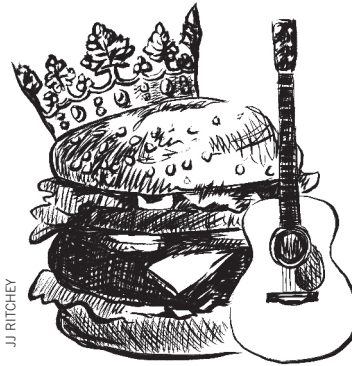


The iconic Rock Café in Stroud is hard to miss along Route 66.



HAMBURGER
King

Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys performed several times at the first Hamburger King location in Bristow.

DID YOU KNOW: The popularity of Lebanese tabbouleh prompted Ed Slyman to help launch the Tabouleh Fest in Bristow, where he lives. This year's event is May 7.

SHAWNEE
HAMBURGER KING

When **Hamburger King** opened in 1927, it had twelve stools, two tables, and a service window and charged fifteen cents for two burgers and forty-six cents for six. Joseph Macsas came to Oklahoma from Massachusetts to serve cheap, juicy burgers, and four generations later, the Macsas family maintains the tradition.

"I've been coming here for thirty years, because I just like hamburgers," says John McCown.

Those burgers are grilled to consistent perfection, and customers—who place their orders on phones in each booth—enjoy the sizzle and the aroma. A hamburger basket includes a side of potato wedges, crispy and lightly seasoned on the outside with a tender interior.

For a spicy treat, call for "The Kicker," a bacon cheeseburger with jalapeños. And the Monkey Tail Pie—a combination of banana and chocolate cream—is worth a trip by itself.

—Susan and Bill Dragoo

WHEN, WHERE, HOW MUCH: Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. 322 East Main Street, (405) 878-0488. 🍴

DID YOU KNOW: Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys performed several times at the Macsas family's first Hamburger King, which opened in Bristow in 1922.

STROUD
THE ROCK CAFÉ

The **Rock Café's** real heart and soul is Betsy, who keeps to the kitchen and does her job. People often stop in to the Stroud establishment and pay their respects, says owner Dawn Welch, but Betsy just keeps cooking.

Betsy is the café's massive Wolfe grill. Since her installation in the mid-1930s, the iron lady has survived countless meals and a devastating fire.

Want a taste of what Betsy can do? Order the bacon cheeseburger, which should be billed the bacon-in-every-bite cheeseburger. The juicy beef patty, nicely seared, is held together by a homemade bun. Betsy is responsible for all the burgers on the menu, as well as classic sandwiches like grilled cheese and Reuben.

Betsy does good work.

—Dyrinda Tyson

WHEN, WHERE, HOW MUCH: Daily, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. 114 West Main Street, (918) 968-3990 or rockcafert66.com. 🍴

DID YOU KNOW: Pixar executives sustained themselves on baskets of Rock Café's fried pickles while researching the animated film *Cars* along Route 66 years ago, says Welch, whose alter ego Sally Carrera, a baby blue Porsche 996, appears in the movie.

TULSA
BROWNIE'S HAMBURGERS

Hamburgers with onions grilled in, homemade root beer, and thick slabs of meringue pie are why **Brownie's Hamburgers** continues to be a favorite through several management and ownership changes in recent years.

Since buying the restaurant in 2012, Dusty and Debra Oakley have worked to maintain the taste and feel of the Brownie's operated by William Eugene "Bill" Bowen for more than fifty years until his death in 2009. They've made a few changes—most notably the addition of lettuce and tomato as optional toppings—but otherwise have remained true to his simple formula for success.

"My nephews like to talk about all the things they are going to change

