



THE MAPLE LEAF

JANUARY 2021 EDITION

Newsletter of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater

(705) 686-3388 • 2 Michael Anne Drive, P.O. Box 89, Coldwater, ON, L0K1E0

branch270@rogers.com • www.coldwaterlegion.com • www.facebook.com/ColdwaterLegion

HERE WE GO, AGAIN!

Happy New Year Coldwater! And please stay safe. In fact, stay home if you can. We, at the Coldwater Legion, are taking this COVID-19 virus emergency very seriously. With the region moving to RED-CONTROL status in December, members of our Executive decided to play it safe and close the place for the Holidays. And then, of course, the full lockdown followed a week later. So, here we go again. As of December 14, 2020, the branch was closed until further notice. Members of the Executive will continue to monitor the situation and run Legion affairs from home through phone and email. Although this causes inconveniences to many, our primary concern remains the health and safety of our members, patrons, and the surrounding community. All events, meetings, competitions and activities that were scheduled to take place "in person" at this branch location are cancelled or postponed indefinitely. These measures will be reviewed periodically as the situation evolves. As soon as conditions permit, we will continue to accept bottles and cans for our Bottle Drive. Small quantities may be dropped off near the door facing our parking lot, while larger quantity drop off can be arranged (again, when conditions permit) by calling Cheryl at (705) 330-2809, or Carol at (705) 888-5879. We are accepting beer bottles & cans; cooler bottles & cans; and liquor & wine bottles.



Branch Membership Chairman and 1st Vice-President, Comrade Wayne Tutt brushes the snow off the updated Legion sign announcing the closure of the branch.

Note that **The 270 Bistro** remains open for take-out orders, Tuesday to Saturday, through the take-out window. Orders may be placed by calling or texting (705) 955-2704. Finally, we remind everyone that the best way to avoid catching and spreading the virus is to wear a mask, wash your hands frequently with soap, and practise social distancing, including staying home whenever possible. Stay safe!

For general Legion questions you may contact Branch President Norm Marion at (705) 686-3941, email branch270@rogers.com

For questions specific to Veterans support and services, please contact our Branch Veterans Service Officer Randy Rice at (705) 816-0110, email ricerandolph@gmail.com.

Inside The Maple Leaf this month

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Happy New Year everyone!

No one wanted to be in the situation that we are now, but it's not like we didn't see it coming. Let's just hope that things will start improving soon, and we can work on getting back on our feet and move forward, one step at a time. At least we (the branch) had some good news on the financial side at the end of 2020.

For one, our application for a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation was approved. The grant is worth \$33,500 and is specifically to cover the cost of replacing/upgrading our air conditioning system for our upstairs banquet hall. This project was initially linked to the recovering of the last part of the roof on which the HVAC unit sits, which is being completed as I'm writing this. Due to the high cost and the loss of revenue we experienced during the pandemic, we had pretty much given up on the project and were prepared to live without air conditioning for a summer or two. Not a good thing. But thanks to the Trillium Foundation grant, our overdue repairs and upgrades are now back on track.

And then there was the payment of \$10,845 from Dominion Command, our share of the \$14 million allotted by the Federal Government to help non-profit organisations. Though falling well short, this Legion Branches Emergency Support Funding was meant to cover actual expenses incurred by branches during their closure (i.e. utilities, insurances, etc.) rather than a compensation for loss of revenue. It couldn't come at a better time.

Unfortunately, we also had less pleasant news in December, with the passing of two of our members, Comrade Ellen Rankin on December 19, and Rosalie Pratt on December 18. Rosalie was certainly well known among our readership, as she contributed a monthly column that profiled some of our Veterans and members. She will be greatly missed. You can read more about Rosalie on pg. 14.

