

THE WEEK

Four teams compete



Legion Lines

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Branch 120 PRO

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 120, Georgetown will be sending four teams to compete in the zone darts competition being held at Branch 582 Cooksville on Saturday, Feb. 18. Good luck.

On the same day, our bowlers who were successful in the zone contest will be trying their skills in the district contest at Port Credit.

In the zone, Wayne Norton placed first in the singles with a 326. The doubles team of Gary Hole and Wayne Norton placed second. The team of Wayne Norton, Gary Hole, Eric Clarke, Bruce Clarke, Al Gardener and Roger Duguay came third. We wish them good luck in the district.

CAR CLUB

This week's winners are 289 Yvonne Graham; 267 Bruce Green.

wood; 22 Terry Layton; 323 Joanne Zona; 81 Wade Emmerson; and 398 Jim McGill.

FRIDAY NIGHT EUCHRE

High lady was Dorothy Cook, second was Myra Peasey and most lone hands was recorded by Ila Switzer. For the gents, high was Ernie Peasey, and second was Oliver Scragg. Most lone hands was won by Phil Landry.

ENTERTAINMENT

A Valentine's steak dinner and dance will be held in the auditorium on Saturday, Feb. 11. Music is by Norm Eyre and tickets at the bar. Get yours early.

Air Cadets 756 squadron will be having a supper and dance on Feb. 18. For tickets contact Joe Poirier.

Initiation team practice is Feb. 12.

The district service officer will be in the area Feb. 27. Any veteran, or dependent, seeking guidance, or information, can request an interview. Contact Commande Buster Hale, the Branch 120 service officer.

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THREE-BEDROOM RANCHER
A trio of skylights over the foyer illuminates the entry and welcome guests to this 1,584 square foot home. Flowing from the foyer is a sunken living room with carousel bay window, fireplace and adjoining dining room - ideal for entertaining. The informal area of the home centres around a u-shaped kitchen, breakfast bay and family room. A large feature wall in the family room is created by the fireplace and oversized hearth.
The three bedrooms are positioned away from the noisy traffic areas. The master bedroom boasts a walk-in closet and three-piece ensuite with shower. The two additional bedrooms share a skylit main bathroom with soaking tub. The third bedroom can easily double as a guest room or den.
This plan includes a basement and crawl space foundation. For the basement option the staircase is located off the main floor laundry facilities and double car garage access.
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Sun. shopping protection

Walt Elliot
Halton North M.P.P.

As this session of the Ontario Legislature moves towards its adjournment the most controversial pieces of legislation on the agenda are the government bills designed to reform the old Sunday and holiday closing laws. Both Bill 113, which determines the new closing laws and Bill 114, which provides the first protection against unjust Sunday work retail workers have ever received, have been the subject of a great deal of confusion and misinformation.

Two of the most common charges levelled against the new legislation are that it will lead to unrestricted Sunday shopping and that it will lead to unrestricted Sunday shopping and that it is an easy way out on the part of the Ontario government because municipalities will be able to make their own individual decisions. These charges ignore both the true status under the old law and the history of such laws in Canada.

Individual communities in Ontario have for some time been able to regulate the hours of business from Monday to Saturday. What is less well known is that they have also been able to determine what is open on Sundays. The question of tourist areas has come up in Halton and in at least two cases businesses have been given permission to open on Sundays. Under the old law whole communities could be declared a tourist area and it would have been quite legal. Indeed shortly before the introduction of the new legislation the city of North York was preparing to do exactly that. The new legislation simply removes the confusion and possibility of businesses being treated unequally and says if you want your area to be open on Sundays then say so honestly and let everyone know what you are doing.

Under the old rules another approach was possible. A municipality could request to be exempt from rules governing closure on Sundays. A request for open Sundays could be made to Cabinet and such requests were routinely granted. Indeed, both Sault Ste. Marie and Niagara Falls are exempt because they asked to be exempt.

The new law is different in that it ensures the right of the local citizens to have input about such a decision. Before any motion for Sunday opening is passed through a municipal council, public meetings must be held and public input considered. A municipal council in private and the Provincial government at Queen's Park no longer control your fate. You and the rest of the citizens of your area will have better control over

the regulation of Sunday and holiday retailing than they have now.

The arguments surrounding the 'domino' theory are distressing. They indicate a lack of trust in the people of Halton. If, as many people suggest, the citizens of Halton do not want to shop on Sunday, then no retailer would be forced to open. If your customers are not prepared to purchase goods on a Sunday then there will be little business lost to surrounding communities that might be open. However, if the majority of Halton wants to shop on Sundays then it would seem less than fair to deny them the privilege of regulating their lives in the way that is best for them.

The issue of the family and the damage that might be done by Sunday openings has been widely discussed. What seems to be forgotten is the fact that about one-third of Ontario's retail employees now work on Sundays, along with health care providers, several hundred thousand unionized workers and others employed in the hospitality industry and tourism.

People in those jobs were working on Sundays in the 1950s when a debate raged about the advisability of allowing municipalities to permit professional sports to be played on Sunday afternoons. Awful social consequences were predicted because of the new law. Now Sunday sports are accepted as a chance for the family to do something together that is enjoyed by all.

Bill 114 is a piece of labor legislation which allows retail workers to refuse Sunday work which is, in their view, unreasonable. The legislation will protect these workers against reprisals for such refusals. Employers and employees will be encouraged to work out cooperative and voluntary arrangements for Sundays and holidays. If no settlement is reached through mediation, the matter will be referred to an independent referee. This is significant new protection for those retail workers who already work on Sunday.

I believe that it is important to make everyone aware that I intend to support the passage of these two pieces of legislation. Bill 113 will continue to provide a province-wide law requiring most stores to close on Sundays. Heavy penalties will be in place for those who ignore its provisions. If a community does not find this appropriate for their needs they will no longer have to use an ill-defined and often misused tourism provision to regulate their own affairs. Workers in the retail industry will for the first time have some protection against being forced to work on Sundays. As a small-l reform liberal, I believe decisions that affect people's everyday lives should be made as close to them as possible. The decision will be yours and this law will allow you to enforce that decision.