



**WAYZATA**  
HOME LAUNDRY AND  
DRY CLEANERS



**WAYZATA**  
**together**  
**March 2023**

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Nate & Grandma Elizabeth, late 1970s

## From The Editor

Top O' The Month To Ya!

Happy March folks ... and soon, happy St. Patrick's Day.

We really go green in this issue.

There's a profile on a fine Irish family that has been serving the community for decades.

We also feature the history of the Irish and of St. Patrick's Day here in Wayzata.

You'll surely see me wearing green on March 17. Like many of you, I'm proud of my Irish heritage.

My people crossed the Atlantic from western Ireland and landed in Canada, traveled down to Wisconsin, and eventually ventured west to Minnesota.

The specific link to Wayzata was my grandmother Elizabeth. She arrived here in the 1930s.

I wish you all the luck this special month!

*Nate Hedning*  
Editor in Chief

Marly LePage  
Graphic Design



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# LAKE LIFE: March Fishing Report

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



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March is all about the big thaw on Lake Minnetonka. The thaw will be dictated by the lake current, temperature and rain.

You can only go after panfish this month. Your best bet will be on the smaller bays.

Typically, Lake Minnetonka's ice out has been the middle of April, but it could come earlier - please be careful out there folks.

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# MARCH ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

**SOMETHING ROTTEN!**  
Blue Water Theatre Company  
March 2-12, Wayzata

**SCOTTISH FANTASY, 3/5**  
Wayzata Symphony Orchestra  
3-5 pm, FREE  
Wayzata Central Middle School

**PROGRESSIVE NW SPORTS SHOW, 3/9**  
Chanhassen

**ST. PAUL'S ST. PATRICK DAY PARADE, 3/17**  
noon

**MINNEAPOLIS ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE, 3/17**  
6 pm

**LUCK O' THE LAKE, 3/18**  
Excelsior

**AN IRISH DAY OF DANCE, 3/19**  
Landmark Center  
St. Paul, MN

**LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON: STATE OF THE CITIES, 3/23**  
Mayors Mouton, Wosje, Wiersum, & Miner  
11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Wayzata

**SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE EVENT INFORMATION**  
Stay up to date on lake area activities at [tonkalifestyle.com/events](http://tonkalifestyle.com/events).  
Missing something? Send an email to [nate@wayzatatogether.com](mailto:nate@wayzatatogether.com)!

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# NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT: The Dynan Family



So a few months ago, I was thinking about the March issue and what stories to write. As you can see, this issue is very much an ode to St. Patrick's Day and all things Irish. I wondered which family in town would make a good profile for this month's edition.

And then it came to me like a beacon in the dark. Well, it was literally a light shining in the night. I'm talking about the green and white neon sign of Wayzata Home Laundry & Dry Cleaners that shines along Wayzata Boulevard. The business logo incorporates a four leaf clover. I was in luck - the Dynan family was the family.

The family-owned business has been serving Wayzata residents since 1955.

"We were in the basement of Welch's bait shop on Lake Street across from Lyman Lumber," said Kevin Dynan.

It moved to the area where Colonial Square stands today. By the early 1960s, the business landed in its final location - a home converted into a laundry cleaning shop.

But let's back up a bit, OK, quite a bit.

Like many families that emigrated from Ireland, Michael and Hannorah Dynan entered America at Staten Island, New York. This was 1850. From there the family moved to Illinois and finally Minnesota. Their son John married a woman named Julie O'Brien. The couple had eight children. Their youngest, Michael, married Pearl McAlpine.

Pearl had been working at a catering business and was a part of a team servicing a wedding for the Pillsburys at their mansion on Brackett's Point. She was well-liked. In fact, one of the guests asked if she had heard that the Fadden family was looking to retire from their laundry business and were looking for a buyer.

Pearl and her husband talked it over and applied for a loan to buy the business but were denied.

"People who were at that wedding got wind of it," said Kevin Dynan. "Ten to thirteen people co-signed on the loan so they could take the business over."

The Dynans were in the laundry business.

At first, the business had only laundry services. It would later add dry cleaning to the mix.



Pearl Dynan



Pearl and Michael with their children, circa 1956

This mom and pop shop was the quintessential family business. The Dynan' children were an integral part growing up. But it wasn't all work.

"Numerous winter days Mom would drop Maureen (Kevin's sister) and I off at Klapprich Park," said Kevin. "Ed Klapprich would come down and if it was 10:30 a.m. and you weren't chaperoned by a parent, he would take your hockey sticks away and you had to play pom-pom-pull-away." Kevin has a lot of fond memories of Klapprich.

Kevin Dynan and his wife Janet run the show these days. Spend some time with them at their business and their pride is evident. They both love this place and it shows.

And even before the laundry business, Janet was making community connections.

