



## Chefs perfecting their chops

By ELIZABETH BAIRD

The title "writer-in-residence" is now a pretty popular one, and many colleges, universities, libraries and communities have the benefits of a published author settling in their midst and working with aspiring writers for a set period of time. But the focus tends to be fiction or non-fiction with the writer-in-residence often a recognized novelist. Rarely is the subject matter exclusively gastronomy -- the appreciation of good food and wine.

Leave it to the prestigious yet spunky Stratford Chefs School with founders-directors Eleanor Kane and James Morris to push ahead with a brilliant idea that will provide another opportunity for their young chefs-in-training. It's an unprecedented chance for chefs to work with a talented writer whose field is the one they work in -- fine food, wine and hospitality.

The program is named for Joseph Hoare who, prior to his death 10 years ago, was the food editor of Toronto Life.

The fundraising part of making the writer-in-residence program go live this winter and to make it into an annual part of the chefs school curriculum is moving ahead.

One of the features of this campaign is a festive Italian country lunch at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 4, at Grano, when the name of the first Joseph Hoare Gastronomic-Writer-in Residence will be announced. Tickets are \$250 per person, with an anticipated \$150 tax receipt.

If you're interested in learning more about the program, attending the luncheon or even considering becoming a chef and want to know more about the Stratford Chefs School, visit [stratfordchef.on.ca](http://stratfordchef.on.ca).

For info about the Nov. 4 lunch, contact Kim Cosgrove at 519-271-1414 or by e-mail, [admin@stratfordchef.on.ca](mailto:admin@stratfordchef.on.ca).