

BUSINESS**Barro's Pizza adds
Grayhawk location**

It is the fourth new restaurant this year for the Carefree-based chain.

PAGE 11**Barro's opens at Grayhawk Plaza**

By Beth Ducket

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Barro's Pizza, known for its thick-crust pies and tangy sauce, has opened a restaurant in Scottsdale's Grayhawk Plaza.

The family run operation, with local headquarters in Carefree, bucked economic trends this year to open four new locations.

**Michael
Barro**

Scottsdale is one of the largest.

"The market is wide open for sites that have closed," said Michael Barro, who operates Barro's in the northeast and west areas of the Valley. "The business

climate right now is for us to expand."

Barro's reached a deal with Grayhawk developer the Pederson Group to replace the former Primetime Sports Grill, 20701 N. Scottsdale Road. The 3,700-square-foot restaurant, a mile north of Loop 101, mimics the interior design of Barro's other locations with private booths and dark wood trimmings.

"We ended up getting it a year after it closed," Barro said. "When it became available, it was a no-brainer."

In the future, the business hopes to expand into the Happy Valley/Lake Pleasant areas and Westgate City Center off Loop 101 and Glendale Avenue.

Diners can look forward to Barro's wings, salads, sandwiches, pasta and, of course, the venerable pies that have made the chain popular.

The restaurant's lunch specials, which run \$4.25 for a small salad, slice of pizza

Barro's Pizza

Where: Grayhawk Plaza, southeast of Grayhawk Drive and Scottsdale Road.

Hours: 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 10:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Details: 480-513-8393.

About Grayhawk Plaza

Opened in 2001, the shopping center has a 58,000-square-foot Bashas', Walgreens, Tutor Time Day Care, Pei Wei, Leslie's Poolmart and Blockbuster. The developer is the Pederson Group.

and drink, or \$4 for two slices and a drink, are especially popular, according to the owners.

Round-the-clock prices range from \$4 for a mini pizza to \$11.25 for an extra-large, non-specialty pie.

The recipes date 120 years to Barro's great-grandparents, who were born and reared in Italy.

They cultivated the ingredients and passed them on to Barro's grandmother, Angelina, who dished out pizzas to neighbors in Chicago's Little Italy.

The first restaurant was a hole-in-the-wall joint in Chicago.

Angelo, Michael's father, founded Barro's Pizza in Mesa in 1980.

His three sons, Michael, Bruce and Ken, now oversee 28 locations in the Valley and Casa Grande.

Michael Barro, who has two sons, expects to pass the torch and maintain the family tradition.