

LACKING CURB APPEAL

Overgrown shrubbery, unwelcome graffiti, derelict buildings, and road/sidewalk maintenance are concerns of Schumacher residents. Some of these issues were raised at the July 7th City of Timmins council meeting. Ward 3 Councillor, Joe Campbell, pointed out that the trash on Schumacher streets has gotten progressively worse since Vito Rubino retired and was not replaced; he then suggested that a city employee be assigned to Schumacher for the summer. This has not yet occurred; but, on July 15th, news broke that the City had entered into an agreement with The Salvage Kings to produce an episode of The History Channel show. As part of that episode, the burned-out and vacant house at 34 Fourth Avenue (photo below) will be torn down.

Removing one derelict building is a start, but so much more needs to be done to improve the curb appeal of our community. It begins with ALL residents taking pride in, and care of, their outdoor spaces. Simple things like properly disposing of garbage (including dog waste) and keeping lawns and hedges trimmed go a long way. The offer of a helping hand would likely be appreciated by neighbours who would struggle with such chores.

Regular and ongoing enforcement of the City of Timmins Property Standards By-Law is needed in Schumacher. This by-law outlines basic building and yard maintenance requirements. Section 1.8 states that "the owner of any property shall: a) repair and maintain the property in accordance with the standards set out in this By-law, or b) remove or demolish the whole or the offending part of any property that is not in accordance with the standards". Details of By-Law No. 2007-6489 are online at timmins.ca/our_services/by_laws.

Unfortunately, as stated in the by-law, enforcement "will be largely generated on a complaint basis, unless any violations are obvious to the Officer". One could easily argue that there are a multitude of obvious violations on display in Schumacher, but the reality is that nothing is likely to be addressed unless formal complaints are made. This is where residents need to step up.

By-Law enforcement is handled through Service Timmins. Complaint forms can be submitted online at service.timmins.ca or phone calls can be made to 705-264-1331 between 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday to Friday. Residents should also contact Service Timmins, or use the online form, to address water/sewage and sidewalk/road concerns.

When filing a complaint, be polite but persistent. If an initial report gets no resolution, submit another or ask a neighbour to file a similar complaint. Keep a record of dates, times, and names of people with whom you correspond. If there is still no action after multiple attempts, it is likely time to loop in Councillor Campbell. He can be reached by email joe.campbell@timmins.ca or phone 705-360-2611. At the end of the day, our community can only be as good as the pride we all take in it.



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MARKING MILESTONES

As spring has changed to summer, the global coronavirus pandemic has continued to impact not just our daily lives but also how we celebrate achievements and milestones. Large gatherings are still not allowed and physical distancing measures are still required during small gatherings with people outside of one's social circle or bubble. At the same time, life continues to go on; landmark birthdays are reached and major accomplishments are realized. People around the world, and here in Schumacher, have gotten creative about how to safely celebrate life's moments. From physically distanced outdoor gatherings to outdoor graduation ceremonies, celebrations definitely look and feel different this year; however, in some ways they are even more memorable because of the unique circumstances that surround them.

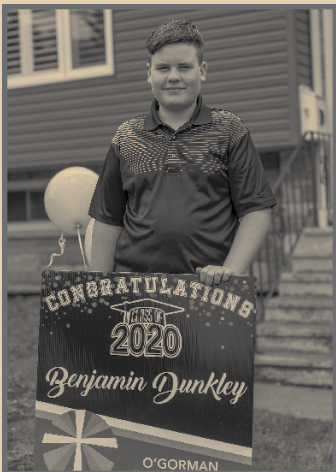


Above: Diane Dwyer (centre) celebrated her 80th birthday on July 6th with siblings Ed Pupich, Robin St. Aubin, Marilyn McAlpine and Vera Romanowski. Top Right: Mary Gvozdanovic turned 80 at the end of June and proudly displayed her Canadian pride on July 1st. (Photos by Lisa Romanowski.) Right: Kayla Cyr has completed her 5 year residency in orthopaedic surgery in St. John's, Newfoundland and is now in Edmonton completing a one year trauma fellowship. Kayla grew up in Schumacher; she is the daughter of Richard and the late Maxine Cyr. (Photo supplied by Amy Dunn.)





