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NEWS

Dining out and in - 2011 Readers' Choice

The ballots poured in and the readers have selected their favorites in 40 categories ranging from wings to cannolis and from happy hour to tradition. The votes have been tallied, so here are the best of South Philly in 2011:

By Bill Gelman, Joseph Myers, Erica J. Minutella and Alvaro Balderas

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White vetting



A 58-year-old member of the community, **Cacia's Bakery**, 1526 W. Ritner St., knows pizza. The Marconi business offers its six types 363 days a year, granting owner Sam Cacia's hands few breaks. For the tastiness of the digits' labors, readers have honored Cacia's with the top **white pizza** title.

Cacia tends to the sauceless treat, capping its five-hour preparation by baking it on an 18-inch-by-26-inch sheet pan.

"The duration of its creation is probably one of the reasons people like it," Cacia, with 33 years of service, said. "When you make a product that's fresh everyday, with an original family recipe, people know, and the

taste is obvious."

He credits his grandmother with his establishment's recipes and always has dough ready to prepare white pizza.

"In the grand economic scale, pizza is not a really expensive item, but people still covet quality. We pride ourselves on giving them that," Cacia, whose clan oversees six more bakeries in Delaware County and New Jersey, said.

His white pizza enjoys its greatest popularity during the Lenten and Christmas seasons. Four generations of Cacias have been able to hawk the goody, known in their Calabria homeland as "pizza bianca." As the current overseer, Cacia appreciates the acceptance of his creation.

"When the people speak to you and tell you you're doing a good job, it means more than any other type of award you can get," he said.

Celebre's Pizzeria did not blank out, finishing in second place, while City Pizza baked up a third-place result.

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1. **Anonymous said...** on Mar 17, 2011 at 03:07PM
 "The Peking Inn has the best ethnic food in the city!"

2. **Anonymous said...** on Mar 18, 2011 at 06:50AM
 "Johnny Chang's all the way!"

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