

Spirit Of SCHUMACHER



A Community Newsletter to Connect the
Past, Present and Future

CELEBRATING 107 YEARS

MARCH 1, 1912 TO 2019

SCHUMACHER, ONTARIO

BACK IN SESSION

In Session, a combined recording studio and event space, officially opened on Monday, December 16, 2019. The business has taken over the space once occupied by JJ's Ranch at 30 Father Costello Drive. JJ's was a popular entertainment venue for 28+ years and Leslie-Anne Dupuis (who managed JJ's for over a decade prior to the owners retiring in 2014) wants to build on that legacy with In Session. Dupuis, an award-winning professional musician, has a mission to help people achieve freedom through music.

"It is truly a dream come true to finally be launching this new venture," says Dupuis, "This is definitely a passion project. We are building on partnerships within the community to curate local talent, further develop products and services and continue our successful fundraising events." In Session's first major event, Tribute to Elvis - LIVE, will take place January 10, 2020 in the Ballroom at the McIntyre Community Centre. Tickets are on sale

now and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Yo Mobile. (Check out the Upcoming Events on page 7 for more details.)

Major renovations were required to convert JJ's into In Session. Half of the main floor has been converted to a fully equipped and soundproofed music recording studio complete with a baby grand piano donated by Mike Page Construction. There is also an event space for up to twenty-five people and a kitchenette for catering. Memorabilia from JJ's Ranch and other musical landmarks in Timmins has been incorporated into the décor.

This new venture has been several years in the making and was made possible in part from support provided by Nishnawbe Aski Development Fund, Métis Voyageur Development Fund, Shawn McKee Roofing & Exterior Maintenance and Aux Business Support. For more information, including recording rates and available services, please visit www.insessiontimmins.ca.



Leslie-Anne Dupuis stands beside the baby grand piano in the recording studio of In Session. The combined studio and event space is located in the former JJ's Ranch building at 30 Father Costello Drive. (Photo by Maija Hoggett and used with the permission of TimminsToday.com.)

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DUSTY BAKER BONSPIEL

The Timmins New Horizons Seniors' Curling League has hosted the Dusty Baker Bonspiel for the past 26 years. The event honours the memory of a longtime Schumacher resident who served in various Parks & Recreation Director roles in the local area. Throughout his life, Dusty was involved in community hockey, baseball, curling, and tennis. He helped found the New Horizons Curling Club in 1981 and remained an active member until he passed at age 82.

The 2019 event was held at the McIntyre Curling Club. Schumacher's Marilyn McAlpine made history by being the first female skip to lead a team to win the Dusty Baker Bonspiel.



Jimmy Baker presents Skip Marilyn McAlpine, Vice Norm Beaudry, Second Alphonso DeLuca, and Lead John Pollack with the Dusty Baker Bonspiel Trophy at the conclusion of the New Horizons Seniors' Curling Club event which was held on November 19 & 20, 2019. Marilyn is the first female skip to lead a team to victory in the bonspiels' 26-year history. (Photo courtesy of the Timmins New Horizons Seniors' Curling Club.)

SUPPORTING YOUTH HOCKEY

In an effort to give back to the community, SACHA is sponsoring Ben and Jacob Dunkley for the 2019-2020 hockey season. Ben (12) and Jacob (10) are lifelong residents of Schumacher. Ben plays defence for the Pee Wee Schumacher Sharks and Jacob plays offence for the Atom Schumacher Jets. Both boys have played for Schumacher Day Minor Hockey since their Tim Bit days.

The SACHA Board has also decided that any future requests for sports team sponsorship would only be considered providing that the player was a resident of Schumacher and that he or she was playing for a Schumacher-based team. Additionally, as a non-profit organization, sponsorship requests will only be considered should sufficient funds exist. (Photo provided by Rene Dunkley.)



FITTING TRIBUTE



Anyone who has spent time at The Mac over the years knows that Lou Battochio (who passed away November 3, 2018) stood at a particular spot against the glass to watch the games. Recently, Ray Auclair enlisted Stephanie Hazelwood from The Trophy Shoppe in Schumacher to engrave a memorial plaque in honour of Lou. The plaque, created in the red and white colours of the Schumacher Day Minor Hockey Association, reads: "In memory of Luigi 'Lou' Battochio. This was his favourite spot to watch hockey games". In the photo at left (obtained via the Timmins Sports Heritage Hall of Fame on Facebook), Lou's wife Cecile stands proudly beside the plaque which has been securely installed at Lou's favourite spot. In related news, the 2nd Annual Lou Battochio Memorial Midget / Bantam Hockey Tournament took place the weekend of November 22, 2019. The Schumacher Storm took the tournament's Bantam Consolation title.

