



IN THE KNOW

Butcher's Son truck grows from owner's foodie roots

Making a living from making food is essentially inherent to Jon Wagner.

Food service is deep-rooted in the co-owner of The Butcher's Son food truck, which launched a few months ago in Naples.

"I grew up in the food business, the food industry, so I've always kind of been around food my whole life," Wagner said.

Wagner, 29, was only about 5 or 6 when his mother married Ralph C. Stayer, then CEO of Johnsonville Sausage, a Wisconsin-based company Stayer's parents founded in 1945. The "Sausage King" helped raise Jon, giving him a firsthand taste of Johnsonville's international success.

Stayer's parents, Ralph F. and Alice Stayer, retired to Naples and spent their final days here. Following in his parents' footsteps, Ralph C. Stayer also retired to Naples, while his wife, Shelly, launched Grace & Shelly's Cupcakes and Johnsonville Sausage Marketplace stores here.

Now, five years after co-founding Two Trucks LLC in Dallas, the next generation of food entrepreneurs — the butcher's son — is in Naples.

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