

Newsletter of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater

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BRANCH SUPPORTS COLDWATER MUSEUM

On June 10, 2025, a \$500.00 donation was presented by Branch Historian Norm Marion to the President of the Coldwater Museum, Richard Joliffe (left), to support the museum's efforts in telling local military history through displays of artefacts and photos.

"In small communities such as Coldwater," says the museum's president, "we depend on the concept of working together with other groups and organizations to strengthen the community we live in. We most certainly thank the Coldwater Legion for this generous donation."

Given its location in the middle of a small rural community, one can expect the museum's exhibits to feature buildings and artefacts that relate to farming and village life. And it does. But it is also important that events on the scale of the two World Wars that earlier generations had to live through, at home or on the battlefields, are not left out and forgotten. And this is where the Legion's own mandate comes in play.

"The Legion's main aims are to support Veterans, and promote Remembrance," says Coldwater Legion's Norm Marion. "Our motto literally says: 'We Will Remember Them'. So, the Coldwater Legion was happy to step up with financial support, allowing the museum to continue its work in the preservation of local military history."

HAPPY CANADA DAY!

With a rainy day morning turning into a beautiful sunny afternoon, dozens of people from the Coldwater community ventured out and stopped by the branch to enjoy a fine – and free – BBQ, cooked and served by our branch volunteers. It was certainly enjoyable to spend some time at the branch and celebrate among friends. Thank you to our team of volunteers who helped with the preparations and the BBQ. Happy Canada Day everyone!



Our new Sergeant-at-Arms Barry Gougeon was one of the volunteers who helped with the preparations and the BBQ. Thank you to all volunteers.

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FROM THE BRANCH PRESIDENT



I am both excited and nervous in my new role as your Branch President. I feel confident that, with our executive and committee members along with membership feedback, we will continue to grow our branch as we have in the past few years.

I want to congratulate Past President

Anne Frankish for a job well done and for steering us in the right direction for the past two years. I hope I can continue this trend.

I also want to thank comrades Penny Lawrence-Judges, Betty-Anne Burnie, and Marlene Klanert for their contribution and hard work for the past few years, and all members of our committees who have offered to stay on in the same or different roles. It is good to see some new members volunteering on various committees as chairs.

We have a strong committee group made up of existing and new members who will need help from anyone willing to offer even a few hours a month when needed. We are looking for members who can help us, not only with functions, but come up with new ideas for events to support your branch.

I believe in open door communication and if anyone has ideas, issues, or recommendations, please feel free to approach me.

Yours in Comradeship, Kari Malmström, Branch 270 President

THE MAPLE LEAF

The Maple Leaf is the award-winning newsletter of The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater, published each month in the first week of the month. It is primarily an internal communication tool through which the Branch Executive and Committee Chairs disseminate information and report to the membership on their respective activities. Opinions expressed in feature articles are those of the writers and do not imply endorsement by the Branch or the Legion. Committee reports and pre-arranged articles must be received no later than the 23rd of the month in order to be published in the following month's issue. Please submit by email to: Branch PRO at branch270@rogers.com.

FROM THE LADIES' AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



Greetings Comrades.

Summer has finally arrived, but the heat wave we had was a little too much! Our June General Meeting was followed by a Pot Luck Dinner. Again, the meal was delicious. Our guest for this meeting was Comrade Al Myre, Coldwater Branch 2nd Vice President, who will be our

Liaison Officer with the Branch.

At this meeting, motions were made and carried to make the following donations:

A \$1000.00 donation to the Coldwater Foodbank and a \$3,000.00 donation to Branch 270.

In July, our Ladies' Auxiliary will provide a dinner of ham, potato salad, another salad and dessert for the Branch Veterans. The meals will be delivered to the Veterans and spouses/caregivers.

Our Year End Financial Report (June 2024 - May 2025) has been completed. My thanks to our Treasurer Karen Dravis for doing an excellent job at getting this completed in a timely manner.

Our Ladies Dart Team of Michele Russell, Anne Frankish, Dianne Sauvé and Mary Sauvé competed in the Provincial Dart Tournament in Hamilton on June 28. Against 36 other teams, they won four out of seven games, but did not qualify to advance. Congrats again for making Provincials and I'm sure it was a great weekend!

In order to raise funds for our sports teams, we are planning on having a bake sale on September 13. More information on this will be coming over the summer.

There will be no General Meetings in July and August. Our next meeting is on Tuesday September16 at 4:00 p.m., followed by a Pot Luck Dinner.

