

# What's Up Downtown?

Messages from MAAP Almonte

## Profits Up! — Wednesday, Mar. 10

A survey of downtown businesses showed that last year's Puppets Up! International Puppet Festival provided a real boost to the bottom-line bringing volume sales and plenty of new customers to our downtown. This year, **Blackbird's Emily Arbour**, with support from the usual suspects from Puppets Up!, will host a seminar about how to make the most of the annual puppet festival. Emily will help businesses explore some sure-fire techniques for increasing and attracting business during the festival weekend (August 7 & 8 this year). The Profits Up! seminar will be hosted on Wednesday, March 10 from 6–7PM (location TBA). For more information, please contact [emily@blackbirdshop.ca](mailto:emily@blackbirdshop.ca).

## Eggscapade — Mar. 28 - Apr. 3

MAAP's annual spring celebration, Eggscapade, has been expanded this year. During March break, local kids can participate in a colouring contest. Beginning March 28, all of Almonte is invited to hit the streets for a downtown easter egg hunt. Hunt sheets are available at Blackbird, The Miller's Tale, Foodies, Curiosities and Nordic Star. Prizes once again include gift baskets filled with goodies from Almonte stores. The Eggscapade draw takes place on Saturday, April 3 at 2PM, just in time for Easter. For more information, or to contribute to the gift baskets, please contact [sales@appletongiftbaskets.com](mailto:sales@appletongiftbaskets.com).

## Welcome to Almonte!

Seems like every time you turn around, there is another new business on Mill Street. Local clown, Silly U (a.k.a. Mike Poirier) has opened **Silly U's Party H.Q.** in the old Timmons building and is happily welcoming customers to his unique and wacky world of games and memorabilia.

Almonte's newest dining establishment, the **Heirloom Café**, and owner-chefs Richard Kletnieks and Brandy Nieto, got rave reviews recently from Ottawa Citizen restaurant critic Anne DesBrisay. Plans are in the works to bring live music to the Café on the ground floor of the Victoria Mill. <http://heirloomcafe.ca>

Sara Bazett recently shifted her **Soul Scents** business from Lanark to Almonte, where she will continue to offer high quality, fair trade products to local shoppers as well as stores and small businesses across Canada. Her product line includes candles, soaps, toiletries and personal care items. [www.soulscents.ca](http://www.soulscents.ca)

### Upcoming Events

- **The Young Awards**, Sat., Feb. 20 at 6PM at ADHS (\$65 from Foodies or Blackbird)
- **Chamber Mixer** with Shirley Deugo of Fulton's Wed., Feb. 24 at 6PM at the Barley Mow
- **Mid-Winter Milling** exploring downtown Almonte Sat., Feb. 27, 10AM–5PM on Mill Street
- **The Almonte Radio Show** (Valley Players), Feb. 26–28 at Old Town Hall (\$20, Levi Home Hardware)
- **Puppets Up! fundraiser** with Compagnie La Pendue, March 9 at Old Town Hall (\$25, The Miller's Tale)
- **Medical Intuitive Workshop** with Dr. Mona Lisa Schultz, Mar. 19–21 at the Old Town Hall

[www.DowntownAlmonte.ca](http://www.DowntownAlmonte.ca)

