



THE ROTOMINDER

“Service Above Self”



Rotary Club of Chatham
St. Clair College Capitol Theatre, Rotary Lounge
238 King St W.
Wednesdays at 12:15 P.M.

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August 26, 2015

By [Blair Andrews](#), Chatham This Week

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Melanie and Michael Fry, and Stephen Keating hosted the Chatham Rotary Club on Wednesday at The Kent 1874. The trio, along with Keating's wife, Stephanie, have turned the former Baptist church into an entertainment venue. (Blair Andrews/Postmedia Network)

What started out as a residential project quickly turned into a preservation of community heritage for the owners of the former Baptist Church in downtown Chatham. The church at William and Park streets has been transformed into a new entertainment venue called The Kent 1874. The owners plan to host musical events featuring local entertainment and celebrations such as weddings and anniversaries.

It's a family affair as the business is owned by two couples, Michael and Melanie Fry of Chatham and Stephen and Stephanie Keating, who are from the Toronto area. Stephanie is Michael's sister.

The venue hosted Chatham Rotarians for their meeting on Wednesday.

"We feel we are the stewards of this building," said Stephen as he and Michael gave a brief overview of the building project.

During one of their visits to Chatham, the Keating's approached their family members about working together to buy and develop the property.

Stephen's initial plan was to turn the building into a residential site that would have loft apartments.

"But when we really started to look at the history and what this place meant to the community, we thought if there was any way that we could re-purpose it and have it re-used in the community, we will take care of it as long as we can."

He was particularly inspired when looking at photos of the church's choirs and seeing all the people who celebrated mass over the years.

"It's an anchor of the community and we hope it will continue to be so," said Keating.

After deciding on their plan, the goal was to preserve as much of the architecture as possible.

Praising the work of local companies that were involved in the five-month project, Fry describes the effort as more of a face-lift than an extensive renovation.

Although there were a few minor hiccups along the way to restoring the 140-year-old building, Fry was surprised to discover that many of the features were well-preserved.

For example, he said they didn't have to touch the ceiling that includes some spectacular woodwork.

When asked if the church organ still worked, Fry said like most musical instruments, it will have to be serviced but the original compressor and bellows are still intact.

After their presentation, they drew the winning tickets for their raffle that coincided with the Beach Boys Concert in Chatham on Aug. 8.

During their open house on the same day, The Kent 1874 raffled off a number of signed Beach Boys memorabilia to raise money for the Chatham-Kent Hospice project.

The raffle raised \$540 and The Kent 1874 owners added \$460 to bring the total to \$1,000.







Guest Speaker	Stephen Keating & Michael & Michelle Fry - Preserving Our Local Heritage - The Story of The Kent 1874
Visiting Rotarians	Michele Cryer (Chatham Sunrise)
Guests of Rotarians	Eduard Navara (Keith Dawson), Anita Pudwell, (Dave Pudwell), Kathy Watson (Andy Watson), Stan Sharpe (Tania Sharpe), Cindy Reid (Brian Reid)
Club Guests	Rachel Harvey (outbound exchange student to Germany), Chris Taylor (TV Cogeco), Blair Andrews (Sun Media)

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>	<u>50/50 TICKETS</u>
September	Moira Kerr Rika Edwards	Keith Dawson
October	Mary Anne Udvari Wayne Schnabel	Colin McGregor

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS	Win Elzinga Sep 1, Lynn O'Brien Sep 9, Jane Fry Sep 14, Bert Kraemer Sep 18, Monica Ramboer Sep 20, Carl Veroba 21, Brett Smith Sep 24
CLUB ANNIVERSARIES	none

Upcoming Speakers

Wednesday Sep 2/15	Greg Heatherington – How to succeed in small market radio/business
Wednesday Sep 9/15	Todd Warriner - Professional Hockey-Ice Dancer-Broadcaster. Still from Blenheim
Wednesday Sep 16/15	Chris McLeod
Wednesday Sep 23/15	Scott Collier - Youth Exchange how it changed my life
Wednesday Sep 30/15	Lynn Henning – Detroit News