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable summer.

Yours in Comradeship,

Donna Packer, Branch 270 Ladies' Auxiliary President

BRANCH GENERAL MEETINGS

The next General Meeting will be on Tuesday September 23, 2025, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Branch General Meetings take place on the fourth Tuesday of each month, from September to June (except for December), in the upstairs hall, starting at 6:30 p.m.

JOKE OF THE MONTH

My teacher told me not to worry too much about spelling because in the future there will be a thing called autocorrect. And for that I am eternally grapefruit.

TREASURER REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Al Myre, Treasurer The General account balance is \$62,067.63. The Building account balance is \$80,263.26. The Nevada account balance remains at \$237.61. The Bottle Drive for the month is \$963.60. The prior month Bottle Drive was \$929.20.

No doubt everyone has noticed the large sea container provided by Karen of Paul Sadlon Motors, sitting in the parking lot. We are very appreciative. As the renovations get under way, a separate file has been set up to capture all expenses for the canteen renovations. We issued our 1st cheque last week in the amount of \$7,000.00, representing a deposit for the gas range and refrigerator.

ENTERTAINMENT REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Carry Brouwer, Entertainment Chair The July entertainment will be Tyler French on Saturday July 26. And then in August we will have our Newfie Day with the band Caribou Country on Saturday August 16. All welcome! You don't have to be a member to attend.

BOTTLE DRIVE UPDATE

Submitted by Comrade Cheryll Barr, Bottle Drive Coordinator

Happy Canada Day Comrades! The Branch has sent back a total of 573,241 in empties. We sent back \$440.80 in empties on June 4. We have reached a total of \$70,918.90 since the beginning of the Bottle Drive. Brian Judges has moved up the total on the outside of the shed. Thank you to everyone who has donated empties, and thank you to the volunteers who help look after the shed.

WAYS & MEANS REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Brenda Price, Ways & Means Chair The following are the upcoming Ways and Means events. All are welcome and encouraged to join in:

- July 3 Sing-O Bingo registration at 6:30 p.m.
- July 10 Sing-O Bingo registration at 6:30 p.m.
- July 17 Sing-O Bingo registration at 6:30 p.m.
- July 19 Euchre tournament, doors open 6 p.m., play starts 7 p.m.
- July 24 Sing-O Bingo registration at 6:30 p.m.
- July. 31 Sing-O Bingo registration at 6:30 p.m.

Registration for Sing-O Bingo at 6:30, play starts at 7 p.m. Come early for the best seats!

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Branch Public Relations Officer

The monthly newsletter and on-line media - Facebook & Website – and the BIDDY are kept up-to-date. Note that the July Maple Leaf will be published on Wednesday July 2, so that photos of Canada Day at the branch can be included. I'm presently on hold as far as submitting photos to the Legion Magazine. A new Provincial correspondent is supposed to take over the job, but we have no contact info for submissions yet. I may have to resubmit the photo of Roger Pratt receiving his 60 Year bar Long Service Award, which I submitted last month.

I welcome the new members of the Executive and committee chairs, and I'm looking forward to continue working in my current jobs with the new team for another term.



At the June General Meeting Ladies' Auxiliary's Immediate Past President Anne Frankish (right) presented to Branch President Kari Malmström a cheque for \$3,000.00, while Branch Past President Marie Langley donated \$350.00 to the Poppy Fund. Thank you so much to both for your continuous support!

CALL FOR PROPOSALS BRANCH CANTEEN OPERATOR

The Executive Committee of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater is accepting proposals for the opportunity to rent the Branch Clubroom Canteen.

Applicants should be prepared to operate the Canteen to accommodate the Clubroom hours and to provide a menu suitable for workers and families. Branch 270 Canteen is open for lunch and dinner Tuesday to Saturday. The successful operator will be required to provide proof of the appropriate insurance.

Written proposals may be delivered by Canada Post to RCL Branch 270, 2 Michael Anne Drive, PO Box 89, Coldwater, Ontario, L0K 1E0 or emailed to <u>branch270@rogers.com</u>

BAR MANAGER REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Anne Frankish, Bar Manager

Happy Canada Day everyone. Thank you to President Kari Malmström for appointing me as Bar Manager. The Banquet Hall has been busy with several Celebrations of Life and the Club Room has events running throughout the week days and evenings. The Square pay system at the bar has been going well.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Cheryll Barr, outgoing Membership Chair

It's hard to believe that we are into July; Happy Canada Day Comrades!

