

Editorial

Good eating

Since the beginning of May, eating out in Halton became a lot safer thanks to the implementation of Halton Region health department's Dinewise food safety program.

Restaurants participating in the program will make available, upon request, to their diners and potential diners, a summary inspection report which outlines whether the restaurant has met basic food safety standards as required by provincial legislation. As well, the restaurant will post a certificate of inspection.

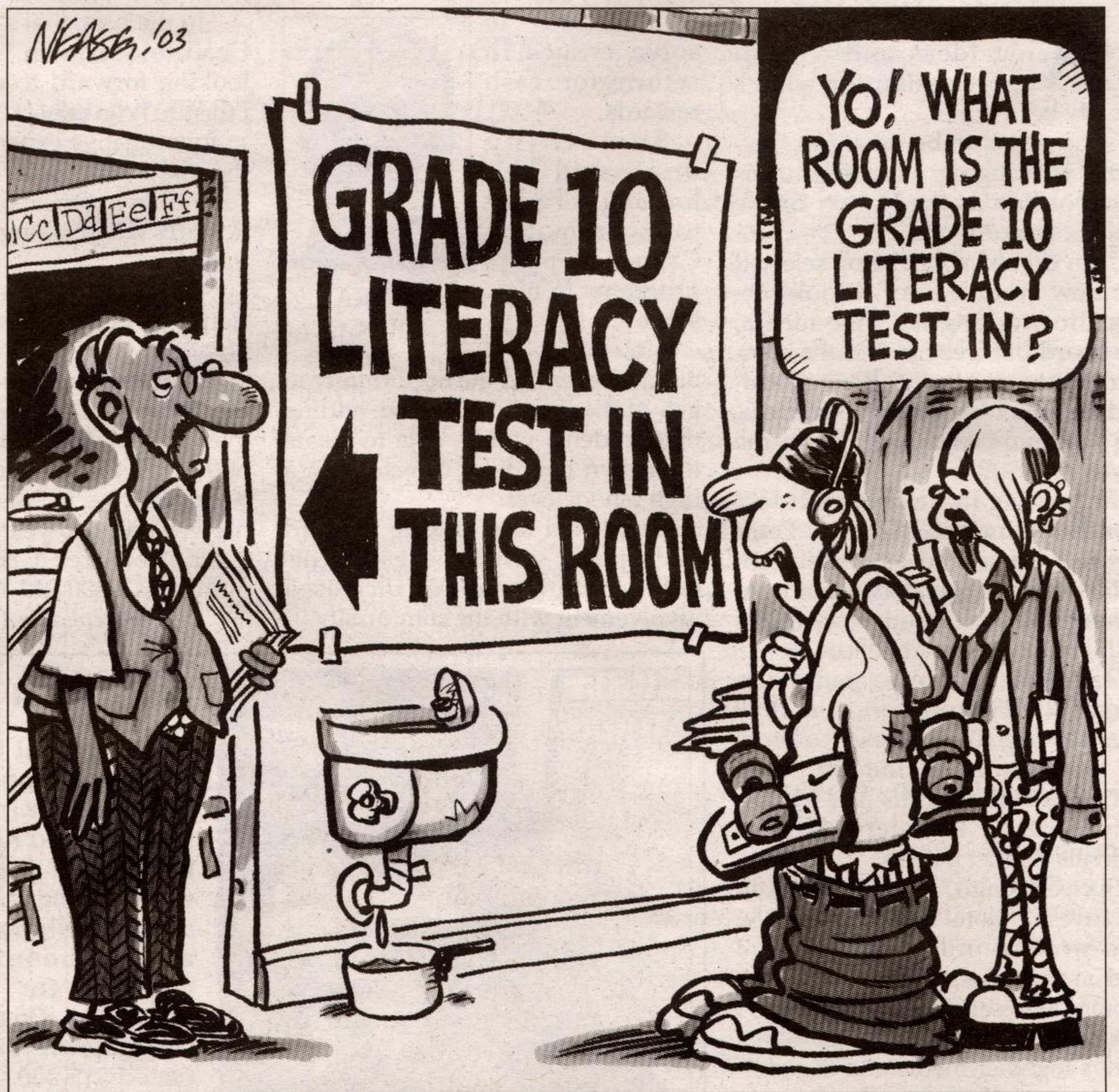
The seven standards restaurants must meet include:

- Food must remain free from contamination
 - Food must be stored properly, at the right temperature
 - There must be no sign of pests such as cockroaches or mice.
 - The premise must be well maintained and sanitary
 - Good food handling and hygiene practices must be followed
 - Garbage and waste must be handled and disposed of properly
 - Equipment and utensils must be cleaned and stored properly
- This initiative is a win-win situation for both the consumer and restaurant owner.

Surely, residents should feel confident the establishment they are eating in has paid due diligence to the eatery's cleanliness and that staff are following proper hygiene practices.

Restaurants which have met standards certainly won't lose any customers by posting their inspection certificates and letting their clientele know they consider proper food handling and storage important aspects of running a restaurant.

Enjoying a night out in a local restaurant should be a pleasurable—and safe—experience. The Dinewise program is an added bit of insurance that it will be.



Letters to the editor....

Contractors' attitude disappoints homeowners

Dear editor,

We were looking for a contractor to put up a wall with small doors in our basement.

We wanted to use the local contractors so we searched the classifieds in your newspaper and found two that we were interested in. We left messages for both of them but only one of them returned the call. The contractor that responded was told what we wanted him to do.

He came to our house to see what was needed and informed us that he would return the next day with an estimate. He never bothered to show up or even extend a courtesy call to say that he couldn't do the job.

As of today, it has been four days since he was at our house. What is with these contractors? I have had the same problem in Acton where we live. They advertise, but when you phone them they don't have the professionalism to call back. Are they only interested in the mega-jobs and not the everyday residents that also require service?

We are very disappointed in the

lack of service provided by the "contractors" in Halton Hills.

Sandra & Dan Morris,
Acton

Hospital care was wonderful

Dear editor,

I would like to give my sincere thanks to the wonderful nursing staff at Georgetown Hospital.

I had the misfortune to be hospitalized during the SARS crisis when no visitors were allowed. This was particularly hard for my family, as my daughter had come from Australia to see me.

During this time the nurses were so friendly and attentive that I did not feel lonely or miserable without my family.

I cannot praise the treatment I received from all the medical staff, highly enough. Thank you Georgetown Hospital.

Eileen Evans, Georgetown

It's time to ban mobile signs

Dear editor,

Why does Georgetown allow businesses along Guelph Street to clutter the boulevards with mobile billboard signs?

Anyone driving through town does not see trees, shrubs or flowers, but ugly neon pink or lime green lettering on black backgrounds stating 10, 30, 50 per cent off. Mississauga banned them years ago as they were an eyesore and they are a distraction to motorists who should be paying attention to traffic lights, other motorists and pedestrians.

Do our town a big favor and outlaw them. Violators should be fined and the proceeds used towards beautifying the town, plant trees and get rid of the signs.

Doug & Marsha Carter, Georgetown

Pooch, dog owner appreciated assistance

Dear editor,

Please, dog owners, take responsibility for your pet's behaviour. A dog is only as obedient as it is trained to be.

After finding my dog cornered by two large dogs recently, I would like to thank numerous people for their assistance: Chris, who bravely controlled one dog (he's a wonderful example of today's youth); Rosemary, Ralph and their son Nicholas for their kind support; Pat and Dale for confronting an unco-operative owner and the police for their swift response.

Monica Newman, Georgetown

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters should not exceed 200 words and may be edited.

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