

Samuels Spotlight

From Streets to Sashimi:

Just Roll'd Up Parks for Good in Pittsburgh

By Donna D'Angelo

ittsburgh's beloved traveling sushi truck, Just Roll'd Up, has found a permanent home in East Liberty. Chef and owner Robert Foster jumped at the chance to open a brick-and-mortar location when a turnkey opportunity became available earlier this year. While the truck will continue to serve the city and its suburbs, customers can now visit the new shop at 132 S. Highland Ave, the former home of Kahuna Poke and Juice Bar.

East Liberty, a growing and vibrant neighborhood, offers the ideal setting for Foster to permanently park his street sushi concept—especially since the location has personal significance. The storefront sits next to Muddy Waters Oyster Bar, where Foster first came up with the idea for Just Roll'd Up.

A self-taught chef, Foster was inspired while working at Muddy Waters. It was there he discovered Samuels Seafood, a supplier that brought premium products like sushi-grade tuna, sea urchin, and raw oysters to landlocked Pittsburgh. He noticed there weren't any seafood-focused food trucks in the area, despite the high-quality ingredients available. With access to essentials like sushi rice, Japanese mayo, and togarashi, the idea was born—and with the city easing food truck regulations, Foster took the leap.

In 2018, Just Roll'd Up hit the streets, serving sushi rolls, sashimi, sushi burritos, and colorful poke bowls. The truck quickly became part of Pittsburgh's thriving mobile food scene. The freedom of the food truck model allowed Foster to run a lean operation while connecting with diverse communities. His background working front of house gave him a strong sense of customer service, while the truck let him



Ōra Midori Salmon Bowl with Akaroa King Salmon from Samuels Seafood Co.

develop a direct rapport with diners. "Personality is half the equation," he says.

Earlier this year, the Muddy Waters team approached Foster with the opportunity to take over the Kahuna space. With his team outgrowing the 100-square-foot truck, the timing felt right. The existing kitchen layout made for an easy transition, with only rebranding needed.

The new Just Roll'd Up location offers a clean, minimalist space for seafood lovers. The core menu remains largely the same, with a few tweaks: eight-piece sushi rolls are off the menu, but new grab-and-go sashimi options are in. Fan favorites are here to stay, including the Tuna 2 Times poke bowl—featuring bold, acidic yellowfin tuna with fermented seaweed salad—and the Ora Madori Salmon bowl, made with Samuels' exclusive Akaroa New Zealand King Salmon.

From food truck to full circle, Foster's journey continues—one roll at a time.



Crunchy Crab Burrito featuring Flamin' Hot Doritos

Employees of the Month



John Cuculino

We are thrilled to recognize John Cuculino as one of our Employees of the Month!

Since joining Samuels in 2016, John has been a true cornerstone of our Philadelphia operations, handling the daily stresses of quality control, product shortages, and station organization with resilience and skill. There isn't a station John can't run — he's truly a jack-of-all-trades.

John's shift begins with a walk through every aisle, ensuring the cutting room gets a strong head start on filleting and processing. His reliability is unmatched — John rarely calls out and is never late. Beyond his own responsibilities, he invests time training new team members, helping to maintain a smooth workflow across multiple aisles despite a growing team of new hires.

John's hard work, dedication, and leadership have made him the backbone of our stations. We are proud to have him as part of the Samuels family. Congratulations, John!



Donald Smith

We are also excited to celebrate Donald Smith as an Employee of the Month!

Since joining Samuels in April 2024, Don has quickly become an invaluable part of our Philadelphia team. Whether he's doing cycle counts in the freezer, maintaining accurate inventory records, or stacking boxes, Don always shows up ready to work — and ready to help — with a smile and a "What else can I do?"

Don's dedication and positive attitude have been especially critical while the team has been short-staffed. He's stepped up in a big way, becoming a key player on the inventory team and ensuring our operations stay on track.

We are incredibly grateful for Don's hard work and team spirit. Congratulations, Don!



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA @SAMUELSSEAFOOD





Trademark 2025, all rights reserved, by Samuels Seafood Company. To be published 12 times in 2025: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, and December. The editors reserve the right to select and edit all material submitted for publication.

Contact marketing@SamuelsSeafood.com to sponsor Fish Tales or for any other inquiries.