"I worked as a long distance operator in Wayzata, right out of high school," said Janet. "I was lowest for seniority and I got the leftovers for shifts."

Kevin and Janet raised five boys. One lives in the Twin Cities, one in Wisconsin, two in Colorado, and one in Saudi Arabia. After high school they all continued their education. They were pretty darn good hockey players - in fact, three of them played together at Gustavus Adolphus and a fourth played at Bethel.

The boys went on to pursue various careers and at this point don't intend to take over the family business when Janet and Kevin retire.



Pearl Dynan hard at work

And business isn't slowing down. Especially when you have multi-generational customers knocking at the door.

"We'll get some young kids in their 20s come in and they'll say 'my Grandma told me I had to come here', said Janet. "We are a third generation (customer) business."

The Dynans have had several inquiries about the property and business. These calls came from developers as well as other laundry cleaning businesses. So far, the Dynans haven't been interested, as it has to be the right dry cleaners or developer.

If that happens, there may be strings attached. See, the Dynans' business is woven into the community of Wayzata. It's not just because it's been here nearly 70 years.

"We do the Coats For Kids for St. Bart's." "That's something I would like to see continuing."

So, whether you're driving by this business along Wayzata Boulevard by day or night, the Wayzata Home Laundry & Dry Cleaning sign is plain to see.



Kevin Dynan behind the counter last year with festive decorations for St. Patrick's Day

They Dynans will take care of you as they've done for nearly 70 years now.

**May you have the hindsight to know where you've been, the foresight to know where you are going, and the insight to know when you have gone too far.**

OUR LAKE COMMUNITY

# Lake Minnetonka

*exploring tonka!*



## *In this Issue...*

- All Paws On Deck...Picture Perfect Pets
- Neighborhood Anchor...Who, What, Where, When, Why & How
- The History of Lake Minnetonka
- School Scuttlebutt...What's Happening/Events/News
- Tonka Lifestyle Guide...Lake Life At Its Finest
- Making Waves...Community 411
- Hooked! Lake Minnetonka Fishing Report



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# All Aboard!

## ...you don't want to miss this boat

Lake Minnetonka area residents deserve a monthly publication that focuses on Our Lake Community.

We'll have monthly features including Making Waves: Community 411 - an update on what's going on in Lake Minnetonka towns. We're opening this section up to local communities to provide content they want highlighted. We always want to make getting further information easily accessible and clickable icons to each city's homepage.

Tonka Lifestyle Guide includes a section called Shore Leave which highlights the events, fun things to do and lifestyle services in the lake area. It also features area restaurants in The Captain's Table.

There will also be an article about an outstanding citizen, local group or business that is making their community better called Neighborhood Anchor. Who, What, Where, When, Why & How.

You will not want to miss an ode to our furry friends in All Paws On Deck provided photos are submitted by local residents.

The latest fishing information in Hooked! Our Lake Minnetonka fishing report provided from one of the local fishing shops we depend on to reel in the big one!

Get educated with School Scuttlebutt - news from the school districts of Minnetonka, Orono, Wayzata, and Westonka. Each month the districts will provide us with the most important information, events or happenings in the surrounding schools. Included is a fully clickable icon that navigates our audience back to each school's websites for easy access of other information.

And of course this publication would not be complete without a monthly walk down memory lane and the rich Lake Minnetonka History. Each month we'll ask the four historical societies: Minnetonka Historical Society, Excelsior-Lake Minnetonka Historical Society, Wayzata Historical Society & Westonka Historical Society to showcase their community and upcoming events or benefits. We want these rich historical archives to be providing for their communities for years to come.

**Our Lake Community is a special place.** *Let's celebrate it!*



**Click the QR Code to join the crew and have our e-publication delivered to your email inbox each month.**



# WAYZATA'S IRISH HISTORY: Green Genes



By mid-month, you'll see folks around Wayzata sporting green in honor of St. Patrick's Day.

Wayzata has had residents living here with Irish ancestry from the get go. U.S. Census records and old newspaper articles help paint the past's picture.

According to 1885 records, James & Bridget Gallagher, Patrick & Mary Grigas, and James Perry all reported being born in Ireland or having parents who were born in Ireland. It's noted that Perry was a farmer.

Bridget Wise is listed as having Irish ancestry in the 1900 census. She was the wife of well known boatbuilder Thomas Wise. Meanwhile, William Rice and John O'Shea were listed as boarders.

There are themes throughout these records. Many listed their occupations as farmers. Meanwhile, Murray Domnick was listed as a private estate caretaker in 1910. So too were John & Norah McEnter in the 1930 census. Perhaps they lived in some of those guesthouses on the larger estates still standing in parts of the area.

