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From the Editor

Three years - 36 magazine issues. Wow, the time has flown by. You may have noticed the cover of this magazine showcases the covers of all of our issues to date. We are incredibly grateful to be able to publish Wayzata Together each month in the town where we grew up.

There's just two of us (graphic designer Marly and me) - we handle the editorial, graphics, layout, photography, marketing, sales, distribution, etc. It's a lot of work, but it's so rewarding. A true labor of love.

We really hope you enjoy this month's magazine. And please share it with someone you know who might appreciate it.

Have a great May folks!

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"Wayzata Together Magazine is truly a community asset. It provides an opportunity to learn what is happening in Wayzata while also giving little known fascinating history of people and places." ~ Wayzata resident Dan Goldman

We don't charge for our physical publication or our digital magazine. We don't have a paywall on our website. Unlike many news organizations, we made the choice to keep our content open for all, regardless where they live or what they can afford to pay. Without our advertisers partnerships there would not be a Wayzata Together Magazine. We have advertisers who have been with us from the very beginning and we continue to add advertisers each month. Please consider using their services!

If you believe in what we do, and enjoy our magazine, please think about investing in our publication. Not everyone has the means to give, but if you can do it, we would appreciate it. Every reader's contribution, however big or small, is so valuable.

Please continue to enjoy our magazine for free. If you're able to assist by spreading the word and/or donating ... Thank you!



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Mullin Family: Walker, Kristyn, Paige, and Andrew.

Andrew Mullin: Commitment To Community

Wayzata resident Andrew Mullin moved to the community nearly 30 years ago. His wife Kristyn is a healthcare executive. Meanwhile, son Walker, a graduate of Clemson University is living and working in Chicago. Daughter Paige is a pre-med student at the University of Miami.

“Wayzata is an amazing community and for a town of its size to use a boxing analogy, Wayzata punches above its weight,” said Mullin. “I am continually amazed by the generosity of folks. It is a small town where you can get to know your neighbors, the local business owners, many of whom live in town, your local police officer or firefighter by name.”

To say he's involved in the community is a massive understatement.

“Public service is my blood. My grandfather Gerald T Mullin served in the MN Legislature for 28 years and was a Trustee at St. Thomas College. He set the bar high for my family. My father Jim Mullin was a well known philanthropy leader here in the Twin cities and he instilled in me the values around public service and giving back.”

He was elected to the Wayzata city council in 2008 and re-elected again in 2012. Mullin was the founding member of the Wayzata Conservancy, a non-profit that advocates and raises money for the creation of public space along Lake Minnetonka. He led the fundraising and implementation of the Wayzata 9/11 Memorial on Lake Street honoring Wayzata native Gordon Aamo Jr who died in the north tower of the World Trade Center.

Mullin made headlines recently when he threw his hat in the ring for the mayor's seat.

"I think the citizens of Wayzata are a bit worn out from all the change in town the last 10 years (development, infrastructure disruptions etc) or so and want the City to focus on improving how the City operates for the benefit of its Citizens a desire to get back to the basics of City Government," said Mullin. "The current administration in my view is too inward facing; we need to bring back the public into public service." Mullin is proud to have been a part of a number of community initiatives including enhancing public and community spaces.

So, what is something residents may not know about Mullin?

"I am a huge fan of documentary films, especially history," said Mullin. "If I could go back and re-chart my career I think I would have pursued a Masters in history and worked with Ken Burns telling the stories of our American History."

Mullin is getting his history fix in Wayzata with his work on preserving and repurposing one of Wayzata's oldest buildings.

"Preserving history, leading the charge with Sue Sorrentino and Judy Starkey to get the Section Foreman's House on the National Register of Historic Places and adapt the use to an education center soon to become the Sandvold Lakeshore Learning Center."

Mullin has given a lot to the Wayzata community through the years. In fact, he was named the 2020 Wayzata Citizen of the Year.

"Wayzata has been my home for nearly 30 years now, I raised my two kids here, I plan on retiring here and I want to do everything I can to preserve and protect what makes this community special with an eye towards making it even better," said Mullin.



Maintain Your Mobility

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Awards: Best of Wayzata 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023. Five Star Award.



Events

Wayzata American Legion

Weekly | Pull Tabs, Taco Tuesday, Bingo, Meat Raffle, Karaoke & More!

Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR., running til 5/19

See Schedule | Mainstage Theatre | stagestheatre.org

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical, running til 9/28

See Schedule | Chanhassen Dinner Theatres | chanhassendt.com

Canvas Convergence @ The Shops at West End, til 12/30

A pop-up 3D experiential art gallery | canvasconvergence.com

Baseball: Varsity Game vs Buffalo, 5/1

6:30 PM | Home game at Wayzata High School

For all Wayzata Athletics info/dates/times visit wayzataschools.org

2024 Gala- A Night Of Lift, 5/2

7 PM | Support Local Theatre | bluewatertheatre.com

Spring Splash, 5/4

10 AM-2 PM | Panoway | wayzata.org

Star Wars Day, 5/4

12 PM-11 PM | Boom Island Brewing | boomislandbrewing.com

LA BOHÈME, 5/4-5/19

See Schedule | Ordway Music Theater | ordway.org

Cinco de Mayo, 5/5

Orthodox Easter, 5/5

South Lake Mtka Comm. Garage Sales, 5/9-5/12

excelsiorlakeminnetonkachamber.com/community-garage-sales

Fishing Opener, 5/11

Walleye, Sauger and Northern Pike | more info: reloutdoors.com

Mother's Day, 5/12

MJ The Musical, 5/14-5/26

See Schedule | Orpheum Theatre | hennepintheatretrust.org

Rolling Stoners, 5/15

5-9 PM | Excelsior Commons Free Concert | excelsiorconcerts.com

Mean Girls JR, 5/17-5/26

See Schedule | Support Local Theatre | bluewatertheatre.com

Rough House, 5/23 (Live Music at Lord Fletcher's)

6-9 PM | Check for more bands/dates/times | lordfletchers.com

Arbor Month Celebration Event, 5/18

11:00 AM-12:00 PM | Panoway | wayzata.org

Memorial Day, 5/27



Scan the QR Code or visit tonkalifestyle.com/events
Missing something? nate@wayzatatogether.com

Fishing Report & Information:



RĒL Fishing
 Lake Minnetonka Fishing Guide
 Mound, Minnesota
 brett@reloutdoors.com
 763-228-8684

Open Water Season is Here!

Walleyes will be hanging in the shallows, channels or break-lines off shore with a sand/gravel transition. The best way to target these fish are jig and a minnow or trolling small crank baits on those break-lines.

As for crappie, they will be coming off their spawning beds so your best luck will be finding those first shallow weeds near their spawning areas. Slip bobber with live bait or small hair jig is the best way to target them.

Bass will be holding tight in the weeds (10ft or less). Plastics, top-waters and spinner baits are very effective this time of year.



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Images Courtesy The Wayzata Conservancy

At last, Wayzata's 100-year Dream Will Come True! By Peter Hitch, Executive Director, The Wayzata Conservancy

In 2011 Wayzata's Lake Street faced serious sewer, roadbed, and sidewalk issues. The city had reserved funds for the repairs, but with the future in mind, the council launched a task force to create a better use for the 18 acres of city land along the waterfront.

It dove into history and learned that for more than 150 years, the Wayzata's waterfront drew thousands to settle, work and enjoy its beauty. Among the virtues in the early 1900s was an enticing Boardwalk that captivated all who came to town.

Over time, however, residential, business, and recreational usage of this precious resource claimed the waterfront erasing the Boardwalk and eroding plant life, animal habitat and the overall health and well-being of Lake Minnetonka.

Wayzata visionaries coveted ways to bring back the Boardwalk and protect their Lake Minnetonka roots. One ambitious idea was the 1994 Lakewalk Plan led by Jerry Carisch was designed for people to enjoy lake vistas and the ambiance of the waterfront. Unfortunately, despite this history, none of these plans had come to fruition before the task force met in 2011 to solve the City's utility issues and create a new vision for the City's treasure.

After years of community conversations, including literally thousands of people, community priorities focused on the Lakewalk and access to the lake emerged to guide a Framework meant to guide growth and change within the community's vision. The Framework for the Lake Effect, now Panoway, project was born and adopted by the city council in March 2014.

Soon thereafter, the nationally-renowned urban planner, Civitas Inc., selected as the design contractor in 2015, presented preliminary design documents guided by the community's Framework vision. But the cost for the whole project could not be absorbed by city funds and other public financing alternatives.



