Observer Life Business Profiles

Fortuna's Authentic Italian Sausage Co.



OWNERS PAUL AND PATTI STANNARD of Fortuna's Authentic Italian Sausage Company make a wide variety of savory specialties at their shop in Greenville.

A variety of the traditional and unique

Fortuna's Authentic Italian Sausage Co. at 975 Greenville Avenue in Greenville is as true to tradition as its name professes.

Owners Paul and Patti Stannard make 25 to 30 varieties of dry sausage using traditional methods that have been around for thousands of years.

They make all their own USDA-inspected sausages on the premises using recipes handed down from both sets of grandparents, as well as special recipes they've concocted over the years.

The Stannards have been making sausage since 1982 at their delicatessen in Westerly. They open their Greenville shop in January 1994.

Their product line includes a wide variety of traditional and unique sausages, as well as three all-natural dried sausages: Soupy, Abbruze and Pepperoni. Soupy, their most popular requests at Easter time, comes in five different varieties of hotness.

Their other specialties include Provoloni-Pepperoni, an original idea from their 14 year-old son Chris: and Roma-Cacciatorini sausage with a tantalizing blend of sundried tomatoes, garlic, black pepper and sherry wine. They also make a limited selection of fresh sausage and take special orders. The dry sausage can be eaten as is, or blended in a countless number of recipes.

Fortuna's can prepare a gift basket to order featuring a selection of their products. Other Italian items such as three kinds of imported cheeses, imported Italian kitchen tools and pasta bowls are also available for purchase at the store.

Everyone from musical artists, the Neville Brothers to Jay Leno have sampled and loved Fortuna's dry sausages. The Stannards make 4,000 pounds of sausages a week.

Customers can purchase Fortuna's products by visiting the store, or faxing or calling in an order. Fortuna's ships its products via UPS anywhere in the Continental United States, Alaska and Hawaii. Fortuna's has a mail-order catalog available.

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