

Winter 2012/2013

PRICELESS

CK Child

Your Source for Pregnancy & Parenting in Chatham-Kent

Inside:

NEW!!

Dad Around Town

**Check out the latest entries
for CK's Most Adorable
Munchkins Photo Contest!**





BRENDA RUSSELO
Sales Representative
Call/text 519.358.3577

EVER THOUGHT ABOUT RENTING TO OWN?

Thinking of Buying your First home or credit not quite 'there'?

It is easier than you think. If credit is an issue, no worries. I can help! Every situation is unique. Call me for details and I will help guide you in a way that fits your needs and is comfortable for you to achieve your goal.

READY TO BUY YOUR FIRST HOME BUT JUST DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?

Or if your just looking into purchasing your first home and not sure how to go about it. I have first time home buying packages that helps you every step of the way and up to you moving in on closing day.

Call, text or email me to set up your private & confidential consultation



Scan for
current listings!



at 'brendarusselo'

brendarusselo@sympatico.ca

www.chatham.realtyhouse.ca

Welcome to the 2012/2013 Winter Issue of

CK Child!

CK Child is a hip, local parenting magazine for those raising their children in Chatham-Kent. Our goal is to unite our community by offering various viewpoints on topics relating to all stages of parenthood.

CK Child also highlights the many, valuable locally run businesses in our region & lists local, family-friendly events occurring in C-K.

Letter from the Editor



I am so excited to announce that, after overcoming many obstacles & many bumps in the road, our brand new website has officially launched! I know it will prove to be a valuable resource

to the families of Chatham-Kent & also a fabulous compliment to our print magazine.

We want this to be a place where C-K parents, caregivers & local businesses can all come together & connect in our very own online community. It features event listings, articles from present & past issues, local bloggers & many more exciting things to come!

So, now I'm asking you...what would you like to see on our new website? I would love to hear from you! Please email or call me with anything you think we should be offering on www.ckchild.ca

Talk to you soon!

Warmly,

Tammy

*Tammy Cheninard
Editor/Publisher*

Table of Contents

4 Karen Green's
We Wish You a Merry Christmukkah!

6&7 PURE Perspective:
Brooklyn's 'The Next Star' Journey
from a Mother's Perspective

8&9 Revealing...This Year's CK's Most
Adorable Munchkins!

10 Does Coffee Come in Bucket Size?
&11 Out of this World

12 CK Business Spotlight:
Ella Minnow Pea Toy Shop

13 Dad Around Town:
&14 Moving Our Imaginations with Music

Please Note: Articles within CK Child Parenting Magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor.

CK Child is an independent publication created by a parent for the parent and caregivers of Chatham-Kent.



Please recycle your copy of CK Child.



© CK Child shows our commitment to the environment by using a FSC certified printer

The cover of this issue of CK Child was done by Jenn of Jenn Marsh Photography at a tobogganning hill in Thamesville.

Our cover models are
7 year old Lucy and 4 year old Boone.



Jenn Marsh is a talented local Mom, wife & photographer who resides in Thamesville with her husband & 2 adorable children. She specializes in Newborn Portraiture & absolutely loves what she does! To learn more about Jenn, visit her Facebook page or her website at www.jennmarshphotography.com

We Wish You a Merry Christmukkah

by Karen Green



A lot of people I know have to embark on a finely choreographed dance at this time of year – it is a dance that can go as smoothly and in-tune as a Viennese Waltz, or it could end up in a aggressive, adrenaline-filled Krump. It is a dance that could make or break good feelings, good cheer and often, the holidays altogether. The dance is called, Whose Family Are We Spending

Christmas With This Year?

And I am so happy I have never had to learn it.

You see, come December, there is no discussion to be had – we celebrate Christmas with my husband's family. While so many of my friends and in-laws are gingerly stepping onto that particular dance floor with their partner, I am at home, lighting the candles on our menorah. We are an interfaith family, and we can at least count Christmas Day negotiations as one issue we don't have to face. But there are plenty of others to take its place.

While accurate statistics on interfaith marriage are hard to come by (especially Canadian statistics), a 2008 survey published in the Washington Post states that up to 37% of married Americans have a spouse of a different faith. As a couple, my husband and I (I am Jewish, my husband, though essentially atheist, is from a Protestant family) have always been on the same page regarding our difference in backgrounds – it really doesn't matter. Remaining understanding of (our family's) customs and traditions has always been the key to inter-faith harmony for us, culminating in a wedding ceremony that included a chuppah, unity candles, the breaking of the glass and a Judge to officiate.

Handling the holidays was always a similar pursuit of accommodation: we lit the menorah and ate latkes at my mother's house; trimmed the Christmas tree and ate turkey at his mother's house.

