

# SCHUMACHER SCHUMACHER





A Community Newsletter to Connect the **Past, Present and Future** 



**CELEBRATING 111 YEARS** 

MARCH 1, 1912 TO 2023

SCHUMACHER, ONTARIO



# **SPREADING PEACE**





(Continues on p2.)

The second installment of peace poles at the Schumacher International Peace Park within McIntyre Park was celebrated on Saturday, July 29, 2023. About a hundred people were on hand as poles for Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Greece, the Ivory Coast, Nepal, the Netherlands, Nigeria, South Africa and Trinidad & Tobago were unveiled. National flags were also purchased to fly beside each peace pole, including the original poles representing Africa, Austria, China, the Cree people, Croatia, Ecuador, the English community, the Francophone community, Germany, India, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Mongolia, the Ojibwe people, the Philippines, Romania, Scotland and the Ukraine. In stark contrast to the heavy rain that brought the original dedication in 2021 to a hasty conclusion, this year's event boasted beautiful

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SACH'A Supporters

weather throughout the afternoon.

# 505

# COMMUNITY EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

The Peace Pole Project is promoted by the World Peace Prayer Society. Conceived in 1955 by Masahisa Goi of Japan, a Peace Pole is a monument that displays the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in the language(s) of the country where it has been placed. The first Peace Poles outside of Japan were constructed in 1983. Since then, more than 200 000 have been placed around the world in close to 200 countries. The creation of the Schumacher International Peace Park was a collaboration of SACHA, the Schumacher Lions Club and the Timmins Multicultural Centre, with the support of the City of Timmins and Newmont Porcupine. Gratitude is extended to: Little John Enterprises who donated all of the peace poles; the Porcupine Art Club (including Michelle Brazeau, Cathy Cribbs and Ted O'Connor) and local artists Justice Sutherland and Sara Thompson for their willingness to assist the cultural groups with the pole decoration process; the Filipino Association in Timmins under the direction of Estela Chow for installing the heart backdrop and maintaining the peace park flower garden; and to the members of the Schumacher Lions Club under the leadership of Jim Nault who work tirelessly to install the poles and maintain the grounds.

The event started with a parade from the Schumacher Lions Club pavilion to the Peace Park led by Marnie Lapierre (President, Timmins Multicultural Society), Ifeoma Kasimanwuna (Coordinator, Timmins Local Immigration Partnership) and Michelle Boileau (Mayor of the

City of Timmins). Schumacher Lions Club member Mark West served as Master of Ceremonies for the afternoon. Everard Kasimanwung led a moment of silence for those who have lost their lives in the floods on the East Coast, the wildfires on the West Coast, and through needless war worldwide. He also gave the traditional land acknowledgement. The Silver Fox ladies (Samantha St. Pierre and Faye Naveau) performed an Honour Song and elder Lawrence Naveau spoke a few words and said a prayer for peace. Agnes Okonmah sang a beautiful acapella version of Let There Be Peace on Earth. Prior to the official ribbon cutting and pole unveiling, greetings and messages of peace and hope were shared by Timmins MPP George Pirie, Mayor Michelle Boileau, and Ward 3 Councillor Bill Gvozdanovic. To cap off the afternoon, complementary refreshments and entertainment were provided at the Lions Club Pavilion.

The Peace Park is located a short walk down the gravel path from the Schumacher Lions Club Pavilion and Porcupine Miners Memorial. It is a place where one can reflect on the diversity that has always been woven into the fabric of the City of Timmins. If you have not yet done so, be sure to fit a visit into your plans. A third installment of poles is planned for 2024. If you are a member of a cultural group who is interested in creating and maintaining a peace pole in the Schumacher International Peace Park, please contact Ifeoma by email at IfeomaKasimanwuna@timminsmulticultural.ca or by phone at 705-221-8622.







