

Spirit Of SCHUMACHER



A Community Newsletter to Connect the
Past, Present and Future

CELEBRATING 106 YEARS

MARCH 1, 1912 TO 2018

SCHUMACHER, ONTARIO

SCHUMACHER SOCIAL



Top: Special guest Ian Vaithlingham performs with Kevin Irvine on drums and Rick Thompson on bass at the third annual SACHA Schumacher Social. Bottom: The Darlings featuring (from left to right) Joe Polowy, Jason Dagg, Brian Jones, Lee Hannigan, Kevin Irvine, and Rob Knox also took to the stage. (Photos by Lisa Romanowski.)



The Schumacher Arts Culture & Heritage Association hosted its third annual Schumacher Social on October 12th. A diverse crowd of people packed the Croatian Hall for an evening of camaraderie and live music. Special guest Ian Vaithlingham was first to take the stage. Proud father Dr. Vaithlingham was thrilled to see his talented son perform live. The music continued with a great set by The Darlings.

Homemade cabbage rolls and sausage were available for purchase with proceeds going to the Croatian Hall Society. The 50-50 draw was won by Ann Marie Chalmers who took home \$265. As always, proceeds from the event will offset the ongoing costs associated with the SOS newsletter and other SACHA projects.

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ARRIVEDERCI LOU

Lou Battochio, known far and wide for his pride and devotion to the community of Schumacher, passed away on Saturday, November 3, 2018 at the age of 91. Mr. Battochio had a 32-year career as a physical education teacher and athletics director with the former Timmins Board of Education. He represented Schumacher on municipal council for 25 years. Up until his death, Lou continued to volunteer with community organizations.

Tributes and accolades quickly accompanied news of Lou's passing. By Saturday afternoon, flags were lowered at municipal buildings and Mayor Steve Black issued the following statement, "Lou Battochio served our community well, not only as a councillor for 25 years, but in everyday life. His passion for Schumacher and the people of our community was clear to anyone who met Mr. Battochio". A Timmins Daily Press article published on November 3 quotes Mayor-Elect George Pirie as saying that Lou was "a tremendous individual, [who] worked hard his whole life for Porcupine, Schumacher and for the betterment of this whole region". In the same article, newly re-elected Ward 3 Councillor Joe Campbell commented, "We've lost a great citizen. Schumacher has a big void to fill with Lou Battochio gone".

The Timmins Rock honoured Lou with a moment of silence prior to the puck dropping at The Mac that Saturday evening and Schumacher Day Minor Hockey posted the following message to its Facebook page: "Lou's devotion and dedication to the youth of Schumacher and area will not be surpassed. As an organization, we are what we are because of Lou. For Lou, it was always about what was best for the children. This legacy will carry on with our organization". For the remainder of the season, all Schumacher Minor Hockey players will sport a black helmet decal in memory of Mr. Lou.

On November 5, CBC News Sudbury picked up on the story, but erroneously reported that Lou was from Timmins. Lou would have

been the first to say that he was a lifelong resident of Schumacher. On November 6, Timmins-James Bay MP Charlie Angus paid tribute to Lou in the House of Commons by saying "Mr. Speaker, either heaven is in for a real treat or it is about to get really shaken up, because Lou Battochio, the ambassador of Schumacher, is finally going home". He went on to say, "It was Lou's love of community and social justice that made him special ... he lived nine decades on this earth, committed to the belief that we are here to build a better world".

Ed Pupich, who served with Lou on various committees over the years, shared the following tribute with the SOS: With the passing of Lou, we have lost an icon. He was one of Schumacher's most knowledgeable historians and biggest advocates. From the time of amalgamation with the City of Timmins, Lou worked to ensure that the unique identity of Schumacher would not be lost. Lou was very proud of our town and he loved to reminisce about the old days. Lou was a staunch defender of "small town" hockey; he was honoured by the Ontario Hockey Federation in 2008 and by Hockey Canada in 2009. We had plans to attend the 100th anniversary of the Northern Ontario Hockey Association together in May 2019; I know Lou will be there in spirit. Rest in peace, my friend!

Hundreds of family members and friends attended the funeral mass on Wednesday, November 7th at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Timmins. An honour guard of jersey clad Schumacher Day Minor Hockey players lined the church steps. During the service, Father John Lemire remarked that Lou was a rich man because he had a strong faith, children that love him and a wife that adores him. Our heartfelt condolences are extended to Cecile (Lou's wife of 61-years), to his sons Bruno and Dino, and to his grandchildren, siblings, and extended family.