Then we had kids.

Compartmentalizing the holidays – Jewish holidays with my family, Christian holidays with his, is easy to do as adults because we can understand, intellectualize and rationalize our decisions. Children have a bit of a harder time doing those things. So do grandparents, for that matter. But my husband and I found purchase in these negotiations as well – their Jewish 'education' is up to me, and any part of my husband's religious or spiritual identity that wishes to impart on our children is up to him.

The good news is, our children obviously accept their lives as normal. But they have questioned not only a) why we celebrate both Christmas and Hanukkah when most of their friends only get one or the other and b) what the significance of each holiday is. I have a much easier time explaining the former. For one thing, children are completely open-minded. That Mummy is Jewish and Daddy is not doesn't phase them in the slightest.

As for the latter, I struggle. That Hanukkah is a celebration commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem following a great miracle, I am comfortable in explaining to my

children. I have passed to them the traditions of eating chocolate gelt and spinning dreidles and singing Hanukkah songs. But if I am to tell the absolute truth, I am still not entirely comfortable with the symbolic, religious meaning of Christmas – at least, not comfortable with explaining it to my children. And my husband doesn't seem to care to do it, so for my children, Christmas is a time of wonderful fun (and gifts!) and family (and gifts!) and specials and music and Santa (and gifts!), but they have no clue what Christmas is.

For now, we focus on the things that I have always felt were of the most cultural and personal value anyway – the traditions. On December 8, we will light the first candle on the menorah, and we will eat latkes and sing songs as loud as we can and open a small gift with my family. And then, on December 24, we will go to my in-laws for our Christmas Eve sleepover, and we will wake up together and enjoy an entire day of aunts, cousins, grandparents, great-grandparents and a ton of food. Oh, and did I mention gifts?

And then, on December 26, my husband and I will continue what we hope has become a new tradition, inviting friends and family to join us at our house for an afternoon of as much merry as we can squeeze out of people.

Although in the future, my children will most certainly require more explanation, more dialogue and more answers about why our family does things the way we do, for now we feel that what we are providing for them is more than enough – the best of both worlds, two traditions, two families that love them fiercely and two parents completely dedicated to providing a tolerant, loving and understanding atmosphere so that their future remains as open as their present. It will undoubtedly take deliberate parenting as well as flexibility and perhaps even some philosophical enlightenment on our part, but that – that is a dance we are both more than willing to do.

Karen Green recently moved with her family to Chatham from Toronto. Freed from her full-time job as a writer and editor, Karen now spends her time...writing and editing. And frolicking in the leaves with her two small girls. Karen is a speaker, the parenting columnist at CanadianFamily.ca, the founder of the nationally-recognized political movement, Mom The Vote and the author of the blog, The Kids Are Alright, where she has been writing about the humorous and poignant moments of family life since 2005.

be kind be silly be honest

unique vinyl decals for any surface

kelly deline 519.358.1442

uppercase living
INDEPENDENT DEMONSTRATOR

website - www.wallstamps.ca

facebook wall stamps - uppercase living - kelly deline

They learn more than you think.



Visit chatham-kent.ca/recreation for full details!

Learning to swim is more than just making a splash. Each step requires learning something new, and each step builds self-confidence and a sense of accomplishment. Discover why swimming is a great activity for you and your child.

Parent & Tot Aquafit

Swim Times:

Blenheim Gable Rees Rotary Pool
Tuesdays 10:30-11:00am

Parent & Tot Swim

Stay for Parent & Tot Swim
immediately following for **FREE!**

Swimming Lessons

A love of swimming starts here

- Red Cross Swim Preschool
- Ages 4 months to 5 years

Available at:

Blenheim Gable Rees Rotary Pool
Wallaceburg Sydnham Pool

CKRecreation



PURE Perspective: Brooklyn's 'The Next Star' Journey from a Mother's Perspective



It would be unfair of me to begin this article on the day Brooklyn auditioned for The Next Star. Brooklyn's preparation for this competition started years ago. From a very young age Brooklyn had the desire to perform. She started in acting classes when she was about five years old. Back then she had no problem memorizing short scripts and choreography.

Around the age of seven Brooklyn became interested in singing competitions. She watched her father and grandfather compete for years. Brooklyn sang 'Take Me Out To The Ball Game' at the Mitchell's Bay Singing Contest her first year. I believe she

only sang the first verse and chorus but she was hooked.

Because of her passion for singing, dancing and acting Brooklyn decided to enroll in a new program in town called 'Triple Threat' at The Pure Dance Academy. It combined all three of her interests in one class. She absolutely loved it. She played 'Kelsey' in 'High School Musical' the first year. She didn't have many lines but you could tell she loved her role. The next year she played Willy Wonka from Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. She always wanted the lead role; it didn't matter if they were boy roles or roles that didn't suit her.