The Branch welcomes Comrade Paula Brown as our new Membership Chair, as I will be stepping down as Chair of the committee.

Membership stands at 324: Affiliate, 58; Associate, 215; Life, 3; Ordinary, 48. The Branch welcomes Comrade Michael Molony as new member. During the June General Meeting five membership applications were approved and the applicants will be initiated at a later date.

YOUTH EDUCATION REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Cheryll Barr, Youth Education Chair The Youth Education committee is waiting to receive directions and information from Zone and Dominion Command as to what is happening regarding the 2025 Remembrance Day Poster and Literary Contests as part of the Youth Education Program.

BUILDING MANAGER REPORT

Submitted by Kari Malmström, Building Manager I have the following report in the way of 1st Vice/ Building Manager since our last meeting.

My report is as follows:

- The monthly inspections are completed;

- The canteen renovations have started. All equipment has been ordered. We are hoping to have everything in place for the canteen committee to find a new tenant to occupy it by the end of July 2025. I have been in communication with the new inspector for the Simcoe Health unit and Sarah will meet with us when the renovations are completed.

- We want to recognize Paul Sadlon Motors for their contribution of the storage container for the canteen renovations. Also, a thank you to Karen Way for coordinating this with Paul Sadlon.

- No other major repairs needed at this time.

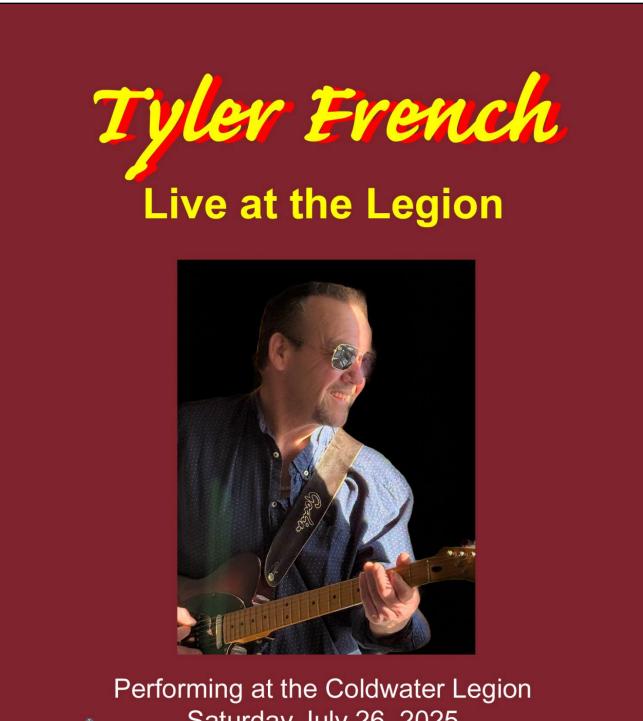
HONOURS & AWARDS REPORT

Submitted by Comrade John O'Hara, Branch Honours & Awards Chair

Most of this past year's awards have been presented. The Past Office Bars and Medals have been sent out for mounting and should be back in July.

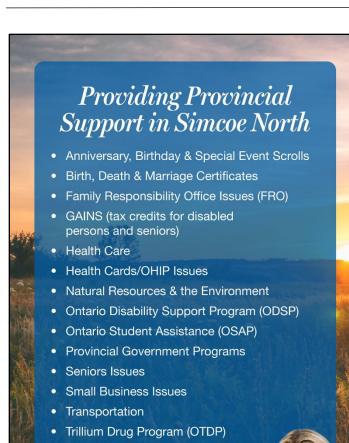


Congratulations to Comrade Al Myre (center), who was presented a Certificate of Merit by Sergeant-at-Arms Debbie Southorn (left) and then President Anne Frankish. Al has brought our branch into this century with several innovations including a new cash register system and special event ticket sales.





orming at the Coldwater Legion Saturday July 26, 2025 Starting at 3 p.m. 2 Michael Anne Drive, Coldwater email: branch270@rogers.com



 Workplace Safety & Insurance Board (WSIB)

JILL DUNLOP MPP – Simcoe North/Nord

> 705-326-3246 • Jill.Dunlopco@pc.ola.org JillDunlopMPP.ca

A MESSAGE FROM MPP JILL DUNLOP

As summer unfolds across Simcoe North, I extend my warmest wishes to you and your families. I hope this season brings you moments of rest, reflection, and connection with loved ones.