# **MUSIC IN THE PARK**





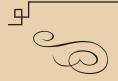
The Schumacher Lions Club Summer Concert Series returned to the Lions Club Pavilion in McIntyre Park for a second season. The Lapointe Family was set to kick things off on June 13, but the weather did not cooperate. Wayne & Rose got things started on June 20, The Shaftmen (pictured above) performed July 4, followed by ColdWater on July 17, The Wednesday Nighters on August 1, and Estelle & John on August 15. The final show, a double-header featuring Wayne & Rose and ColdWater, is set for August 22. SACHA is proud to have been a returning sponsor of this community event. (Photo by Lisa Romanowski.)





After a three-year, pandemic-induced hiatus, the Schumacher Lions Club's Sportsman Show made a triumphant return for its 75th engagement at The Mac on April 29 & 30, 2023. It's the club's major fundraiser and organizers were thrilled with the turnout and support. (Photo by Ben Dunkley.)

# IN THE SPOTLICHT



# **U18 ROCKS THE HOUSE**



According to McIntyre Curling Club history, the presence of curling in the Porcupine Camp dates back to 1926 when the Timmins Curling Club opened its doors. The Timmins club operated until the building was taken over by the Department of National Defense in 1940 and became known as the Timmins Armories. Curling officially arrived in Schumacher in 1938, where games were initially played on the ice surface of the newly built McIntyre Arena. Advocates of the game successfully campaigned to convince McIntyre Mine Manager and Vice President, Mr. RJ Ennis, that a curling club needed to be included in the proposed expansion of the McIntyre complex.

Construction of the expansion (which included the bowling alley, restaurant, gymnasium and curling club) began in 1939 and was ready for the official opening of the McIntyre Community Building that December. They may not have had our modern tools and technology back then, but that didn't stop them from getting things done. The curling stones, shipped overseas from Scotland, were for a time presumed lost at sea with the downed SS Athenia. (The ocean liner had departed Liverpool for Montreal on September 2, 1939. On

September 3, just hours after the full declaration of World War II, it became the first ship torpedoed by a German U-boat.) Fortunately, the rocks were on another ship and were delivered the morning of the grand opening - just in time for the first rock to be delivered by Mr. JP Bickell, President of the McIntyre Mine and honorary president of the curling club.

Over the years, the McIntyre Curling Club has sent various teams to provincial and national events and hosted successful national titles including the 1972 Junior Canadian Curling Championship and the 1982 Seagram's National Mixed Championship. The 2022-2023 season proved to be a very exciting one for the Club's U18 Team Chilton. Under the guidance of Coach Steve Meunier, the team of talented and dedicated curlers (Skip Deanna Chilton, Third Natalie Graham, Second Leanna Delich and Lead Kendall Chilton) established themselves as a presence in youth competitive curling in their first season together. Team Chilton placed third in the U18 Northern Ontario Championship, narrowly missing the opportunity to qualify for the U18 Canadian Championship that took place on their home ice at The Mac in February 2023.





Left: Curling at the McIntyre Arena in 1938 (Ted Vail Collection). Above (L to R): Team Chilton - Lead Kendall Chilton, Second Leanna Delich, Coach Steve Meunier, Third Natalie Graham & Skip Deanna Chilton (McIntyre Curling Club Facebook page.)





Even though they weren't officially competing at Nationals, Team Chilton had some awesome experiences, including the chance to meet young curlers from across the country. Two other highlights were experiencing rink curling and throwing rocks with Olympic and World Curling Champion, Brad Gushue. As you may be aware, the McIntyre Curling Club features only 6 sheets of ice. To accommodate the number of teams competing at the U18 Championship, the Club went back to its roots and reconfigured the arena surface into an additional 5 sheets. Team Chilton was eager to experience arena curling and Coach Meunier arranged for the girls to throw some rocks after the scheduled games on February 7. Professional curler Brad Gushue (in town in the official capacity of "curling dad" to support his daughter, Hayley, a member of Team Newfoundland) happened to be practicing on the adjacent sheet. Brad generously offered to play an end of 4-on-1 with the girls. The girls readily accepted (and silently freaked out) as they knew it was an amazing opportunity to play against, and receive tips from, a curler they idolize.

