



THE MAPLE LEAF

FEBRUARY 2024 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



NO. 2 CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

February being Black History Month, we share with you the following article from the files of Veterans Affairs Canada.

On July 5, 1916, the No. 2 Construction Battalion was formed in Pictou, Nova Scotia—the largest Black military unit in Canadian history. Recruitment took place across the country and approximately 800 personnel would serve with the battalion at some point during the First World War. Most were from Nova Scotia, with others coming from New Brunswick, Ontario, the West and even some from the United States.

The segregated battalion was tasked with non-combat support roles. After initial service in Canada, the battalion boarded the SS Southland bound for Liverpool, England in March 1917. Its members were sent to eastern France later in 1917 where they served honourably with the Canadian Forestry Corps. There they helped provide the lumber required to maintain trenches on the front lines, as well as helped improve roads and build a railway. After the end of the First World War in November 1918, the men sailed to

Halifax in early 1919 to return to civilian life and the unit was officially disbanded in 1920.

In addition to the men of the Black Battalion, more than 700 Black Canadians – including soldiers like James Grant, Roy Fells, James Post, Lancelot Bertrand, Henry Thomas Shepherd, Miles Dymond, Jeremiah Jones and Curly Christian – also managed to join other units. They would offer distinguished service that earned some of them medals for bravery at places like Ypres, Vimy Ridge, Hill 70 and Passchendaele.

*Inside **The Maple Leaf** this month*

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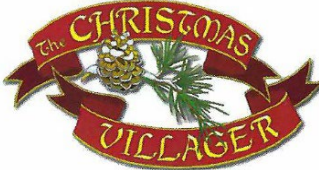


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FROM THE BRANCH PRESIDENT



Thank you to everyone who volunteered at the President's Levee. It was a great event overall. Thank you to the amazing bar stewards who kept everything running smoothly. Thank you to the members of the Ladies' Auxiliary for the wonderful luncheon; as usual it was delicious. Thank you to our

members Gary Perryman and Gill Marshall and to our 2nd VP Kari Malmstrom for making the moose milk. Thank you to our members and to members of the community who came out and supported this event. Again, we must remember our roles and try not to step-in other chairs' duties unless you are asked to help.

After this last bit of snowfall, it's hard to imagine that spring will soon be here. We have asked for an extension on our grant for the pavement, to ensure that if weather doesn't cooperate, we still have time to complete the work before the deadline.

We will be going to the Port McNicoll Legion in the near future to look at the new system they have to keep track of inventory. If we go with this new system, it will cut down on the hours that the bar stewards spend in keeping track of inventory.

Note that, at the January 23 General Meeting, a motion was passed to the effect that there will be no outside drink containers allowed in the Branch.

Please remember that we are all volunteers, treat others how you would like to be treated, with respect.

Yours in Comradeship,
Anne McArthur, Branch 270 President

FROM THE LADIES' AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



Greetings Comrades:

We made it through the month of January. Let's hope that spring comes early this year!

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out with catering this past month. We have several functions to cater to in February, so please help out.

The President's Levee on January 1st had a great turnout. It was my pleasure on behalf of the Ladies' Auxiliary to present Branch President Anne McArthur a cheque in the amount of \$5,000.00 for Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater.

Meat pies are for sale at the bar for \$7.00 each. The funds help to support our Ladies' Auxiliary Sports teams.

Our working bank balance as of December 31 was \$6,072.08.

We initiated a new member, Diane Potts, and welcome her to our Auxiliary.

A reminder that to remain a member in good standing, your dues for 2024 must be paid by January 31, 2024. Dues can be paid at the bar.

Preparations are under way for our Ladies' Auxiliary to host the Zone E4 Spring Convention on April 14, 2024. Please bring your ideas and suggestions to our next meeting.

Next meeting is Tuesday, February 20 at 6:30 pm.

"If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way". - Martin Luther King, Jr.

