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Family-friendly pool hall to open in downtown Stouffville

Owners hope to keep children off streets

BY SANDRA BOLAN
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A pool hall is opening up in the heart of downtown Stouffville with the aim of getting kids off the streets.

Stouffville Family Billiards takes its name to heart as it is owned and operated by a pair of families, which is why it will not serve alcohol.

"We've got enough bars in town," said co-owner Ken Alexander.

Mr. Alexander, who owns Stone Theory Landscaping, approached longtime friend Art Nelson, who owns and operates Nelson Billiards, at the Markham Home Show recently and pitched the idea of opening a family-oriented billiard hall in Stouffville where the families reside.

Mr. Nelson jumped right in, as this was something he had been thinking about for the past few years, he said. He even gave Mr. Alexander some leads on vacant properties.

The pair wanted to offer family-friendly billiards because they know what it's like to hear the complaint "there's nothing to do" from local teenagers. They each have one at home.

Mr. Nelson said they chose the downtown location because it is so easy to access.

"We love Stouffville and we just want to support it," Mr. Nelson said.

The billiards hall, which is expected to

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Road safety efforts switch gears

BY JOE FANTAUZZI
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Rising collision rates.
 Increasing pedestrian deaths.
 Crashes, more often than not, caused by driver error.

And all in a growing region working to accommodate more road users in the mix while police battle to keep the chaos at bay.

The carnage has many people concerned and it's resulting in some new approaches to combatting the growing problem.

For example, fines typically have limited impact on driver behaviour, York Regional Police traffic bureau Staff Sgt. Brad Bulmer said, so police are working to better educate drivers while continuing to crack down on offenders.

One education initiative launched Monday. Dubbed Motorists and Pedestrians... Let's work on our Relationship, the blitz involved York officers and regional transportation services personnel wearing bright clothing and distributing reflective key chains to passing pedestrians to help

See **INCREASE**, page 2.



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

LEST WE FORGET

Veteran Don Secord and Steve Pickard of the Branch 459 Legion in Stouffville lay wreaths during Friday's Remembrance Day service. This was the first-ever Remembrance Day service to be held at Stouffville's new Legion Hall. See page 3 and yorkregion.com for more photographs from the service.

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