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## **THE GREAT FOOD TRUCK RACE** *Team Bios (2018)*

**Buns N' Thighs (Chicago, Illinois)** – Visual artist and art gallery owner Ian M. Sherwin sees food as a canvas, and he loves creating kitchen masterpieces. With his girlfriend Victoria Elena Nones and her mom Marla Nones, he is serving up specialty sandwiches on the road. Ian and Victoria own several businesses, as does Marla – and their entrepreneurial spirit is sure to be a plus for this accomplished and creative trio.

**Chops' Shop (Pearland, Texas)** – Bryan Soliz is a graduate of Le Cordon Bleu, owns his own catering company and is ready to bring his award-winning Texican tamales on the road. With help from his mom Sandra Soliz, a retired schoolteacher, and his aunt Sonia Buckelew, a retired Lt. Colonel with the U.S. Army JAG Corps, Bryan is determined to make a permanent business around his gourmet Texican dishes. With Chicano Chicken Tamales, Beer-B-Que Sliders and Bryan's unique take on a Po' Boy on the menu, this team's food is traditional with a twist.

**Heroes on a Half Shell (Frederick, Maryland)** -- Donna Sheron is a home-trained cook and mom of seven children, so she's been feeding large groups her entire adult life. Ten years ago, she put her skills to the test and opened a music venue/café serving her famous paninis, but the place closed – and Donna wants to try the food business again. Joined by her son Clinton, who is in his twenties, and 19-year-old daughter Danni, Donna is serving guilt-free, delicious submarine sandwiches on the road for her big culinary comeback.

**Just Wing It (New York, New York)** – Steven Crowley, Kevin Pettice and Sharon Shvarzman met when they appeared on *Worst Cooks in America*, and since then their food game has improved tremendously. With Steven's flare for sales, Kevin's family chicken recipe and Sharon's newfound passion for cooking, this trio is a force to be reckoned with. Specializing in wings, hand-cut curly fries and custom sauces, the Just Wing It crew is in this for the win.

**Mobile Moo Shu (Detroit, Michigan)** – Michelle Gautier, Chelsea Smith and Marley Vanderbrook have worked in corporate America since college, but have always been foodies at heart. They have dreamed of owning a food truck as best friends, and their success in the business world has given them the confidence to pursue their Asian-inspired comfort food concept. They are ready to say goodbye to their corporate jobs for a future in the food industry and with these three ladies supporting each other, there's nothing they can't do.

**New England Grill (Newport, Rhode Island)** – Chef Kevin Des Chenes fell in love with cooking as a child in his Nana's kitchen, and his award-winning restaurant career included executive chef positions and television appearances. Now that he is married with two young kids, Kevin has successfully transitioned from restaurateur to private chef – but he's interested in taking the New England Bistro cuisine that he loves on the road. Joining him for this surf and turf adventure are fellow chef Ed Gallagher and stand-up comedian pal Christine Hurley, and they are confident customers will line up around the block for their dishes.

**Sassy Soul (Silver Spring, Maryland and Washington D.C.)** – Paris Henry, also known as "Sassy," has always been able to charm people with her amazing soul food. The mom of a six-year-old daughter caters private dinners, events and runs a pop-up from her kitchen – and she would love nothing more than to see her food truck idea become a reality. She's enlisted help from her friends Lauren Carson and Parris Jewel for the race, and the team is determined to inspire young women to follow their dreams.

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