We believe that because of Brooklyn's prior experience on stage including dancing, singing and acting is what gave Brooklyn the edge when she auditioned for The Next Star. When you can walk in to an audition with confidence, belt out a few songs and look the producers and judges in the eye when you are only 14 years old you will make an impression.

When Brooklyn enters a competition she takes it very seriously. She makes sure she knows what the judges are looking for. When she entered the Next Star competition she began her preparation weeks in advance. She carefully selected her audition songs so that they suited her voice and would show off her range.

Another important factor she considered was how she would

dress for the competition. She knew it was a children's program and needed to dress appropriately but she also wanted to stand out and have an edge about her. She accomplished that by adding sparkle to her outfit and wearing big trendy boots to with a nice pair of jeans. She also made sure she didn't wear too much makeup but added some glitter to her eyes.

Brooklyn felt that one of her weaknesses would be speaking to the judges and speaking in front of the camera. In order to prepare for this she came up with a list of questions that she thought the judges might ask. Every day Brooklyn would pretend we were the judges and have us ask her questions until she felt comfortable answering them.

The closest audition city for The Next Star was in Toronto. They scheduled two days for the Toronto auditions. We thought that the lineups would be crazy long. In these competitions people line up hours in order to get a good spot in line. We knew that wouldn't be good for Brooklyn because she isn't a morning person. The next closest city was Montreal. There was only one day scheduled for auditions. We thought that Montreal would be a better fit for Brooklyn to get a decent night sleep and have the opportunity to warm up her voice before seeing the judges. We were right!! She had plenty of rest, warmed up her voice and had time to get ready and have a good breakfast. Once inside we couldn't believe how many people were there. There were little clusters of hopefuls who were practicing their songs or just anxiously waiting. Considering we were one of the last people to walk in to the room the lines moved fairly

Costumes n Designs by Heather

GREAT GIFT IDEA!
The Dream Duffel bag
(available in 3 different sizes!)

Watch for
studio sale
weeks again
in the
New Year!



We carry:

Large assortment of bra tops, tank tops, bra tops, dance wear, skating wear, bodysuits, accessories... & more!

We are a quick 10 minute drive West out of Chatham at 5597 Tecumseh Line.

OPEN 6 DAYS/WEEK! Evening appointments always available - please phone first.



Keep an eye on our page for upcoming promotions & specials!

Scan to be added to our monthly e-newsletter!



• 519.436.0493 •

Note: Our PURE store location is closing Dec 15th

JENNIFER MARSH PHOTOGRAPHY
Experience the wonder!

SPECIALIZING IN NEWBORN PORTRAITURE
www.jennmarshphotography.com
Trained in Newborn Posing + Safety

by Linda Roebuck

quickly. Once in front of the judges Brooklyn was asked to perform the songs that she had prepared to sing. Well from that point on you know the rest of the story if you watched the show. It was a very exciting experience!

During the seven weeks we lived in Toronto Brooklyn spent nearly every day filming the show. Most days were very long but at the end of each day Brooklyn came through the door with a smile on her face. This experience solidified for Brooklyn that the entertainment business is where she wants to be. The top six bonded during this time and spent most of their time together. Because Brooklyn and Darren were the youngest out of the top six Brooklyn was the closest to him. The most exciting part about the competition for Brooklyn besides winning of course was the filming of her video 'The Way I See You'. There are a lot of irons in the fire for Brooklyn right now. Her next steps are to record her new song and video which will be released just before Christmas. She also opened up for Michelle Wright at the St. Clair Capitol Theatre in Chatham on November 16.

Coming from a small town was a bonus for Brooklyn in this competition. The media was extremely good to her. They kept her story alive throughout the entire process. Also, Brooklyn had already begun to make a name for herself around town and people already knew that she was a budding artist. Small towns seem to rally for one of their own. There's something to be said about small town pride.

When people ask Brooklyn for advice she likes to tell them to

be yourself and be as prepared as you possibly can be. Join an acting, singing and/or dancing class. Take every chance to get up on stage and be comfortable there. Enter singing competitions and find out what you did well and what you need to work on. Every experience teaches you something. You won't always win or get the best part but you will always learn.

"Walk the widest PATH to live your biggest DREAM"
~ Brooklyn Roebuck



THE paper pickle co.
invitations & paper supplies

Where dill-ightful paper products
are always on the menu!

NOW located inside dekokos!
44 fourth street, chatham, paperpickle.ca



It's Fun. It's New.
It's now in
Chatham!

