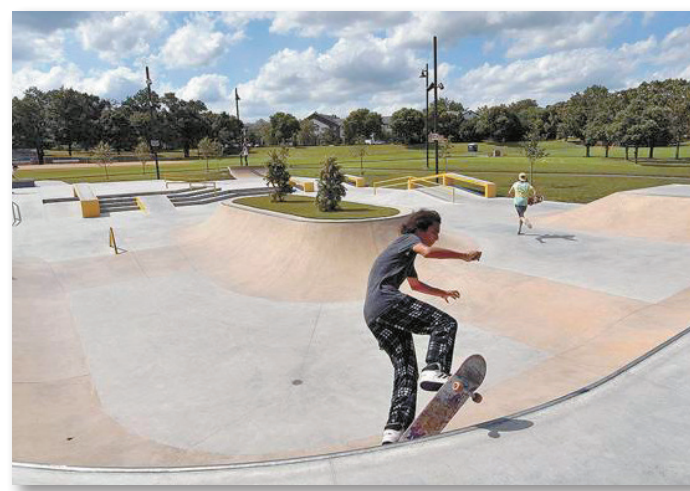


Shoreview Press



50 FUN FACTS ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE SHORVIEW PRESS

This year marks the 50-year anniversary of the Shoreview Press. In commemoration, Press Publications has assembled 50 highlights about the history of the newspaper and the significant events that have happened in the community it has served.

1. The Ojibwe ceded the area that would become the city of Shoreview to the United States Government in 1837.
2. In 1850, a settler named Socrates A. Thompson left St. Paul to farm, and filed a claim for land near the east shore of Turtle Lake.



3. Other settlers from Europe and eastern United States followed and created a farming community.
4. In the 1800s, the railroad constructed rail lines through Shoreview. The "Soo Lines" from St. Paul and Minneapolis came together at Cardigan Junction, halfway between Lake Owasso and Vadnais Lake. Soo Lines built its first station house in Minnesota at this site.
5. Shoreview was originally part of Mounds View Township, named for the range of hills running through its center. The Township was organized in 1858, the day Minnesota officially became a state.

6. The first weekly newspaper chronicling the activities in the small vacation village of White Bear Lake was called the "The Lake Breeze." The first edition was published April 27, 1887. The "Breeze" publisher, A.H.S. Perkins, was a promoter of the community and envisioned building the town to be more than a summer resort.

7. The Lake Johanna Fire Department is

organized in July of 1943 by members residing in the New Brighton Road and Lake Johanna Boulevard, area of Mounds View Township. The department provides fire, EMS and rescues entities to the cities of Shoreview, Arden Hills and North Oaks.

8. Mounds View High School was established Sept. 4, 1954. It is the first school in the Mounds View School District.
9. Citizens of the township petitioned the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners in 1957 for the incorporation of The Village of Shoreview in 1957. Citizens voted in favor and on April, 23, 1957 Shoreview officially became a city by an act of the Minnesota Legislature.

10. When Aaron Litman died Feb. 21, 1969, his widow took control of the newspaper.

11. In 1970, Mrs. Litman sold the Press to Eugene D. Johnson, a native of White Bear Lake.
12. In 1973 Johnson bought the Cambridge Star and Pine City Pioneer. At the time he also purchased the printing plant in Cambridge, Minnesota, with Phil Bonin and nephew David Johnson as partners. Press Publications papers are still printed at the plant, now Northstar Media.

13. Johnson's first job had been in the printing department in the early 1950s at age 15; he became shop foreman at the age of 19. At that time the Press was located on the second floor of the Getty Building at Third Street and Clark Avenue.

14. In 1975, Wilson Park located on County Road F between Victoria Street and Lexington Avenue was named for Willis Wilson, the first village clerk.

15. Johnson had purchased the Atwater Herald at the age of 20 in 1956, becoming the youngest publisher in Minnesota at the time. He bought the Olivia Times-Journal in 1966.

16. Upon buying the Press, Gene and Kathy Johnson moved to White Bear Lake and became active in the community. Their four children were raised here and attended White Bear schools. Gene and Kathy's primary residence is still in White Bear Lake.

17. Bob Weyandt is sworn in to the Shoreview City Council in 1973. He served as a council member until 1989. Weyandt was involved in

significant decisions and initiatives, including the purchase of land that would become the Shoreview Commons. He was later named the 2022 Citizen of the Year.

18. The Shoreview Community Center and Shoreview Commons were announced to be built in 1976 off of Victoria Street and Highway 96 on land purchased from Rose Sinna, of the Sinna farm.

19. In the 1970s, Press became a top performer in reducing newspaper waste. Recycled fiber and soy-based inks were used in the printing process.