Many Schumacher families celebrated graduates from the Class of 2020 in June. Above: ESCT graduate Sabrina Gadoury. Left: THVS graduate Jaeden Conley. Below: OICS graduates Benjamin Dunkley and Hunter Dunn. Bottom: OHS graduate Ava Fregonese with Principal Ted Weltz. (All photos submitted by parents or taken by Lisa Romanowski.)



Local schools took various approaches to celebrating the Class of 2020. Most included a virtual / video component in addition to an outdoor event. O’Gorman High School opted to “Bring Graduation Home” and organized driveway presentations for 70 graduates. Roland Michener hosted a tailgate graduation on their track while Timmins High held a drive-in graduation in the Sportsplex parking lot. Theriault and Renaissance opted for drive-thru graduations at each school. O’Gorman Intermediate held short outdoor celebrations for each Grade 8 class. Throughout the city, yard signs and banners were proudly displayed to announce the homes of 2020 graduates. Schumacher Alumnae scholarships, valued at \$500 each, were awarded to Ava Fregonese (OHS), Jaeden Conley (THVS), Jasmine Harvey-Poitier (RMSS) and Damian Johnson (EPR).

IN MEMORIAM

The Schumacher community has lost a number of well-known current and former residents over the past few months. A Schumacher boy through and through, **Darrell MacGregor** had a true passion for hockey and was an advocate for individuals with special needs. A lifelong educator, Darrell took great pride in community building and teaching young children. He passed away on May 9 at age 69 after a brief battle with cancer. Born in Italy, **Peter Gazzola** was a talented baseball and hockey player who began a 33-year career in education as a math teacher at Schumacher High School. He died on May 10 at age 86 after a lengthy battle with cancer. **Frank Sebalj** had a passion for Croatian heritage and live music. He was a devout member of the Croatian Hall and a proud member of the Henry Kelneck Orchestra and the George Nikoruk Band. He passed away on June 28 at age 87. **Butch Buchar** was a wordly man who never lost sight of his Schumacher roots. He passed away on June 5 at age 74. **Connie Videto** lived in Schumacher for 36 years and was a founding member of the local SPCA. She died on July 8 at age 81. Although he moved away, Schumacher remained home to **Lenky Mangotich** who died on June 29. While Covid19 has prevented large celebrations of life from taking place, the families of these individuals are in our thoughts and prayers.



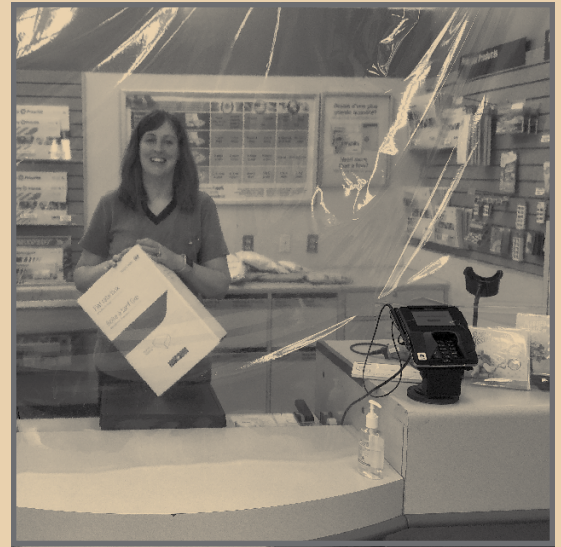
OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The economic impacts of the Spring 2020 lockdown measures triggered by the novel coronavirus pandemic will be felt for years to come. Most of Ontario (including the Porcupine Health Unit region) moved into Phase 3 of reopening on July 17. After four months, almost all businesses (including indoor restaurants, bars, and gyms) have the greenlight to welcome patrons back. That said, public safety measures such as physical distancing, frequent hand-washing, and staying home when ill remain in place. Also, effective July 23, face coverings are mandatory at indoor public spaces within the Porcupine Health Unit region.

The Canada Post Office, McIntyre Coffee Shop, Northern Windows & Doors, and Dapper Dog are four examples of Schumacher businesses that have risen to the challenges posed by the global health crisis. With true northern grit and determination, the owners and leaders of these establishments have taken important steps to keep their businesses running while prioritizing employee and customer health and safety.