Paint your own Pottery Studio

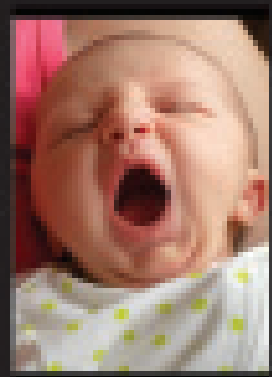
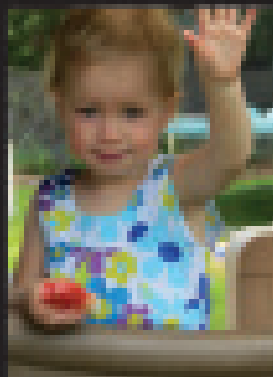
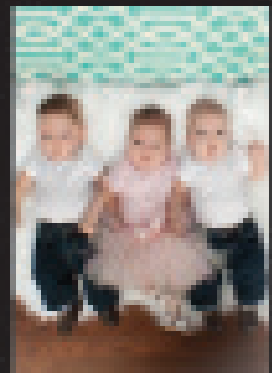
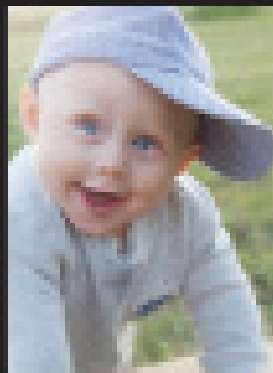
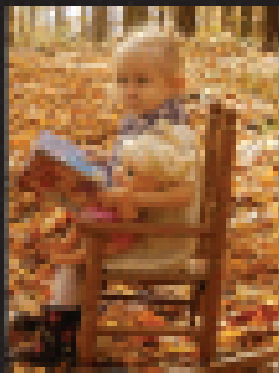
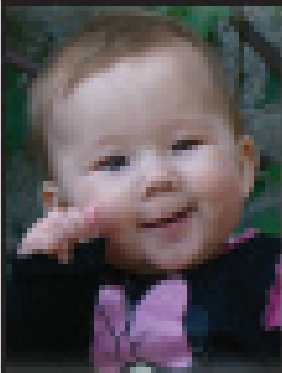
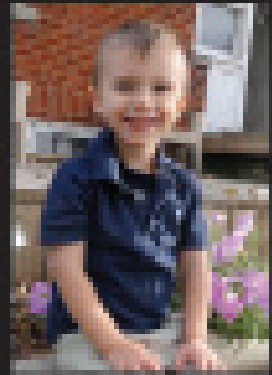
- Creative Birthday Parties – in our cool & colourful party room
- Awesome Kids Classes – for preschoolers, kids, tweens and teens
- Super School Events – classroom activities, fundraisers and more
- Everyday Family Fun – drop in anytime, no reservations required

Mention you saw this ad in CK Parent & we'll give you a FREE pottery perk! One per family please.



CK's Most Adorable Munchkins Photo

Here they are! Now it's your turn to tell us which photo is your favorite!

