



Grilled salmon and green beans with almonds are featured on the dinner menu at the Cinnaminson dining spot.

Cathy's Catering gives diners taste of home cooking

By Sally Friedman
Special to What's Happening!

It definitely was in her genes. Cathy Gunn's mother was an awesome cook, and this youngest member of the family of four daughters used to love to watch her mom cook — and to learn from her.

"I tried other things, and was at a desk job at Hahnemann Hospital for several years. I wasn't happy behind a desk."

So Gunn, a Cinnaminson native who still resides there, started catering meals, using her own kitchen but quickly outgrowing it as businesses and individuals sought her culinary expertise.

"After about a year, I moved into a storefront in Palmyra, where, for the next eight years, I was serving lunch and doing a busy take-out business along with the catering. Then, I moved into my present location in

Cinnaminson, but I only had the back of the building," said Gunn, the mother of two.

When the pizza place that occupied the front of her Cinnaminson Avenue space moved out in July, Gunn incorporated the space into Cathy's Catering & Takeout.

Life is busier than ever for Gunn. The same food that has earned her legions of fans is available in a 24-seat restaurant, dotted with small tables for two and four, along with a fenced outdoor seating area for use in pleasant weather.

Her "Dinners-To-Go" continues to thrive, with the luxury of simply choosing from Cathy's Catering special menu. "People can run in for dinners for two at affordable prices, transfer them from the restaurant's fridge to the

Cathy Gunn, owner of Cathy's Catering & Takeout, relaxes in the dining room of her 24-seat restaurant.

microwave, and feel as if they're actually eating out," said Gunn.

If you've never wandered into Cathy's for lunch, you're missing a good spot for gourmet burgers, salads and soups such as crab corn chowder, chili in a bread "bowl" and clam chowder.

Because Gunn learned her craft in her own mother's kitchen, she is a passionate proponent of the homemade — and that even includes side dishes.

The dining spot also specializes in pitas and croissants, sour-dough paninis and wraps.

One of our all-time favorites is the chunky chicken pita with grapes and pistachio nuts in a tasty marinade.

Dinner offerings include chicken parmigiana, Mediterranean shrimp over pasta, baked lasagna with sausage and grilled salmon with fennel, dill and a bruchetta topping.

For those who think dessert is a food group, this tip: Try the homemade cherry-topped cheesecake.

Gunn's husband, Jay, a Cinnaminson police lieutenant, is

her loyal partner in the restaurant when time allows. Her other support is a lively Web site where visitors can get an overview of the entire operation (www.cathy-scatering.com)

"I'm so fortunate that we can own and operate a neighborhood place where we can be proud of the quality, and where customers become friends. For me, that's as good as it gets," said Gunn.



BCT staff photos/MATT STANLEY

if you go

Cathy's Catering & Takeout
Address: 1811 Cinnaminson Ave., Cinnaminson
Phone: (856) 829-2119
Hours: Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; closed Sundays
Prices: Dinner entrees average \$12.95; paninis, wraps, pitas, croissants, \$6.99; dinners to go for two, average \$10.99

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