

Restaurant Review 17 Scarecrow November 25, 2014

FOOD: WE GOT SCARED AT THE SCARECROW: Maybe not scared, but worried a little...On Saturday November 8, former Chesterfield Patch.com editor Jean Whitney and I went to the Scarecrow, which was formerly the Press Box and before that as an Appleby's, for lunch. The Scarecrow opens at 11 am for lunch. I had attended a 9 am special Chesterfield City Council meeting so we met at 11:15 for lunch or in my case breakfast.



Notice the absence of cars.

We walked in and were the first customers of the day. Our waiter met us at the door and showed up our table. Being the first customers of the day is expected at 11:15. However it was over an hour before the next customers walked in. At noon when there was no one else in the place we got scared like it was a scene from the Shinning 2. Two people in a restaurant along a heavily travelled road on a nice day and nobody else comes in. We wouldn't be surprised if a Jack Nicholson look alike was in the kitchen.

Seriously our waiter was a college student and he could not have been more accommodating. He heard we wanted to split the cup of soup ordered and brought out an empty bowl. When ordering and talking between ourselves saying how we should split a pizza and the cheese burger were ordering, he interrupted and said he would have the kitchen cut the burger in half.

Here is the next part that got scary. It was the food. The potato soup (\$4.95 for a cup) arrived and it was pureed with no chunks of potato. It was also missing something else...any flavor or taste!

I didn't taste anything...Jean thought she tasted something that reminded her of a dairy product. Neither of us tasted anything close to a potato.



The soup had a missing ingredient...taste.

The St. Louis style small pizza (\$10.45) arrived. We had ordered it with "light sauce" so the sauce can be tasted but doesn't overpower the other ingredients. I had tried to order a two topping pizza of hamburger and ham (or Canadian Bacon which is sometimes a code word for ham in the pizza biz). The Scarecrow only had the hamburger and could not produce ham. When the pizza arrived it was missing two things...there was no hint of any sauce...also just like the soup...the pizza was tasteless...the hamburger had no taste and the melted Provel cheese had nothing to add.



Then came the cheeseburger (\$11.45) which was advertised on the menu as being a "Brisket Burger" made from ground beef brisket. I was a little suspect since there were no other brisket entrees.

There was not a hint of of brisket flavor with this burger. The tomato on the side was extremely sad for an \$11.45 hamburger. The tomatoes at Sonic look better in the middle of January. To add taste to this item I had to add the onion that came on the side.



I must point out that neither Jean nor I had a cold or sinus infection. After going home all food sampled at my house had taste. This was scary. It was as if the Scarecrow had taken away our sense of taste while we were in the building.

The last time Jean and I had lunch and no one was in the place but us, the restaurant closed three weeks later. It was at the Five Guys Burgers in Town and Country Crossing. We were there in 2011 during the lunch hour. We were going over some columns I was working on and were there from about noon to 1:15. During that time maybe six people came in. I see the same thing in the future for the Scarecrow.