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April 2023 ~ Volume 38, No. 4

Arbor Day • May 6

Ham Lake has proclaimed May 6th as Arbor Day, in conjunction with the City's annual Recycling Day (*see page 4*). A tree planting will be held in Lion's Park (1843 153rd Ave NE) at 10:00 am to celebrate.



Arbor Day began because of the efforts of newspaper editor and tree lover, Julius Sterling Morton of Nebraska City, Nebraska in the early 1870s.

Morton and his wife, Caroline, planted a wide variety of trees on their

newly-purchased acreage. He then proposed a day to encourage all Nebraskans to plant trees in their communities.

Arbor Day became an official state holiday in Nebraska in 1885. The tradition spread. 20 years later it was being celebrated by nearly every other state in the country.

It wouldn't be until 1970, though, that Arbor Day became national recognized, thanks to President Richard Nixon.

Morton is honored in Washington DC as the "Father of Arbor Day." (source: *History.com*)

Spring Road Restrictions are in Effect

Spring road restrictions went into effect at 12:01 am on Friday, March 10. Limiting vehicle weight minimizes damage to the streets when the frost comes out of the ground. This will extend the life of the streets and reduce the need for early (and costly) reconstruction.

Road restrictions are typically put into effect in early March (depending on the weather) and kept in place through the end of April or beginning of May.

Mark Your Calendars

Ham Lake's Fireworks display will be held on Saturday, July 1 at dusk in Lion's Park!

Mark your calendars to join us for the fireworks and the other Freedom Festival events happening that day. Look for more details in the months to come!



Street Sweeping in Ham Lake to Begin Mid-April

Street sweeping will begin in mid-April or as soon as weather permits. If a boulevard has salt or sand on it, please rake only that material to the edge of the blacktop or curb for pickup by the street sweepers.

The boulevard is the distance from the blacktop or curb to the property line (generally 13 to 15 feet).

Please do not rake yard waste material in the City Streets! If you need to dispose of leaves, you may take them to the yard waste dumpster at City Hall (available starting May 12th) or to the compost site at 13285 Hanson Boulevard in Coon Rapids. Another option is to compost your yard waste yourself.

Please watch for street sweepers in your area and move any vehicles or obstacles that may block sweeping operations. Operators can do a much cleaner job if streets are kept clear. Weather permitting, all City streets will be swept by mid-May.

Street sweeping operations will also follow complete seal coating projects on City streets.

Assessor's Corner

In mid-to-late March, Anoka County will be mailing out statements for 2023 Property Taxes Payable and Valuation Notices (2023 value that taxes will be based on in 2024).

For general questions regarding these statements, Anoka County has an online resource at: www. anokacounty.us/281/About-Your-Tax-Statements.

If you have specific questions about the valuation or classification of your residential or agricultural property in Ham Lake, email Mary Wells:

Email: *mnassessormary@gmail.com* Phone: 763-412-1966 extension 1

If you have specific questions about the valuation or classification of a commercial, industrial or apartment property in Ham Lake, email Erik Skogquist:

Email: *mnassessorerik@gmail.com* Phone: 763-412-1966 extension O

If you prefer an in-person meeting with Mary or Erik, stop by the Anoka County Assessor's office (2100 3rd Avenue, Room 160 at the Government Center in Anoka) on Tuesday, May 2nd from 1:00-7:00 pm or Wednesday, May 3rd from 8:00 am-4:30 pm.

If you plan to come to the in-person meeting, you are encouraged to call 763-324-1175 to make an appointment so your wait time is minimal when you arrive.

Ham Lake Lion's Pancake Breakfast • April 2

The Ham Lake Lions will host a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, April 2nd from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Ham Lake Senior Center (15544 Central Ave NE).

There will be drawings for free bicycles, a Boy Scout bake sale and free children's vision screenings.



Free-will donations will be accepted!

Spring Fire Safety

As you clean up this spring, here are some fire safety tips to keep your home and family safe:

- \bullet Test your smoke alarms. Replace any alarms that are 10 years old or older.
- Test your carbon monoxide alarms. Replace any alarms that are 7 years old or older.
- Check your dryer vents and clean the dryer exhaust
- Clean clutter inside and outside your home.
- Check the cords on your appliances. If any are cracked or frayed, repair or replace them.
- Practice your home fire escape plan.

