

BY LISA PANZICA PHOTOS BY AMANDA TEMPLE

Spring Staples

Three hot eateries to put on your must-try list

ALL ABOARD »

Silver Beach Pizza/St. Joseph, Mich.

At Silver Beach Pizza, the trill of the train whistle and the chug of the engine are as much a part of the experience as the pepperoni and spicy sausage. That's because Silver Beach Pizza is inside the historic Amtrak train depot. Opened in 2005 by Jay Costas, his brother John (whose day job is as mayor of Valparaiso) and partner Tony Bertig, the trio had a great pizza recipe (Gelsosomo's of Portage, Ind.) but needed a building. They discovered that the city-owned depot – steps away from the beach – was available. Incredible location aside, it wouldn't work if the pizza wasn't excruciatingly good. The crispy crust, the blended flavors and the restaurant's must-try, way-cold “schooner” of beer (pictured at right) makes Silver Beach Pizza a perfect place to slip in for a slice with friends and family. An added bonus: As the weather warms, outdoor seating lets guests watch incredible Lake Michigan sunsets.

410 VINE ST. 269-983-4743. LARGE SPECIALTY PIZZA: \$18.95



Silver Beach Pizza