The **Schumacher Post Office** has always been a community gathering place. It also handles a relatively large amount of mail for its size. Early on during the lockdown phase, Post Mistress Linette MacDonald took steps to ensure the health and safety of workers and residents. She had a large plastic barrier installed across the counter and she instituted the practice of sanitizing surfaces between each use. What has not changed, however, is a smiling face behind the counter when you stop in to pick up a parcel or purchase a stamp.

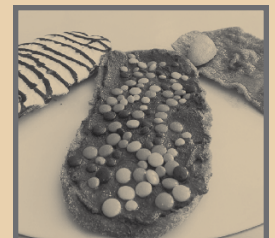
Michael and Judy Duciaume of **The McIntyre Coffee Shop** are committed to doing their part to ensure that a second wave of cases does not force another shutdown in Timmins. With outdoor food service permitted during Phase 2 of reopening in June, the Say "Cheese!" Poutinerie food trailer took up permanent residence outside the McIntyre Arena. It operates from 11:30 AM to 8:00 PM, seven days a week. Food trailer staff wear masks and frequently sanitize all surfaces. Customers are asked to maintain physical distance in line, and outside tables are spaced well over 6 ft apart. The Poutinerie offers home-made restaurant food, fresh squeezed lemonade and a tasty new dessert, "Snowshoes".



Lise (Lisa) Lauzon greets everyone with a friendly smile from behind the plastic barrier installed at the counter in the Schumacher Post Office.



Visit the "Say Cheese" Poutinerie for McIntyre comfort food, fresh lemonade and a tasty new treat: Snowshoes! Seating is well-spaced and plentiful. (Supplied photos.)





Dapper Dog owner and groomer Ashley Raine poses with a canine pal at her shop on Fourth Avenue in Schumacher (pictured below). (Supplied photos.)



Northern Windows & Doors on Father Costello Drive is taking precautions to ensure the health and safety of clients and employees. (Supplied photo.)

The coffee shop re-opened on Wednesday, July 22 and operates from 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM, seven days a week. More than half the tables have been removed for physical distancing measures. Customers are asked to sanitize their hands when entering the restaurant and to wear masks if they are capable of doing so. All employees wear masks at all times, and surfaces are sanitized after each use. For the time being, condiments will be offered in single use packets. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/mcintyrecoffeeshop.

Dapper Dog, located at 104 Fourth Avenue, opened its doors in October 2018. Owner and groomer Ashley Raine worked hard to turn the charming family home she grew up in into an operable business. She strives to provide a calm and quiet grooming environment and offers services including bathing and breed specific cuts for both dogs and cats. A nail trimming night is held once a month in addition to daily scheduled appointments from Monday to Friday.

When the pandemic forced Dapper Dog to close its doors in March, contactless drop off of brushes, nail clippers and shampoo was offered to help owners keep their pets maintained. Grooming services were permitted to resume during Phase 1 of reopening in May with new protocols and procedures. A big change is that owners can no longer enter Dapper Dog. All pets are dropped off and picked up curbside. All appointments now begin with a bath to reduce any risk of Covid19 transfer. Appointment times have also been stretched to ensure there is no overlap and to allow sufficient sanitizing time.

Ashley is only too aware of the stresses that the pandemic has put on small businesses including having to shut your doors for an unknown length of time, implementing new safety precautions, and absorbing the unexpected costs of additional cleaning supplies. She is grateful to have wonderful clients that are accommodating and understanding. You can reach Dapper Dog at 705-365-0059 or find them on Facebook: www.facebook.com/dapperdogtimmins.

Northern Windows & Doors owners Mark and José Duquette have responded to Covid19 by developing policies for the showroom and job sites. General public health guidelines such as maintaining physical distance, hand hygiene, frequent cleaning, and avoiding the sharing of materials are key aspects. Masks are worn when visiting indoor job sites and clients are encouraged to make payments by eTransfer or by credit card over the phone at this time.

Anyone visiting the showroom at 88 Father Costello Drive is required to sanitize their hands or wear gloves upon entering. The PHU mandatory mask guidelines are also being followed. If needed, clients can purchase a mask for \$5 with all proceeds going to the Costello Community Care Centre / Timmins Food Bank. The showroom is open Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. For more information, call 705-268-2111, visit www.northernwindows.ca or connect on Facebook: www.facebook.com/northernwindowsanddoors.