Visit www.usfa.fema.gov for more information and for free resources.

Articles and photos that appear in *The Ham Laker*, along with other useful information about the City, can be found on the City's website:

www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us



✓ Homesteaded single family homes or duplexes in Anoka Co.

- ✓ Must have been inspected and issued a certificate of non-compliance.
- ✓ May NOT be used for tank pumping or other maintenance.
- \checkmark Household must meet low income thresholds. Grant covers up to 90% depending on income.
- ✓ Funding is limited and may vary by location. Shoreland areas or projects providing the greatest health and environmental benefits may be preferentially funded.
- $\checkmark \ \, \text{See all program requirements at www.AnokaSWCD.org under ``financial assistance.''}$

Contact Kris Larson at the Anoka Conservation District. 763-434-2030 ext 210 or kris.larson@anokaswcd.org







Ham Lake City Council News

At its **February 21, 2023** meeting the City Council took the following actions:

Approved items on the Consent Agenda included:

- Scheduling the 2023 Recycling Days for Saturday, May 6 and Saturday, September 9
- Arbor Day Proclamation for May 6, 2023
- Hiring a full-time Streets/Parks Maintenance Worker
- Resolution No. 23-08 for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding for the City of Ham Lake and Twin Cities Gateway
- Resolution No. 23-09 for the designation and adoption of Municipal State Aid (MSA)
- Resolution No. 23-07 recognizing Deputy City Clerk, Dawnette Shimek, for her 35 years of service to the City of Ham Lake.
- · Approved the Sketch Plan presented by Kevin Hentges, Hentges Turf Farm, Inc., for Hentges Addition Minor Plat (2 lots) in Sections 15 and 22 subject to requirements.

At its March 6, 2023 meeting the City Council took the following actions:

Approved items on the Consent Agenda included:

- Plans and Specifications for Fire Station #3 and authorization to advertise for bids

- Resolution No. 23-10 for a variance request for the design speed for the Crosstown Shopping Center reconstruction project
- Resolution No. 23-11 requesting the use of Anoka County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) funds to pay for the 2023 Voluntary Cost **Sharing Agreement**
- Resolution No. 23-12 accepting a \$5,000 donation from the Ham Lake Area Chamber of Commerce
- Resolution No. 23-13 applying for the 2024 Community Project Funding Grant for Crosstown Business Park
- Off-Site Gambling Permit for the Ham Lake Chamber of Commerce to conduct bingo and pull-tabs on July 1 at Lion's Park
- Hiring part-time snow plow driver
- Approved creating a Watershed Committee appointing Councilmember Kirkeide and Mayor Kirkham as liaisons; conveying to the SRWMO member communities that the City of Ham Lake is opposed to revising the JPA such that unanimous adoption is not required of budgets and to request that the member communities consider funding Scenario #4A as preferred by Ham Lake and Columbus.

Visit the City's website to view Council and Planning meeting videos on-demand and agenda minutes of City Council and Planning Commission: www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us.

Sheriff's Report

Thefts & Damage to Property

02.06 141xx Lincoln St NE-catalytic converter cut off a work vehicle parked at the location

02.08 14xx Lombardy Dr NE-package stolen from the front steps

02.09 142xx Lincoln St NE-vehicle stolen; window punched, glass located in parking spot

02.12 17xx Bunker Lake Blvd—catalytic converter cut off vehicle parked in church lot during service

02.13 133xx Aberdeen St NE—locks cut off storage containers at a business; tools, wires stolen

02.19 36xx 149 Ave NE—vehicle stolen from New Brighton was located

02.20 157xx Central Ave NE-catalytic converter cut off a work vehicle at a business

02.27 37xx 149 Ave NE-license plates stolen from vehicle; used to avoid tolls in Illinois

02.28 172xx Van Buren St NE-mail and packages stolen from the box and steps

03.01 170xx Van Buren St NE-theft of mail from an unsecured box

03.01 174 Ave/Tyler St NE-theft of mail from an unsecured box

03.02 133xx Aberdeen St NE-theft of multiple propane tanks from a job site

Arrests

02.03 Hwy 65/157 Ave NE-DWI 4th degree; deputy stopped a driver for speeding. The deputy smelled alcohol. The male stated he was coming from a bar. He failed field sobriety tests and was arrested.



