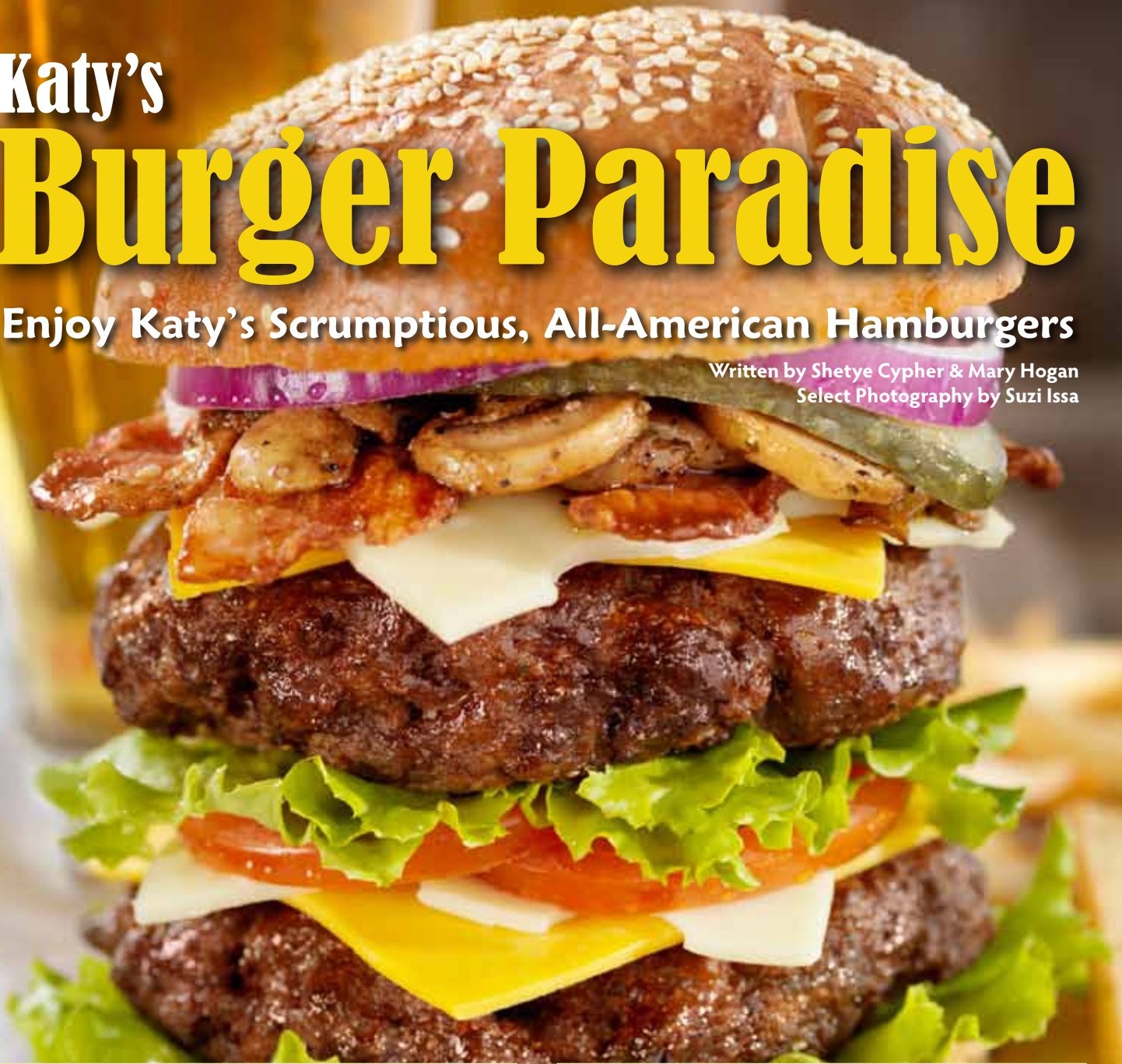


Katy's Burger Paradise

Enjoy Katy's Scrumptious, All-American Hamburgers

Written by Shetye Cypher & Mary Hogan
Select Photography by Suzi Issa



Clay's mushroom
Swiss burger



A house favorite at Texas
Borders Bar and Grill

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★ CHICKEN FRIED STEAK ★ TAQUITOS ★ SEAFOOD ★ FRIED JALAPENOS ★

Who doesn't love a good burger, complete with delicious flavors, messiness, aromas, and the joy of taking that first juicy bite. Hamburgers are part of what makes this country such a great place. Katy has many burger joints to choose from, combining mouthwatering classics with unique and flavorful specialties. Look no further than Katy for a local take on burger paradise?

9er's Grill

1315 Grand Pkwy.
281-395-1133

Tucked in a shopping strip off Grand Pkwy., 9er's Grill offers plenty of homemade burgers to tuck into. For a zesty variation, try their Wild West burger with avocado and Swiss or their Blue Island burger topped with blue cheese or thousand island dressing. If you're looking for a more hearty meal, their two pounder layers two patties with bacon, cheese, and jalapeno. The Xtreme burger offers a spicy taste of the southwest with chili, cheese, bacon, and jalapenos.



Jackson, about to dig in to a burger at Texas Borders

range of burgers like the Cheesebatta Bacon burger with American cheese on a grilled ciabatta bun. "The most popular burgers are the avocado burger and the double 59," shares restaurant manager Ben Sanati. For a true-to-Texas taste, try the Big Rio Grande burger, with cheddar cheese, grilled jalapenos, onions, and chili on jalapeno cheesebread. The bacon and egg cheeseburger combines the best of both breakfast and lunch, with cheddar cheese, one egg cooked over medium, and crisp bacon on a romano-parmesan bun.