FISH TALES STAFF

CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
LILY COPE
lilyc@samuelsseafood.com

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING
KRISTIN O'NEILL
kristino@samuelsseafood.com

FISH TALES DESIGNER
BLAKE MONTALTO
blakem@samuelsseafood.com

CONTRIBUTING DESIGNER

ANTHONY PRIZZI

anthonyp@samuelsseafood.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

DONNA D'ANGELO

donnad@samuelsseafood.com

Striking Gold in the Gulf:

How Texas Gold Wild-Caught Gulf Shrimp is Redefining an Industry



long the shores of Brownsville and Port Isabel, shrimping isn't just a business — it's a way of life. For decades, the Gulf of Mexico has been a cradle of hard work, innovation, and craftsmanship. Few embody that spirit as distinctly as Texas Gold Shrimp.

Founded on the legacy of Marine Mart in 1952, Texas Gold's roots run deep. Walter Zimmerman, a determined engineer with a vision for something better, built his first shrimp boat in 1961. By 1999, he had constructed over 300 vessels — shaping not just a company, but an entire industry's approach to

shrimping. Today, Texas Gold remains a family-run operation, carrying forward a tradition that values precision, resilience, and pride in every catch.

But tradition alone doesn't keep a fleet thriving in modern waters. Texas Gold has reimagined Gulf shrimping by investing in fuel-effi-



cient vessels, achieving a remarkable 20% reduction in fuel consumption — a quiet revolution in an industry often slow to change. Their commitment to innovation marries environmental stewardship with operational excellence, setting a new standard for what responsible fishing can look like.

Their shrimp, famed for their robust, sweet flavor, tell the story best. Each catch is carefully headed immediately on the boat and flash-frozen in rigid, plastic baskets — an old-school dedication to freshness, paired with modern techniques that preserve the delicate texture Gulf shrimp are

no matter where they're enjoyed. when

Every detail — from the mainte-Available year-round in an array heart of the place it comes from.

known for. The results are unmis- of sizes, Texas Gold Shrimp is not takable: shrimp that taste as if just another product of the Gulf they were caught just hours ago, it's a symbol of what happens heritage meets forward-thinking innovation.

nance of the boats to the meticu- In a world where food often feels lous processing at a single, tight- disconnected from its source, ly-run facility — speaks to Texas Texas Gold offers something Gold's philosophy: consistency, increasingly rare: a product that quality, and care at every step. reflects the hands, history, and











une Specials &









WARM WATER **LOBSTER TAILS** 14-16 oz 10 lb Case \$19.50 lb



COLD WATER LOBSTER TAILS 3-4 oz 10 lb Case \$19.50 lb



MEAT Claw & Knuckle 1 lb Unit S39.50 lb



100% LOBSTER TÁIL MEAT Uncooked 22 lb Case \$19.50 lb



NATURAL SHRIMP RAW & DEVEINED 21/25 Count 20 lb Case **S6.50 lb**



CRAWFISH **MEAT** Hand-Picked 10 lb Unit \$7.50 lb Buy 10 Cases, Get 1 Free



BREADED COCONUT SHRIMP 21/25 Count 10 lb Case S30.00 cs



PEELED & DEVEINED **ROCK SHRIMP** 71/90 Count 5 lb Unit S12.50 lb

Caviar Specials



CAVIAR **SPOONS** Mother of Pearl 10 per Pack \$39.00 pk



MEMPHIS GOLD PADDLEFISH CAVIAR From USA 16 oz Unit \$199.00 ea



ITALIAN OSETRA CAVIAR Canterbury Cure 1 oz Únit \$39.00 ea



COCKTAIL-SIZE BLINI Frozen 36 Count Unit S9.00 ea

Call Your Sales Agent Today!

Sale Dates: June 1 - 30, 2025

East Coast 800-580-5810 215-336-7810

Midwest 888-512-3636 412-244-0136

SamuelsSeafood.com

Special pricing is reserved for current Mid-Atlantic account holders and Giuseppe's 7 Fish Club members only. Price and availability are subject to change. Additional freight charges may apply. Please consult with your Samuels Sales Agent for more information.