Local businesses are generous supporters of community events, charitable organizations, and sports teams. Now, more than ever, they stand to benefit from residents returning the favour. Please shop local and adhere to safety guidelines that are in place.



EDITORIAL

When you're stuck at home and a walk around the neighbourhood becomes an outing to look forward to, you start to notice details that would otherwise be overlooked. Unfortunately, what I've noticed lately is the disrepair on abundant display throughout Schumacher. It really is unfortunate, because there are still plenty of people in this community who take pride in their homes and do what they can to keep their property well-maintained. We will need to work together if we want to improve the overall ambience of our streets.

The Covid19 pandemic continues to impact all of our lives, but there have been some positive spin-offs as well. Emergency teaching online was not fun, but I did discover some new resources that I will continue to use in the future. Graduation ceremonies were cancelled, but the celebrations that did take place were unique and meaningful. Rather than lamenting their losses, local businesses are doing what it takes to move forward. Perhaps most importantly, we've found ways to show our support for one another when we cannot be together, proving that what divides us really does pale in comparison to what unites us.

Until next time, wear a mask and maintain 6 ft!

Lisa Romanowski,
SOS Editor

SACHA SEEKING LOCAL VOLUNTEERS

There is a growing need to preserve artefacts of significance to the community of Schumacher. As our community elders dwindle in number, important documents and artefacts are being lost.

SACHA plans to conduct an assessment of existing items, take steps to ensure they are preserved/acquired, and eventually curate digital and community displays.

Assistance from local volunteers is imperative to the project's success. If you are interested in helping to preserve Schumacher's storied history, please email info@spiritofschumacher.ca for more details.



Without a doubt, helping to plan and deliver O'Gorman High School's "Bringing Graduation Home" celebrations was an unexpected 2020 highlight. We visited 70 graduates over 5 days and faced all kinds of weather from blazing sunshine to extreme downpours. It was an amazing experience. (Photo by Lea Luxton.)

SACHA NOW ACCEPTS ETRANSFERS

Annual SACHA support payments can now be made by eTransfer. Use the email address schumachergirl@gmail.com.

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Kathy Vukobratich
Vera Romanowski
Lisa Romanowski

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General SACHA Inquiries:

info@spiritofschumacher.ca

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.

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

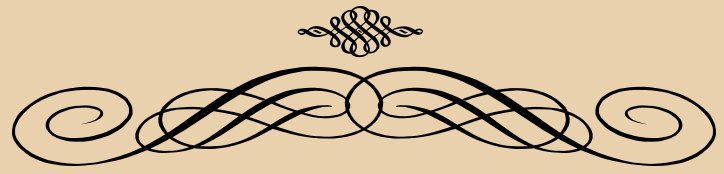
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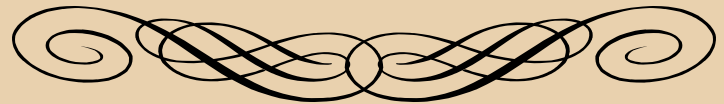
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UPCOMING EVENTS

PJ Productions in partnership with SACHA
will be presenting the
2020 Summer Concert Series
Monday to Friday at 7 PM
from August 3 to 28, 2020

Due to the pandemic, it will be a virtual event this year. Performances will be livestreamed from InSession at the former JJs Ranch in Schumacher. Viewers can watch online at tunehub.ca. The schedule is still being finalized. For more info, visit *Timmins Concert Series* on Facebook.



**In Memory of My Grandparents,
Impi and Charles Kanerva**

Some older readers of the SOS may remember my grandfather as the custodian at Schumacher Public School; he retired in the early 1950s. In 1939, he took Principal Percy Boyce and a small group of boys including the late Lou Battochio to his cottage on Barber's Bay now known as Racicot Road. They fished, picked berries, cleared brush, and sampled my grandmother's wonderful cooking. This was the start of Camp Bickell as we now know it. Following his retirement, Charlie became the crossing guard at First & Pine (now Father Costello & Grant). If anyone has any photos or stories about my grandparents to share, I would very much enjoy hearing from you.

Garfield (Gar) Bowker



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You can also send an eTransfer to **schumachergirl@gmail.com.**

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