We have so many people to thank for their support during the past year; the many donors; the volunteers who handled the youth and seniors programs, and the fundraising activities. And the list just keeps getting longer. We now have to add Mr. Mike Ferris, owner of the Midland Canadian Tire, and Mr. Ken King, owner of the Midland Swiss Chalet/Harvey's, for their very generous donation of

dinner gift cards to each Veteran member of our branch. Finally, I want to thank our members for their support throughout this very challenging year we've just been through. I am particularly proud of the members of our Executive, who have shown tremendous dedication and great initiative in finding ways of keeping the branch alive and well through the hardships. Thank you!

Yours in comradeship,
Norm Marion, President

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Public Relations Officer

With the closure of the branch and cancellation of all in-person events and activities until further notice, there isn't much to cover on the Public Relations front. Having said that, we will continue to publish our monthly newsletter *The Maple Leaf*, as the need for keeping our membership informed has never been greater than in this period of uncertainty. *The Maple Leaf* will continue to be published electronically on the 1st business day of the month, and a limited number of B&W hard copies will be available. If anyone requires a hard copy during the branch closure, please contact the branch and leave a phone or email message so we can arrange pick-up or delivery.

THE MAPLE LEAF

The Maple Leaf is the award-winning newsletter of 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 Chairpersons 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 21st of each month in order to be published in the following month's issue. Please submit by email addressed to: Branch PRO – Maple Leaf at branch270@rogers.com.

GENERAL MEETING

Due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic emergency, **General Meetings are suspended until further notice.** Branch General Meetings normally take place on the fourth Wednesday of each month, from September to June, in the upstairs hall at 6:30 p.m.

SICK & VISITING REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Betty-Anne Burnie, Sick and Visiting Chairperson

I have been keeping in touch with those I know are ill or not well. If there are any issues that require my attention please let me know. Home phone (705) 686-3270 or email bburnie6@hotmail.com.

YOUTH EDUCATION OFFICER REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Marg Murphy, Youth Education Officer

Review of the students' posters and literary submissions has been completed at both Branch and Zone levels. We are pleased to advise that two senior students from Coldwater Public had their submissions forwarded on up to the District level. Results for District won't be available until late January. Congratulations to all the students for their fine efforts and to Christine Bailey and Kartik Chhabra for having had their entries advanced on to District. Thank you Ms. V. for continuing to support this Students' Remembrance Program and for working with us during this difficult time. Thank you students. We are very happy to have been able to fulfill this competition this year during the COVID-19 restrictions and hope you will all take part in the competition again next year. Happy New Year to All of You, and thank you, again.

TREASURER REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, President

The bank balance for the General Account as of January 3 sits at \$26,766.45. This includes a payment of \$10,845 from Ontario Command, our share of the \$14 million allotted by the Federal Government to help non-profit organisations (see article on pg. 9). The Building Account is at \$20,408.60, and the Nevada Account at \$237.

ENTERTAINMENT/WAYS & MEANS

Submitted by Comrade Carol Baird, Entertainment/Ways & Means Chairperson

Happy New Year everybody. Hopefully this COVID stuff will be out of the way soon and we can all carry on with our lives. The Bottle Drive is going strong at the branch. If we are not there just leave the bottles outside. We check on a regular basis. If you need a pickup just call me 705 888-5879. Our total for the bottles is \$1,179.80, with another thousand coming from Grand in Your Hand, thanks to Judy Larmond. Our total so far is \$2,179.80.

I'm very sad to lose my friend Rosalie Pratt. She taught me how to do grants, and I will truly miss her. Let's hope the branch can open soon so we can all get together again soon.



Branch member Comrade Garry Lovelace makes one last delivery of bottles and cans for the branch before Christmas. The Bottle Drive was reactivated in December after a short break in the fall.

JOKE OF THE MONTH

A Canadian calls the RCMP: "Hello is this the RCMP? I'm calling about my neighbour Antoine Smith. He is hiding drugs in his firewood!" The next day RCMP officers descend on Antoine's house and search the shed where the firewood is kept. They bust open every piece of firewood, but find no drugs. They apologize to Antoine and leave. The phone rings at Antoine's. "Hey Antoine, did the RCMP come to your house?" "Yep!" "Did they chop all your firewood?" "Yep!" "Happy Birthday Buddy!"