In 2014, Lou Battochio was inducted into the Timmins Sports Heritage Hall of Fame as a Community Sports Builder in part for his ongoing involvement with Schumacher Day Minor Hockey. Above: SDMH players provided an honour guard at Lou's funeral. (Photo courtesy of Len Gillis.) Below: SDMH players will sport a memorial decal on their helmets for the rest of the season Bottom: The 1st Annual Lou Battochio Memorial House League Tournament was hosted by SDMH on the weekend of November 23, 2018. (Photo SDMH Facebook page.)



BACK TO BACK CHAMPS



The O'Gorman High School Sr. Girls Basketball team struck gold for a second consecutive year at the 2018 OFSAA Provincial "A" Championship. This talented team has a few Schumacher connections in Coach Cathy Beard and players Ava Fregonese and Jaydn Weltz. Back (from left): Cathy Beard, Abby Couture, Tia Nadeau-Saumur-Nelson, Gracie Barbuto, Jenna Katic, Ally Burke, Mallory Turcotte, Coach Marcy McCarty. Front (from left): Ava Fregonese, Emily Ashamock, Jadyne Weltz, Brianna Dodd, and Ella McCarty. (Photo courtesy of Ted Weltz.)

THE MAC IS 80!

The McIntyre Arena officially opened to the public on Thursday, December 8, 1938. Much of the Monday, December 12, 1938 edition of the Porcupine Advance is devoted to coverage of the gala opening that featured fifty talented figure skaters from Toronto. The newspaper lauds several local groups for contributing to the success of the event. Clad in traditional garb, the Croatian orchestra directed by Mr. Joseph Begovich performed for invited guests during a reception in the auditorium prior to the official opening. The Lions Club Boys' band, under the direction Mr. FJ Waino, performed in the arena prior to the official programme and during intermission. The efficient ushering skills of the girls from Schumacher High School kept things orderly. Our mini Maple Leaf Gardens was considered the finest arena north of Toronto when it opened and it remains the heart of our community today.



HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

There is an every growing shift in how people choose to celebrate the season. More and more people are moving away from spending small fortunes on extravagant gifts purchased from big box stores. Instead they are focusing on spending quality time and sharing unique experiences with loved ones. When gifts are given, people are choosing to put their creative sides to use or they are purchasing items that will support the local economy and have little to no negative impact on the environment. If you're looking for a special gift for a loved one, here are some suggestions:

1. Sign them up to be a SACHA supporter. For as little as \$15 annually, they will get a seasonal dose of Schumacher and support our organization. See the back page for details!
2. Purchase them a membership to the Croatian Hall Society. The \$25 annual membership fee will help fund needed building renovations and increased membership numbers will bring new life to the group. For more details, call Darlene (705-235-4307) or Kathy (705-235-2302).
3. Purchase a locally crafted gift with symbolic meaning, such as a headframe stained glass piece from Thurston Stained Glass Shoppe & Studio located at 35 Father Costello Drive. Classes are also offered. Call 705-531-2928.

GIFT BUYING GUIDE

- BUY ETHICAL**
 - Use the power of your 'Christmas pound' to cast a vote for the kind of world you want
 - Organic
 - Fair-trade
 - Living wage
 - Plastic-free
 - Sustainable
- BUY LOCAL**
 - When you buy from an independent business, the owner does a **happy dance**. With big chains, not so much.
 - When you buy local, more of your money stays in the local economy (rather than the pockets of Fat Cat execs)
- MAKE**
 - Only make something you know someone will love and make use of - it's hugely frustrating otherwise!
 - A cake
 - Some biscuits
 - A meal to put in the freezer for someone who lives alone
 - Something useful
- BUY SECONDHAND**
 - SEARCH THE CHARITY SHOPS**
 - For stocking fillers
 - For Christmas jumpers
 - For something they really want (NO novelty gifts!)
 - CHECK OUT eBay**
 - Search by brand or make, size and age
 - Remember to tick the 'used' box in the search criteria
- BUY LESS**
 - SECRET SANTA**
 - For work
 - For the grown-ups in a family
 - For the kids if you have a lot to buy for so they all get one decent present
 - EXPERIENCES NOT THINGS**
 - Go out for a meal
 - Tickets for the cinema or a concert
 - Treat them to a day out
 - Memberships - National Trust, museums etc

www.asustainablelife.co.uk #crapfreechristmas

4. Support local farmers by creating a gift basket of locally sourced meat, dairy, and produce. For one stop shopping, visit The Urban Farm at 119 Crawford Street in South Porcupine or check out Trussler's Pantry & Harvest online at www.trusslerspantry.ca.
5. Plan a winter getaway and take in all that Schumacher and area have to offer!