This summer, I am pleased to share a significant provincial initiative that underscores our commitment to honouring those who have served our country. At the end of May, the Ontario government launched the Ontario Veterans Award for Community Service Excellence. This award recognizes veterans who continue to make exceptional contributions to their communities through volunteerism, mentorship, and service. It is a testament to the enduring spirit and dedication of our veterans.

If you know a veteran whose community involvement stands out, I encourage you to consider nominating them for this prestigious award. Nominations are open until August 31, 2025, and can be submitted through the Ontario Honours and Awards Portal. This is an opportunity to honour their legacy and ensure their contributions are celebrated. Please feel free to reach out to my office if you would like further information.

I'm thrilled to share with you that the Ontario government has announced plans to build a new, state-of-the-art hospital in Orillia. This significant investment is part of our commitment to ensuring that all Ontarians have access to high-quality, timely healthcare close to home. The new facility will not only enhance patient care but also provide modern amenities and expanded services to meet the growing needs of our community.

As MPP, I have been advocating for this project for some time, recognizing the importance of accessible healthcare for all residents, including our valued veterans. I look forward to working closely with local stakeholders, healthcare professionals, and community members as this project continues to move forward.

Lastly, as of June 2025, Bill 235- Support for Seniors and Caregivers Act, 2024 has completed its second reading and is under review by the Standing Committee on Social Policy. The province has committed \$114 million dollars to support initiatives outlined in Bill 235 to include enhancing and expanding dementia care and supports, providing assistance to families and caregivers and creating more opportunities for seniors to build stronger social connections in their communities.

As always, my team and I remain committed to serving you. Should you have any concerns or require assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable summer.

SPORTS REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Al Myre, Sports Officer

The team of Greg Stout, John O'Hara, Anne Frankish and Diane Sauvé represented us in London for Provincial darts. Although they did not advance to Nationals, they did manage to win four games and a good time was had by all. Congratulations also go out to Bob Gourlie, Bill Gourlie, Deborah Merrill and Carolyn Norrie, who all qualified to move on to District golf. We wish them luck.

Quote of the Month

"The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide you're not going to stay where you are." - J.P. Morgan

BRANCH SERVICE OFFICER

Submitted by Comrade John O'Hara, Branch Service Officer I have met with the previous Service Officer and I am currently familiarizing myself with this important task.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Leadership Development Chair

I will send the Statement of Duties that are currently available to the appropriate committee chairs, and reference material to the newly elected officers.

I'm currently working on adding material to the Statement of Duties for the Sergeant-at-Arms and the Honours & Awards Chairs.

BRANCH HISTORIAN REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Branch Historian

I had a set of First World War medals cleaned-up and remounted, to be put on display in our collection. The medals belonged to J.R. Payne of the Canadian Army Medical Corps, father of Branch Past President Murray Payne. The cost was \$50.85. I intend to get a few more sets of medals from our collection cleaned-up and remounted. Some of the ribbons are quite worn and faded, and medals themselves badly tarnished.

New submissions or suggestions for submissions to the Military Service Recognition Book are welcome year round. A sample submission can be seen on this page featuring Harry Delion, great uncle of branch member Bruce Delion.

DELION, HARRY CONRAD AUGUST

Harry Conrad August Delion was born in the community of Conestogo, near Berlin (today's Kitchener), Ontario, on October 21, 1898. He was the son of Harry and Catherine (Stumpf) Delion. On March 24, 1916, Harry enlisted in the Army in Berlin with the 118th Canadian Infantry Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force. He was 17 years old and single. He listed his trade as baker, and had no previous military experience. Private Delion, regimental number 751535, sailed from Halifax on the *S.S. Scandinavian* to arrive in England on February 6, 1917. After getting some training in England he landed in France on May 17, assigned to the 1st Canadian Infantry Battalion (Western Ontario Regiment), part of the 1st Canadian Division. Later that fall his unit fought in what became known as the Third Battle of Ypres in the Belgian province of Flanders. On November 6, 1917, following the Canadians' assault on the town of Passchendaele, Private Harry Delion was reported as having been killed in action. He has no known grave. His name is engraved on a panel at the Menin Gate (Ypres) Memorial in Belgium. In Canada he is commemorated on page 226 of the First World War Book of Remembrance.



Private Harry Delion joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force in the First World War and was killed in action at the battle of Passchendaele in 1917. He was the great uncle of branch member Bruce Delion.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270

Coldwater Legion Euchre Tournament



Saturday July 19,2025

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Play starts at 7:00 p.m.