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Wayne Tutt, Membership Chairman
HAPPY NEW YEAR Comrades.

First of all, I'm saddened to inform you of the passing of Comrade Rosalie Pratt, who passed on December 18. Our thoughts are with Roger and family. We also lost Comrade Ellen Rankin who passed on December 19. Our thoughts are with her family. I would like to thank Cheryll Barr for all of her help with Membership. Cheryll is very organized. That is not a spelling mistake. That is how her mother named her. I affectionately refer to her as "Double L."

Our membership is at 287. Life 3, Ordinary 44, Associate 154, and Affiliate 86.

Welcome to new Associate members Jessica Foster, and Jordan Montgomery. You will be able to say "Hello" to Jessica when the Branch re opens. Jessica is the friendly, bubbly person that helps out at *The 270 Bistro*. Jessica tries to keep me in line. Good Luck young lady!

We also have Ordinary member Steven Zeidler returning after a two year absence. I happened to bump into Steven at Terry's barber shop many months ago. (Pre Pandemic).

I was there for a haircut, and I think that Steven was there for an "Estimate." I would also like to inform all members of the exceptional leadership that we have at our Branch. President Normand Marion is a definite leader! Always informed, always working diligently on our behalf. Normand is not always in the clubroom, he's very busy in the office. His dedication shows. Just look at the articles in the Legion magazine, the recognition of Norm's work on the scrapbook and the Maple Leaf. Me, on the other hand, I like to talk. Just ask my wife Carol. Thank you all for your membership. Hope to see you soon.

BAR OFFICER REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Maggie Murphy, Bar Officer

I continue to be in touch regularly with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit. We are now in a lockdown since December 26, so the Club room will remain closed until that lockdown is lifted.

Prior to the branch closure we did have a Tree of Warmth set-up in support of the children of the Coldwater Public School. We were asking for hats and mitts/gloves only. Although the campaign was quite short lived this year, we still did well and collected many items. They will be donated to the school after the Holidays break, or whenever it is safe and permitted to do so. Thank you to all who donated.



Comrade Marg Murphy with the branch's Tree of Warmth. Mitts and hats will be donated to the Coldwater Public School whenever it is safe and permitted to do so.

THIS MONTH WE REMEMBER

CANADA IN THE GULF WAR

The Gulf War of the early 1990s was an important chapter in Canada's military history, and this month marks the 30th anniversary of the start of the conflict. More than 4,000 Canadian Armed Forces personnel served in the tense Persian Gulf region in 1990-91, as part of the international coalition of countries that came together to force the invading forces of Iraq out of neighbouring Kuwait. During what was called Canada's Operation FRICTION, Canadian Forces personnel participated in the intervention with a peak of 2,700 personnel at one time in the Persian Gulf region. These service men and women were primarily attached to four Canadian units in the Gulf: the Canadian Task Group at sea; the Canadian Air Task Group in Doha, Qatar; the joint Headquarters, Canadian Forces Middle East, in Manamah, Bahrain; and First Canadian Field Hospital at Al-Qaysumah, Saudi Arabia. In the aftermath of the conflict, Canadians continued to serve in peacekeeping and embargo-enforcement efforts in the region.

Source: Veterans Affairs Canada

POPPY REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Betty-Jean Murray, Poppy Chairman

Although different from the norm, I hope everyone was able to enjoy their Christmas celebrations.

The Poppy Fund stands at roughly \$10,000. Your executive has approved a donation of \$500 through the Poppy Fund to Maple Leaf Children's Camp which accommodates a short summer vacation for the children of veterans. I am pleased to report that the Poppy Fund paid out \$980 for the Coldwater Branch Remembrance Posters and Literary Competition to Coldwater PS students. What a great response from our local students.

Thank you All Students and Ms V! See the Youth Education Report for more details.