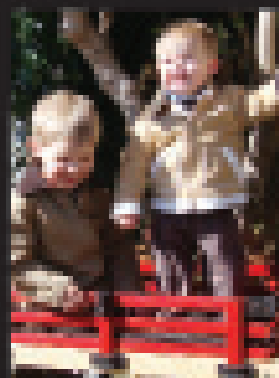
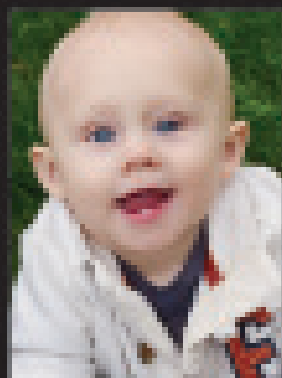
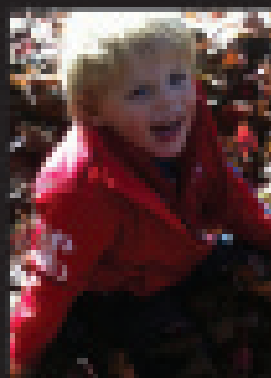
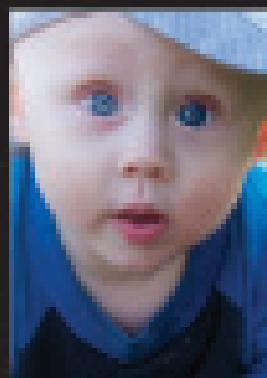
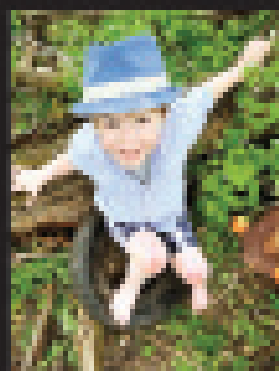
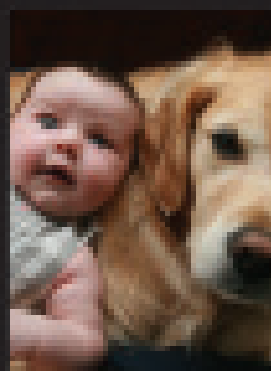
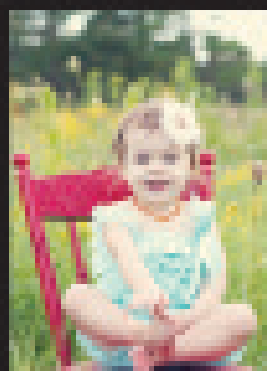
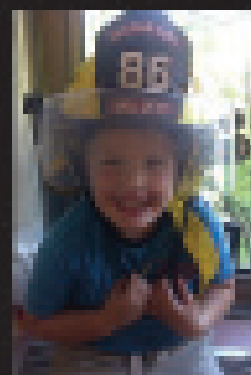
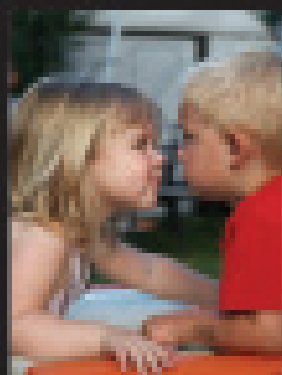
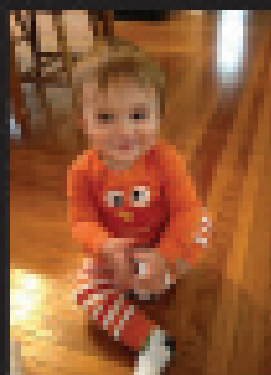
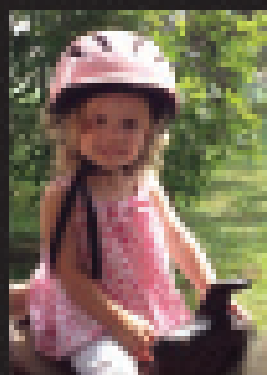
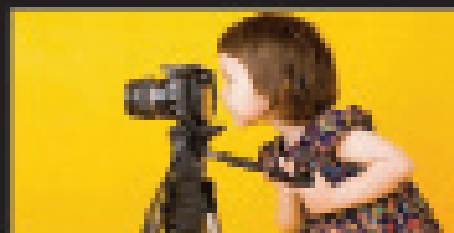


How Do You Vote??

Go to Facebook, 'like' our page and vote for your favorite! Vote for the photo you feel is perfect for our upcoming issue. Visit our FB page or website for full details.

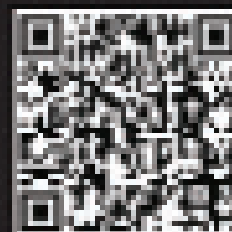
Photo Contest

photo should be on our Spring cover!



- favourite Munchkin!

upcoming Spring Cover from Dec 10 - Jan 31st



www.ckmostadorable.blogspot.ca

Does Coffee Come in Bucket Size? OUT OF THIS WORLD



I have a real problem being on time for things; my husband has a real problem if we are late for things. You'd think our kids would be right.on.time. And, probably (hopefully) they will be, but not until I stop having to get them places.

Every Fall we put the kiddos in eleventeen things to help further their brains and bodies and (in general) keep them from becoming serial killers. So far it seems to be working, but they're only 5 and 2 so it's a little early to call it.

The thing is, I have been starting to think maybe all these "anti-serial killer" activities are not so much growing and help my children succeed, but instead are inching me closer to a stress-induced heart attack before I'm old enough to have one. Between prep, laundering uniforms, getting kids fed and out the door again, my blood pressure goes from 120/80 to 600/570-ish.

Don't even get me started on my Rage-O-Meter-- this is the giant thermometer-looking gauge that tells outsiders whether they should tread lightly or continue with caution when near me. Let's say the lower the thermometer, the more peaceful I am; on activity nights, my meter is bubbling 3/4 of the way up with the chance of the mercury bursting through the top with every red light or set of lost car keys that slows us down.

At any rate, Kiddo #1 takes dance lessons, music and swimming, Kiddo #2 take dance and swimming. It makes for some interesting after school routines in our house, since Kiddo #1 gets off the bus an hour before her first lesson starts on any given day. While 60 minutes should be adequate, it is so SO far from enough time to get us all there.

