

# Grocery store coming to the core

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News Jun 29, 2016 by [Laurie Snell](#) Kitchener Post



Laurie Snell photo Johnny Kent and Sarah Pepper will be opening J and P's (Johnny and Pepper's) Grocery Store at 8 Queen St. N. this fall. They will share the former Goudie's Store location with Vidyard.

Newlyweds Sarah Pepper and Johnny Kent have been married less than a week and already have big plans together — opening J and P's Grocery Store downtown this fall.

"We're just full speed ahead," said Pepper, the 'P' of J and P's.

The grocery store will be accessible from Goudie's Lane at 8 Queen St. N., taking up about 5,000 square feet.

"Johnny and I live downtown and we try to be downtown and shop downtown and eat downtown," she said.

"We just always talked about how we didn't feel like there was a place where you could go and do a full grocery shop and get everything you need — bread, milk, cheese, produce, dry goods — and stay within the downtown."

So, they decided to transfer their food and hospitality skills, and use their connections to suppliers, to fill the need.

"It's a really cool location because it's right in the heart of downtown," she said. "It's accessible by foot and we also have a parking garage attached to the building so you can walk through a corridor right into our building."

But with the expected opening this fall, they've got their work cut out for them.

"We're kind of getting ready for the windfall of activity, she said.

“It’s going to be crazy,” Kent added, referencing how the pair has been balancing the wedding — which was this past Sunday — with grocery store prep.

“We have some connections for suppliers but are still in the process,” he said.

Pepper added the entrance will be in the back, and they will have a mezzanine with a café overlooking the grocery store floor.

“It’s crazy — it’s a lot of work and we’ve already put a lot of work into it,” she said.

“Now it’s kind of executing all those thoughts and ideas and things we’ve talked about.”

Kent added the pair have been working on the store for the last two years.

“People are just sort of finding out about this now. But we’ve already been working on this full time for a year-and-a-half to two years,” he said with a laugh.

“It’s not just out of nowhere.”

J and P’s Grocery Store is set to open this fall. Follow it on Twitter for more information at [@JandPgrocery](#).

by [Laurie Snell](#)

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