Among those noted in previous listings, we thank Armin Grigaitis of ReMax Baywatch Real Estate, the Township of Severn, members Bruce Hanson and Ian MacDonald for their thoughtful donations to the Poppy Fund. Thank you again to the LA for preparing 43 delicious hot roast beef dinners for our Veterans Dinner and buns and hot home-made soup after the Remembrance Day service for the military members in attendance and those who took part in the service. I close with wishes for a safe and healthy New Year!

MEAL GIFT CARDS FOR LOCAL VETERANS

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater wishes to thank Mr. Mike Ferris, owner of the Midland Canadian Tire, and Mr. Ken King, owner of the Midland Swiss Chalet/Harvey's, for their very generous donation of \$20 dinner gift cards to each Veteran member of our branch. This joint Christmas gesture is meant as a COVID-19 pandemic alternative to their more traditional offer of free, in-person, festive meal for local Veterans.

A total of 300 gift cards - a value of \$6,000 - were donated to be distributed among local Veterans within Royal Canadian Legion Zone E-4, which includes branches from Coldwater to Elmvale, Penetanguishene and Midland. Gift cards were handed to Zone E-4 Commander Paul Howe, during a special presentation at the Midland Canadian Tire on December 9.



Left to right: Mr. Ken King, owner of Midland Swiss Chalet/Harvey's; Mr. Logan Hebert, Manager of Midland Canadian Tire (representing Mr. Mike Ferris); Comrade Norm Marion, President of Branch 270 Coldwater; and Comrade Paul Howe, Zone E-4 Commander.

BRANCH HISTORIAN REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Branch Historian

As this month marks the 30th anniversary of the Gulf War, I thought it might be interesting to talk about the little known Kuwait Liberation Medal that was issued by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia following the 1991 war in Kuwait and the Persian Gulf. The Saudi Arabian version of the Kuwait Liberation Medal was awarded to all members of the Coalition Forces who participated in Operation Desert Storm and the liberation of Kuwait between the dates of January 17, 1991 and February 28, 1991. The medal is relatively rare among Canadian Forces members since less than 3,000 would have qualified to receive it.

Now, if you haven't seen, or heard about this quite attractive medal before, it's probably due to the fact that it is not authorized to be worn on Canadian Armed Forces uniforms. The Canadian Government has decreed that Canadian personnel may accept their medals as a keepsake, but permission to wear them with other national honours and awards on uniforms has so far been refused on the basis that there already is a Canadian medal, the Gulf and Kuwait Medal, awarded for service in that war. Other Coalition countries including the U.S., Australia, France, and Belgium have authorized the wearing of the medal on uniforms.



The Kuwait Liberation Medal was issued by Saudi Arabia following the 1991 war in Kuwait and the Persian Gulf.

LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR

Yes, it is time to nominate a member for the Branch Legionnaire of the Year award. Just send us an email at branch270@rogers.com giving us your recommendation for this award, with substantiation to support your choice.

The deadline for nominations is February 1st, 2021.

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Randy Rice, Branch Service Officer

Comrades, I wish you all a healthy and prosperous coming year. This past year has seen many challenges and setbacks for all of us. It's been difficult, however there is light at the end of the tunnel. And with a vaccine as probably the best cheer we could receive, the future is very bright.

SPORTS REPORT

We are still looking for someone to take over the duties of Sports Officer. Please contact the Branch office if interested, 686-3388, email: branch270@rogers.com.

Quote of the Month

“To me, science is just formalized curiosity.”

– Chris Hadfield, Canadian astronaut



Brody Carpenter's colour poster took 1st place in the Intermediate category in Coldwater.