Yours in Comradeship,
Donna Packer, Branch 270 Ladies' Auxiliary President

BRANCH GENERAL MEETINGS

The next General Meeting will be on **Tuesday February 27, 2024**, beginning at 6:30 p.m. As of January 2023, Branch General Meetings take place on the **fourth Tuesday of each month**, from September to June, in the upstairs hall, starting at 6:30 p.m.



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 article submissions must be received no later than the 23rd 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.

TREASURER REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Al Myre, Treasurer

General account balance is \$46,444.40.

Building account balance is \$59,899.55, with \$31,281.30 reserved as part OTF grant for parking lot resurfacing. The Nevada account balance remains at \$237.61.

Bottle drive month to date is \$470.40.

Bottle drive previous month was \$950.40.

BOTTLE DRIVE UPDATE

Submitted by Comrade Cheryl Barr, Bottle Drive Coordinator

We would like to thank everyone who is dropping off their empties at our Bottle Drive shed. We greatly appreciate the support. On January 24 the branch sent back \$421.20 worth of empties. The branch has collected and returned 485,463 empties to date and has received a total of \$60,147.50. The Bottle Drive has helped cover the cost of some major repairs to the building and equipment.

SICK & VISITING

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

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

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Cheryl Barr, Membership Chair

Membership number stands at 312 until the end of January, then all members who haven't paid their 2024 Membership dues will be taken off the list. New members will also be added. Currently: Affiliate, 56; Associate, 208; Life, 3; and Ordinary, 45. Note that, for internal tracking purposes, we have broken down the Ordinary category of membership so that Ordinary can reflect Veterans (40) and Police Force (5). The Branch would like to welcome to the Legion Comrades Kenneth Stokes, Yvonne Doyle, Michael Doyle, Wayne Gosney, Jackie Ross, and Edward Boynton who transferred in from Barrie. The Branch just approved eight new applications. These members will be initiated on February 27, at the General Meeting. The Branch has had a few members that have transferred out to other Branch because it's close to where they live.

If you want to become a member of the Legion there are membership applications available at the branch. For current members, please check the back of your Membership card and see what sticker you have on it. If you don't have a 2024 sticker, please see the Bar Steward on duty during Branch hours to pay your dues. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (705) 686-3388 or (705) 330-2809.



Happy Birthday to Veteran Frank Phillips, who turned 98 early in January. A few members of the branch stopped by to visit him and share a birthday cake with him. And of course, his best buddy Sparky was there to greet us! Left-to-right: Anne McArthur; Gaëtanne Robinson; Marie Langley; and Frank at the front with Sparky.

JOKE OF THE MONTH

Surgeon: "Relax Richard, it's just a small surgery. Don't panic."

Patient: "My name is not Richard."

Surgeon: "I know. I'm Richard."

Join us on the second Saturday of each month for our

Meat Draw

\$10 for 11 chances to win!



ENTERTAINMENT REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Penny Lawrence-Judges, Entertainment Chair

January has started the year off well with a great turnout at our Levee, excellent Jam, fun Karaoke and closing the month off with the Buckskin filling the Club Room. If you missed the fun, mark the dates and come out to our other events.

On February 3, we have a special ALL ABOUT THE BLUES Jam in the Club Room. We are part of the Barrie Blues Festival. Come and bring your instruments, vocal, and friends. Be a part of the Jam, or part of the audience. Sign up starts at 1:30 p.m. and House Band will lead off. Looking forward to seeing you there. No admission. Canteen is open.

The **February** entertainment schedule is as follows:

- 3rd Jam All About the Blues 2-6 p.m. Everyone welcome
- 6th Trivia Night. Registration 6 p.m. Starts 6:30 sharp
- 13th Trivia Night. Registration 6 p.m. Starts 6:30 sharp
- 17th Karaoke in the Club Room 4-8 p.m.
- 18th Daytona 500 Race Day. Club Room opens at 11 a.m. and race starts at 2:30 p.m.
- 20th Trivia Night. Registration 6 p.m. Starts 6:30 sharp
- 24th Music with Deja Vu 3-7 p.m.