On February 8, lifelong Schumacher resident Leanna Delich (a third-generation curler who got started at age five), unexpectedly got some official nationals icetime. Leanna was on her way to school when she got a call asking her to fill in as the lead for Northern Ontario's Team Toner. Leanna excitedly agreed and within half an hour was at the pre-game practice at the Mac. Playing in a U18 Nationals game and representing Team Northern Ontario in her hometown was a dream come true for Leanna. It was also fitting to assist a team that Team Chilton had trained with last summer and recently faced at the Northern Ontario Championship. In Leanna's words, "It was pretty amazing!"

Team Northern Ontario I Coach, Lee Toner, commented that it can be tricky to bring in a new person to a team in the middle of a big event, but he went on to say "[Leanna] came in and she was a bit of a spark, a smiling face at a time when we didn't have a whole lot to smile about." And Leanna's coach could not have been more proud of his curler. "Seeing her go out there at a moment's notice and perform with the Toner team and play as well as she did under that pressure, on TV, being micced up with a microphone and just executing the shots that she did. As a coach, it makes me feel wonderful because everything that we try to impart on these young curlers, she was able to use today. She used every tool in her toolbox and she did outstanding. She fit in like she was on that team," said Meunier to Timmins Today reporter Maija Hoggett. Leanna was asked to be ready to spare in if needed for the next three games, but fortunately the members of Team Toner rallied.

Unexpected opportunities and behind-thescenes experiences speak to the broad scope of hosting a national championship. Congratulations and appreciation are extended to Steve Meunier (McIntyre Curling Club President), his staff and volunteers for their dedication to ensuring the success of the 2023 U18 Canadian Championship. It was an event three years in the making, twice postponed due to the pandemic, and completely worth the wait. For the record, Alberta swept the Championship taking home gold in both the men's (Team Davies) and ladies' (Team Plett) divisions.

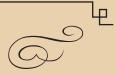
Team Chilton is already working towards their 2023-2024 goal of making it to the U18 Nationals. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of the team, please reach out to Steve Meunier via email at curlermeunier@gmail.com.



# PIECES OF HISTORY



# **SHS PANORAMA**



Zora (Maletich) Chenier is the proud owner of a 22.5" by 4.5" print of this photo featuring approximately 150 Schumacher High School students. It was taken during the 1951-1952 school year. Names are not matched to faces in the photo (though if you look closely you can see arrowheads above Zora and her brother George), but Zora was able to provide the following information:

Principal: Mr. Warren B. Sparks

Secretary: Mrs. Rose (Brklecic) Sekulich

Teachers: Miss Boa, Mrs. Rose, Mr. Theodore,

Miss O'Grady, Mr. Washer, Mr. Lillie

Students: Nilma (Flora) Gazzola, Annie (Cepuran) Krznaric, John Krznaric, Mary (Grsic) Cox, Anne (Delich) Ross, Pat (Tomlinson) Barton, Sandra Tomney, Mary (Innarellli) Flora, Pat (Wong) MacLachlan, George Stefanic, George Maletich, Betty (Stefanic) Lebrecque, Norma (Tarr) Delich, George Delich, Eileen (Lampkin) Mousley, Delmar Lampkin, Mary (Herak) Rumleski, Dorothy (Rowe) Hopkins, Zora (Maletich) Chenier, Mary Sparks, Shirley Sparks, Margaret (McGee) Inskip, Bronco Sebalj, Murray Radske, Hugh Marshall, Don Dybk, Leo Devon.

The photo was taken by E.J. Powell, a photographer from Cayuga, ON. A quick Google search turns up similar panoramic photos from various Ontario high schools starting from 1926-27 and continuing through the early 1950s.

Although the photo has been printed as large as possible here in the newsletter, it is still small to pick out details. SOS readers should visit SACHA's website (www.spiritofschumacher.ca) or Facebook page to access a higher quality digital photo that they can zoom in on. For historical archiving purposes, it would be awesome to add names to the faces in this photo. Please get in touch if you recognize anyone, or even if you just know of someone who attended SHS in 1951-52. We would also love any info about the dog in the photo!

