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Brick and Mortar

BY LESLIE SINCLAIR

1 ALL GOOD DOG FOOD

Three years ago, when the number of kibbles his puppy refused to eat hit double digits, Jonathan Cooper, “Top Dog” at All Good Dog Food, took matters into his own hands: “I said, okay, let me think about what I’m actually feeding my dog.” The quest to feed his white German shepherd led him to an animal nutritionist in the United States, who developed a fresh cooked diet for his dog. It wasn’t long before Jonathan and his partner noticed improvement in their dog’s skin, coat, and smell. Other dog owners noticed, too and All Good Dog Food has grown into a retail store from its inception supplying the dog park. All Good Dog Food insists on local, seasonal, and fresh ingredients and grinds its meat on-site. If you’re a cat owner, they have something for you, too. Stop in for dehydrated chicken or beef liver treats that both dogs and cats can enjoy.

16 Vaughan Road **647-352-2433** allgooddogfood.com

2 ANET GESUALDI MACARONS

Anet Gesualdi, owner of AG Macarons, discovered the macaron on a trip to Paris and decided to turn her passion for baking into a business. She wanted more of a “Toronto” scene for her second location and seized the opportunity when space in a family-owned building opened up. “It’s a really good area; it’s changing,” Anet says of the new development on Dupont, “we thought it would be a nice fit.” AG Macarons typically has 21 flavours on hand at all times—a mix of 15 signature flavours plus at least six that are rotated in regularly and with the seasons (pumpkin spice and apple pie are new this fall). AG Macarons also serves Sloane tea and carries a wide range of cake stands, tea cups, stationery, and aprons. Lifestyle classes such as floral arranging, sweet table design, and calligraphy take place in the studio at the back of the shop.

647 Dupont Street **647-977-3124** agmacarons.com

3 HOUSE OF CHAN

There’s just one thing House of Chan’s otherwise glowing Zagat review has wrong: the space is no longer “ragged around the edges” and “in need of updating”. All of that has changed with the iconic Forest Hill restaurant’s move just one short kilometre east from its long-time location on Eglinton. In its new location, House of Chan continues to serve the finest steaks, lobster, and Cantonese and Szechuan cuisine. The complete and extensive menu is available for takeout (10% discount if you pick it up and pay with cash) and delivery is offered between Steeles Avenue, Bloor Street and Bayview Drive to Allen Road. What else is there to say about a restaurant that’s been around for over 50 years and is so good it has a no reservations policy? As House of Chan says, “Restaurants don’t survive this long unless they’re doing something right.” Go hungry.

514 Eglinton Avenue West **416-781-5755** houseofchan.ca

LESLIE SINCLAIR is a freelance writer in the St. Clair West Village. Leslie loves to write about people and subculture.