

# Northern Exposure & Tommy's Pizza

by Diana LaChance



**New York Style Pizza by the Slice**  
 tommyspizzapies.com  
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 PIZZA PASTA SALAD  
 Bridge Street Town Centre Across from the Carousel

As a Yankee by birth, I can be pretty particular about such Northern staples as bagels, cheesesteaks, and pizza. So I was a little cynical when my husband suggested we try Tommy's Pizza at the Bridge Street Town Centre. Billed as a purveyor of New York style pizza, Tommy's opened this past summer near the Centre's carousel. The restaurant's owners are transplants from Los Angeles, but don't be fooled – Tommy's a New York native who grew up with the best of the best in pizza pies.



Given its location near one of the Centre's biggest attractions for kids, the restaurant is as family-friendly as they come. Wire mesh chairs are crumb-resistant and tables can easily be combined for larger parties. But the real lure is the pizza. It comes in one size only – 21 inches. And while the pies look huge, their thin New York style crust makes them light and easy to pack in.

looked at each other, and agreed: it was the best in town. The thin crust is neither dry nor gooey, but soft and warm, like good crust should be. And with just the right amount of sauce and cheese and a generous helping of toppings, this pizza more than lives up to its claims of New York authenticity. The only thing left to do was fold each slice in half, New York style, and gnosh.

I decided to go with my favorite – pepperoni, a classic that would be easy to compare given the extremely long baseline I'd amassed over the years. My husband chose a custom creation with artichokes, pepperoni, and spinach. When they arrived, steaming hot, we both took a bite of our respective pizzas,

Tommy's also serves pizza by the slice, and a selection of the restaurant's specialty pizzas are usually on hand. And while soda is the beverage of choice for the majority of Tommy's clientele, adults can enjoy either bottled beer or an impressive assortment of wines. There are even a few non-pizza dishes, though it would be hard to defend a decision not to have the house specialty.



After more than two years in Huntsville, my husband and I could finally check "pizza" off our list. We could live with Brueggers bagels, given the lack of competition. We were still searching for a great cheesesteak (though Mason's French dip would do in a pinch). But we'd definitely be taking our Yankee friends and family to Tommy's Pizza. Now *that's amore!*




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**DIVINE PERFORMING ARTS CHINESE SPECTACULAR: \$25-\$99, 7:00 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, 2009, Von Braun Center Concert Hall, 700 Monroe St., Huntsville. 1-800-403-7081, www.divineshows.com/huntsville.**

From the opening gong that heralds the start of each show to the riveting drum sequences, soulful erhu solos, and hypnotic bamboo flutes throughout, audiences are in for a

(Additional reporting by Wade Yang)

## Divine Performing Arts - Bringing Timeless Culture to Life

by Karin Wells

*Brilliant. Inspiring. Glorious.* That's been the overwhelming response to Divine Performing Arts' shows, traditional Chinese culture as it was meant to be.

and delicate gestures.

Divine Performing Arts (DPA) is the world's premier Chinese dance and music company, made of a collaboration of leading Chinese artists from around the world. DPA presents classical Chinese dance and music in a gloriously colorful and exhilarating show. An art form some three millennia old, Chinese dance is refreshingly dynamic and expressive. Ancient legends and heroic figures come to life through its leaps, spins,

With a program of nearly twenty excitingly beautiful dances and songs the masterful choreography ranges from grand imperial processions to legions of thunderous drums, with gorgeously costumed dancers moving in stunning synchronized patterns.

Divine Performing Arts story based dances explore a range of themes from both the ancient and modern world. Audience may see the heroism of China's greatest general, Yue Fei; join the legendary heroine Mulan, on her quest; or glimpse the courage of Falun Gong