For those not previously aware, a high school opened in Schumacher during the 1934-35 school year on the site of the current District School Board Ontario North East office on Croatia Avenue. Its mascot was the Spartan and the school colours were black, white and gold. When SHS closed at the end of the 1967-68 school year, students were sent to Roland Michener Secondary School.





A panoramic photo of the Schumacher High School student body during the 1951-52 school year. From the late 1920s, Cayuga, ON photographer EJ Powell took similar photos at many Ontario high schools. (Photo courtesy of Zora Chenier.)

# The existing Sebumashar Mine Headframe became Hellinger

The original Schumacher Mine Headframe became Hollinger Consolidated #19 Shaft. This 1929 photos is courtesy of Ted Vail via the Schumacher Historical Society Facebook page.



This 50s photo shows #19 Shaft located just across the street from the Schumacher Fire Hall (Dennis Sebalj Collection).



This view of #19 Shaft was taken looking west from Schumacher Public School sometime in the 1960s (Mackeno Collection).

## **READER MAIL**

Thank you for the latest edition of the SACHA newsletter. My heart sings when I get a letter or brown envelope from home. I really enjoyed reading it from cover to cover.

Thank you so much for the charming red SOS shopping bag. I'll have to memorize the folds to get it to fit in. (I went to university, so I should be able to figure it out.)

Gloria Ann Easton

Many thanks for the shopping tote. Such a novel idea and awesome keepsake.

Liz & Wayne Shippam

Thank you so much for the "Spirit of Schumacher' shopping bag and newsletter that brought happiness of the town. It was nice to see that common smile of yours, George (Steff).

You [SACHA & the Croatian Society: Schumacher] have brought hope and happiness to Schumacherites at home and abroad. God bless you all and please keep up the faith, hope and light of Schumacher.

John Perkovich

PS My, my ... that's an impressive skating rink.

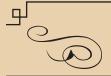


If you can identify anyone in this EJ Powell photo of the Schumacher High School 1951-52 student body (shared by Zora Chenier), please get in touch with us. A zoomable digital version is available on our website (www.spiritofschumacher.ca).

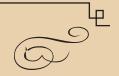




# NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS



# SAD STATE OF STATUES



Spring 2023 was not kind to some of our most cherished Schumacher monuments. In late March, the statue of NHLer turned priest, Father Les Costello, was found broken into several piece at the McIntyre Arena. Then, in an unrelated incident on May 5, the Laham's Hill statues and monument were vandalized. If there is a silver lining to these unfortunate events, it's that in both cases steps were quickly taken to right the wrongs and put things back in order.

It's not clear what or who caused the damage to the statue of Father Les that was on display in the entrance showcase at The Mac. The statue was in the care of the Timmins Sports Heritage Hall of Fame and the TSHHF Board quickly decided to focus on getting the statue repaired or replaced instead of looking to place blame. Thanks to some local connections to the Toronto Maple Leafs Alumni Association, a new statue of Father Les will be crafted in the coming months. The story behind the original statue is one that loyal Spirit of Schumacher readers will appreciate and we look forward to sharing it with you in the next issue. (There are some pertinent details to confirm and some photos to obtain.)

Arrangements have been made to replace the broken statue of Father Costello at The Mac. (Photo courtesy of TSHHF.)

In the case of the Laham's Hill vandalism, several young offenders decided to cover the bronze and copper statues of Sandy McIntyre and FW Schumacher in silver paint. The headframe monument was also defaced with profanity. A passerby reported the crime in action and the Timmins Police Service charged two female young offenders with mischief to property.





It cost the City of Timmins Facilities & Recreation Department \$10 000 to have the statues repaired by an art restoration contractor. After multiple applications of graffiti remover, removal of the graffiti by hand, pressure washes, handwashing, detailing, and applying new patina, the pieces have been restored. Unfortunately, the vandalism caused some permanent damage to the metalwork. The statues were commissioned in 1989 from artists Sally Lawrence and Rob Moir as part of the Schumacher Revitalization Project.





**SPRING & SUMMER 2023** 

## **COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP**

Accompanied by Billy G Ward 3, Chris and Matt Exel spent an afternoon in early May filling several bags with trash as they cleaned up various areas in Schumacher. The streets, sidewalks, and parking lots are noticeably cleaner thanks to their efforts. Great work guys! (Photo courtesy of Karen Excel.)

