

# One Girl Desserts & Pastries Reopens For Business In York County

Jen Holden, Peninsula Chronicle

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*Photo of Najeonna Iman courtesy of One Girl Desserts & Pastries.*

YORK-Those who became accustomed to Najeonna Iman’s baked goods while she operated One Girl Desserts & Pastries for a little over a year and a half before it closed in August 2021 are in for a treat. The 25-year-old entrepreneur’s bakery is back in business and headquartered from a new storefront. One Girl Desserts & Pastries held a soft opening on Friday, January 13 at its new location next to Velocity Church within the Pilgrim Village Shopping Center in York County.

The bakery has resumed selling Iman’s homemade banana pudding, cakes, cookies, fruit and chocolate bars, cinnamon buns, and spice breads, as well as other fan favorites. Baked goods are currently available for pickup and delivery, and Iman has also started selling items through the shop’s ecommerce site. If all goes as planned, One Girl Desserts & Pastries intends to hold a grand opening in February and will

open a small dining area for guests to enjoy treats onsite in addition to carry-out and pickup options.

Iman is ecstatic to be back open and said the closing of her first storefront was due to ramifications from the covid-19 pandemic.

“I opened the first storefront in January of 2020, and it was really hard to run during the pandemic,” said Iman. “When I first opened, I had people coming in, but as the pandemic worsened, there wasn’t enough business to pay my rent and overhead. I stayed open until I could, and it was really sad because I had been wanting to run a dessert shop since I was 14.”

Iman first made a name for herself when she was a youngster attending middle school in Chesapeake.

“At that time, my mom was working two jobs and had to quit them due to health reasons because her lupus got really bad,” said Iman. “My mom has always been a really hard worker and I wanted to be there for her and help her through the struggle with lupus. I also have an older brother who is autistic. I was trying to help the family by raising money to purchase a speech device for my brother Apache.”

When she was 13, the young chef took over the tradition of baking seasonal goodies for her family while her mother was ill during Christmas break and began sharing them with friends upon returning to school.

“Everyone who tried them said I should start selling my chocolatey chewy bars,” said Iman. “My mom obtained a business license in her name so that I was able to start selling them at farmer’s markets, salons, barbershops, and at stores in a few malls. Business really took off, mostly due to word of mouth.”

Though crushed by the shutdown of her business, Iman became creative with her time after she closed her first storefront.

“During covid, I spent a lot of time baking and taught myself how to make red velvet cake, croissants, and carrot cake, so there are a few new additions to the menu,” said Iman. “I’ve added a couple of new soups for purchase too, including chicken and rice, chicken noodle, and minestrone soup. My mom will also be adding her beef stew to the menu a little later on. Since covid was so unpredictable, my mom said she wanted

to partner with me this time around in the case that anything like that happens again. My younger brother Keyon will be helping out at the shop as well.”

Iman plans to sell her baked goods and soups at [Yorktown Winter Markets](#), which will be held from 10am to 2pm on Saturdays beginning February 11.

One Girl Desserts & Pastries is located at 3630, Suite B1, George Washington Memorial Highway. To view the menu and place an order, visit its [website](#). For more information, call 757-940-5269 or visit the shop’s [Facebook page](#).