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Ham Lake BrewFest • October 7

The third annual Ham Lake Brewfest is on Saturday, October 7th at the Ham Lake Lanes patio from 3:00-7:00 pm. Brewfest is an awesome way to socialize with your neighbors, play some yard games and give a hearty salute to the beginnings of fall. Come for the brews, stay for the fun!

This year's Brewfest will feature a variety of local breweries, distilleries and wineries serving over forty different samples. While you sip, enjoy the live music by original artist MoeDELL followed by the Rhythm & Harmony band. Admission also includes axe throwing by Nice Axe.

Food trucks will park outside the gate and delicious eats will be available inside the Lanes for purchase. Get tickets and additional information at: www.hamlakeareacc.org/events/brewfest.



Yard Waste Collection Ending

The dumpster to collect yard waste will be in place through Friday, November 3rd. The dumpster will then be removed through the winter season and returned in the spring, provided funding is available to support the program.

Yard waste items can be taken to Bunker Hills Compost Site in Coon Rapids or Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Compost Site in Lino Lakes when the dumpster isn't available at City Hall.

For more information on fees, maps, hours of operation and examples of acceptable materials, go to www.anokacountymn.gov/359/Compost-Sites or call Anoka County Recycling & Resource Solutions at 763-324-3400.

Fire Department Calls

The Ham Lake Fire Department responded to 29 calls during the month of August: 21 during the day and 8 at night. The department spent 221 personnel hours responding to calls for the month.

Year-to-date, the department has answered 261 calls compared with 282 calls at the same time last year.

Local Fall Festival Events

October 28 at Area Churches

Cedar United Methodist Church (17541 Jefferson St. NE in Ham Lake) is hosting a Fall Festival/Trunk or Treat event from 4:00-7:00 pm with a cake walk, bonfire, crafts and candy. Everyone is welcome!



Ham Lake's Winter Parking Rules

Remember, from October 1st through April 30th, no parking is allowed on Ham Lake streets between the hours of midnight and 6:00 am.

In addition, no parking is allowed in the daytime hours during or after a two-inch snowstorm or until the streets are plowed afterward.

Election Judges Needed

2024 Election Dates:

Presidential Primary: Tuesday, March 5 Primary Election: Tuesday, August 13 General Election: Tuesday, November 5

We have begun our recruitment efforts for Election Judges to serve in 2024. Please pass the word to your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors. For more information and to obtain an Election Judge Application, please visit www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us/services/elections.

For additional questions, please contact Deputy City Clerk, Dawnette Shimek at 763-235-1673 or Administrative Assistant, Nicole Wheeler at 763-235-1671.



Fire Prevention Week

October 8-14

LOOK for places a fire could start. Take a good look around your home. Identify potential fire hazards and take care of them.

Cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries. Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, boiling or grilling food.

Heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fires during the winter months. Space heaters are most often involved. Heaters need space. Clear at least three feet around heating equipment and keep children out of this area. Use only portable space heaters listed by a qualified testing laboratory.

LISTEN for the sound of the smoke alarm. Larger homes, open layouts and new construction materials mean fires burn faster. Years ago you had about 17 minutes to get out of the house once it caught fire. Today you only have three or four minutes to escape.

LEARN two ways out of every room and make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily and are free of clutter.



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

Ham Lake City Council News

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

Approved items on the Consent Agenda included:

- Accepting the resignation of Finance/Human Resource Director Andrea Murff
- Ordinance No. 23-07 Regarding Pigeons
- Proclamation proclaiming September 17-23 as Constitution Week
- New Tobacco License for Courtney Alana Kujala dba Ham Lake Tobacco and Vape LLC, 16220 Aberdeen Street NE, Suite B
- Resolution No. 23-38 ordering the preparation of the assessment roll and scheduling a Public Hearing for Street Light Assessments for 2024
- Resolution No. 23-39 for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding for equipment for the City of Ham Lake's Fire Department
- Purchasing Emergency Lighting and Truck Accessories for the F-350 Utility Vehicle for the Fire Department
- Approved a request from Erik Gram of Touchdown Tile and Richards Carpet + Flooring to construct an 8,400-square-foot office/warehouse building addition to an existing building at 15555 Baltimore Street NE, subject to requirements.