And the **March** entertainment schedule is as follows:

- 2nd Open Mike/Jam 2-6 p.m. Everyone welcome
- 5th Trivia Night. Registration 6 p.m. Starts 6:30 sharp
- 12th Trivia Night. Registration 6 p.m. Starts 6:30 sharp
- 17th St. Patrick's Day party, music with Sbandex 1-5 p.m.
- 19th Trivia Night. Registration 6 p.m. Starts 6:30 sharp
- 23rd Music with Beal Street 3-7 p.m.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Public Relations Officer

On-line media - Facebook & Website – and the BIDDY are kept up-to-date.

Photos of award presentations to top submissions in the Poster and Literary Contests 2023 are posted on our Facebook and Web pages.

We had two photos published in the current issue of the Legion Magazine (Jan-Feb 2024): President and Sgt-at-Arms laying a wreath to commemorate Battle of Britain; and Kari Malmström and John O'Hara manning the branch booth at the Coldwater Fair. We still have six more photos awaiting publishing in the magazine, hopefully in the next few issues.



Tuesday Night's Trivia has been a huge success at the branch. Every Tuesday except for General Meeting nights. Registration 6 p.m. Starts 6:30 sharp.

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BUILDING MANAGER REPORT

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

My report is as follows:

- The monthly extinguisher/exit light review is completed. An electrician has been contacted to come in and replace an exit light for upstairs;
- Upstairs' broken cooler handle has been replaced;
- Faucets were installed in canteen and upstairs kitchen – a plumber has come back to repair leaking supply lines for one faucet. We're still sourcing a new upper cabinet for upstairs, and the L.A. is inquiring about a pantry also to replace the microwave stand. A split in cost has been talked about, but needs to be approved;
- The canteen needs another wire shelf for storage as I had to shorten the existing one. I have one that will be installed;
- I relocated the Clubroom's cooler handles and installed new screws, so this should be good for a while;
- The roof has been looked at again and a few more spots sealed. Another leak has occurred and we are looking into possible location of leak; and
- As requested, the pool table light has been moved to be centered on the table.

HONOURS & AWARDS REPORT

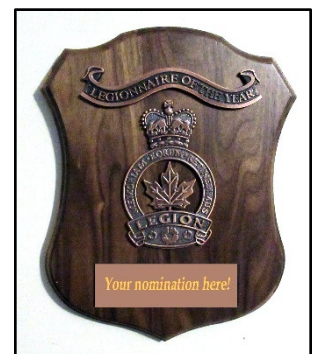
Submitted by Comrade John O'Hara, Honours & Awards Chair

It's time again to submit your nominations for the Legionnaire of the Year award.. Forms are available at the branch in the Club Room. Nominations can also be forwarded to the Honours & Awards Committee by email at oharapoint@gmail.com.

Please include:

1. Name of Nominee
2. Date
3. Nominee's Current Position in Legion and years of service
4. Why should this person be considered for Legionnaire of The Year?
5. Name and Signature of Nominator.

Nominations will be closed on February 17, 2024.



Quote of the Month

“Be yourself; everyone else is already taken.”
— Oscar Wilde

YOUTH EDUCATION REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Cheryll Barr, Youth Education Chair Comrades, it’s hard to believe it’s February already.

The Youth Education Committee is happy to report that out of 10 entries to the Remembrance Day Contest, that went to Zone E4 Level, one entry went on to District Level. I am happy to report that Jene O’Neill placed 1st in the Junior Essay contest at Zone E4 Level and has moved on to District Level of judging. Elizabeth Straw placed 2nd in the Intermediate/Colour category of the Poster contest. On behalf of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 we congratulate all the students who submitted entries in our Remembrance Day Contests. And good luck to Jene O’Neill at the District Level.

MEAT DRAW WINNERS

January 13, 2024

1. Heather Davey
2. Rick Furse
3. Judith Walker
4. Gavin Hodgson
5. Mack McGowan
6. Christine Hiles
7. Brian Hamit
8. Bill Gourlie
9. Amanda
10. Colin Hurst
11. Jack Lauder

SPORTS OFFICER REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Al Myre, Branch Sports Officer Congratulations to our Coldwater Branch Senior Dart Team that took second place at the Zone Tournament held at the Penetanguishene Branch on January 27. Members of the team were Laren Norrie; Hans Klanert; John O’Hara; and Greg Stout.

