

## Grant helps shuffleboard club remain

Posted By KIRK DICKINSON, SPECIAL TO THE DAILY NEWS

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A local Chatham shuffle board club has received a grant allowing them to continue playing after the loss of their original location.

"We had excellent facilities on the east side of Chatham, but the owner of the place closed the place up and we had to move," said Hubert Van Eerd who presides over all of the shuffle board activities.

The **Thames Horizon Shuffle Club** has since moved to the Kinsmen Auditorium thanks to the \$14,900 grant they received from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. With the grant money and some from their own pockets, the club purchased 10 deluxe rollout shuffle courts.

"That way we can move to anywhere if there's room provided," said Van Eerd.

The Trillium grants are meant to provide positive economic impact and help build stronger communities in Ontario. The shuffle club has existed for 21 years and is the only one of its kind in Chatham-Kent. They also double as a charitable organization.

"We pay 80 per cent of our profit to charitable organizations but we won't be making any money this year, we will be losing money because we had to purchase these (shuffle courts)," said Van Eerd.

Equipment manager Ed Coyne said it would be great to play more often and the club is always hopeful for more members.

"It's great exercise for seniors, people love the game and want to keep playing," said Coyne.

For more information on the Thames horizon Shuffle Club contact Van Eerd at 519-354-0758 or Coyne at 519-352-0249.

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