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Subject: Fwd: KC's best-kept sandwich secret + $25 burger meal for two
Date: August 21, 2025 at 5:33 PM
To: rschlueter8263@gmail.com

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Date: Tue, Jul 29, 2025 at 12:27 PM
Subject: KC's best-kept sandwich secret + $25 burger meal for two
To: <rschlueter@kcstar.com>

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

Let's Dish, Kansas City



LET'S DISH, KANSAS CITY NEWSLETTER

KC's best-kept sandwich secret + $25 burger meal for two

Welcome back to Let's Dish — your one-stop shop for all things eats in Kansas City. I'm Rachel Schlueter, an audience intern at The Star.

This week, I tried the iconic triple-layered tenderloin sandwich at Kitty's Cafe, a hole-in-the-wall spot in KC's midtown with fare so beloved that locals keep it a secret.

Plus, a burger joint with three locations around the metro is offering a deal you can't pass up, and a revolving sushi bar is coming to Overland Park next month. Also, it's time for the next round of voting to see which KC spot serves the best cinnamon roll.

Let's dig in.

This week's taste test

When I first came to KC, I had a mission to find the best hole-in-the-wall places — you know, the places Google wouldn't tell you about, the ones with barely any seating and affordable prices.

The moment I stepped into Kitty's Cafe, which had more people in line than it did chairs, I had an inkling I was in for a treat.

This feeling was confirmed when I spoke with employee Dillon Wigfall, who didn't even know Kitty's Cafe existed before he started working there because his family "gate-kept" the restaurant.

That's when I knew I had really struck gold.

The restaurant was opened in 1951 by Paul and Kitty Kawakami, a Japanese-American couple who was confined in a California internment camp during World War II despite both being born in the U.S., according to The Star's archives.

Kitty's is best known for its triple-layered pork tenderloin sandwich: three razor-thin pork slices battered and fried in a Japanese-style tempura coating that Kitty herself developed.

Check out my TikTok to see the gargantuan sandwich yourself, and learn what the owner says truly makes Kitty's a KC mainstay.

Around KC

🔆 A meal for two under $25? It's not a thing of the past. This spot — with locations in Lee's Summit, the Northland and South Plaza – has a two-

burger, two-beer happy hour deal that might be "the best bang-for-your-buck in the KC metro," said The Star's Joseph Hernandez.



☀️ A new revolving sushi bar is rolling into Overland Park next month. KC-area sushi fans may recognize some of its offerings — the restaurant's owners used to own an Olathe sushi bar.

☀️This Mexican concept is bringing coastal flair to South Plaza — complete with fish tacos, craft cocktails and a horseshoe-shaped bar that was full minutes into its Friday grand opening.

Latest restaurant inspections

Urban Egg and Barrio Mexican Kitchen + Bar both landed on the list of worst KC-area food inspections last week. See their violations — and the other spots that made the list — from The Star's Eleanor Nash.

Give us your take

It's time for the semifinal round of KC's cinnamon roll showdown. Vote for one of these 16 spots to see which local eatery serves up the best sweet, pillowy and buttery treat.



Rachel Schlueter
Audience intern



The Kansas City Star
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