Basically our routine for the months of September and October were as follows:

3:50: Get off the bus, show thumbs up/down for how day went

3:55: Get in the house, toss all jackets/shoes/book bags willy-nilly like a sprinkler

4:00: Proclaim dire need for snackage and flop on the floor dying of hunger until said snack is on the table

4:11: I say, "Honey, it's time to get your [whatever is needed for whatever they're taking] together."

4:18: I say, "Hurry and finish your snack, you need to get ready."

4:23: We're leaving in 5 minutes. I'm getting your brother ready for Taylor's (the neighbour girl who takes excellent care of him).

4:45: AHHH! It's quarter to 5! RUN RUN RUN we're late and we still have to drop your brother off and get there. AHHH! GAH! RUN! Despite our routine, getting to dance includes us squealing into the dance studio parking lot. Luckily we're late enough that we won't run anyone over as we Tokyo Drift our way into a parking spot. Heart pounding, rage-o-meter through the roof, Kiddo #1 grabs her bag and we run inside. Every week. Without fail. It's maddening!

But, possibly because we're 3 months into our "new" routine, and possibly because we're getting close enough to Christmas that I am more aware that Santa's watching (so I must be a good girl), a miracle occurred today; we weren't late!

In fact-- wait til you get a load of this one: we were early. EARLY!

As we pulled into the empty parking lot, I was able to slowly and calmly get an amazing parking spot. No running from 3 streets over? Man, early people catch all the breaks!

Kiddo #1 and I walked (!!) into the studio. A dad and his daughter were behind us and the two girls started chatting about ... whatever little girls chat about. I presume princesses and hockey skates, but little girl voices are too high pitched for my concert-abused ears to hear.

At any rate, Kiddo #1 and her friend lined up at the wall and put their ballet shoes on. I didn't even know they did that. Best part? There were no exasperated tears (from me) trying to put a ballet

Celebrating our 20th Anniversary
- thank you all present & past clients!

ALMAR
HOME IMPROVEMENTS
WINDOWS and DOORS
Installations - Sales - Service

351.5666 • www.almarhomeimprovements.com

Alla's
Bowtique
For all your *hair candy!*
Unique handcrafted hair accessories, tutus and more.

Nancy
allasbowtique@yahoo.com
519-351-7523
where chic meets trendy

Gather the girls
and party with
Grace Adele!

The more friends
who shop the more
pretty pieces you can
earn - at half-price or
totally free!

Grace Adele
INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT

Book your party today at 519.351.7523 or visit
www.nancymatteis.graceadele.ca

by Elizabeth Sunnen

shoe on her sticky been-in-a-sock-all-day feet. It was just the putting on of ballet slippers with lots of time to spare.

I was feeling slightly dizzy, a little on the vertigo side yet not uncomfortable. In fact, it felt like tweeting birds or fireworks and cotton candy. It was a pleasant feeling that I realized afterwards was euphoria.

Man! If dance class is this pleasant every week, just by being early, I could really get behind her continued learning! No rage coursing through my veins, no sweat on the back of my neck from the elevator-style blood pressure change... nothing but sheer joy that she's doing something she loves.

But first I have to finish my time machine. Or at least talk to Evie from that 80's show "Out of this World" and get her ability to freeze time by touching her fingers together. Oh, would you like to swing on a star...

*Elizabeth is a teacher & writer who takes motherhood one laugh at a time. She grew up in C-K & s thrilled to be back in such a great community. Check out her blog:
www.DoesCoffeeComeInBucketSize.blogspot.com*



mommy & baby
fitness™
WORKOUT & PLAY™

Wishing you a Happy Holiday Season!

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE
(Fabulous gift idea for any mom!)

ERICA IANNICELLO - OWNER/INSTRUCTOR
519-355-6622 (Chatham) • 519-962-1459 (Windsor)
mommyandbabyfitness@gmail.com
www.mommyandbabyfitness.com

Interested in promoting your business in **CKChild?**
Give us a call at 519.359.6383 or email us at ckchildmag@gmail.com

We're dancing in
**DISNEY'S
MAGIC
KINGDOM®**
in 2013!

NEW Wallaceburg Studio!!
1542 Dufferin Ave

Blenheim Studio
111 Chatham Street

Debbie McGonigle School of Dance

Member B.A.T.D. & B.D.A.
Grade Examinations
+ Medal Testing

For More Information call Debbie at 519.354.2268 or 519.676.4661 or email at dmdance@bellnet.ca

WWW.DMSDANCE.COM



CK Business Spotlight: Ella Minnow Pea Toy Shop

Our CK Business Spotlight features outstanding local businesses who have made a positive impact on our community! Let us know if you would like to be featured in one of our future issues...