STILL GOING STRONG



The O'Gorman High School Senior Girls' Basketball team remained a dominant presence in the province this year. After a heartbreaking semi-final loss at OFSAA in Welland, the Lady Knights regrouped and gave it their all to emerge victorious in the Bronze Medal Final. The win marks the end of an era in OHS Basketball; the team garnered a silver medal back in 2016 followed by back-to-back gold medal performances in 2017 and 2018. The team's ties to Schumacher include Assistant Coach Cathy Vukovich Beard and players Ava Fregonese and Vayda Salvador.

2019 OFSAA A Girls Basketball Bronze Medalists: (back l-r) Assistant Coach Cathy Beard, Gracie Barbuto, Kaydence Chapados Nadeau, Alana Percival, Jenna Katic, Abby Couture, Ava Fregonese, Mallory Turcotte, Ally Burke, Vayda Salvador, Coach Marcy McCarty, (front l-r) Kennedy Regan, MacKenzie Innes, Hailey Massicotte, Trinity Dionne-Paulmartin, Trinity Basaraba and Tiana Kingsbury. (Photo courtesy of ESC Jean-Vanier, Welland.)



SPREADING CHRISTMAS CHEER

MR. SCHUMACHER 2019

The Schumacher Volunteer Fire Department brought some modern touches to the Mr. Schumacher Gift Giving event this year. While the spirit of the century old tradition remains unchanged, the logistics of ensuring that every elementary school aged child living in Schumacher receives a Christmas gift underwent some upgrades. Eligible students still received written invitations at school, but this year parents were encouraged to register their children for the event online.

The purpose of online registration was two-fold. First, it allowed parents to suggest the

types of gift that their children would enjoy. This in turn helped the firefighters make purchase decisions. Second, the registration form offered alternate gift pick-up dates for families who could not attend the December 17th event. This flexibility was surely a welcome option for families juggling work schedules and extracurricular activities.

Logistics aside, eager children packed the McIntyre Ballroom on a very snowy Tuesday night. Brightly wrapped packages were quickly distributed and judging by the smiles throughout the room, the gifts were a hit.



Gabe Ouellet and Rhylan Wieteska-Spehar were some of the oldest Mr. Schumacher Gift recipients. Both were impressed with their gifts. Gabe received a Cinema 6 gift card and Rhylan received wireless ear buds. (Photo by Lisa. Romanowski)

BASKETBALL GIFT FOR SPS

Schumacher Public School's partnership with Canada Basketball and the Jr. NBA got a major financial boost on December 18th thanks to the generosity of Ontario Power Generation and the Timmins Family YMCA. OPG donated \$2600 to the program through its Corporate Citizen Program. The YMCA contributed an additional \$1500, which was raised through the Strong Kids Campaign Summer Golf Tournament.

The Jr. NBA program at SPS provides local youth with a great opportunity to learn



the game invented by a YMCA Instructor: Dr. James Naismith. The focus is on fundamental skills and sportsmanship. Participants receive a jersey and basketball.

Above: Kate Cantin from Ontario Power Generation and Wayne Bozzer from the YMCA present a cheque to SPS Principal Kelly Pearce, Teacher Doug McPhail, and the students who are currently part of the Jr. NBA program. (Photo and information via the SPS Facebook page.)



CROATIAN PARTY



The Croatian Hall hosted its annual Members' Christmas Party on December 8th. The event provides the Executive with an opportunity to show their appreciation for members' volunteer efforts over the past year. It is also a chance for members to gather with their children and grandchildren to ring in the Christmas Season. Much to the children's delight, Santa stopped by to hand out some presents. Darlene Polowy and Kathy Vukobrat

ic outdid themselves preparing a Croatian feast of cabbage rolls, sausage, sauerkraut and chicken. The meal was enjoyed by everyone in attendance.

Annual membership to the Croatian Hall is \$25 per person. New members are always welcome and volunteer opportunities (including Timmins City Bingo nights, hall maintenance, and food fundraisers) are plentiful. Message Croatian Society: Schumacher on Facebook for more information.

LIONS CLUB DINNER



Members of the SPS Choir perform carols at the Schumacher Lions Club Seniors' Dinner. (Photo via SPS Facebook page.)