02.03 165xx Hwy 65 NE—Warrant Arrest; deputy stopped a vehicle for having a broken tail light. Driver did not have a license, and he had a warrant out of Chisago County. He was arrested.

02.07 171xx Hwy 65 NE-Drugs; deputy stopped a driver because he knew she didn't have a driver's license and that she was very active in the drug culture. The vehicle was searched and a lot of paraphernalia, cell phones, scales, packaging and meth were found. She was arrested.

02.10 33xx Crosstown Blvd NE—Domestic Assault; deputies responded to an open 911 call. When they arrived, they located a bloody victim. After invaginating, a male was arrested.

02.13 Central Ave/Johnson St NE—DWI 4th degree; deputy stopped a driver for failing to signal a turn. Driver failed field sobriety tests. Drugs and paraphernalia were found and she was arrested.

02.16 157 Ave/Hwy 65 NE-DWI Refusal; deputy stopped the driver and smelled alcohol. Driver failed field sobriety tests. She was arrested. Charges are elevated due to a prior DWI conviction.

02.18 45xx Crosstown Blvd NE-DWI 2nd degree; homeowner reported that a male had just crashed in her yard; the driver fled. He was located in another vehicle fleeing the scene. He failed field sobriety tests and was arrested.

02.18 46xx Lexington Ave NE—Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a boyfriend/girlfriend domestic where the BF left after attempting to strangle the GF. A KOPS Alert was put out for his arrest.

02.19 Lexington/Constance Blvd NE-DWI 3rd degree; caller reported a reckless driver. Deputy located the vehicle and smelled alcohol. Driver failed field sobriety tests and she was arrested.

02.20 38xx Crosstown Blvd NE-Assist Other Agency; Elk River PD asked us to go to the location to locate a male who they have a KOPS alert on. Deputy arrested the male and transferred him to Elk River Police custody.

02.22 Hwy 65/169 Ave NE-DWI 2nd degree; deputy stopped a driver for erratic driving. Driver appeared impaired and failed field sobriety tests. She was arrested.

Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers

As spring draws closer, Upper Rum River Watershed and Sunrise River Watershed Management Operations remind you to "Come clean and leave clean" when you take your boat out on the water.

Whether it's a fishing boat, ski boat, canoe, kayak or paddleboard—protect our lakes and rivers by keeping your boats and gear clean of aquatic hitchhikers!

No Oak Tree Cutting **Between April 1- July 15**

The City would like to remind residents of the approaching "no-cut" period for oak trees which starts April 1st and is effective through July 15th (Article 11.1400.4 of the City Code).

If you need to cut an oak tree or trees during the nocut period, you must get a permit from the City prior to cutting. Please contact a City tree inspector with any questions at (763) 235-1662.

Fire Department Calls

The Ham Lake Fire Department responded to 39 calls during the month of March: 17 during the day and 22 at night.

The department spent just under 20 hours on calls with total personnel time adding up to 340 hours. Year-to-date, the department has answered 68 calls, compared with 84 calls at the same time last year.

February Building Permits

The City of Ham Lake issued 50 permits in February with a valuation of \$1,685,593.00.

The issued permits are as follows: one commercial new construction, one commercial demolition, one commercial remodel, two commercial sign, three residential new construction, three residential remodel, three residential basement finish and two roofing/siding.

Other permits include 21 mechanical, nine plumbing and four septic installations.

May Issue Deadline: Wed., April 12 @ noon

Please send all Ham Laker correspondence, articles and ideas to:

City of Ham Lake 15544 Central Ave NE Ham Lake, MN 55304

Email: HamLaker@ci.ham-lake.mn.us

For advertising information please contact City Hall at 763-434-9555

Editor: Sharon Brodin, Brodin Press LLC

Printed on 20% post-recycled consumer waste paper



Ham Lake Contacts

City Hall: 763-434-9555

To report emergencies after office hours call 911. City Hall Hours: Monday-Thursday: 7:00-4:30

Friday: 7:00-11:00

Brian Kirkham (Mayor)

612-978-2764 bkirkham@ci.ham-lake.mn.us

Jim Doyle (Council)

612-850-1698

jdoyle@ci.ham-lake.mn.us

Gary Kirkeide (Council)

763-434-9762

gkirkeide@ci.ham-lake.mn.us

Al Parranto (Council)

763-355-5171

aparranto@ci.ham-lake.mn.us

Jesse Wilken (Council)

763-458-4608

jwilken@ci.ham-lake.mn.us

Minnesota Broadband Line Extension Connection

The Line Extension Connection program goal is to connect residents and businesses that lack access to broadband internet service to service providers, and then assist in the expense of extending broadband to those locations.