BLACK & WHITE POSTER – JUNIOR – GR 4-6

1. Ellie Shaw Gr 5
2. Olga Podkopyeva Gr 6
3. Ayla Walker Gr 5

COLOUR POSTER – JUNIOR – GR 4-6

1. Hyan Rau Gr 6
2. Dash Reed Gr 5
3. Isabelle Laquerre Gr 4

BLACK & WHITE POSTER – INTERMEDIATE – GR 7-9

1. Jack Straw Gr 7
2. Jessyca Smellie Gr 8
3. Keadyn Dixon, tied with Gr 8
Max Macey Gr 7

COLOUR POSTER – INTERMEDIATE – GR 7-9

1. Brody Carpenter Gr 8
2. Jacob Bent Gr 8
3. Tristan Awrey Gr 8

2020 POSTER & LITERARY CONTESTS RESULTS FOR BRANCH 270

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater is pleased to announce the branch level results of the Legion's annual Poster & Literary Contest for 2020. Winners were selected among entries in the Black & White and Colour Poster, Poem and Essay categories, submitted by students of Coldwater Public School and Moonstone Elementary, as well as some home-schooled students. Congratulations to winners and all participants!

ESSAY - JUNIOR GR 4-6

1. Hunter Bidmead Gr 5

ESSAY - INTERMEDIATE GR 7-9

1. Christine Bailey Gr 7
2. Kartik Chhabra Gr 7
3. Aubrey McNutt Gr 8

POEM – JUNIOR – GR 4-6

1. Wes Purvis Gr 5
2. Emily Young Gr 6
3. Ayla Walker, tied with Gr 5
Keiran Prentice Gr 5

POEM – INTERMEDIATE – GR 7-9

1. Kartik Chhabra Gr 7
2. Holly Cooper Gr 8
3. Jack Straw Gr 7

COLOUR POSTER – PRIMARY – GR SK-3

1. Parker Laughlin SK
2. Colton Richardson Gr 2
3. Brynley Truxe Gr 2



Parker Laughlin's colour poster took 1st place in the Primary category in Coldwater.



From the files of Dominion Command

FEDERAL SUPPORT DOLLARS REACH HUNDREDS OF LEGION BRANCHES

OTTAWA, ON, 21 December 2020 – Over half of The Royal Canadian Legion's 1380 Branches received close to half the support dollars available for transfer from a federal aid package today.

In total, just over \$7.2 million distributed by the Legion's National Headquarters went to 701 Branches who recently applied for financial assistance provided through Veterans Affairs Canada. More funds will be disbursed in the coming weeks. Many locations have been struggling to keep up with operational costs in the aftermath of closures and cancelled events.

"I'm literally ecstatic to know that our Branches have now received desperately needed help," says Dominion President Thomas D. Irvine. *"It's a relief to know they will be able to continue with their amazing work, without the burden of financial stress looming in the background,"* he says.

The Legion received \$14 million out of a \$20 million package earmarked for Veteran Organizations as part of Bill C-4, approved earlier this fall.

"The Legion's branches are some of our most important partners in supporting our Veterans, and in making sure that Canadians remember the sacrifices they've made," says The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence. *"I'm proud that the Government of Canada is able to provide them with the funding they need to make it through the pandemic as we continue to work together on behalf of our Veterans and their families."*

Branches are happy to turn a new corner with this welcome help. With restrictions on gatherings, La Ronge Branch 371 in Saskatchewan had barely any income and was dipping into savings to operate. They trimmed costs by cancelling their Wi-Fi and phone, lowered the heat and unplugged appliances.

"The Legion is important in our community and I was envisioning an end to what has been in town for 55 years or more," says Branch President Shaune Lapworth.

With close to \$9,000 in new funding, their outlook has changed. *"This support will enable us to keep our doors open and keep doing what our Branch tries to do. This will help us keep operating until the COVID dilemma settles,"* he says.

Further south at Yorkton Branch 77, the worry has dissipated for now, with the receipt of over \$15,000.

"I'm excited and pleased," says Branch President Ken Gordon. *"The biggest thing is it will help keep the Legion a viable presence in our community."* He says the support funds will help cover things like insurance and utilities and ultimately allow them to continue with their work.

