New drive-up food truck serving salads and bowls in Vineyard is 'all the buzz'

The owner of Tossd says the eatery will eventually expand into multiple brick-and-mortar drive-thru restaurants.

By KOLBIE PETERSON

PHOTOS BY BETHANY BAKER The Salt Lake Tribune

Macy Stapler hands a bagged order to a customer in the drive-thru at Tossd, a new food truck, in Vineyard on May 1.

Vineyard » On a cold, windy Wednesday at lunchtime, a line of cars snaked through a gravel-strewn lot in Vineyard, in Utah County. The drivers were waiting at Center Street and Mill Road to place their orders at a new food truck, Tossd, which serves fresh salads and bowls.

One driver, Amanda Rager, who's a teacher at Freedom Prep Academy in Vineyard, said Tossd is "all the buzz" among the parents at the school. She said it was her first time ordering from Tossd, and that she drove there that day on the recommendation of a co-worker.

Another driver, Kristine Reynolds, said she loved the menu options. Salads and bowls "are my go-to," she said.

Tossd has been open since only April 25, but it appears to be a smooth operation. Cars will pull up next to the food truck, and an employee will walk over and take their order on an iPad at the driver's window. Across of three to four people inside the truck will make the order, and then another employee will bring the order out and hand it to the driver.

A drive-up food truck isn't a familiar sight, but Tossd owner Kevin Santiago — who's also the owner of Heirloom Restaurant Group — said it's only a temporary format.

Eventually, he and collaborator Richie Stapler — co-founder of the fragrance tech company Pura — plan to establish Tossd as a brick-and-mortar restaurant with locations all over the state.

But even as it expands, Tossd will stay the same in one aspect: the drive-thru convenience, which is a key part of Santiago and Stapler's vision for the concept. The other key part is the food itself, with a focus on healthy salads and bowls that are more like something you'd find in a restaurant rather than on a drive-thru menu.

"Our long-term vision is to have spots that would be like Dutch Brothers or Swig or Sodalicious," but for salads, Santiago said.

'Fast' food that's anything but

Tossd is unique among the other eateries in Heirloom Restaurant Group, which includes sit-down concepts such as Communal, Black Sheep Cafe, Station 22, Pizzeria Seven Twelve and Bistro Provenance.

Santiago said the idea for Tossd came about because diners at Heirloom group eateries would tell him they loved the restaurants' salads but didn't want to always have to sit down and order one. Stapler also mentioned the hassle he and his wife would go through to get their kids out of the car to go eat out, and so he and Santiago started talking about the drive-thru idea.

For the Tossd menu, they collaborated with chef Colton Soelberg, who's also founder, chef and partner of meal service Mealhouse and founder of Communal, Pizzeria Seven Twelve and Chom. Frequent diners at those restaurants will recognize some of the flavors on the Tossd menu, Santiago said. Both Chom and Tossd have a Cobb salad on the menu, for example.

Other salad options include a Caesar and a "seasonal" salad that includes shaved Brussels sprouts, roasted sweet potatoes, dried cranberries, shaved parmesan and candied pecans.

The bowls — which are all served on a base of brown rice — are more substantial, such as the harissa marinated chicken bowl, which comes with charred corn relish, avocado, pickled red onion, tomatoes, zesty feta cheese and chimichurri sauce.

The menu is in a state of flux at the moment; Santiago said they're still taking in feedback from customers and getting things dialed in. Their "ultimate vision" for Tossd is to "collaborate with other chefs, and we'll have other chefs highlight their salads and bowls, just so that we have kind of an ongoing rotating menu," he said.

Until Tossd is ready to become a brick and mortar, Santiago said the food truck will stay in the lot at 773 Mill Road, right near Geneva Road. He said they plan to build the first physical location in Vineyard, "because we love that area." Once that restaurant opens, the food truck will become Tossd's catering truck, Santiago said.

In other Heirloom Restaurant Group news, Santiago said they plan to open a second Communal restaurant, in Vineyard, and a second location of Pizzeria Seven Twelve, around 2100 South and 2200 East in Sugar House. He said they are hoping to open those two restaurants around November.

British spoof

D1

"Like the rest of the world, we just thought it was very silly and ridiculous," Karp told The New Yorker. "Like, how is this a real thing?" Yet he became obsessed with the case, watching the trial livestreamed from a Park City courtroom.

"Gwyneth Goes Skiing," which opens Thursday at the Egyptian, is a stage production that's sort of about that. Some of the material is drawn right from the court conflict; other parts are made up out of whole cloth. Here's what it's not.

It's not like a Broadway musical » There are two cast members — Karp as Paltrow, and Martin as Sanderson.