E-BINGO SCHEDULE Jul 01-Sep 30 /15

DATE	PREP TIME	WORK TIME	WORKERS	
MON SEP 7	5:30 PM	5:45 PM TO 7:45 PM	Gerry Bellinger 519-809-1722	Paul Watson 519-354-6392
THU SEP 10	5:30 PM	5:45 PM TO 7:45 PM	Wayne Schnabel 519-365-3222	Brad Langford 519-352-5484
SAT SEP 26	9:30 PM	9:45 PM TO 11:45PM	Rick Bodnaruk 519-351-3126	Donna Litwin-Makey 519-999-9878
SAT OCT 10	8:00 PM	8:15 PM TO 10:15 PM	2 VOLUNTEERS 519-	519-
SUN OCT 18	8:00 PM	8:15 PM TO 10:15 PM	2 VOLUNTEERS 519-	519-
MON NOV 2	8:00 PM	8:15 PM TO 10:15PM	Peter Tanner	1 volunteer
SUN NOV 15	6:00 PM	6:15 PM TO 8:15 PM	Linda Campbell 519-	Tania Sharpe 519-
MON NOV 23	10:00 PM	10:15 PM TO 12:15 AM	2 VOLUNTEERS 519-	519-
THU DEC 3	10:00 PM	10:15PM TO 12:15 PM	2 VOLUNTEERS 519-	519-
SUN DEC 20	11:30 PM	11:45AM TO 1:45 PM	Janet McGuigan-Kelly	1 volunteer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Tigers Baseball Game

President Fannie has once again planned a bus trip to a Tigers Baseball game in Detroit at Comerica Park on Sept 9/2015. Tickets are \$45 which includes your ticket, bus, hotdog, chips and pop. The bus will leave from Victory Ford at 5:30 pm for the 7 pm game.

Sign-up sheets will be available at Rotary meetings or email Fannie to confirm your spot. Once you sent your RSVP you will be billed for the tickets.

Please feel free to invite family, friends and non-Tiger fans. All are welcome!

Any questions contact Fannie

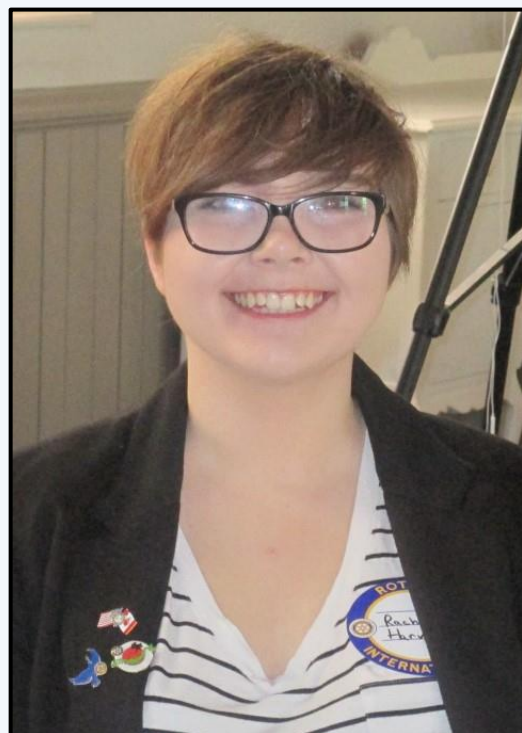
Fanniev@gmail.com

519.359.3172

Outbound Exchange Student

Rachel Harvey a grade 10 student from Chatham-Kent Secondary School is our outbound exchange student to Germany attended our weekly luncheon meeting. She will be leaving shortly to spend the next year immersed in the life and culture of Germany. Members can email Rachel at rachel_harvey@outlook.com.

We wish her all the best and look forward to having her back to talk about her experiences in Germany.





The Chatham Kent
Community Foundation

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, September 25th, 2015
at Deer Run Golf Course

11:00am Lunch and Registration

1:00pm Shotgun Start

\$95 includes golf, cart, lunch & dinner (Dinner only \$40)

PRIZES.FUN.FOOD.



Team Registration Contact:
etlittle@bellnet.ca or
519-674-5436

Makeups can be done at the following Clubs

MONDAY

DRESDEN – St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church – 6:00 p.m.

RIDGETOWN – Anglican Parish Hall – 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

BLLENHEIM – Legion Hall – 6:30 p.m.

CHATHAM – **SUNRISE** – Smitty's Pancake House – 7:30 a.m.

TILBURY – Knights of Columbus Hall – 12:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

CHATHAM – St. Clair College Capitol Theatre, Rotary Lounge – 12:15 p.m.

THURSDAY

WALLACEBURG – Happy Craft Building – 6:15 p.m.

Rotary Club of Chatham Officers and Directors	
President: Fannie Vavoulis	Treasurer: Linda Campbell
Vice President:	General Fund Secretary: Tania Sharpe
President Elect: Alysson Storey	Service Fund Secretary: Doug Sulman
Past President: Don "Sparky" Leonard	Sergeant at Arms: Paul McDonell
Directors: Brett Smith, Jenn Jacobson, Tania Sharpe, Les Herman, Paul Watson	

Club President	R.I. President	District 6380 Gov	Secretary	Editor
Fannie Vavoulis	K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran	Henry Dotson	Tania Sharpe	Sandee Frederick
2015/2016	2015/2016	2015/2016	2015/2016	Executive Secretary
Chatham	Shri Lanka	Auburn Hills	Chatham	Rotary Club of
...		USA		Chatham