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Serving Gig Harbor and the Key Peninsula

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Gig Harbor family adds spice to mundane meals

Kalyn Kelley / of the Gateway

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Who ever said pizza isn't good for you has never been to the harbor. Just ask local couple, Ken and Denise Walter, creators of DaViola Original Pizza Peppers.

Full-time workers and parents to three toddlers, the idea to create a flavorful punch for everyday frozen pizza came naturally.

With little time or money to spend on gourmet dining, variety toppings, the Walters said, seemed the perfect option for mundane pizzas.

And they weren't alone. According to the DaViola fast facts sheet, 93 percent of Americans eat pizza at least once a month.

"We launched our product line a few short months ago and are already in almost 100 grocery stores nationwide," Denise said.

In addition to adding flavor to pizza, the Walters have used their product to add spice to foods of every kind — from pasta to shrimp. Hoping to motivate their customers to explore the potential of DaViola, the Walters have also added a menu section to their Web site, highlighting some of their most popular dishes.

"Busy families will appreciate the convenience and spunk our peppers add to everyday foods," Denise said.

Aside from their taste, DaViola peppers, the Walters said, provide healthy flavor options for individuals watching their salt intake.

The salt-free, preservative-free products, they said, also offer customers added antioxidant benefits.

According to the DaViola company, the heat that is derived from the chili peppers used in their products also provide anti-inflammatory, analgesic, anti-cancer and heart-healthy effects. Chiles are high in antioxidant carotenes and flavonoids, and contain about twice the amount of vitamin C found in citrus fruits, they said.

DaViola Gourmet Pizza Peppers come in three flavors, Smoky Chipotle, Spicy Ancho and Hot Hobanero. They can be found at Albertsons, QFC, Kroger and SuperValu stores or on the DaViola Web site at www.daviola.com.

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