Scan the QR Code or visit wayzataconservancy.org for more information and to donate. As a public-private partnership, philanthropy plays a critical role in our ability to create a more connected, clean and welcoming lakeshore in Wayzata.

Phase 1

So, the only choice was to divide the project into phases.

Since the utility and street issues from 2011 were priority, Phase 1 was created to replace the public parking lot with a beautiful park and plaza along Lake Street overlooking Lake Minnetonka. With a phased approach and financing in place, the city approved the design for Phase 1 in the summer of 2019. Completed in the fall of 2020, it included Broadway Plaza, enhancing safety and enjoyment of the lakeside. It offers a variety of gathering spaces under a shade pergola. Residents can gather around one of two community hearths, relax in Adirondack chairs, use the picnic tables and enjoy the scenery of the lake.

In little time, Panoway truly became the gathering place for everyone in Wayzata!

Phase 2

The Lakewalk will become the realization of over 100 years of residents longing to create a beautiful way for the community to connect with the lake. New modern, floating docks at the Depot and Broadway Ave. will replace declining community docks keeping the look and feel of historic docks built over 25 years ago. This summer the city will celebrate the repurposing of the lakefront to bring friends and family members to walk "on" the lake and to encourage people to visit and enjoy downtown Wayzata.

With Phase 2 behind it, the city is turning its attention to attaining Wayzata's ultimate vision so carefully laid out by its citizens in the 2014 Framework. Panoway's Phase 3 will help preserve Wayzata's history by restoring the Section Foreman House; offer environmental educational opportunities with the Sandvold Lakeshore learning center and ECO Park; further improve the lakeside ecosystem by restoring its lakeshore; and improve the Depot Park and gardens.

Phase 3

Built by Great Northern Railroad as the railway continued to expand in the early 20th century, the house is nestled between the tracks and Lake Minnetonka at the east end of Panoway. With input from a diverse set of community stakeholders, including the Wayzata Historical Society, the city is working to bring this recognized National Historic home back to life. The vision is a new vibrant lakefront learning center providing indoor and outdoor classrooms and gathering spaces next to the proposed Eco Park that the community will enjoy for generations to come.

After renovations are complete in 2025, this unique Learning Center will continue programming already in progress through our education partners: the YMCA (its Lake Exploration Camp), Wayzata Community Education, IOCP and the Wayzata Sailing Center.

Eco Park

In Phase 3, Panoway will also provide an inspirational and rare opportunity for hands-on education for kids, including an outdoor learning environment with the creation of an Eco Park. This new public space surrounding the historic Section Foreman house will restore lakeshore marsh and the shoreline and improve water quality. The park includes an extension of the Lakewalk as a Boardwalk circling the settling pond for Basset's Creek and opportunities to create "Living Eco-Classrooms" for STEM-based learning along the lakeshore.

Truly a 100-year dream will come true this summer, with an exciting future for the Lake Minnetonka waterfront, thanks to the vision of the entire community.



Children crossing the railroad tracks, 1910s. Pictured are the double tracks which once ran through Wayzata.

Courtesy Lake Minnetonka Historical Society

Wayzata History: Lakeshore Legacy

1883 was a pivotal year in Wayzata history. What occurred that year set the stage for some of what we enjoy today. That was the year that Wayzata was incorporated as a village. This was nearly two decades after the railroad made it to town. The railroad brought many benefits to the area, but there were still problems. See, one of the first actions the new village took was to demand that JJ Hill move the tracks. At that time, the tracks ran alongside Lake Street. The smoke, sparks, and noise of the trains was bad for local businesses.

Hill moved the tracks closer to the lake. In essence, what that did was to prevent a lot of development along the lake, especially between Broadway and Barry Avenues. There simply was no room to build between the tracks and the lake. It might not have been the intent of the villagers back in the 1800s, but by demanding that the tracks be moved, a prime piece of Lake Minnetonka shoreline is open to the public.


Over the years, the route would see double tracks which are now single. What once delivered people only delivers goods. But several trains per day pass through Wayzata every day. And when they rush by, they temporarily obscure the view of Lake Minnetonka. A view that otherwise might not be open to the public if it weren't for the railroad.

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