- Approved purchase agreement for the purpose of constructing a service road east of Highway 65 NE, south of Crosstown Blvd NE to 169th Ave NE.
- Adopted Resolution No. 23-40 approving the 2024 proposed budget and the proposed 2023 levy for payable 2024.

At its September 5, 2023 meeting the City Council took the following actions:

Approved items on the Consent Agenda included:

- Outdoor Lighting Energy and Maintenance Agreement for street lights in Hidden Forest East Fourth Addition
- Temporary One-Day Liquor License for the Dylan Witschen Foundation (non-profit) at the Willow Tree Winery, 828 Constance Boulevard NE on October 28
- Resolution No. 23-41 scheduling a public hearing to vacate a portion of the drainage and utility easement at 14932 Harpers Street NE
- Resolution No. 23-42 to appoint signers and authorized traders for bank and investment accounts
- Approved Jeff Entsminger's request for a lot line adjustment to combine lots for Entsminger Farms, subject to requirements.

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

08.05 7xx Crosstown Blvd NE—vandalism; vehicle driven through the yard

08.09 26xx 159 Ave NE—theft of package out of an unsecured mailbox

08.10 147xx Waconia St NE—home was egged overnight

08.10 133xx Aberdeen St NE—window broken on vehicle while victim worked out; duffle bag stolen

08.16 165xx Hwy 65 NE—theft of license plates from work vehicles at a business

08.16 20xx 135 Lane NE—vandalism; home egged, sprayed with mustard and a road flare set off

08.28~28xx~149 Ave NE—theft of packages from the front steps

08.30 138xx Aberdeen St NE—parts stolen from a vehicle parked at a car dealership

Arrests

o8.06 Crosstown/Hwy 65 NE—DWI Refusal; driver stopped for poor driving conduct. Field sobriety tests were offered but refused. He was arrested.

08.09 149xx Block Hwy 65 NE—DWI 2nd degree; driver stopped for speeding. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. He was arrested. Charges were elevated due to a prior DWI.

08.14 172xx Eveleth St NE—Warrant Arrest; verbal domestic. The male party was identified and had warrants. He was arrested.

08.18 7xx Bunker Lake Blvd NE—DWI Refusal; a male crashed a golf cart. He refused to take sobriety tests. He was arrested and a warrant for blood was obtained.

08.21 167 Ave/Lexington Ave NE—Driving After Cancellation; deputy stopped a driver for not having a license plate. The driver's license was cancelled. He was arrested.

08.24 153xx Fillmore St NE—Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a mother/son physical fight. The son was arrested.

o8.27 Hwy 65/Crosstown Blvd NE—Warrant Arrest; driver stopped for having no front plate and a cracked windshield. He had warrants and was arrested.

08.28 70xx Birchview Lane NE—Domestic Assault; a female reported her ex-boyfriend had just broken into her home and stolen a vehicle. Deputies searched for the suspect. An apprehension order was placed on him.

08.28 16xx Bunker Lake Blvd NE—Domestic Assault; a male reported his ex-girlfriend came to his home and attacked him. She was arrested.

o8.29 Bunker Lake/Jefferson St NE—Warrant Arrest; a deputy stopped a driver for not having taillights. She did have a warrant and was arrested.

Shake Your Mailbox

It's time to give your mailbox a shake! If your mailbox moves when shaken, it could be knocked over by snow thrown off the road by a passing snowplow. Mailboxes can be especially vulnerable to damage from snow removal operations. Taking time to tighten screws and secure mailboxes now can help prevent damage later.

To be properly placed, a mailbox should be installed so its bottom edge is 41-45 inches above the street level with the post 36 inches back from the curb. That amount of clearance is needed to keep the plow's wing from hitting the mailbox. Any plastic newspaper tubes attached to the mailbox must be above the 41-inch height requirement.

The mailbox's post should be securely in the ground. If it is wobbly, the base may be rotten. If mailboxes are not installed with the clearance mentioned above, the responsibility for repairing the damage lies with the homeowner, not the City of Ham Lake Public Works Department.