--



Meet Lesli...

Lesli's original concept for the store, was a high end children's boutique located within historic Downtown Chatham on King St. The mother of three beautiful children, she wanted her store to provide high quality, unique name brand fashions and toys. The store has evolved over the past six years, and it's main emphasis is on the 100's of unique, educational toys and gifts for your own special child.

Anyone who has been in this fabulous store will also have met Sandy. Sandy is an integral part of the store's every day operations. She shares Lesli's passion for providing the families of C-K with a local boutique that offers unique, fun & educational toys for children of all ages with

a warm and welcoming charm that only an independent, locally-run retailer could provide. They also support as many local entrepreneurs as they can as well! This includes the Twirly Whirly Girly Skirts by Milen Designs. There's truly something for everyone here!

They have recently relocated from their original store on King Street into the Downtown Chatham Centre. So come and visit Leslie and Sandy at the DCC and experience the joy for yourself!



WE'VE MOVED! Now located in the Downtown Chatham Centre

Ella Minnow Pea Toy Shop



Now offering... milen designs
for divas of all ages



519.352.5444 • WWW.ELLAMINNOWPEA.CA

Dad Around Town: MOVING OUR IMAGINATIONS WITH MUSIC by Darin Cook



Some big name children's entertainers came to Chatham's Capitol Theatre in November. Big name, that is, if you're like me and have spent way too much time with the Disney Junior channel on television (only between bouts of Treehouse, of course, while secretly wishing it was TSN or The Food Network). I'm happy to say these performers are real people, too; they aren't puppets, or animated characters brought to life with costumes, or puffy purple

dinosaurs. They are a four-man musical troupe - Rich, Dave, Scott, and Smitty - known as The Imagination Movers. They play instruments and sing upbeat songs, scattered between comedic skits that encourage children to solve problems by exercising their imaginations. Not that there's anything wrong with these other forms of non-real entertainment, but as a father, I take personal satisfaction in seeing my children's role models graduating to characters that are flesh and blood, after the last few years of admiring Elmo.

I feel as if I know The Imagination Movers intimately because I regularly perform along with them when ordered by my three-year-old son, Ethan, to play a fake guitar and gyrate around when a peppy tune called The Brainstorming Song is played each episode. With my son's interest in these characters at a peak, and my wife's confession that she finds herself tapping her toes to their songs, it seemed time to take Ethan to his first

live musical performance. And it wasn't going to be a U2 concert, like his mother hoped.

Going to the Capitol Theatre is usually a composed and refined evening of entertainment with folk performers, Christmas choirs, or ballets. But this event was quite different. The respectable setting of Chatham's premiere musical venue has never seen so much chaos with confetti and streamers shooting out of cannons, giant balloons bouncing over the crowd, and smoke rings drumming out of giant garbage cans. The darkened theatre flickered with glow sticks and a special pair of flashy eyewear, called Wobble Goggles, that Scott is known for wearing on the show and were available at the concession stand. I'm pretty sure the theatre seats have never been jumped on by pint-sized theatre-goers as much as this show inspired. With kids prancing down the aisles, it was a combination rock concert, circus, and juvenile dance-a-thon.

More than I expected, it certainly felt like a rock concert. There was a lot of frenetic energy and noise in a confined space, along with instrument changes by a roving roadie and a Mohawk-sporting keyboard player. It wasn't long after the first few rousing songs that a mosh pit of Munchkins had formed in front of the stage. The live show wasn't so much about unravelling problems with their imaginations, as the television episodes are, but more a celebration of music with original songs catchy enough to get the parents bobbing their heads. They even threw in

(continued on next page)

MONTESSORI SCHOOL

TODDLER, PRESCHOOL, JK/SK



MONTESSORI THE PLACE TO GROW

Our curriculum includes math, language, french, science, geography, history, phys ed., art, music, sensorial and practical life activities.

MONTESSORI IS AN EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

which strives to:

awaken the child's spirit and imagination, encourage the child's desire for independence, healthy sense of self-esteem and respect, help the child develop kindness, courtesy and self-discipline,
help the child learn how to observe, question, and explore ideas, allowing them to reach their full potential

Classes are available from 16 months to age 6.

CURRENTLY ACCEPTING REGISTRATION FOR 2013

93 William Street N., Chatham 519-351-2662

montessoritheplacetogrow.ca
montessoritptg@gmail.com

Dad Around Town (continued)

by Darin Cook

some modern pop songs for the adults to cling to, like I Gotta Feeling by The Black-Eyed Peas, all the while encouraging the young crowd to join in with their natural musical instruments - clapping of hands, stomping of feet, and singing along to the music.