20. Kozlak's Royal Oak Restaurant opened on Nov. 16, 1977, at the corner of Hodgson and Tanglewood Road, and was formerly known as the Sandpiper Restaurant. The site was half a block north of the historic "Half-Way House," which dated back to the 1800s. Kozlaks featured a New Orleans Jazz Brunch on Sundays and an outdoor dining patio and pond.



21. Johnson served as president of the Minnesota Newspaper Association in 1977, and the National Newspaper Association in 1985.

22. In his time as owner and publisher, Johnson began weekly newspapers for residents in neighboring communities — the Vadnais Heights Press, Forest Lake Press, St. Croix Valley Press, Shoreview Press and the Quad Community Press. He also acquired newspapers in northern Minnesota and western Wisconsin.

23. Deck Wedell was sworn in as Shoreview's eighth mayor in 1978. He served as mayor until December 1991.

24. The Shoreview Bikepath Committee was created in 1979. Under the leadership of Marsha Soucheray, the committee advocated for trails and paths. The committee developed the city's master trail plan.

25. Herb Brooks, hockey player and coach, with his wife Patti raised their family in Shoreview. He was the head coach of the gold-medal winning U.S. Olympic team at the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid, New York.

26. Shamrock Park was created in 1980. Bobby Theisen Park was built shortly after in 1981.

27. On Nov. 16, 1982, the Free Press and White Bear Press merged and the weekly newspaper became a total market coverage publication.

28. Mounds View German students and their German language teacher visited Einhausen, Germany in 1989. This led to the establishment of the Shoreview Einhausen Sister City Association that continues to this day.

29. The first ever Slice of Shoreview took place in 1990.

30. A new community center was built in 1991.

31. At the same time, Shoreview resident Arne H. Carlson served as the 37th governor of Minnesota from 1991 to 1999.

32. The Shoreview Historical Society was formed in 1991.

33. Jim Clamers was sworn in as the ninth mayor of Shoreview in 1992.

34. The Shoreview Northern Lights Variety Band was formed in 1994. Originally, the band consisted of 12 musicians and was called the Shoreview Symphonic Band. It was formed to provide entertainment at the Slice of Shoreview celebration. The band now has over 80 members.

35. In 1996, as Press Publications celebrated 100 years, Gene Johnson predicted, "We're prepared for the next 100 years. New communication mediums will develop ... but community newspapers will be right there with the rest, serving a homogenous group of people with local information they can trust."

36. Sandy Martin was sworn in as mayor in 1997. She was the tenth and has been the longest-serving mayor. She served as the city's mayor until her retirement in December 2022.

37. The Lepak/Larson Farmhouse was purchased by the city of Shoreview in 1999 after Art Larson passed.

38. In 2001, the Rice Creek Fields and Rice

Creek Parkway between County Road I and County Road J were built.

39. In April 2007, the city of Shoreview celebrated turning 50. The city was officially incorporated on April 23, 1957, by a vote of 853-748.

40. An image of trees and water were added to the city's logo in honor of its 50th birthday. The logo was intended to give the city a fresher look and consolidate different city logos such as the Shoreview Community Center, Tropics Indoor Water Park and Parks and Recreation Department.

41. The city started its Concert in the Commons series in June 2007. The first concert took place on June 20, 2007, at the Shoreview Commons pavilion and featured the Power of 10.

42. Shoreview presented its first Citizen of the Year award in 2007. The recipient who receives this title is elected by the members of the community. The winner of this award participates in organizations that benefit Shoreview and give back to the community.

43. Gene Johnson is to date the longest-serving publisher of Press Publications. In 2010, he sold the business to his son, Carter Johnson.

44. The Shoreview population was 25,043 in the 2010 census.

45. Press Publications launched a new design for the papers in 2015, allowing for additional news pages, an expanded event calendar, and Sudoku and crossword puzzles.

46. Chris Lennox becomes the superintendent of Mounds View Public Schools on July 1, 2016. He previously served as the assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction.

47. Commons Park, located at the Shoreview Community Center, opened for public use in 2022. The play areas include climbing nets, ziplines, swings and saucer swings and a skatepark and sees lots of foot traffic throughout the year.

48. In 2023, Sue Denkinger was sworn in as the 11th mayor of Shoreview.

49. That same year, the Shoreview City Council adopted a land acknowledgement statement. The city of Shoreview stands on

ancestral, traditional and current homelands of the Dakota.

50. In 2024, the Shoreview Commons pond and garden area is renamed as the "Sandy Martin Legacy Gardens." Martin played a significant role in the designing, planning and updating of the Shoreview Commons park in her time as mayor.



Editor's note: We reached out to the local library to go through bound volumes of the Shoreview Press to gather these facts. The library said they no longer had them due to the books being sold at a library book sale when moving locations. If you know anything about where the bound volumes might be, please reach out to Madeline Dolby, Shoreview Press editor, at shoreviewnews@presspubs.com or by calling 651-407-1226.