SURVEY SAYS

A small number of SOS readers responded to the online survey posted this fall. Most of those who responded were pleased with the SOS newsletter and the SACHA organization. Some interesting ideas for future stories and events were also shared. Most Schumacher-based respondents indicated that should the print edition cease to be distributed free to Schumacher post boxes,

they would either become SACHA supporters to continue receiving print copies or they would access the digital version instead. A final decision regarding Schumacher distribution has not yet been made. If you wish to share your views, the survey will remain open until December 31, 2018. The Google Form can be accessed online at: <https://goo.gl/forms/qfjq1MTYIWkeJDEP2>





HISTORICAL NOTES

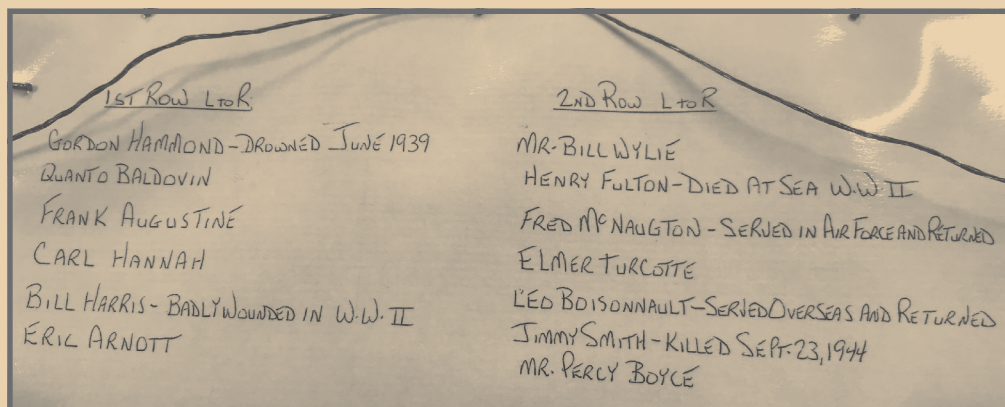
SPS CENTENNIAL



Schumacher Public School is 100 years old and plans are underway to officially commemorate the occasion in the spring of 2019. More details will be shared as they become available.

Readers are asked to look through scrapbooks, photo albums and keepsake boxes for SPS memorabilia. If you find any gems, please take digital photos and email to info@spiritofschumacher.ca. If possible, include any relevant details (dates and names) with your photos.

Thanks to SPS Secretary Dana Dafeo and Principal Kelly Pearce for sharing what they found written on the back of a framed photo of an early day Schumacher Public hockey team.



MCINTYRE CREW 1946



Thanks to Mike Kayzer for this McIntyre Crew photo from 1946. Middle row, second from left, is Alex Kayzer (Mike's grandfather) who lived at 108 2nd (Dwyer) Avenue. If you can identify anyone else, please let us know. Enlarged crops are available on the SOS Facebook page.



EDITORIAL

As always, it's been a busy few months since the last edition of the SOS. The 3rd Annual SACHA Schumacher Social was a success; thank you to everyone who came out for an enjoyable evening! The municipal election has come and gone with Ward 3 Councillor Joe Campbell retaining his seat and George Pirie winning the Mayoral race. Hockey season is in full swing and much time is spent at The Mac photographing the Schumacher Pee Wee Wicked Bears and the Schumacher Atom Jets. Halloween was chilly and Christmas preparations are well underway.

Lou Battochio's death came as a shock to the community and his presence in Schumacher will be missed for a long time to come. In addition to Lou, a number of people with strong ties to Schumacher have passed on in recent weeks and months. While it's never easy to lose a loved one; it can be particularly difficult at this time of the year. On behalf of SACHA, sincere condolences and healing thoughts and prayers are extended to all grieving families and friends.

In celebration of SACHA's 7th Anniversary, a sincere thank you is extended to our supporters. Changes may be made to the format of the SOS in the new year, but we will continue to publish seasonally and offer print and digital options.

Wishing each of you Christmas blessings and health and happiness in the new year!

Until next time,
Lisa Romanowski,
SOS Editor

A Miner's Christmas

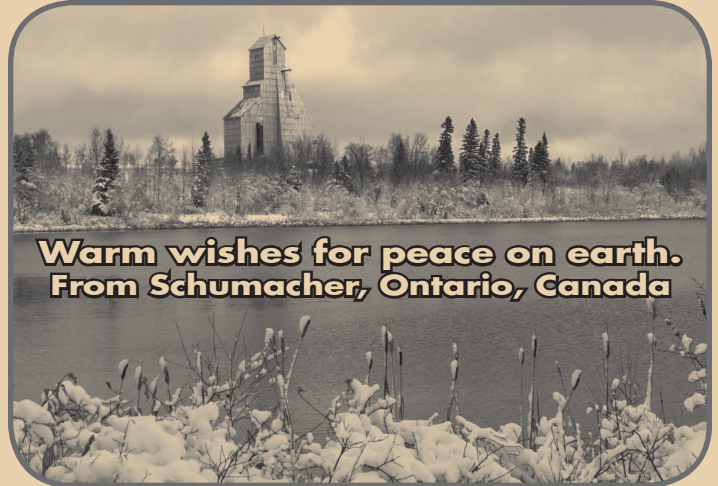
Softly through the silent night
Gleams the Christmas star so bright,
Piercing, streaming through the haze
As though to light a miner's ways.