The Imagination Movers bill themselves as rock musicians for children and they generated a response that sports fanatics exhibit at games to support their favourite players. Audience members were waving signs with phrases from the show, like "Let's Brainstorm!" and "It's an Idea Emergency!" Some die-hard fans wore miniature versions of the royal blue jumpsuits that The Imagination Movers always wear. There were several red ball caps worn backwards like Dave and straw cowboy hats to look like Smitty. To support this type of enthusiasm, The Imagination Movers often danced down the aisles themselves, giving high-fives to all their little fans. And speaking of dancing, they did something quite distinctive by requesting local children to act as back-up dancers for a portion of the show. At one point, six dance students from Pure Dance Academy joined them on stage. It was a unique twist to their show and exciting for the community to see local talent sporting the Pure logo on stage beside such a popular entertainment group.

Aside from the music, there was a message voiced by Rich near the end of the show about how they loved looking into the audience to see parents sharing this time with their children. He reminded us that giving children our time and attention is the most valuable gift we can offer them. And I knew he was right. My wife and I may have been enjoying the music on its own merit, but the fact that we were smiling the whole time had everything to do with watching Ethan jump around in his seat with the sheer delight of enjoying the music. We knew we took him to his first concert at the right age, and that it would be a memory that would last for a while, because the next day he said, "Remember when we saw The Imagination Movers and it wasn't on TV. That was the best Imagination Movers ever."

Darin Cook is a freelance writer who works and plays in Chatham-Kent. With this first non-adult concert under his belt, he foresees himself becoming a dad around town taking in children's entertainment and family-oriented attractions with his wife, Jennifer, and their sons, Ethan and Jonah. His writing can be viewed on his new website at www.darincook.ca (Dec '12)



LITTLE BO-TIQUE
CHILDREN'S APPAREL

Chatham Kent's premium children's apparel & consignment shoppe!

Consignment from
infant to size 12

www.littlebotique.ca

30 Queen St., N. Tilbury 519-682-1223

What to Do, What to Do

Our 'What to Do, What to Do' section is moving!

Where to, you ask? Online! Our new website has just been launched and we have a whole new section there dedicated to local family events within Chatham-Kent. It features more details on these upcoming events &, when possible, directs you to websites that offer more information on these local happenings! Also, now we're able to update our listings to include new events that pop up.

Check out our website at www.ckchild.ca for more information and to get your event added!



Nancy Matteis
Director
519-351-7523
senseofsmell27@yahoo.com
nancymatteis.scentsy.ca

Scentsy
INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT

BUY ~ HOST ~ JOIN



WYZGUYS Perm Reg'd

Boarding • Handling
• Obedience Classes •

Shiba Inu

MARION WEIBERG
519-351-1717
marion12@rogers.com

Home raised for companions or show!

SWEAT DRIES BLOODCLOTS BONESHEAL SUCK IT UP & DANCE!

138 King Street West in Downtown Chatham
www.gohautepink.com

Hautepink
dance wear boutique



HINNEGAN
TREVOR HINNEGAN LAW



Honest



Competent



Fair

- Real Estate
- Wills & Estates
- Incorporations
- Civil Litigation

(519) 355-1800

75 Thames St, PO Box 428 Chatham, ON N7M 5K5

WWW.TREVORHINNEGANLAW.COM

Chatham-Kent Public Library ... making connections



Our friendly & knowledgeable staff work to develop programs, service and collections to meet you and your children's needs.

We're here to help you and your child on the path to reading.

CKPL has 11 branches to serve you throughout Chatham-Kent. We offer free programs, services and collections for:

- Children and their parents
- Teachers
- Child Care Providers

Our programs include:

- Books for Babies
- Tales for Two's
- Preschool Storytimes
- Evening & Family Storytimes
- Book Clubs for Boys & Teens

Check out the story kits & booklists developed especially for children on our website

Watch for special programs throughout the year!

Storytimes feature songs, stories, rhymes & other developmentally appropriate activities that develop pre-reading skills, foster a love of reading and contribute to school readiness.

For more information, contact your local branch or visit us online at

www.chatham-kent.ca/library

Start the New Year by letting their potential shine!



NEW for 2013!

EARLY YEARS
(STARTING THIS FEB)

Raindrops (1-3yrs)

Sunbeams (3-4 yrs)

Shooting Stars (4-5 yrs)

TEEN

Partnering (Male/Female)

ADULT

NEW! Pre-Natal Dance

Cardio Fushion

...also offering
Glee, Singing
& Improv!

Register Now
for
NEW CLASSES
starting
in 2013!



PURE dance
music
drama inc.
Academy for the Performing Arts

519.352.5000

Wallaceburg • Florence • Chatham • **www.pureacademy.ca**