It's not a musical » There's music, but there's no band and no one actually sings. The music is all prerecorded, and Karp and Martin lip-sync. There is original music by Leland, the resident songwriter for "RuPaul's Drag Race." Although there are umpteen stories online that refer to "Gwyneth Goes Skiing" as a musical, it's not. Karp and Martin "really want to make that clear," Silva said. "It's a play with music."

It's not a passive experience » There's audience participation at various times during the show, and audience members are expected to join in. "There's a few scenes that they'll be brought on stage to be a part of it," Silva said. "They will pick some people from the audience and they'll treat them some lines." Audience members will play Paltrow's husband and Sanderson's girlfriend, among others.

It's not nonpartisan » There will be a live vote at the end of each performance. Audience members can use their phones and QR code to vote for either Paltrow or Sanderson.

"It's a fun, multimedia type show," Silva said. "And they have some puppets as well. It's going to be a blast."

It's a spoof

The show (which runs about two hours, including an intermission) mocks the principals, but does not set out to skewer either the actress or the retired optometrist. "It's very much like a loving story and a spoof," Silva said. "They just wanted to write something silly."

And silly it definitely is. Sanderson's lawyer is played by a puppet. Paltrow's daughter, Apple, is played by an apple on a stick.

"It's fun. It's really kitschy. It's over the top," Silva said. "It's not meant to hurt anyone's feelings or pick any sides, though the audience will take sides," she said with a laugh. "But it's all meant out of love."

"It's loose, deliberately half-arsed, cabaret-style stuff," opined The Standard. And it's aimed at "girls, gays and theys," although anyone who paid any attention to the trial will get it.

That includes Silva, who was among the approximately 30 million people, according to Variety, who watched the trial. She didn't want to express an opinion about the verdict, but did say she found it "very interesting how people can get wrapped up in ... two versions of the same story."

And, as strange as the trial turned out to be, she thinks locals can relate.

"Being a Park City resident and having skied, yeah, I'm always scared of other people that could hit me skiing," she said. "In my mind, it felt relatable." But at the same time, the presence of "this big star" made the whole thing kind of "weird."

And some of the weirder lines in the production come straight from the trial transcript. Like when one of Sanderson's lawyers asked Paltrow, "Are you good friends with Taylor Swift?"

The whole thing is kind of ridiculous, which is the point.

"Exactly," Silva said. "It is meant to be silly."

Joseph Martin as Terry Sanderson and a puppet as one of Sanderson's lawyers in "Gwyneth Goes Skiing."

Crossing the pond

After opening at the Pleasance Theatre (capacity: 230) in the Islington district of London back in December, "Gwyneth Goes Skiing" is traveling almost 5,000 miles to Park City. Which seems appropriate, given that the collision between Paltrow and Sanderson took place at Deer Valley and the trial unfolded in Park City itself.

And the folks at the Egyptian didn't have to go after the show, the show came looking for them, sort of. Billionaire Matthew Prince, who recently bought the Park Record (and is embroiled in a legal dispute with his neighbors over his plans to build a mega-mansion in Park City) "reached out" to the staff at the Egyptian "and said, 'Hey, this play got really great reviews. I would love to be able to bring that to you guys at the Egyptian Do you think that's something we could do?'"

He was exaggerating about the reviews, which were sort of middling. But It wasn't a tough decision. The answer was a quick yes.

"We just had to wrap our heads around it," Silva said. "Of course we said yes. We have to do it in our theater in Park City. Full circle."

They did make one request — that the profits from the "Gwyneth Goes Skiing" performances would go to the Egyptian's Tuition-Free YouTheatre Program

"We thought, 'This is going to be a huge show. Can we use this as a fundraiser and help keep that free?'" Silva said.

Prince and the Park Record, which is sponsoring "Gwyneth Goes Skiing" at the Egyptian, agreed.

How to get tickets

Because of robust ticket sales, two additional performances — Saturday matinees — were added to the run. A few tickets remain for most of the scheduled performances, which begin Thursday and run through Sunday, May 26 (with the exception of Monday and Tuesday).

Tickets range from $39 to $65, and are available at tickets.egyptiantheatrecompany.org; at the theater's box office at 328 Main Street in Park City; or by calling (855) 745-SHOW (7469).

"And even sold-out shows, you can get yourself on a waitlist and there's always a chance that people will cancel or seats will open up," Silva said.

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Los Angeles Times Crossword

Theme Crossword

Sudoku

0	F	E	D	7	A	5	1	4	6	B	9	8	3	C	2
C	1	9	2	3	4	6	0	A	D	8	7	B	5	E	F
B	5	7	4	9	8	E	F	C	3	2	1	A	6	D	0
A	3	8	6	D	2	C	B	F	E	5	0	4	9	1	7
6	2	3	1	F	5	A	8	D	0	9	E	C	7	4	B
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2. Knock yourself out

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