## PICKLEBALL Y'ALL



Pickleball is a game similar to tennis that sees participants use paddles to lobby a perforated ball back and forth over a net. The game has been gaining popularity worldwide with the craze reaching our area several years ago. Until recently, games were limited to outdoor courts, but now local enthusiasts also have an indoor option. With the ice out for the summer, the McIntyre Curling Club agreed to install six pickeball courts, two of which double as badminton courts. The response has been favourable and the hours of availability have increased to accommodate the demand. For schedules and more info, visit curlthemac.ca. (Photo from McIntyre Curling Club Facebook page.)

## **SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED**



Schumacher Alumnae scholarships were awarded to O'Gorman High School's Tanika-Lynn Dube (pictured with OHS Principal Ted Weltz) and Ecole Secondaire Catholique Theriault's Isabella MacPhail. These long-time Schumacher residents were selected by their high schools based on their academic achievements and extracurricular involvement. (Photo by Lisa Romanowski)

## DISCO NIGHT AT THE HALL



With \$5 drinks at the bar and retro music provided by DJ Slow Josh, folks got their groove on at the Croatian Hall on Saturday, August 19, 2023. The 19+ event featured prizes for the best disco-themed attire. Proceeds from the event will be used to continue the renovation projects and help with ongoing maintenance at The Hall. (Photo courtesy of Jasmine Chenier.)



From a national curling championship to the return of the Schumacher Summer Concert Series, it's been busy in Schumacher this year. We hope you have enjoyed our SOS coverage of local events.

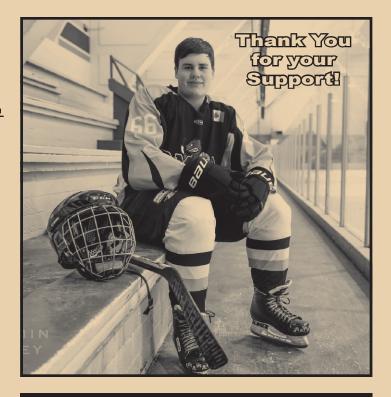
Please accept my apologies for the extreme delay in getting this issue of the Spirit of Schumacher newsletter out to all of you. Between sourcing content, writing articles, and creating the actual page designs, it takes many hours to produce each edition. Long story short, it's been a challenge to find those hours these past several months. Although I hate to disappoint our loyal SOS supporters, I'm only going to get one more issue out before the end of 2023. It'll be a good one though!

Now, more than ever, SOS readers are asked to contribute stories and photos for publication consideration. SACHA is happy to promote upcoming family-friendly local events, celebrate the accomplishments of folks with ties to the community, report on neighbourhood news, and of course share stories about the impressive history of Schumacher. If you don't consider yourself a writer, but have a story to share, simply reach out to me at schumachergirl@gmail.com and we will figure things out.

Until next time, take care of yourselves!

Lisa Romanowski,

SOS Editor



Due to the one-sided termination of a decades-old gentlemen's agreement regarding freedom of movement amongst local house league players, the Schumacher Day Minor Hockey Association was forced to go on hiatus for the 2022-2023 Season. Schumacher resident Ben Dunkley opted to play for the U18 Porcupine Thunder and SACHA was proud to sponsor his PMHA team. Fortunately, after years of debate, a motion for Freedom of Movement at all levels of hockey was passed during the Spring 2023 Annual General Meeting of the Northern Ontario Hockey Association. Locally, this means playing for SDMHA, PMHA or TMHA no longer depends on where a player lives or the willingness of their "home association" to provide a release. The NOHA decision reopened the door for youth hockey to return to Schumacher. SDMHA is actively seeking coaching staff for the upcoming season and player registration is open. Please visit schumacherday.com or email schumacherday@gmail.com for more information. (Photo credit to KPix Photography.)

