

**SPRING
2020**
ISSUE 33

Spirit Of **SCHUMACHER**



A Community Newsletter to Connect the
Past, Present and Future

CELEBRATING 108 YEARS

MARCH 1, 1912 TO 2020

SCHUMACHER, ONTARIO

FROM A DISTANCE



REMINDER

Starting with this issue,
print copies of the
SOS Newsletter
will only be made available
to SACHA Supporters.

Please see the last page for
information on how to join.

An aerial view of downtown Schumacher taken with a Mavic Mini drone on March 21st, 2020. Using the McIntyre Headframe and Arena as a reference, to the left you can see the Dwyer Block, post office and (across the street) the old CIBC building. Off to the far right you can see part of the old movie theatre / Thermo Spacer building. The intersection of Dwyer (Second) Avenue and Vipond Road (Poplar Street) is shown at the bottom left. It's still very snowy in Northern Ontario, but the weather is slowly getting warmer. (Photo credit to Benjamin Dunkley.)

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WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER

The Covid19 Pandemic is likely not news to you. Social distancing protocols, frequent hand washing practices and 14-day self-isolation procedures have become the new norm. Although the situation is rapidly changing both here in Canada and around the world, what follows is a brief overview of things the wider Timmins community is doing to get through these challenging times.

Musicians, including Schumacher's Paul Sebalj, (who is extremely talented), are hosting Facebook Live jam sessions. Over the course of several hours on Friday March 20th and 27th, Paul took song requests from his virtual audiences. He plans to host more Facebook shows in the weeks to come. Northern Windows & Doors, which operates out of the old St. Alphonsus Church building, is projecting a timely nightly reminder on the side of the bell tower. Across the city, residents are organizing Easter-themed window scavenger hunts as well as tributes to healthcare workers.

Local businesses are doing what they can to keep their doors open and provide necessary services to local residents. Restaurants across Ontario have been ordered to close their dining rooms, but takeout and delivery service are still permitted. Numerous local eateries, including Narduzzi's Restaurant, have chosen to keep their doors open while adhering to these new guidelines. Many local grocery stores and pharmacies have adopted the practice of reserving the first hour of business for seniors and those with special needs. Plexiglass dividers and distance markings are appearing in more and more shops.

Emergency service and healthcare staff continue to provide quality care on the front lines. Canada Post workers and delivery drivers continue to bring us our packages. With multiple cases of Covid19 confirmed in Timmins, their united plea is that we stay home to help flatten the curve.



Left: Northern Windows & Doors projects a heartfelt message on their building. Above: A screen grab from Paul Sebalj's Facebook Live performance on March 20th. Below: A window decorated for Easter on Vipond Road.



Cochrane District EMS posted this image to their Facebook page on March 21st. The message reads "We stay here for you. Please STAY HOME for us!". The six paramedics also demonstrate their ability to social distance within the confines of the ambulance bay in the CDSSAB building on Algonquin Boulevard.



HOCKEY NEWS

FLYING FATHERS RETURN

After years of planning, the Flying Fathers returned to The Mac on February 22. The team of Catholic priests entertained a crowd of 900 en route to a decisive 14-5 victory over the South Porcupine Volunteer Fire Department squad. The Flying Fathers Hockey Club was founded in 1963 by Fr. Brian McKee and the late Fr. Les Costello. The Timmins Rock and TSHHF co-hosted the event.



Bishop Poitras drops a ceremonial puck for Jamie Costello and Fr. John Perdue. (Photos from Timmins Daily Press gallery.)

A NIGHT FOR BILL

In February, the Timmins Sports Heritage Hall of Fame (TSHHF) partnered with Mark Fera Collectibles to present A Night For Bill; a gala and two-day sports memorabilia expo at The Mac. Money raised will fund the installation of two memorial billboards in Timmins and the creation of an exhibit that captures Bill Barilko's spirit and legacy so that it can inspire future generations.



Fr. Matt McCarthy and Fr. John Perdue present Frank Quinn, longtime Flying Fathers manager, with his framed #4 jersey. The return to Timmins marked Frank's final game with the team.



