

Charley FitzWhiskey's kitchen manager Kenny Burgess passes an order to supervisor Denise Near in the restaurant's kitchen Tuesday. Halton Region's health department is considering a plan to have eating establishments voluntarily post their food safety inspection records in their dining areas. Photo by Ted Brown

## Local restaurateurs applaud plan to post food inspection records

Three local restaurants applaud an initiative by Halton Region health department to request eating establishments voluntarily post their food safety inspection record in the dining area.

Halton regional council gave the health department the go-ahead to begin talks with the region's restaurants to implement a program. In a recent health department survey, 80 per cent of residents thought the results of restaurant inspections should be posted for diners to see. The survey also reported that 81 per cent of diners believed food in restaurants was safe to eat.

"We're quite confident in the safety of Halton restaurants," said Dr. Robert Nosal, Halton's medical officer of health. "We're hoping restaurants will be into this. We have restaurants in Halton doing this now."

"I think it's a great idea," said James Scarlett, general manager of Charley FitzWhiskey's Tap & Eatery, located in Georgetown Market Place. "We run a clean, well-maintained business, and we certainly have nothing to hide."

He said the record will show diners which restaurants take care of their establishments, and that will give them a sense of comfort and security, as well as add to the restaurant's reputation.

Simon Greenslade, manager of the George & Dragon, 7 Main St. N, in Georgetown agreed. "I wouldn't mind at all— we've got a

good clean kitchen," he said, noting a certificate is already posted in the kitchen. "I can't see there being a massive problem about it (from restaurant owners)."

Tim Biffis, owner of The Cellar, located in the Old Bank, Main St., Georgetown, also didn't have a problem, since his restaurant passed its last inspection "with flying colours."

While curious to know the details of what the voluntary report may entail, Biffis said that in all his years as a chef, he's never had a restaurant patron request details of an inspection.

The posting could take one of two forms:

- a summary report giving a restaurant a satisfactory/unsatisfactory rating on food contamination, food handling, food storage, waste and pest control, equipment sanitation and storage and premise maintenance and sanitation

- a Certificate of Inspection stating "this restaurant is inspected regularly by the Halton Health Department."

Posting will be voluntary at first since the health department does not have the authority to mandate the program— that can only be done by Town of Halton Hills through its licensing bylaws.

Health department staff will begin consultations with restaurant owners and managers over the next few weeks, and will report back with the results to regional council in early 2002.

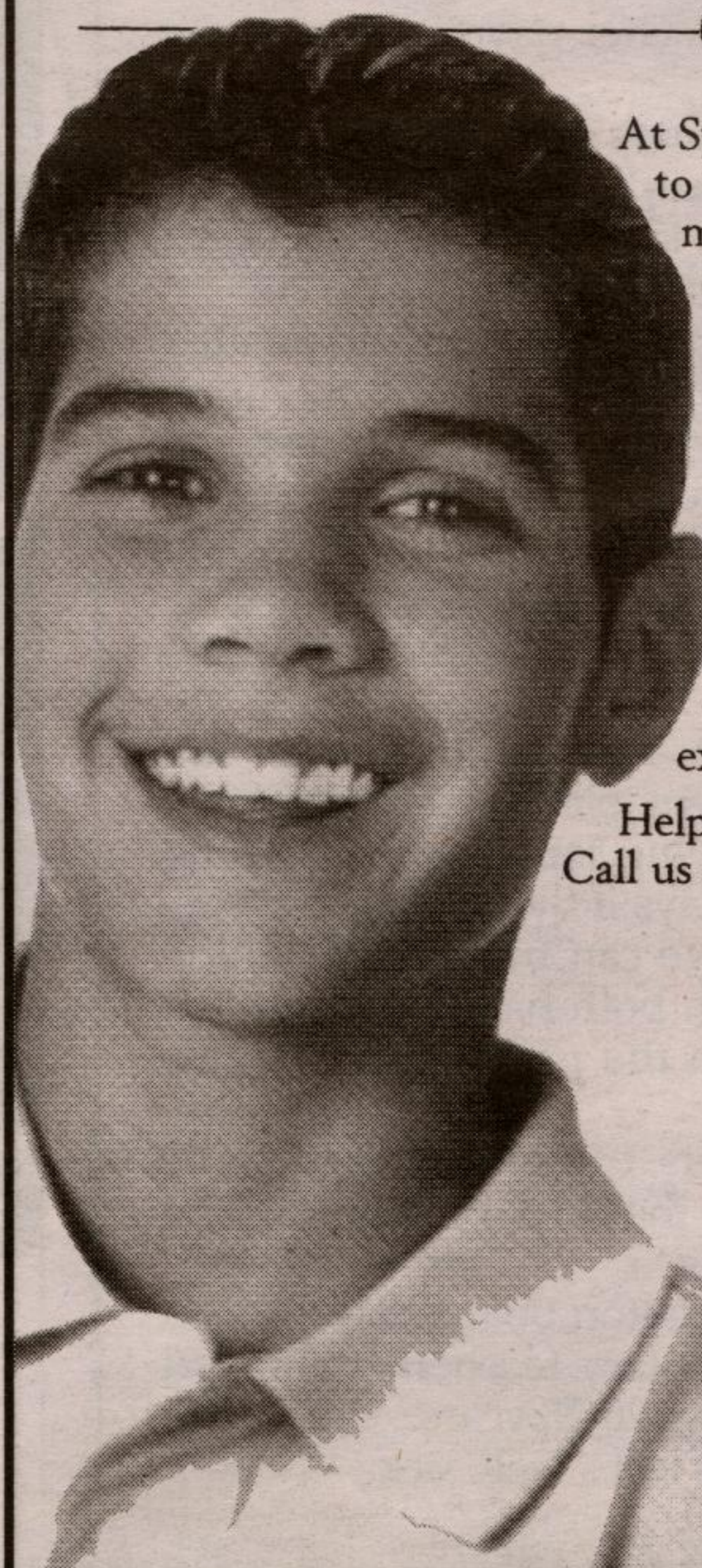
—By Cynthia Gamble, staff writer

### TEAM grad honoured



Teen Education And Motherhood (TEAM) grad Lynn Boucher (second from left) was recently honoured by being enrolled in the Honour Society with the Halton District School Board's Adult, Alternative and Continuing Education division. She received her certificate from Brenda Deshane, head of Alternative Programs (STEP-TEAM) along with congratulations from teacher Diane Deruschie (right) and Site Co-ordinator Donna Kerton (left). Boucher is the first Georgetown recipient of the recognition. Photo by Ted Brown

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