The Legion's headquarters will offer a second application opportunity in January to Branches that could not make the initial December deadline. If available, additional funds will be distributed in a third round.

"This funding will not only ensure many Branches can make it through the pandemic, others will not have to close," says Irvine. *"This is the outcome we envisioned, and we once again thank Veterans Affairs Canada and our government for the aid package and for recognizing the crucial role of our Branches in supporting our Veterans, their families and communities."*



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LADIES AUXILIARY

Submitted by Comrade Anne McArthur, President of the Ladies Auxiliary Branch 270



Happy New Year! As this new year begins, hoping that everyone is healthy and will be able to visit with each other soon.

Our condolences go out to Roger Pratt and family in the loss of Rosalie. She was the Ladies Auxiliary 1st Vice President for two years, and unfortunately due to health concerns was unable to accept a third term. She was always ready to help with any project and she would get the job done. We will miss her exceptional writing skills.

Unfortunately, Ontario is in another lockdown, so we will not be holding meetings anytime soon. Updates will be given as things change. This does not mean we are not

available. You can contact me at (705) 309-3755 with any issues.

We were also not able to make meat pies, so this is on the back burner.

Thank you to everyone who has paid the LA dues for 2021. If you haven't been able to make it to the Branch to pay them, you can contact membership chair Brenda Yule (705) 792-8211.

Here's wishing everyone a HAPPY 2021 and may you stay healthy.

Remember, wear a mask, wash your hands and stay two meters apart.



"Never give up, for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn." - Harriet Beecher Stowe

Anne McArthur
President
Ladies Auxiliary Branch 270

REMEMBER YOUR FOODLAND RECEIPTS!

Getting frustrated that branch activities are on hold, and you can't help the branch?

Looking for ways to contribute?

One simple way is to save your Coldwater Foodland receipts and drop them off at the branch whenever you stop by. Ladies Auxiliary member Jane Lauder will take them to Coldwater Foodland for cash.

Help Jane help the branch. Bring in your receipts!

*May this Christmas
be packed full of virus-free
hugs and kisses just for you!
We hope you have a very
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
And that we can see you again soon.
Until then, cheers to you
from afar for your good health and happiness!*

<i>President</i> Debbie Olmstead	<i>Imm. Past President</i> Kim Adams	<i>1st Vice President</i> Kathy Moggy
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<i>Prov. Sports Chairman</i> Kelly Scott		
<i>Past Provincial Presidents:</i> Maxine Gowdey, Jean Hadlow, Barb Brown, Judy Stinson, Joan Fenech, Barbara MacIssac, Lorraine Johnson, Debra Stanton		
<i>And all the Zone Commanders of the Ladies' Auxiliary Ontario Provincial Command</i>		

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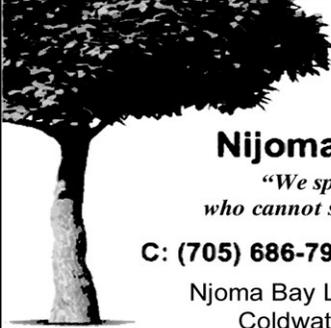
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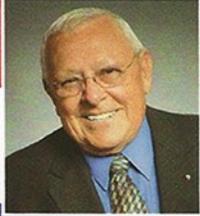
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REMEMBERING COMRADE ROSALIE PRATT

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion

For the past three years, this page was occupied monthly by our good friend Rosalie Pratt's articles profiling some of our Veterans and members. Sadly, Rosalie passed away last month. For the first time, the featured profile is about Rosalie.

Born in Belgium, Comrade Rosalie J. Pratt grew up in Europe before immigrating to Canada with her parents. Originally destined to immigrate to the Congo, her father had a last minute change of heart and opted instead to board a ship for Canada. One of Rosalie's most cherished early memories is the sight of icebergs during the two-week ocean crossing, culminating with the view of Newfoundland's beautiful green coast. *"Right away, I knew this was my new country and home,"* she remembered. As an adult she would later live in Ontario and Quebec, and travel to several European countries and the Caribbean.