Texas Gold Shrimp Texas Gold Shrimp 21/25 Count 41/50 Count 50 lb Case 50 lb Case

\$7.95 lb



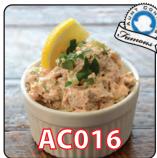




TUNA
MEATBALLS
In Gravy
24 per Unit
\$25.00 ea



ALASKAN CRAB BISQUE Aunt Connie's Famous 1 Gallon Unit \$25.00 ea



SUMMER SALMON SALAD Aunt Connie's Famous 5 lb Unit \$25.00 ea



BOSS GIBSON OYSTERS From New Brunswick 100 Count Unit \$0.89 ea



SOUTH PHILLY ITALIAN SAUSAGE Sweet 10 lb Case \$4.00 lb



SOUTH PHILLY ITALIAN SAUSAGE Hot 10 lb Case \$4.00 lb



BERKSHIRE PORK BACON Steak Cut 15 lb Case \$9.00 lb



PASTURE-RAISED BROWN EGGS Antibiotic & Hormone-Free 15 Dozen per Case \$75.00 CS



BERKSHIRE PORK FRENCHED RACK 4 Pieces per Case 40 lb Case \$9.50 lb



MARGRA LAMB
"DENVER RIBS"

AKA Spare Ribs
10 lb Case
\$10.50 lb



MARGRA LAMB RACK CAP-ON, FRENCHED 4 Racks per Case 12-15 lb Case \$22.50 lb



ICON WAGYU TOMAHAWK STEAK 6/7 Marble Score 4 per Case \$29.50 lb

Thriving in the Industry:

Richard Steinberg's Still Making Waves

Richard Steinberg has been a fixture in the food industry—a career that began in the 1950s and continues today. Now at the helm of his own company, J.Z. Sales International, Richard remains an active and respected food broker, with a particular focus on seafood.

Growing up in South Philadelphia and attending South Philadelphia High School, Richard began his career in the food industry as a teenage box packer at Empire Foods. Through grit and determination, he climbed the ranks to become a sales manager by the early 1960s. He later transitioned into food brokerage, a role in which he helped bridge the gap between manufacturers and distributors, playing a crucial part in bringing new products to market.

One of his first major wins as a industry. broker was getting supermarket chain A&P to carry pre-packaged chicken—a rare feat at the time and a turning point in how protein was

or over seven decades, sold at retail. His success with poultry eventually opened doors in the seafood sector, where he truly made his mark.

> In the 1980s, Richard met Sam D'Angelo, founder of what was then called Samuels and Son Seafood—now known as Samuels Seafood Co. The two quickly formed a lasting professional bond and friendship. Richard became instrumental in expanding Samuels' reach, especially through the distribution of premium items like Alaskan king crab and snow crab legs to national restaurant groups and wholesale buyers.

> Richard attributes his success to two simple principles: perseverance and punctuality. "I always pay my bills on time and I never give up," he says. These habits helped him build trust in a fast-moving and often unforgiving

> Looking back, he notes how the industry has changed: "What used to be staples are now luxuries," he says,



citing the rising prices of seafood and other proteins. Still, his passion for the business hasn't waned.

Today, Richard remains actively involved through J.Z. Sales International, representing a portfolio of high-quality seafood products and maintaining his decades-long relationship with Samuels Seafood. At 90-plus years old, Richard Steinberg is not just a veteran of the food industry—he's a living legend.

Raising a Glass to Kristen Puccetti



Kristen Puccetti, gory at this year's Spirit of Hospitality Pittsburgh Restaurant Awards!

Since joining Samuels in August Kristen has unmatched dedication, deep product knowledge, and a genuine commitment to her customers every single day. She's known for going vania. the extra mile to support her and this recognition accounts, couldn't be more well-deserved.

Hosted by the Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association (PRLA),

e're thrilled to share that the awards ceremony will take place our on June 16, celebrating the individuals Pittsburgh and businesses that make Pittsburgh sales representative, has been nomi- one of Pennsylvania's top dining destinated in the Industry Supporter cate- nations. Finalists from this event will advance to the statewide PRLAEF Spirit of Hospitality Awards this November.

> brought Proceeds from the evening benefit the PRLA Educational Foundation, which supports workforce development and hospitality education across Pennsyl-

> > Congratulations, Kristen—and thank you for the passion, heart, and hustle you bring to your work. We're proud to have you on our team!

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

SAMUELS WILL NEVER REQUEST CHANGES TO YOUR PAYMENT METHOD VIA EMAIL. IF YOU RECEIVE AN EMAIL ASKING YOU TO UPDATE BANKING OR PAYMENT INFORMATION, DO NOT RESPOND. INSTEAD, IMMEDIATELY CONTACT YOUR SAMUELS REPRESENTATIVE. PLEASE STAY VIGILANT AND WATCH FOR FRAUDULENT OR SUSPICIOUS EMAILS.