Entry fee \$15.00 Entry forms available at the bar

2 Michael Anne Drive, Coldwater email: branch270@rogers.com



VETERAN PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT PROGRAMS ENCOURAGE VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO CONNECT WITH OTHERS IN THEIR COMMUNITY IN A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

From the files of Dominion Command

BSO LEGION OSI

The Royal Canadian Legion Operational Stress Injury (BSO Legion OSI) initiative offers outreach, peer support, and referrals for Veterans and families affected by operational stress injuries (OSIs), including anxiety, depression, PTSD, and other mental health challenges.

Through our network, we identify and support Veterans in need, connect them with peer support, and refer them to local and national services. We collaborate with various organizations to ensure comprehensive assistance and work to reduce stigma surrounding mental health.

OPERATION VETBUILD

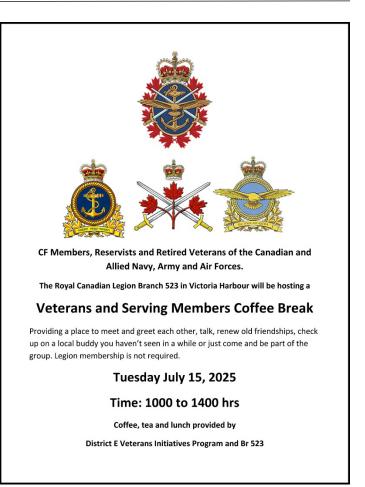
Operation VetBuild, led by the Legion's Operational Stress Injury Special Section (Legion OSI), offers Veteran-to-Veteran support through hobbies like scale model-building kits. These sessions promote skill-building, relaxation, concentration, stress reduction, and community bonding.

Hosted by Legion members, they're open to all Veterans. For details on upcoming sessions, visit the Operation VetBuild Facebook page.

To donate model kits or host sessions in your community, contact Legion OSI at ovb@bsovetsosi.com.

BUDDY CHECK COFFEE

Buddy Check Coffee, a Veteran-run peer program, fosters camaraderie in a relaxed setting, where Veterans can network and share experiences over coffee. Led by the Legion's Operational Stress Injury Special Section (Legion OSI) and hosted by Legion members, it aims to strengthen community connections among Veterans.



The program's success has prompted Legion OSI to expand it nationwide, inviting Legion Branches to host and coordinate sessions for local Veterans.

LOCAL LEGION BRANCH INITIATIVES

In addition to the programs above, many Legion Branches offer programs and supports to meet the needs of local Veterans in their community. Please speak to a volunteer Service Officer at your local Legion Branch to ask about services and supports available at your Branch.

'Veterans Coffee' coming to Coldwater

Given the success of recent Veterans Coffee Break initiatives in neighbouring Legion branches, the Coldwater Branch is planning to offer its own version on the last Monday of each month, beginning on August 25. Stay tuned for details on Facebook and in the August Maple Leaf. Open to Veterans only.





Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270



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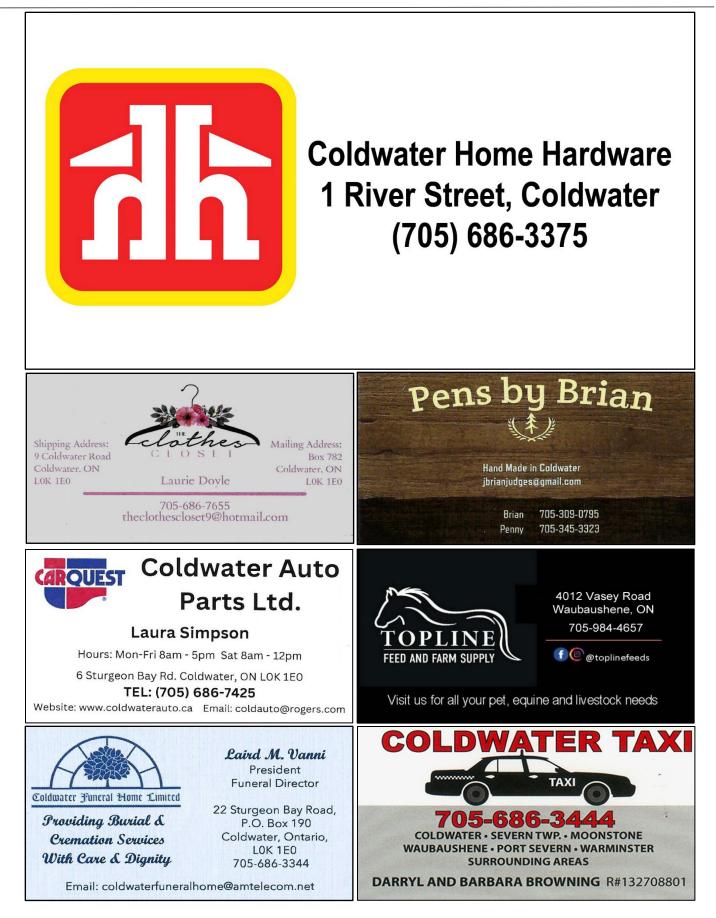
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SPORTS AT BRANCH 270