Fluent in many languages, Rosalie enjoyed varied career opportunities in her adoptive country. *"Most memorable are my teaching days at a local post-secondary college,"* she recalled. She eventually changed career to focus on the study of holistic therapies - she owned and operated a holistic clinic for more than a decade. She was a registered consulting nutritional practitioner, and a certified activationist in gerontology. *"I always worked in a field where I could help someone attain better education, personal growth and health,"* she stated. In the late 1980s, she was recognized for achieving perfect teaching score in facilitating a training program for tourism professionals.

In the early 2000s Rosalie decided to join the Legion, partly for the camaraderie, but mostly to be of assistance to our Veterans and help with community activities. She transferred to the Coldwater Branch in 2015 where she held various positions on the Executive, including Membership Chairperson and editor of *The Maple Leaf* newsletter. She even served as an occasional bar steward. She also joined the Coldwater Branch Ladies Auxiliary, for which she was 1st Vice-President until last year when she had to resign due to her declining health. *"I am very proud of our branch, our executive, our various chairpersons and the many behind-the-scene volunteers,"* she said. *"Our branch has overcome some negative issues and now sets a high bar of achievement for other branches to emulate."*

Rosalie was particularly pleased with our branch's support of a new Legion program called the Seniors Literary Competition, a program that aimed at getting local seniors involved in writing and submitting poems, essays, short stories, and memoirs. She not only participated in, and promoted the competition, but even spearheaded the creation of a local senior's writers group where they could share ideas and writing techniques. Not surprisingly, Rosalie placed 1st this year in the competition's Memoir category for her submission titled *Dusk*.

In September 2020, Comrade Rosalie was presented a Legion Branch Service Medal. The Legion award is meant



On September 23, 2020, Comrade Rosalie Pratt was awarded the Legion's Branch Service Medal. The medal recognizes a significant level of service.

to recognize a significant level of service by a member, particularly for services above and beyond any responsibilities required from office position held. Comrade Rosalie's services to the branch most certainly fell within this category. Never mind all the functions and events that she either initiated, proposed, or assisted with - think Valentine's Day and Pancake dinners, Fall Fair booth, kids' Public Speaking and Seniors Literary Competition, her contributions to our newsletter *The Maple Leaf* in the past three years were enough to justify this recognition. Her articles featuring some of our Veterans and members were published every month, 40 in total, along with several other feature articles.

Comrade Rosalie passed away last month after a lengthy struggle with health issues. Yet until the very end, she insisted on keeping up her monthly contribution to *The Maple Leaf*. She left behind several "INTRODUCING..." articles about branch members and Veterans, which will be published in the coming months. In the meantime, she leaves us with some food for thought about life, nature, and health. *"I have learned that anything of worth in life is on loan to us by Mother Nature. We have the capacity and indeed a moral obligation to protect what is so generously shared by her. You can never own the most important things in life. You are free to use nature's bounty, and hopefully for the betterment of mankind. Good health should be at the top of the list."*

Comrade Rosalie, thank you so much for all you've done for the branch, the Legion, and the community.

SPORTS AT BRANCH 270



TUESDAY NIGHT POOL

Dec 8 (wins)

- Tom Dearman (3)
- Kari Malmstrom (3)
- Teresa Beniston (2)
- Larry Clarke (2)



FRIDAY NIGHT STEAK DARTS

Dec 4

- 1. Gaëtanne
- 2. Lorne
- 3. John
- 4. Gaëtanne
- 5. Teresa
- 6. Glenn

Dec 11

- 1. Jennine
- 2. Henny
- 3. Marcia
- 4. Marcia
- 5. Gaëtanne
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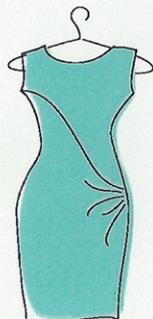
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