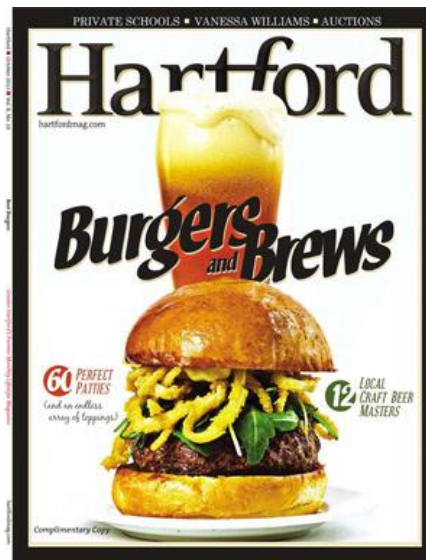


Our very own “Kobe Fun Guy”  
graces the latest cover of  
Hartford Magazine



## COVER STORY

# BEST BURGERS

*By Spencer Caldwell*

### **Max Burger**

124 LaSalle Road, West Hartford, 860-232-3300, [www.maxrestaurantgroup.com](http://www.maxrestaurantgroup.com)

The Max Restaurant Group does everything it tackles well, and hamburgers are no exception. Suffice it to say I have dined at Max Burger as many times as any restaurant on the list. And unlike poorly located BGR The Burger Joint, which had cracked our top 20 before it vanished from the West Hartford foodscape, Max Burger has some parking of its own and is situated on the side of the business district where more free parking can be had. Few people heading out for burgers are willing to walk any great distance or pay for parking. Not surprisingly, the new Max Burger in Longmeadow, Mass., has plenty of free parking.

Part of the beauty of Max Burger, of course, is that it's a proper restaurant with a full bar. If someone in your party isn't in the mood for burgers, he or she can get a half chicken, ribs, barbecue-glazed salmon or a 12-ounce New York strip. And while several of our top 20 burger purveyors feature bizarre combinations that aren't really tempting, I've tried almost every burger combo at Max and they all seem to be well thought out and beautifully balanced. While Max Burger doesn't reveal its blend, it uses all-natural Angus beef from humanely treated, environmentally sustainable animals raised with no antibiotics, pesticides or added hormones. I'm especially partial to the Kobe Fun Guy 3.0 (truffled mushroom spread, French onion aioli, crispy onion strings and arugula on an artisan roll) and the Miss Daisy (Brie cheese, applewood smoked bacon, apple honey Dijonnaise, lettuce and tomato on toasted brioche).