We will be hosting Zone Euchre on February 10th. Looking for as many teams of 4 as possible.

Coldwater Legion Bottle Drive

Show your support
for your local Legion



You may drop off your empties during our working hours. If you can’t, please call Cheryll Barr at (705) 330-2809 to arrange for drop off after hours.

We are accepting beer bottles & cans; cooler bottles & cans; and liquor & wine bottles.



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Our Coldwater Branch Senior Dart Team that played in the Zone Tournament in January, left to right: Laren Norrie; Hans Klanert; Zone Sports Officer Bob Gourlie; John O’Hara; and Greg Stout.

Support your Ladies' Auxiliary Sports Teams

Meat Pies for Sale

\$7.00 each



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Can be purchased at the branch

Ask the Bar Steward on duty

(Cooking: Bake at 350°F for 40-45 minutes)

WAYS & MEANS REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Penny Lawrence-Judges, Ways & Means Chair

If you haven't attended our Tuesday Night Trivia yet, you are missing a fun night! Margaret-Anne and Michelle and their helpers are ensuring everyone has a fun night. The questions can be profound and the learning of useful information is funny. Come join us. Registration is at 6 p.m. for a 6:30 start. Cost is \$6 or \$5 with a donation to the Food Bank.

Starting Wednesday February 7, we will have Cribbage in the Club Room, starting at 1:30 p.m. All levels of skills welcome. Want to learn how to play, this is the place to come. No reason to sit at home alone. Come join the fun. Check our calendar for all the other activities at your Legion, and come out. Non-members are welcome also.

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For membership information, visit the CAFA Website at <https://canadianairborneforces.ca> or Email cafatreas_mbrshp@yahoo.ca

BURSARY OFFICER REPORT

Submitted by Henny Risebrough, Bursary Officer

One bursary application has been sent in to command. We are hoping for a positive result.

POPPY REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Gaëtanne Robinson, Poppy Chair

The balance in the Poppy Fund account as of December 31, 2023 is \$20,391.32.

Books have been audited and the required yearly reports have been submitted to the Zone E4 Poppy Chair.

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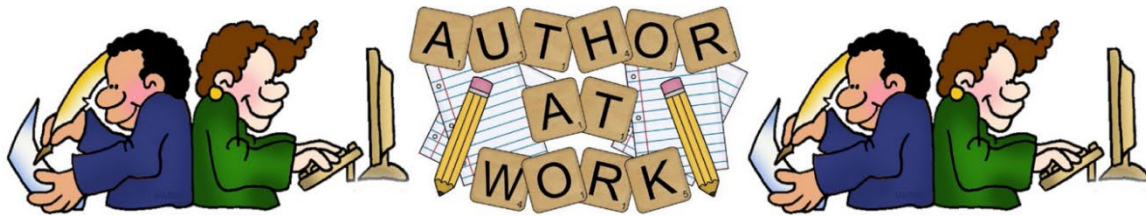


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Command at veteransservices@legion.ca and indicate in the subject line "For Medals Adviser".

Dominion Command's Medals Adviser is Major (Retired) W.E. (Gary) Campbell, a former member of the Canadian Armed Forces.

For mounting and displaying medals, we encourage you to contact the militaria business in your area.

LOST MEDALS OR SERVICE RECORDS

From the files of Dominion Command

We understand that your military medals, awards and service records are valuable to you and your loved ones. Information on how to replace lost medals or records, or obtain ones to which you were entitled, is available below.

SERVICE RECORDS

Due to privacy and confidentiality policies, Dominion Command does not release contact information or information on the service records of Veterans or Legion members. When researching military records, we recommend you contact Library and Archives Canada.



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LOST MEDALS

Information on service medals or records is available on the Government of Canada website.

