

Toppers Pizza returns to St. Cloud on Dec. 6

Jake Laxen, jlaxen@stcloudtimes.com 7:30 p.m. CST November 20, 2014



(Photo: Dave Schwarz, dschwarz@stcloudtimes.com)

Toppers Pizza will make its return to St. Cloud on Saturday, Dec. 6, owner Myron Allen said Thursday.

And the first 50 customers in line at the 10:30 a.m. grand opening will win free Toppers for a year.

The new downtown St. Cloud location is at 202 Sixth Ave. S. Allen said that the restaurant passed its city inspection on Thursday morning.

"Things are going very well," said Allen, who will run the store with his son Keith. "Construction went well. We are now getting our phone systems and (point of sale) systems set up and working."

Toppers had a St. Cloud location at 2815 Division St. from 2004-2010. Allen said that Toppers initially did well at the location but eventually closed after an ownership switch.

Allen said they plan to open a second St. Cloud Toppers by the end of 2015. They haven't selected the second location yet.

"Location was critical in coming back," Allen said. "We really like our spot downtown. St. Cloud is a very similar to the Toppers corporate target for cities. There's a good student population, and the city of St. Cloud is a good size for this type of pizza place."

Toppers is a national pizza delivery/pickup chain that debuted in 1991 and now has more than 60 locations throughout 11 states.

The restaurant offers 16 specialty pizzas and also allows customers to build their own options.

The chain is known for its TopperStix cheesy bread that can also be ordered with taco, pepperoni and bacon toppings. They also offer dessert stix options of cinnamon and chocolate bacon.

The restaurant also offers different buffalo wing flavors.

The restaurant will conduct employee training during the first week of December.

Allen said they plan to employ a high number of college students. Keith is moving to the St. Cloud area and will handle the day-to-day operations.

"It's the perfect population to draw from in creating a staff," Allen said.

Allen and his son, who are from Chatfield, have opened two Toppers locations in Rochester since 2012. The initial Rochester Toppers set a company sales record during its first week.

"We're sort of veterans at this now," Allen said. "We are a very hands-on family."

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