Marg Vukelich greets Santa with a hug at the annual Schumacher Lions Club Seniors' Christmas Dinner. (Submitted Photo)

The Schumacher Lions Club hosted the Annual Schumacher Seniors Dinner at the Lions Den on Wednesday, December 11th. In addition to a delicious meal and a chance to catch up with Schumacher friends, attendees were treated to musical entertainment provided by the Schumacher Public School Choir. Santa also stopped by for a visit.



EDITORIAL

REMINDER:

Winter is most definitely here to stay in Northern Ontario. The snow came early and it's plentiful. Porcupine Ski Runners had trails open by mid November and Kamiskotia Snow Resort was able to open super early on November 30th. When this issue went to print, local schools had already experienced four bus cancellation days (three of which were in November)!

I have been the editor of the SOS for twenty-two of its thirty-two issues and it still surprises me how most editions just sort of fall into place. This issue is no exception. Between Christmas festivities and sports news, there was quite a lot to talk about. Of course, the big news is the opening of In Session at the former JJ's Ranch. The SACHA Board extends best wishes to Leslie-Anne and her team as they embark on this new endeavour.

As 2019 comes to an end, I would like to thank each of you for your continued support of the Schumacher Arts, Culture & Heritage Association and the Spirit of Schumacher newsletter. I would also like to take the opportunity to encourage each of you to support Schumacher businesses (including but not limited to Northern Windows & Doors, Thurston Stained Glass, and Pro Tackle) whenever you can.

It's difficult to predict what the new year will bring, but I wish you all peace and joy in 2020. Please get in touch if you have story ideas to share.

Until next time,
Lisa Romanowski,
SOS Editor

This is the last edition of the SOS Newsletter with complimentary distribution to Schumacher Post Office boxes. Starting with the Spring 2020 edition, only active SACHA supporters will receive paper copies of the newsletter. Annual support levels begin at just \$15 per year. (Please refer to the last page of this newsletter for more details.)

Digital editions of the SOS will continue to be shared freely online via email, Facebook, and our website. To ensure you don't miss an issue, join our subscriber list. Simply send an email to info@spiritofschumacher.ca with SUBSCRIBE as the title. Thanks for your understanding.



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SOS NEWSLETTER

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

For PDF versions email:
info@spiritofschumacher.ca

ADVERTISING

\$25/issue or \$90/year
Contact us for more information.

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.

Good for a Giggle ...

What do you call a snowman tantrum?
A meltdown!



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Linda and Rob Knox
Timmins, Ontario



UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, January 10 from 8:00 PM to 11:00 PM

Elvis Tribute: LIVE

Hosted by In Session (formerly JJ's Ranch)
McIntyre Community Centre Ballroom, 85 McIntyre Road
Celebrate the man, the magic and the music.
Tickets: \$45 (limited quantity available)
Purchase in advance from Customer Service at
Your Independent Grocer.

Thursday, February 13 from 7:00 PM

Ron James: LIVE in Timmins

Hosted by the Timmins Rock Jr. A Hockey Club at
ÉSC Thériault, 341 Thériault Blvd., Timmins
A comedic tour de force! The funniest man in Canada!
Tickets: \$60+ Purchase online: secure.ticketpro.ca

Saturday, February 15 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Gwynne Dyer Lecture

Timmins Museum National Exhibition Centre
325 Second Avenue, Timmins
Come listen to the popular Canadian author, historian and
journalist's take on the "State-of-the-World".
Tickets: \$10 Advanced Purchase Recommended

Saturday, February 22 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Coldest Night of the Year

Hosted by Anti-Hunger Coalition Timmins
325 Second Avenue, Timmins
This family-friendly walk raises money for charities serving
hungry, homeless and hurting people in the community.
For more information or to register, please visit:
<https://cnoy.org/location/timmins>

Saturday, February 29 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Waubgeshig Rice: Author Reading and Book Signing

Timmins Public Library, Main Branch
320 Second Avenue, Timmins
The Northern Ontario author and journalist will discuss
his award winning book, his experiences growing up in
Anishnaabe community, and his writing process.

Saturday, March 7 at Noon to Sunday, March 8 at 5:00 PM

Timmins Pro Snowcross Challenge

Hosted by Rockstar Energy Canada
Timmins Snow Dump
Check out Canada's best snowmobile and snowbike racers.





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 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.