

Thursday, September 10, 2026 ~ CONTINUES
BEAVERTON — GUNS AND GANGS INVESTIGATION LEADS TO FIREARM CHARGES
Durham Regional Police announced Wednesday that a 40-year-old Brock resident is facing firearm charges following an investigation in Beaverton. Police say their Guns and Gangs Unit began investigating in August after receiving information from the Canada Border Services Agency concerning the alleged importation of unregulated firearm parts from the United States. Investigators executed a search warrant at a Beaverton residence on September 1 and say two rifles, magazines and ammunition were seized. Police allege the accused does not possess a valid firearms licence. The charges have not been proven in court.

WHY IT MATTERS: The involvement of Durham's Guns and Gangs Unit and allegations involving firearm components entering Canada from the United States make this a significant regional public-safety investigation.

UXBRIDGE — MOTORCYCLIST SUFFERS LIFE-ALTERING INJURIES IN COLLISION
A 56-year-old motorcyclist suffered serious, life-altering injuries following a collision Tuesday afternoon in Uxbridge. Durham police say a Yamaha motorcycle travelling east on Regional Road 47 and a Toyota Tacoma travelling north on Uxbridge Concession Road 2 collided at approximately 4:10 p.m. The motorcyclist was transported to a Toronto-area trauma hospital and was reported in stable condition. The pickup driver remained at the scene and cooperated with police. Durham's Collision Investigation Unit is investigating the cause and is asking anyone with dashcam, cellphone or surveillance footage to come forward.

WHY IT MATTERS: This is the latest serious collision on Durham roads and another reminder that road safety remains an important regional issue.

PICKERING — CITY ASKS RESIDENTS TO IDENTIFY SPEEDING AND TRAFFIC PROBLEMS
The City of Pickering announced today that it is developing new Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Measures Guidelines. Residents are being asked to participate through a public survey and interactive mapping tool identifying traffic and road-safety concerns in their neighbourhoods. The information will help determine how traffic problems are assessed and prioritized for measures intended to slow vehicles and improve neighbourhood safety.

DURHAM — FOOD BANK USE HAS INCREASED NEARLY 350 PER CENT SINCE 2020
Durham municipalities officially began accepting donations Wednesday for Hunger Action Month. The campaign runs through October 5 and is collecting food and monetary donations for community food programs across the Region. The latest figures underline the scale of the affordability problem. More than 880,000 visits were made to the 70 community food programs in Feed the Need in Durham's network last year — an increase of nearly 350 per cent since 2020. Approximately 9,500 visitors were people who had never previously used a Feed the Need food bank.

WHY IT MATTERS: A nearly 350-per-cent increase in food-program use is a major indicator of the financial pressure facing Durham households. Housing costs, groceries, taxation and the general cost of living should remain central community and municipal-election issues.

WHITBY — MAJOR NEW SPORTS COMPLEX OPENS SATURDAY
Whitby is preparing for Saturday's grand opening of the Fieldgate Sports Complex. The approximately 164,000-square-foot facility includes a twin-pad arena, Durham's largest aquatic centre, a double gymnasium, walking track and community spaces. The adjoining 13-acre Roybrook Park includes pickleball, tennis and basketball courts, Whitby's first artificial-turf field, a skatepark, pump track and playgrounds. The official opening ceremony begins at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, followed by free activities until 4 p.m.

BOWMANVILLE — LIBERTY STREET CLOSURE NOW IN EFFECT
Liberty Street North between Longworth Avenue and Bons/Freeland Avenue is now closed for major construction. The closure began Wednesday and is scheduled to continue through December 31. Durham Region says the project includes road reconstruction, sewer and watermain work and construction of a new roundabout.

WHY IT MATTERS: Nearly four months of construction will affect Bowmanville residents, commuters and businesses. Drivers should expect altered traffic patterns and use alternate routes.

BUSINESS — CANADA-U.S. TRADE FIGHT ENTERS SECOND DAY OF NEW TARIFF REGIME
Canada's retaliatory tariffs on approximately \$20 billion worth of American goods took effect September 8. The measures range from 15 to 50 per cent and target politically and economically sensitive American products, including dairy, paper, auto parts and steel.

WHY IT MATTERS TO DURHAM: Auto parts are now directly caught in the escalating trade confrontation. That is particularly important to Oshawa, where General Motors recently committed \$144 million for next-generation Heavy-Duty GMC Sierra production. Durham manufacturers, transportation companies and suppliers should continue watching for higher input costs, supply-chain changes and potential retaliatory measures.

AUTO INDUSTRY — NORTH AMERICAN AUTOMAKERS FACE GROWING POLITICAL AND TRADE UNCERTAINTY
The automotive industry is also facing another dispute in Washington over the industry's relationship with Chinese technology and manufacturers. Ford is defending its international partnerships with Chinese companies as necessary to remain globally competitive, while U.S. government officials have raised national-security and industrial-policy concerns.

WHY IT MATTERS TO OSHAWA: The automotive industry is being squeezed simultaneously by tariffs, supply-chain politics and rapidly changing global competition. Although the immediate dispute involves Ford, the broader policy direction affects the entire North American automotive sector — including GM and its Oshawa operations.

Friday, September 11, 2026
OSHAWA — ONTARIO TECH ANNOUNCES MAJOR CAMPUS EXPANSION
Ontario Tech University is moving forward with a major expansion of its north Oshawa campus. Plans include a new academic building targeted for completion in 2029, expanded student housing and new recreation and student-life facilities. The Ridge, a new residence expected to open in fall 2027, will add approximately 450 beds. Ontario Tech is also planning another residence connected to the future academic building that could add approximately 400 additional beds.

WHY IT MATTERS: Ontario Tech has become an increasingly important economic and educational institution in Oshawa. Campus growth brings construction, employment, students and spending into the community, while also increasing demands on housing, transit and roads in north Oshawa.

DURHAM BUSINESS AND MEDIA — FILM DURHAM TARGETS FUTURE GROWTH IN MOVIE INDUSTRY
Durham Region announced Thursday that Film Durham and the Durham Region International Film Festival will host an industry forum on October 23 examining the future of movie making. The event will focus on emerging technology, new business models, sustainable film production and strategies for attracting additional production and investment to Durham.

WHY IT MATTERS: Film and television production can generate business for local hotels, restaurants, trades, equipment suppliers and creative professionals. Expanding Durham's film industry provides another opportunity to diversify the regional economy beyond traditional manufacturing and development. place. Thousands of Durham jobs remain directly or indirectly connected to the automotive industry.

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