TUESDAY AFTERNOON EUCHRE

June 3 High Hand – Doreen Low Hand – Phyllis Most Lone Hands – Heather

June 10 High Hand – Phyllis Low Hand – Jim Most Lone Hands – Heather

June 17 High Hand – Brian Low Hand – Phyllis Most Lone Hands – Paul

June 24 High Hand – Cheryll Low Hand – Mike Most Lone Hands – Sherrin

SHUFFLEBOARD

June 5 1st: Sherrin & Phyllis 2nd: Lloyd & Paul 3rd: Heather G. & Brian Sunshine: Sherrin

June 12 1st: Betty-Anne & Paul 2nd: Sherrin 3rd: Lloyd & Richard Sunshine: Jackie

June 19

1st: Lloyd & Brian 2nd: Jim & Sherrin 3rd: Jackie & Heather Sunshine: Jim

June 26

1st: Lloyd & Sherrin 2nd: Betty-Anne & Heather 3rd: Phyllis & Richard Sunshine: Sherrin

FRIDAY NIGHT STEAK DARTS

June 6

- 1. Jim
- 2. Cathy 3. Cheryll 4. Brian 5. Paul 6. Penny
- Sunshine: Cathy

June 13

Mark
Kari
Cheryll
Cheryll
Bev
Cathy
Sunshine: Yvonne

June 20

Bob
Lloyd
Jim
Kari
Tony
Jane
Sunshine: Cathy

June 27

Lloyd
Al
Cathy
Lloyd
Debbie
Lorne
Sunshine: Bey

BRANCH 270 WEEKLY SPORTS & ACTIVITIES

- Summer Schedule -

Euchre

1 p.m. every Tuesday

Fun Darts

7 p.m. every Wednesday

Shuffleboard

1 p.m. every Thursday

Sing-O Bingo

7 p.m. every Thursday

Steak Darts

6 p.m. every Friday

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Sunday	Monday	ay	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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CLOSED	6 CLOSED	7	Branch Open 8 11:30am-9:00pm Euchre 1 pm	Branch Open 9 11:30am-9:00pm Fun Darts 7 pm	Branch Open 10 11:30am-9:00pm Shuffleboard 1 pm Sing-O Bingo 7 pm	Branch Open 11 11:30am-9:00pm Bid Euchre12:30 pm Steak Darts 6 pm	Branch Open 12 11:30am-9:00pm
13 CLOSED	3 CLOSED	14	Branch Open 15 11:30am-9:00pm Euchre 1 pm	Branch Open 16 11:30am-9:00pm Fun Darts 7 pm	Branch Open 17 11:30am-9:00pm Shuffleboard 1 pm Sing-O Bingo 7 pm	Branch Open 18 11:30am-9:00pm Bid Euchre12:30 pm Steak Darts 6 pm	Branch Open 19 11:30am-9:00pm Euchre Tournament Doors open 6 pm Play starts 7 pm
20 CLOSED	0 CLOSED	21	Branch Open 22 11:30am-9:00pm Euchre 1 pm	Branch Open 23 11:30am-9:00pm Fun Darts 7 pm	Branch Open 24 11:30am-9:00pm Shuffleboard 1 pm Sing-O Bingo 7 pm	Branch Open 25 11:30am-9:00pm Bid Euchre12:30 pm Steak Darts 6 pm	Branch Open 26 11:30am-9:00pm Music with Tyler French starts at 3 pm
27 CLOSED	7 CLOSED	28	Branch Open 29 11:30am-9:00pm Euchre 1 pm	Branch Open 30 11:30am-9:00pm Fun Darts 7 pm	Branch Open 31 11:30am-9:00pm Shuffleboard 1 pm Sing-O Bingo 7 pm		