KATY'S

ICONIC KATY EATERIES SHOWCASE DISHES THAT HAVE KEPT PATRONS COMING **BACK FOR DECADES**

Written by Crystal Rawls



WHILE THERE IS NO DENYING THE GROWING ASSORTMENT OF DINING OPTIONS IN KATY, THE STREETS ARE STILL DOTTED WITH HOMETOWN LOCATIONS THAT OFFER A FRIENDLY FACE, WARM PLATE, AND RICH HISTORY.

MIDWAY BARBEQUE 6025 HIGHWAY BLVD.

KATYBBQ.COM

So many customers flocked to the barbeque counter at Midway Market that owner Herman Meyer had no choice but to expand. Manager Michelle Simpson insists the only way to fully share in the Katy experience is to dive in with the sweet-and-spicy barbecue sauce smothering the meltin-your-mouth, tender brisket or fall-off-the-bone ribs. The sausage, made in house, is cured to perfection in their smokehouse, along with the fresh pork, turkey, and ham.

SNAPPY'S CAFE & GRILL 5803 HIGHWAY BLVD. SNAPPYSKATYTX.COM

Customers flock to Snappy's for their signature breakfast platters. Their menu is chock-full of endless combinations of eggs, bacon or sausage, pancakes, waffles, and even ranchero eggs served with homemade chili. Owners Bobby Katsabas and Alex Tsounakas even added their unique Greek flair to the traditional omelet - four eggs filled with gyro and tomato, topped with cheese, tzatziki sauce, and served with a hot biscuit or pita bread. Not in the mood for breakfast? Katsabas recommends the pork chops grilled to perfection and served with a baked potato, vegetables, and a roll or cornbread.

GOOD OLE BOYS 26403 KATY FWY. GOODOLEBOYSCATERING.COM

One whiff of their award-winning crawfish will have you drooling at this casual restaurant. Order their famous crawfish boudain balls as an "appeteaser" or in a Texasstyle po'boy sandwich. Either way, you'll need something to wash the spice down. But what keeps their customers coming back for more is the seafood gumbeaux served with hearty portions of shrimp, crab, and even oysters on request. Grab a seat, some jalapeño hushpuppies, and settle in for a great meal.

VICTOR'S CASA GARCIA 1939 FRY RD. VICTORSMEXICANRESTAURANT.COM

Owner Victor Garcia insists customers keep coming back for his original enchiladas and fajitas. Founded nearly 40 years ago, the restaurant's menu offers Tex-Mex creations to satisfy even the most discerning palate - from fresh ceviche made with lime-cured, fresh fish and shrimp, to the slow smoked ribs covered in Casa Garcia's signature barbecue sauce. The authentic parrillada, or Mexican barbecue, includes beef, chicken and pork fajitas, two quail, a rack of ribs, jalapeño sausage and grilled onions. For Garcia, the recipe for success is simple. He believes in good food, quality of service, and consistent flavors.







HASTA LA PASTA 1450 W. GRAND PKWY S. HASTALAPASTA.COM

Quality and consistency are what keep Katyites coming back to this casual Italian eatery. Founded more than 15 years ago, the family-owned and operated Hasta la Pasta is a community staple. Regular customers stop in for pizza Thursdays, all-day happy hour Wednesdays, or to sample the Houston Rodeo's award-winning cannelloni Pepe. If that doesn't convince visitors to stop in, their signature Hasta la Pasta will. It's the only place in town where you will find Gulf of Mexico shrimp resting on a spicy bed of jalapeño fettuccine and covered in a rich cilantropoblano cream sauce.

THE BAGEL CAFÉ 631 S. MASON RD. THEBAGELCAFE.NET

The Bagel Café has a quaint, hometown coffee shop vibe that invites visitors to stay a while, sip their coffee, and soak up the casual atmosphere. Sample their signature lox sandwich carefully layered with smoked

salmon, whipped cream cheese, tomato, red onions, and capers on a toasted onion bagel. Or opt for the raspberry turkey sandwich with sliced turkey breast, Provolone cheese, sprouts, cucumbers, tomato, honey mustard, and tangy raspberry preserves on whole wheat bread.

ROSA'S PIZZA 510 S. MASON RD. ROSASPIZZERIATX.COM

It is a small restaurant that packs a flavorful punch. With one bite, the garlic and fresh pasta take patrons across the Atlantic to a country known for its rich food. While their perfectly cooked pizza boasts authentic Italian flavors such as prosciutto and ricotta cheese, Rosa's Pizza isn't just a pizza joint. House specialties such as their delicately fried calamari and flavorful shrimp fradiavolo keep customers returning for more.

SUSHI HANA 1638 S. MASON RD. SUSHIHANAKATY.COM

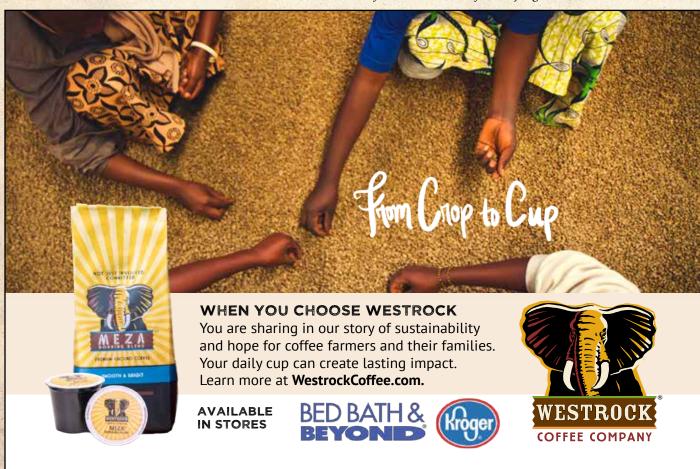
Sushi Hana manager, Will Hong, believes the

teriyaki dishes and hot seasoning plates keep patrons craving more from the renowned Japanese restaurant. The menu boasts hundreds of roll varieties, including the lobster deluxe roll, among Hong's favorites. In fact, the sushi chef creates one-of-a-kind, large-portioned rolls depending on the most flavorful in-season fish available. No sushi/

sashimi combination or shape is off the table; chefinspired creations even include sushi donuts and sashimi cakes. **KM**

CRYSTAL RAWLS is a contract specialist by day; a freelance writer and foodie by night.





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