Veterans Affairs Canada is responsible for first issue or replacement medals for those who served in the Second World War, Merchant Navy and the Korean War. Please contact 1-866-522-2122 or visit Government of Canada website

If you served after the Korea War, please contact National Defence at 1-877-741-8332 or visit Government of Canada website

If you have tried to obtain replacement medals or entitlement but have been unsuccessful or if you would like advice on related subjects such as recovering stolen medals, identifying medals, returning found medals to family, or mounting and displaying medals, our Medals Adviser can help. Please email your question to Dominion

THIS MONTH WE REMEMBER

TOMMY PRINCE ON RECONNAISSANCE

On February 8, 1944, near Littoria, Italy, Sergeant Tommy Prince was spying on the Germans. An abandoned farmhouse close to the enemy served as his observation post, and a telephone wire connected him to the force. During his solo watch, Prince's communication line was severed by shelling. Prince donned civilian clothing, grabbed a hoe and, in full view of German soldiers, acted like a farmer weeding his crops. He found where the line was damaged, then, pretending to tie his shoelaces, quickly rejoined the wires. His reporting continued and Prince earned the Military Medal.

Source: *Veterans Affairs Canada*

BRANCH HISTORIAN REPORT

Submitted by Comrade Norm Marion, Branch Historian

I have four submissions ready to go (just waiting for signatures) for Military Service Recognition Book (MSRB) Vol XI. New submissions or suggestions for submissions for that edition are welcome. You can see a sample MSRB write-up for Harvey Phillips on this page. Harvey, who was killed in action at Dieppe during the Second World War, was the brother of branch member Frank Phillips, who celebrated his 98th birthday in January.

We received a message from the provincial coordinator for the MSRB program, announcing a contest to see which branch/district can have the most MSRB submissions during the months of February and March. Our branch was singled out in the message as the top branch in the province so far in the current campaign.

HARVEY HAROLD PHILLIPS

Harvey Harold Phillips was born in Toronto on October 10, 1920, son of Harold Hackett and Edna Belle Phillips. Prior to the Second World War, Harvey worked as a messenger for the Canadian Pacific Railway. He was also a Scoutmaster with the 95th Toronto Troop, and had joined the militia with the Irish Regiment of Canada in 1938. Following Canada's declaration of war, Harvey enlisted in Toronto with the Royal Regiment of Canada, Canadian Active Service Force, on September 7, 1939. He was single. Then on June 10, 1940, Private Harvey Phillips, service number B/66577, left Canada for Reykjavik, Iceland, with his unit for a four-month stay as garrison duty, before landing in the United Kingdom on November 3, 1940. He had initially joined the unit as a bugler, but was later transferred to Orderly Room work. On August 18, 1942, he crossed to France as part of Operation Jubilee, the ill-fated Dieppe Raid. Harvey was reported missing the next day, and later confirmed killed in action against the enemy on August 19, 1942. He is buried in France at the Dieppe Canadian War Cemetery.



Harvey Phillips was killed in action against the enemy at Dieppe on August 19, 1942.

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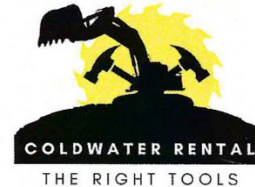
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2024 EVENTS

- May 18-20 Re-opening Weekend | 35th Battalion Reenactors
- June 1 Annual Lawn & Plant Sale
- June 22-23 Coldwater & Area Studio Tour (Host Centre) | Vintage Tractor & Equipment Display
- July 20 Archibald & Catherine Woodrow Farm Day
- Aug. 24 Craft and Trade Day | Creative Market
- July 3-Aug. 28 School Day Wednesdays
- July 4-Aug. 22 Community Day Crafting Thursdays

Admission is by donation. Bring a friend and discover our award-winning museum!

