin, "Short Wing" Nick, and other returning champs.

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