How the Program Works

Residential and business locations that are unserved (lack access to speeds of at least 25Mbps download and 3Mbps upload) can apply by entering their information into the Line Extension Connection portal. This will initiate their interest in receiving broadband internet service and make their location available for consideration.

(Submitting location information into the Line Extension Connection portal does not guarantee extension of service.)

By submitting your address into the portal, internet service providers will have the opportunity to review the location and submit a bid based on the cost to bring service to your location.

The Office of Broadband Development will evaluate these bids and required provider documentation and make awards to the providers whose bid proposes the lowest cost to the State for extension of the service.

Who Can Apply

Locations that currently lack broadband service or have actual broadband speeds of less than 25/3Mbps.

Funding

The Minnesota Broadband Line Extension Connection Program has been allocated \$15 million in total funding. Limits per line extension are set by Minnesota law. These limits are:

- Per-line extension amount cannot exceed \$25,000.
- The Office of Broadband Development (OBD) must ensure the bid is a cost-effective use of state funds.

Timeline

The Minnesota Broadband Line Extension Connection online portal is accepting applications. The bidding and review processes must take place before awards can be made. Once made, projects must be completed within 12 months of the contract date.

- At least every six months, OBD will provide Internet Service Providers the listing of addresses requesting service.
- Service providers will have 10 days to notify OBD of service availability at those locations.
- Service providers have 60 days to submit bids on locations they would like to extend service to.
- OBD will evaluate all bids within 60 days and select the provider whose bid requests the lowest amount of financial support from the state.

For help applying or to request a paper form, call 651-259-7610. For more information about this program visit: mn.gov/deed/programs-services/broadband/extension.

Glen Cary's Cast-Away Sale

April 27-29

The Cast-Away Sale at Glen Cary Lutheran Church is back again for 2023. There's something for everyone so come and see!

Where: 15531 Central Avenue NE in Ham Lake

When: Thursday/Friday April 27-28 • 9:00 am to 7:00 pm and Saturday, April 29 • 9:00 am to noon.

All items for free will donation.

We will be following state and local COVID guidelines. Coffee, caramel and cinnamon rolls will be available in the mornings; sloppy joes and hot dogs for lunch.

Call 763-434-5695 with any questions.

What's Happening at the Senior Center

Open Monday-Thursday 8:00 am - 3:30 pm 15544 Central Ave NE in Ham Lake 763-434-0455

THE SENIOR CENTER IS OPEN for all activities and meals (Mondays and Wednesdays). Please spread the word to everyone as some people didn't renew their membership last year and may not be getting the newsletter.

NEW!! The Senior Center is offering coffee and cookies for Vets on Monday mornings at 9:00 am.

There will be tax preparers at the Senior Center on Tuesday, June 8th and Thursday, June 27th from 9:00 am to noon to help seniors prepare their M1PR (property tax refund). First come, first served. No appointments.

Senior Dining on Mondays and Wednesdays each week at noon. **Reservations needed!** Meals are \$7 for those 55+ and \$10 for those younger than 55.

Senior Center Activities include fitness class, cribbage, wood carving, Bingo, 500 cards, Hand & Foot cards and Dominoes.

Watch for upcoming trips to the Casino (open to the public), Jam Sessions during the day and evening (open to the public), health insurance counseling, scheduled shopping trips for those who need transportation, free blood pressure checks and a birth-day lunch.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSES for 2023 are held by MHSRC (Minnesota Highway Safety Research Center) for those 55 and older. Registration is required. Call 1-888-234-1294 for information and to register. Or go online: www.stcloudstate.edu/continuingstudies/mhsrc/55-plus

4-Hour Refresher Course: You need to take this every three years. Time flies, so make sure you are current! The fee is \$24 for the 4-hour class:

Friday, June 9: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm Friday, September 15: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm Friday, November 10: 12:00 - 4:00 pm

8-Hour Refresher Course: Required for first timers. The fee is \$26 for the 8-hour class.