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SPORTS AT BRANCH 270

FRIDAY NIGHT STEAK DARTS

January 5

- 1. Cathy
- 2. Jackie
- 3. Adam
- 4. LloydAllan
- 5. Dianne
- 6. Stephanie
- Sunshine: Bev

January 12

- 1. Henny
- 2. Wayne
- 3. Henny
- 4. Grace
- 5. Margaret-Anne
- 6. Jane
- Sunshine: Terri

January 19

- 1. Chris
- 2. Rick
- 3. Margaret-Anne
- 4. Rick
- 5. Joe
- 6. Teri
- Sunshine: Phil

January 26

- 1. Chris
- 2. Grace
- 3. Cathy
- 4. Bruce
- 5. Frank
- 6. Charlotte
- Sunshine: Joe

TUESDAY AFTERNOON EUCHRE

January 2

- High Hand – Paul
- Low Hand – Sherrin
- Most Lone Hands – Jackie

January 16

- High Hand – Betty-Anne
- Low Hand – Donna
- Most Lone Hands – Heather D.

January 23

- High Hand – Doreen
- Low Hand – Anna
- Most Lone Hands – Ken

January 30

- High Hand – Brian J.
- Low Hand – Ken
- Most Lone Hands – Brian

SHUFFLEBOARD

January 4

- 1st : Adam & Betty-Anne
- 2nd : Sherrin & Paul
- 3rd : Brian & Heather

January 11

- 1st : Brian & Betty-Anne
- 2nd : Lloyd & Adam
- 3rd : Heather D. & Heather G.
- Sunshine: Brian

January 18

- 1st : Heather G. & Paul
- 2nd : Ken & Lloyd
- 3rd : Brian & Betty-Anne
- Sunshine: Ken

January 25

- 1st : Paul & Sherrin
- 2nd : Ken & Heather D.
- 3rd : Brian & Doreen
- Sunshine: Heather D.



**BRANCH 270
WEEKLY SPORTS
& ACTIVITIES**

Euchre
1 p.m. every Tuesday

Trivia Night
6 p.m. every Tuesday

Cribbage
1:30 p.m. every Wednesday

Fun Darts
7:30 p.m. every Wednesday

Shuffleboard
1:30 p.m. every Thursday

League Darts
7 p.m. every Thursday

Steak Darts
6 p.m. every Friday

Join us at the Coldwater Legion for an afternoon of



**You don't have to be a member
to take part or attend**

Saturday February 17, 2024



From 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
2 Michael Anne Drive, Coldwater
email: branch270@rogers.com

tntcoldwatergarage@hotmail.com



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|---|--|


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FEBRUARY 2024

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 270 Coldwater • www.coldwaterlegion.com

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Happy Family Day!

4
CLOSED

5
CLOSED

6
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Euchre 1 pm
Trivia 6 pm

7
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Cribbage 1:30 pm
Fun Darts 7:30 pm

8
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Shuffleboard 1:30 pm
League Darts 7:30pm

9
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Bid Euchre 12:30 pm
Steak Darts 6 pm

10
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Meat Draw Starts at 3 pm

11
CLOSED

12
CLOSED

13
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Euchre 1 pm
Trivia 6 pm

14
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Cribbage 1:30 pm
Fun Darts 7:30 pm
Valentine's Day

15
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Shuffleboard 1:30 pm
League Darts 7:30pm

16
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Bid Euchre 12:30 pm
Steak Darts 6 pm

17
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Karaoke 4-8 pm

18
Daytona 500 Party
Door open at 11 am
Race at 2:30 pm

19
Family Day
CLOSED

20
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Euchre 1 pm
L. A. General Meeting 6:30pm

21
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Cribbage 1:30 pm
Fun Darts 7:30 pm

22
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Shuffleboard 1:30 pm
League Darts 7:30pm

23
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Bid Euchre 12:30 pm
Steak Darts 6 pm

24
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Music with *Deja Vu* 3-7 pm

25
CLOSED

26
CLOSED

27
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Euchre 1 pm
Trivia 6 pm
Branch General Meeting 6:30pm

28
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Cribbage 1:30 pm
Fun Darts 7:30 pm

29
Branch Open 11:30am-9:00pm
Shuffleboard 1:30 pm
League Darts 7:30pm