Clay's Restaurant

17717 Clay Rd.
281-859-3773

With its family-friendly atmosphere, Clay's offers a little taste of the country. House favorites include the hickory burger, with zesty barbecue sauce, bacon, and grilled onions, and the Roger burger with a jalapeno-seasoned patty, bacon, and cheese. "The Roger burger is a big hit

59 Diner

20210 Katy Fwy.
281-599-8500

59 Diner dishes up fun takes on the the flavors of the '50s, with a

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Al fresco dining at Otto's Deluxe Grille in LaCenterra



A spicy selection at Texas Borders

with the boys, and the Swiss mushroom burger is popular with the girls,” says general manager CC Ribbe. For those craving the flavor of the southwest, the Queso combines an open-faced burger with queso, lettuce, and pico de gallo. After lunch, kids can play in the enclosed yard or in the game room.

Freddy's Café

Park 10
16830 Barker Springs Rd.
281-579-2288

A low-key Katy treasure, Freddy's cooks up a variety of burgers for every taste. “The buffalo burger is a big hit and so is the turkey burger,” says Meghan Hailbronner of Freddy's. Katy diners also go back for the garden burgers and patty melts, along with more classic burgers. The café is only open for breakfast and lunch, so be sure to go early to get your fill.

LoCal's Healthy Joint

1590 S. Mason
281-395-3663

LoCal's prides itself on serving up healthy options and may not have a beef burger on the menu, but offers plenty more tasty choices to go around. “The buffalo burger is the most popular,” shares Cici Mireless of LoCal's. For a light take on an old classic, try their ahi tuna, turkey, veggie, or portabella burgers served on your choice of a multi-grain bun, whole wheat tortilla, or wrapped in romaine.

The real flavors of
THE MEDITERRANEAN

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The friendly staff at Snappy's Cafe

Otto's Deluxe Grille

LaCenterra
 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd.
 281-394-5886

Since 1951, Otto's has made some of Houston's favorite hamburgers and barbecue. With their new location in LaCenterra, Katyites can enjoy the same great flavors they've come to love right at home. Try their popular DBLDBL Deluxe Classic, made with two patties, double cheese, and all the toppings. For a taste of Texas, you can't beat their hickory cheddar burger with cheddar cheese, Otto's barbecue sauce, and applewood hickory-smoked bacon. Add their hand-pressed fries or sweet potato fries topped with cinnamon and brown sugar. Top your meal off with their home-brewed root beer or orange soda, and don't miss the much-loved apple cobbler soufflé to round out your all-American meal. "We do things the old-fashioned way," says owner Michael Jenkins. "Our burgers are made from hand-formed, fresh-ground certified Angus beef and are made daily."



A classic burger with all the toppings at Otto's

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281-398-2328

The welcoming staff at Texas Borders Bar and Grill



Texas Borders Bar & Grill

Gardens at Westgreen
20940 Katy Fwy.
281-578-8785

Choose from the house favorite or kick it up a notch with the hickory burger, smothered in barbecue sauce, cheddar cheese, bacon, and sweet relish or the black-n-blue burger with a blackened patty and blue cheese crumbles. For those craving a little spice, the Bob combines a jalapeno cheeseburger with queso and chili. "Our most ordered burgers are the black-n-blue, mushroom, and of course, the Bob," says server Jesse Lopez. No matter what you order, you'll love enjoying an American classic in Texas Borders' down-home atmosphere with excellent service.

Sam's Deli Diner

1251 Pin Oak Rd., #141
281-574-5041

Decorated with local high school murals, Sam's Deli Diner showcases Katy's pride as a community. Their menu reflects that pride, with choices like the Katy Special, a triple meat monster burger. Other favorites include the All Day burger, a burger with fried chicken and ham, the tangy hickory burger,

and a spicy chipotle cheddar cheeseburger. "We do a lot of bacon cheeseburgers, and people order the Katy Special a lot," says Christina Leal of Sam's.

Snappy's Café & Grill

5803 Hwy. 90
281-391-8163

A longtime Katy favorite, Snappy's serves up traditional burgers with a variety of fresh toppings in a relaxing atmosphere. For those with an appetite, the Snappy's Super Hamburger comes with two patties and cheese. "We are most known for the double

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Krystal and Emily with their parents at Texas Tradition

meat," shares co-owner Alex Tsounakas, adding, "That is a whole pound of meat." To enjoy Snappy's famous fare with friends and neighbors, be sure to get there early, as the restaurant is only open for breakfast and lunch.

Red Oak Grill

2004 S. Mason
281-392-2612

Red Oak Grill dishes up American fare flavored with a hint of the Mediterranean. When it comes to burgers, though, they've included a variety of unique choices. Try the California with avocado and Swiss cheese, the Meltdown with grilled onion, Swiss cheese, and rye bread, or the Tex-Mex with bacon, cheese, and jalapenos. Stephanie Thornton of Red Oak Grill shares, "The California, mushroom Swiss, and bacon cheeseburger are ordered all the time." For a lighter option, try their turkey burger or veggie burger.

Texas Tradition

5321 Highway Blvd.
281-391-6113

At Texas Tradition, burger lovers can sink their teeth into a traditional mouthwatering selection or choose a more adventurous dish like the Frisco mushroom burger, an open-faced chili cheeseburger that means business. "The bacon cheeseburger is number one!" adds manager Toni Olenick. And don't forget the homemade fries, served with every burger. KM

SHETYE CYPHER is a freelance writer who has enjoyed living in Katy with her family intermittently since 1976. She is also the journalism teacher and publications advisor at Mayde Creek High School.

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