None are scheduled at this time.

Did you know? If you're 55 years or older, state law requires your insurance company to give you a 10% discount after taking an 8-hour Defensive Driving Course and attending a 4-hour refresher course every three years.

NOTE: The Ham Lake Senior Center is *not* available for rent!

Call the Senior Center at 763-434-0455 for dates, times and details of events.

Ham Lake Business Spotlight: Crosstown Chiropractic

Crosstown Chiropractic is one of Ham Lake's most long-standing businesses, having been at its Crosstown Boulevard location since 1968.

Drs. Logan and Mackenzie Engelstad are the newest owners, a second husband and wife team to run the clinic. They bought Crosstown Chiropractic in July 2022 from Drs. Valorie and Robert Hoffman, who had run the clinic since 1986.

"It's definitely rewarding, being a married couple and getting to work together. We set our own schedule, make our own decisions. Being somewhat recent graduates, we're navigating the waters of both providing great care for our patients—living up to the standard of the Hoffmans—and also being business owners," said Dr. Logan.

Dr. Mackenzie adds, "Originally, I wasn't sure about owning our own clinic. But now that we've been working on it for a year, I wouldn't do anything else!"

Purchasing a clinic involves purchasing the patient files and clinic reputation. The Engelstads knew to expect some patient drop-off with the ownership turnover. "Some patients came strictly to see Dr. Valorie, even as far away as South Dakota," said Dr. Logan. "Now we've established what we can expect week-to-week. We got comfortable pretty fast and the patients are great."

Dr. Mackenzie has specific training geared towards families, pregnant moms and babies. They both care for the general population, athletes and older adults. The doctors are comfortable using a variety of techniques based on what each patient prefers: manual adjustment, activator, Logan technique, Webster technique, electric stimulus and more. They anticipate adding drop tables and flexion distraction equipment before too long.

Pain management is at the core of chiropractic care. The doctors help individuals with low back pain, neck and shoulder pain, rib pain and extremity pain (elbows, knees and more). Whether people are actively moving in their jobs or sitting at a desk all day, they can be helped by chiropractic care.



Drs Logan and Mackenzie , owners of Crosstown Chiropractic

"Our happiest patients are our wellness patients. It's the preventative measure of coming back every two to six weeks to get adjusted to prevent going back to a life of pain," said Dr. Mackenzie.

Dr. Logan added, "We create a care plan that matches each patient, and can constantly adjust along the way as we communicate with them."

Both doctors grew up in small town Minnesota—Dr. Mackenzie near Mankato and Dr. Logan in the northwest part of the state. They enjoy the small town feel of the area after their school and early work experience closer to the Twin Cities and are excited to serve the Ham Lake community.

Crosstown Chiropractic is located at 2330 Crosstown Blvd. NE. See their website (*crosstownclinic.com*) for much more details about the chiropractic services they offer and their hours. You can reach them by email at *crosstownclinic@gmail.com* or by phone at 763-434-5714.





2330 Crosstown Blvd NE Ham Lake, MN 55304 (1 mile East of HWY 65) Same day appointments available!

763-434-5714 Crosstownclinic.com

Ham Lake Citywide Garage Sales • May 4-6

Ham Lake residents are invited to participate in our citywide garage sale weekend. It will run Thursday through Saturday, May 4-6, from 8:00 am-5:00 pm each day. Registration is NOT required to participate but IS required if you'd like your listing on the printed and online map.

If you would like to add your sale address and short description of items you are offering for sale to the printed map, there is a \$5 registration fee that covers listing, printing of maps and social media advertising on our local media sites and to our local area.

Registration is online only. Please register by Friday, April 28th to be included on the maps. A link to register is available on the Ham Lake Chamber of Commerce website at www.hamlakeareacc.org/events/citywidegaragesale.

Printed maps will be available starting Tuesday, May 2nd in the City Hall foyer. Maps will also available to download or view online.