## SACHA ACCEPTS ETRANSFERS

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

## SACHA DIRECTORS

Lloyd Salomone Kathy Vukobratic Vera Romanowski Lisa Romanowski Rene Dunkley (Webmaster)

## **ADVERTISING**

Business ads are \$70/year. Contact us for more information.

#### **SOS Newsletter Inquiries**

schumachergirl@gmail.com PO Box 13, Schumacher, ON, PON 1G0

#### **General SACHA Inquiries:**

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### Good for a Giggle ...

What's the king of school supplies?
The ruler of course!

## **SOS NEWSLETTER**

The not-for-profit Schumacher Arts, Culture & Heritage Association publishes the SOS newsletter three times a year in the spring, summer and fall/winter.

For newsletter inquiries email: spiritofschumacher@gmail.com

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.



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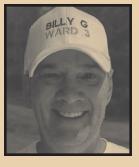
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## **COUNCILLOR'S CORNER**



It sure is nice to be back at the table representing the residents of Ward 3. An update on what I have been doing:

1. Many properties have been cleaned through my work with the By-Law department and the Service Timmins portal.

2. We are finally getting some road work done in the Ward; this includes improvements to Vipond Road, Father Costello Drive, Goldmine Road and Delnite Road. I am working to get the section of Croatia Avenue coming into Gold Centre done before this winter as it sinks down and needs to be fixed.

3. Security and safety is the most important issue I am working on. I am working with By-Law and the police to keep abandoned buildings free of squatters. Any encampments I see anywhere in the City I have them taken down. More police to patrol at night is another goal. We need to call the police if we see something that is of danger to the community.

I am a very hands on elected official. I am out and about in the Ward speaking with residents and reporting anything that is not in our best interest.











Mark & Judith (Colbert) Barkel Cecile Battochio Santo Battochio Beverly Beaven Ann (Śtark) & Brian Bell Garfield Bowker Caroll & Merle Brownrigg Conny Budarick Mary Lou Cameron Barb & Joe Campbell Pierrette Campsall Jasmine Chenier Mark & Sue Chenier Rolly & Zora Chenier Joanna & Gord Conley Micky & Darlene Cyr Marty & Sherry-Lyn Delich Bonnie & Dale Dirkson Jennifer & René Dunkley Linda & Terry Dunn Deborah & Guy Dupuis Mark & José Dúquette Diane Dwyer Connie Fournier-Nelson Bill & Peggy Frankovich Claudette Fregonese Marcel Gautreau Nilma (Flora) Gazzola Linda Ġuacci Billy Gvozdanovic David Hamilton John & Kay (Dutchie) Hamilton Dave Harbar Bernice Harper Don & Joanne Hartling Jack & Ruth Hartling
Milly (Verbik) Hilgendorf
Dorothy (Rowe) & Tupper Hopkins Patricia (Thompson) Hoy Margaret (McĠee) İnskip

Dave Jenkin

Florence Kelly Maureen & Mike+ Kelly Linda (Salomone) Killingbeck John Kivioja Shirley Knox Natalie Komadina Tom Lauahren Lise Lauzon Kenn & Sandra Lessard Laurie & Roy Lindsay Nik & Sandra LoRegio Carter Lucyk & Laura Morgan Allan MacDonald Anne MacDonald Linette MacDonald Donna (Salomone) MacElwee Patricia (Wong) MacLachlan Jeannette (Pustina) Mairs Carmen Marchiori Paul & Wendy (Barkel) Martell Clayton & Marilyn McAlpine Bill & Gil McCallum Joyce McFarlane Shirley McGarry Mary (Gornick) McGrath Barry & Marilyn McInnis Louise McInnis Geoff & Liza McKay Jack McLaughlin Sheila (Moran) McLellan Gerry McNair Nancy A. McNeil Louisé Menard Nancy Monaghan Linda (Luketich) Mortson Pauline Murray Melissa & Kevin Narduzzi Marje (Wharton) Payne John Perkovich Tom & Donna Perron Tyler Pilon

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Ruth & Wally Wiwchar

Eileen & Ted Zajac

Gloria (Stimac) Zagrodnik

+ Deceased

Thank you to Alexis Price for the generous donation in memory of her mom, Lorraine.

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