Some of the memorabilia on display at the Night For Bill gala and expo. (Photo via Wayne Bozzer and TSHHF on Facebook.)

MEMORIAL BANNER RAISED

A banner celebrating the late Lou Battochio has joined those of Father Les Costello, Bill Barilko and Frank Mahovlich hanging from the rafters at The Mac. The banner was officially raised during the Timmins Rock game on February 1st.



FAREWELL TO AN ICON

On St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, 2020, Daniel "Tixie" Hannigan passed away at the age of seventy-seven years. He took pride in Schumacher and hockey was his passion. He expressed this through coaching, mentoring, and skate sharpening for well over forty-seven years. In the 1970s, Hannigan's Sports & Repair operated from what was formerly Domenic's Barbershop at 42 First Avenue / Father Costello Drive. Tixie moved the shop down the street to the old Sam Gurvitch Jewellers building in the 1980s. Then, for a time, Tixie worked out of his home on Goldmine Road. For the last number of years, he operated a small skate sharpening space at The Mac. Heartfelt condolences are extended to Tixie's wife, Sue, their children, Jay, Taurie, and Lee, and their families.

OLD PHOTOGRAPHS



Dennis Sebalj shared this ad for the 2nd Annual Schumacher Day Fastball Tourney.



Laneway hockey in 1953 featuring siblings Ed Pupich and Marilyn (Pupich) McAlpine.



Judith Barkel shared this family photo of Ana, Katie, Steve and Marko Oreskovich.



An old-time paver lays asphalt in front of 42 First Avenue (Father Costello Drive). (Source unknown.)



Darrell MacGregor shared a 1947 Daily Press article about the shop at SPS. The students are (L to R) Buddy Hannigan, Bobby Brandes & Joe Holjevac.

Looking For Something To Do At Home?

Consider searching through old photo albums, storage boxes, and even computer files for Schumacher-related artefacts. If you find any interesting photos or souvenirs, please take a digital photo in good light and share it with us through private message on Facebook or by email (info@spiritofschumacher.ca). If you can provide any additional details (people's names, dates, etc.) please do! We're always looking for story ideas for the SOS newsletter and we are in the infant stage of exploring strategies to preserve Schumacher artefacts for future generations.



Don Murphy submitted this photo of Brundy's Garage which was located at the corner of First & Birch (Fr. Costello & Battochio).

HISTORY OF A PORTRAIT

There is an interesting story, and a whole lot of history, behind the large painting of Mr. F. W. Schumacher that hangs in the main hallway of Schumacher Public School. In the early 1930s, Mr. Percy Boyce, principal of Schumacher Public School, brought to Mr. Schumacher's attention that the school children desired a visual reminder of their community's namesake and generous benefactor. In response, Mr. Schumacher commissioned a painting of himself as a gift to the school.

As reported in the April 26, 1934 edition of The Porcupine Advance newspaper, the painting was formally presented to the school community by Mr. Schumacher during an evening event on Friday, April 20th, 1934. The evening featured musical entertainment by many local performers (including

a violin solo by SPS student Fred Delewski) as well as addresses by various dignitaries including School Board Chair W. C. Arnott, Inspector of Public Schools McVittie, and Principal Boyce.

When Mr. Schumacher addressed those gathered, he said of the painting, "It is the gift of a friend to his friends, the people and the children of Schumacher". In his remarks, he also commented that in the children rested the great hope of the nation and the world, the extension of culture, and the happiness of all. Reportedly Mr. Schumacher was pleased with the school facilities, the excellence of the teaching staff, and the capabilities of the 586 students (who represented no less than 20 different nationalities) enrolled at the school.

