

It's All In a Name

Some people believe the city of Katy was named for the Missouri, Kansas and Texas (MKT) Railroad, known as the Katy. Former Mayor Arthur Miller said he had good evidence that the town was named to honor Katy Mares, a popular saloon keeper. Former postmaster D. Stanberry said his grandfather recalled hearing railroad workers saying "Let's go to Katy's" before the town took the name. Katy, her husband Charles and their four children were part of a colony of Bohemians that was established in Katy about 1898 and one of only three families from that group that stayed after the 1900 Galveston storm. The saloon was a very successful business venture in Katy until prohibition caused it to close and the Mares' moved on.

Courtesy of Katy Heritage Society