

Stuff face, maybe win pizza race

By Karen Fernau
The Arizona Republic

Pizza lovers, rev up your appetites.

A Gilbert cafe is hosting the first of what will be an annual pie-eating contest a week from today.

Big appetites will square off for 15 minutes, with the winner being the person who consumes the most slices of cheese pizza.

"There's no special reason for this contest, except to have fun," said Jeff Flancer, owner of Flancer's Cafe. "What's more fun than eating pizza?"

The winner will leave with more than a full belly: The top pizza guzzler receives a one-night stay for two at Gold Canyon Resort, including two rounds of golf, horseback riding and a \$100 gift certificate to Flancer's. Second and third places also receive prizes. All contestants receive a contest T-shirt.

Miss Arizona, Kristen Vatt, will crown the winner.

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Cori Takemoto Williams/The Arizona Republic

The sauce is the secret of a good pizza, says Jeff Flancer of Flancer's Cafe in Gilbert.

CONTEST Pizza fans to dig into pies, go for top prize

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at 612 N. Gilbert Road, a year ago.

The entry fee is \$20 a person, and the contest begins at 1 p.m. To enter, call (480) 926-9077.

Contestants probably will be too busy stuffing slices into their mouths to notice taste, but Flancer's makes its sauce daily from scratch and cooks the pizzas in brick ovens.

"New Yorkers come here and say our pizza tastes like what they ate back home," said Flancer, who opened the cafe,

In honor of the first pie-eating contest, Flancer is sharing his "secret" recipe for sauce, which calls for top-quality canned tomatoes and fresh herbs.

"The sauce is one-third of a pizza," he said. "It should be good."

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