New Recycling Options Available at the City's Spring Recycling Day

Paper Shredding: Secure containers will be available for residents to deposit documents into for shredding. Shredding will take place off-site.

A Reuse Event will also be held this year on Sunday, May 7th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The City, along with Anoka County, will be accepting reusable household items on Saturday to offer free for the taking on Sunday. More information about this event can be found below. The weight of items taken by "shoppers" will be applied toward the City's 2023 reuse/recycling tonnage goal.

REDUCE • REUSE • RECYCLE

Is Your House Full of Usable Items You Simply Don't Need Anymore?

Bring them to the Anoka County Reuse Tent, at Ham Lake City Hall parking lot, during these two times:

- \bullet 8:00 am to Noon during the May 6^{th} Recycling Day
- \bullet 3:00 to 7:00 pm after the May 6^{th} Recycling Day

All items must be usable and in good condition. Think of what you would give to a friend or family member. Go to *AnokaCountyMN.gov/reuse* to see the complete list of accepted items.

Questions? Email *recycle@co.anoka.mn.us* or call 763-324-3400.



Anoka County Reuse Event • May 7

Items donated on May 6^{th} will be available for FREE on May 7^{th} from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Come to the Anoka County Reuse Tent located in the Ham Lake City Hall parking lot and see if there is anything you can use. Due to space constraints, clothing will not be displayed.

Any items not taken for reuse will be picked up by the Salvation Army.

Questions? Email recycle@co.anoka.mn.us or call 763-324-3400.

Spring Recycling Event • Saturday, May 6

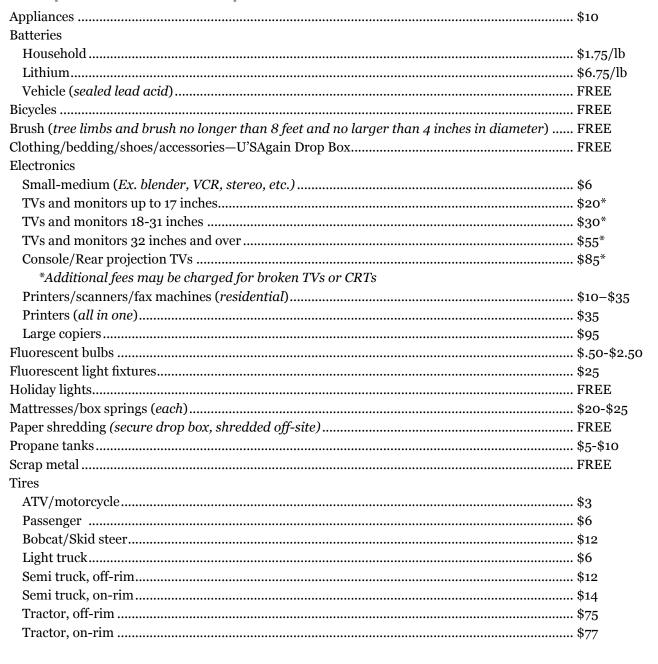
Residents may drop off recyclable items at Ham Lake City Hall (15544 Central Ave NE) on May 6, 2023 from 8:00 am to noon. Vendors will collect fees directly for various items.

Participating Vendors

Participating vendors in this event include:

- City of Ham Lake (bicycles, paper for shredding vehicle batteries, scrap metal, brush)
- Evergreen Recycling (mattresses/box springs)
- Recycle Technologies (electronics and bulbs)
- JR's Advanced Recyclers (appliances, propane tanks, tires on and off-rim)

Accepted Materials/Fees per Item



Please note that each vendor must be paid separately

Funded by the Anoka County Board of Commissioners and State SCORE (Select Committee on Recycling and the Environment funds)

Please call 763-434-9555 with questions

Community Calendar

April 3: City Council mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm
April 10: Planning Commission mtg, City Hall
6:00 pm
April 12: *The Ham Laker* ads and articles deadline for the May issue @ noon

April 17: City Council mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm April 24: Planning Commission mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm



APRIL 2023 M 9 11 13 10 **20 22** 16 18 19 26 29 **23** 25 **27** 28 30

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Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

Wednesday & Friday

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

or by Appointment 763-434-5929

1207 Constance Blvd. NE Ham Lake, MN 55304