Frank O'Keefe was working as a railroad worker in 1930. Makes sense, right? The Irish were instrumental to the expansion of the railroads beginning in the 1800s.

It gets a little tougher to determine who was Irish beginning with the 1940 census. Part of this was due to the reports no longer having parents' birth country listed. Also, with every passing generation, more of the Irish were born here in the States.

Unless you knew about a family's lineage, it's not easy to pull that information from these reports.

I'm fortunate to have a distant relative who wrote a book tracing our family's Irish roots.

I won't document all the stops along the way, but my family's connection with Wayzata is based on my full-blooded Irish grandmother, Elizabeth. Her maiden name was Hedican and she grew up on the Iron Range and attended nursing school in Duluth.

She moved to Wayzata and married her first husband, a full-blooded Irishman named Joseph O'Connell. He was part owner of The Minnetonka Herald newspaper and Foursome clothing store. Joseph would die in 1944 in a hunting accident leaving my grandmother a widow with three children. She would later marry my grandfather in 1948.



My Grandmother,  
Elizabeth, early 1940s

**“A good friend is like a four-leaf clover, hard to find and lucky to have.”**

Despite making Wayzata a home, Elizabeth never forgot her roots on the Range. And this is no blarney - her father Patrick was actually born on St. Patrick's Day. It was an annual tradition for her to travel north to celebrate his birthday as well as the beloved holiday. In fact, the Wayzata community section of The Minnetonka Herald newspaper documented it.

Mrs. J.M. O'Connell and little son Joey, Dave Hedican [O'Connell's brother] and Miss Shirley Braden spent last weekend visiting Virginia, Minn., the occasion being the St. Patrick's Day birthday of Mrs. O'Connell's and Mr. Hedican's father, Patrick Hedican.

**March 20, 1947, The Minnetonka Herald**

## **So, how did the rest of Wayzata celebrate St. Patrick's Day way back when?**

Once again, The Minnetonka Herald brings us back to that time.

A Wayzata Food Store advertisement in the March 3, 1949, newspaper listed cabbage for six cents per pound and a can of corned beef hash for 35 cents.

And there was one place in Wayzata to be on the big day - the Wayzata American Legion.

### **Wayzata Legion to Hold Dance March 17**

The Wayzata American Legion post will greet the annual arrival of St. Patrick's Day, March 17 with their traditional dancing party in the local club rooms. Mort Marcy, entertainment chairman, urges all Legionnaires and friends of the post to plan on attending this gala event.

"You don't have to be Irish to have a bang-up time on St. Pat's Day at the Legion Hall," Marcy said. The Ad Lib Four (Vukas, Budnick, Braden, Bushnell et al) will be back on the bandstand furnishing music for dancing from 9 to 1.

**March 10, 1949, The Minnetonka Herald**

And even now, the Legion is still a fun place for St. Patrick's Day shenanigans!

So, later this month, when the weather is hopefully warmer, more and more folks will be out walking Lake Street. And if you pass someone and their Irish eyes are smiling, smile back and wish them well.



**Image Right:**  
Kitchen Crew at The Wayzata American Legion  
during a St. Patrick's Day Party, circa 1960s  
Courtesy Wayzata Historical Society



# PawParazzi

Each month, Wayzata Together features furry friends around town. Do you know of a picture perfect pet? Email a pic to: nate@wayzatatogether.com



These five pets all moved with their family from South Africa. They all LOVE Wayzata! The snow is taking some getting used to though. **Clockwise from Top left: Tigga, Boston, Pepper, Tug & Jack Owners, Adrienne, Celeste, and Hannah-May Hewitt.**

## Car Accident Injuries

By Dr. Barbro Brost, D.C.  
The Brost Clinic

Injuries from car accidents, frequently come back to haunt you months or years later, if left untreated. If you or anyone you know is, or has recently been, involved in an accident, it is advisable to immediately report the accident to your insurance company. Then get a thorough exam to evaluate your body for injuries.

If you are in severe pain or have been taken to the emergency room, this is evident. It's often the less severe and less painful injuries that are ignored. Just as your car can have hidden injuries that are not obvious from an exterior inspection, bodies can have injuries that are not obvious to a lay person. Pain and stiffness or feeling tired and out of sorts is commonly ignored and expected to improve within a few days. And it often does. The problem is: if the accident victim suffered a whip lash injury, even a minor one, and leave it untreated, the problems can silently worsen over time and turn in to a much worse condition months or years later.

By Minnesota car insurance No Fault law, all Minnesota based auto insurance plans include coverage for personal injuries resulting from an auto-related accident or event. Bodily injuries are covered, whether you are at fault or not in an accident and cannot, by law, affect your premiums in the future. All injuries resulting from a car accident are not covered by your regular health insurance, unless the auto insurance is denied or exhausted.

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