In deep humility I raise
My eyes and at that star I gaze;
I hear the Angels softly sing
Of Him who comes to be our King.

No wealth have I, no talents rare,
I dwell not in the spotlight's glare.
But pride I have in what I do
For He was a humble workman, too.

The star that gleams from out the skies
Bespeaks of hope to eager eyes
That man will bring, by deeds of good,
That glorious dawn of brotherhood.

A Miner's Christmas was originally published in the Christmas 1952 edition of Hollinger Miner (a magazine produced for all Hollinger employees). The photograph below of the McIntyre Headframe was taken by Rene Dunkley.



**Warm wishes for peace on earth.
From Schumacher, Ontario, Canada**

SACHA BOARD

Rob Knox (President)
Kathy Vukobratich (Treasurer)
Lloyd Salomone (Secretary)
Vera Romanowski (Sponsorship)

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Connect with Us Online:

www.facebook.com/SpiritOfSchumacher
www.spiritofschumacher.ca

SOS NEWSLETTER

The not-for-profit Schumacher Arts, Culture & Heritage Association publishes the SOS newsletter quarterly in Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter.

The print edition is distributed to all Schumacher post boxes. For PDF versions email:
info@spiritofschumacher.ca

ADVERTISING

\$25/issue or \$90/year
An estimated 5000 people read each edition. Contact us for more information.

Good for a Giggle ...

What nationality is Santa Claus?
North Polish!

Readers are invited to submit articles and photos celebrating Schumacher's past, present, or future for publication consideration. Please include the creator's full name and the full names of photo subjects.



READER MAIL

SACHA Committee

Thank you for your continued efforts and hard work in keeping us informed of the latest news in Schumacher and surrounding area. Your time and contributions are much appreciated.

There are many physical changes I am sure, but the love and spirit of people like Rob, Kathy, Lloyd and Vera of the SACHA Board set an example of dedication to the past and present of Schumacher. You have never deserted the true north and we love you for that. God bless you.

People like myself have left Schumacher many years ago (1953), but our feeble minds have never left the memories of where we've been. It's amazing how some things don't abandon the aging mind.

God Bless,
John Perkovich

If you choose not to find
joy in the snow,
you will have
less joy in your life ...
but the same amount
of snow.



Linda and Rob Knox
Timmins, Ontario



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, December 29th from 1:00 PM

Family Paint Event

Hosted by Brush Strokes Timmins
The Legion Hall, 46 Legion Drive, South Porcupine
\$25 per person or \$45 per two people.

Includes all supplies and light snacks. Ages 3+

For more information, please visit:

www.brushstrokes-timmins.com/events/family_paint_winter

Thursday, January 3rd from 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM

Kidproof Home Alone Course

YMCA of Timmins, 376 Poplar Avenue, Timmins
\$25, Ages 10 - 14

Please call 705-360-4382 to register.

For more information, please visit

<http://timminsymca.org>

Friday, January 4th from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Kidproof Babysitters Course

YMCA of Timmins, 376 Poplar Avenue, Timmins
\$75, Ages 11 - 14

Please call 705-360-4382 to register.

For more information, please visit

<http://timminsymca.org>

Monday, February 18th at 6:30 PM

Mini Pop Kids: Take Flight Tour

with special guests

Melissa Kelly Dance Academy and Step 'n Sound
ESC Theriault, 341 Theriault Boulevard, Timmins

For tickets and more information, please visit:

www.minipopkids.com

www.jobscanadafair.com



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 Gloria (Stimac) Zagrodnik

Business (\$50)

Blackhawk Transport
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* Additional Contribution
 + Deceased

Your annual support offsets SOS production costs and SACHA community endeavours.
 The continued generosity of all our supporters is truly appreciated.

SUPPORT THE SCHUMACHER ARTS CULTURE & HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

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 Phone:
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(Please print clearly.)

Mailing Address:
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SUPPORT TYPE: Individual (\$15) Family (\$25) Business (\$50)

DEDICATED CONTRIBUTION: (please specify an amount of your choice) \$ _____

Please make your cheque payable to: **Schumacher Arts, Culture & Heritage Association.**
 Mail your completed form and cheque to **PO Box 13, Schumacher, Ontario, P0N 1G0.**

SACHA will recognize your generosity with acknowledgement in the SOS newsletter and on its website.
 A non-tax deductible receipt will be issued.