The oil on canvas painting of F. W. Schumacher was created by noted Canadian artist Kenneth Keith Forbes (1892-1980). According to the April 26, 1934 edition of The Porcupine Advance newspaper, Forbes' painting of F. W. Schumacher is not only valuable but also "assuredly a work of art, depicting Mr. Schumacher with fidelity and insight into character". Born in Toronto, Forbes enlisted with the British Army in 1914. In 1917, after twice being wounded and then rising to the rank of Lieutenant, Forbes was commissioned by Lord Beaverbrook (Max Aitken) to paint a series of official war pictures of the front. After the war, Forbes became a well-known portrait artist. His subjects included Canadian Prime Ministers Robert Borden, R. B. Bennett, and John F. Diefenbaker as well as many other public figures such as Winston Churchill and businessmen E. P. Taylor and Harry Oakes. Forbes was recognized with the Order of Canada in 1967 for his contributions to Canada as a "landscape and portrait painter". His works are held in major collections, including the National Gallery of Canada, the Canadian War Museum and the Art Gallery of Ontario. It is the sincere hope of the Schumacher Arts Culture & Heritage Association that the significance of the F. W. Schumacher painting continue to be shared with generations of Schumacher children. (With information from <http://fineartcollector.ca/kenneth-forbes/>.)



This oil on canvas painting of F. W. Schumacher is a valuable work of art by noted Canadian painter Kenneth-Keith Forbes. In response to a request for a picture by the students of Schumacher Public School, Mr. Schumacher commissioned the painting and gifted it to the school on April 20th, 1934. It has hung in a place of honour at the school ever since. (Photo credit to Bruce Capeless.)



EDITORIAL

The world has changed since I first sat down to put this edition together. The Covid19 Pandemic has taken over the news and drastically altered our daily lives. Schools are closed, people work from home, hockey is cancelled, and Disney Parks worldwide are shut down. Since this outbreak is impacting the entire world right now, it seemed important to acknowledge it here in the SOS.

At the same time, life continues beyond and in spite of the novel corona virus. Due to commitments in his professional life, Rob Knox has resigned as the President of SACHA. The Board accepted Rob's resignation at our last meeting and we wish him well. Also at that meeting, tentative planning for SACHA sponsored community events over the coming year began. Stay tuned for details.

The SACHA Board also wishes to acknowledge both an extremely generous donation from Dr. Chris Shields and an annual donation from Alexis Price in memory of her mother, Lorraine. Thank you both for your ongoing support. We also wish to extend heartfelt sympathies to the families and friends of Tixie Hannigan (who passed away on March 17th) and Glen MacDonald (who died March 13).

Until next time, stay home & wash your hands!

Lisa Romanowski,
SOS Editor



Above: Circa 1957, an unknown friend along with Cathy (Brown) Graham and Ann (Robson) Windsor sport new Easter suits. (Submitted photo.) Below: Greetings from Lisa, Jacob, Joseph and Ben. (Drone photo taken by Ben Dunkley.)



READER MAIL

Hi! I have received and enjoyed the SACHA newsletter now for a few years. Having left Schumacher in July 1957, it's a treat to read. [Above right] is a bit of a nostalgia, a photo; so proud of our new suits, all dressed up for Easter. I'm in the centre with Ann (Robson) Windsor at right. Does anyone recognize our friend on the left? If so, please correspond through SACHA.

Love, Cathy (Brown) Graham

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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

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.

ADVERTISING

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

Good for a Giggle ...

How do you make Easter easier?
Just replace the t with an i!



**PLEASE CONSIDER
SUPPORTING THOSE
WHO SUPPORT SACHA**





UPCOMING EVENTS

In response to the Covid19 Pandemic many community events have been cancelled or postponed. Due to the current uncertainty, event information has been omitted from this issue.




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Linda and Rob Knox
Timmins, Ontario



EMBRACE WHAT WE HAVE

- Conversations will not be cancelled.
 - Relationships will not be cancelled.
 - Family will not be cancelled.
 - Love will not be cancelled.
 - Music will not be cancelled.
 - Reading will not be cancelled.
 - Self-care will not be cancelled.
 - Hope will not be cancelled.
- May we lean into the good stuff that remains.

(Credit to Jamie Tworowski & Turing Tumble via Facebook)



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