The Public Works Department assumes liability for mailboxes damaged by City equipment during plowing on City streets only. (Anoka County plows all County roads.) If it is determined a plow made direct contact with a mailbox that was properly placed, the Public Works Department will replace it with a swinging or swing-away post system designed to minimize the risk of damage from snowplows

Mailboxes damaged by the sheer force of ice and snow thrown from the plows will not be replaced.

Tree Trimming in the City's Right-of-Way

Boulevard trees are trees that are located in the City's Right-of-Way. Tree trimming maintenance is generally done in the fall, winter or spring as weather permits. The primary objective is the removal of low-hanging or broken branches and sightline obstructions that either are or could be a problem in the future. Tree removal is generally assigned through the Public Works Department.



August Building Permits

The City of Ham Lake issued 168 permits in August with a valuation of \$3,452,883.00.

The issued permits are as follows: one commercial new construction, two commercial remodel, four commercial siding/roofing, one commercial signs, one commercial accessory building, one commercial addition, one commercial solar panel, three residential new construction, one residential addition, three residential remodel, one residential garage addition, three residential accessory building, 11 residential deck, two residential pool, seven residential solar panel, two residential window, one residential basement finish, two residential miscellaneous and 46 roofing/siding.

Other permits include 35 mechanical, 23 plumbing and 17 septic installations.

November Issue Deadline: Wed., October 11 @ 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

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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

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763-355-5171
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Jesse Wilken (Council)
763-458-4608

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Fix-It Clinic

Have broken stuff lying around? Don't trash it—fix it!

Come to the Fix-it Clinic to meet in person with an expert fixer to repair your favorite items. Get help repairing lamps, coffee makers, clothing, vacuums and much more.

The next Fix-It Clinic will be held on October 7th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the East Bethel Senior Center, 2241 221st Ave NE in East Bethel.

Please bring along any replacement parts you have available. First-come, first-served. These events are for residents who need their own items fixed, they are not intended for businesses.

In the effort to assist as many people as possible, we will try to repair one item per resident first. The volunteers will then try to repair any additional items as time allows.

Don't Panic...It's a Scam

Keeping up with the latest scams is exhausting and almost impossible. However, there is one simple thing you can do to drastically reduce your chances of losing money to scammers: *Slow down and don't panic*. Among the various techniques scammers use, creating a sense of urgency—the need to act quickly—is the most frequent.

The following are signs of a scam:

- Asking you to pay with gift cards.
- Asking you to wire money or send cash.
- Asking you to pay money in order to receive a prize.
- Asking you to pay money for supplies to get a job.
- Use of scare tactics such as telling you a loved one is in danger, your computer has been hacked or threatening your arrest.
- Receiving a check for overpayment and being asked to send a portion of the funds back.
- Asking you to provide your password, PIN, Social Security number, account number, or financial information to someone who contacts you out of the blue.

Things to be suspicious of:

- Spelling and grammar mistakes.
- Generic greetings or salutations.
- Inconsistent links, email addresses, domain names or attachments.

If you receive a text, email, phone call, pop-up or anything else you did not initiate, consider it a scam. Don't click on it, don't open it, JUST DELETE IT. If you have questions about something you receive, you can contact the Anoka County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit and we can walk you through what to do.

Scammers love easy targets—don't be one!

Anoka County Crime Prevention 763.324.5179 crime.prevention@co.anoka.mn.us



September 7 was the Grand Re-Opening of Fitaholic Fitness in Ham Lake, to celebrate the new owners Mike and Laura Dunbar

Happenings at the Senior Center

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

WANTED: Bus Driver—This is a paid position. Inquire in the office or call 763-434-0455 for details!

City Hall collection box for flexible plastics.

Everything must be clean. Grocery bags, bread bags, bubble wrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, plastic shipping envelopes, re-closable food storage bags, cereal bags, water bottle case overwrap, salt bags, pallet wrap and stretch film, wood pellet bags and produce bags are all accepted.

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 vet coffee, fitness class, fun cribbage, wood carving, Bingo, 500 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 and a birthday lunch.

Call the Senior Center to find out about the dates, times and details of these and other special events.

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, November 10th: 12:00 - 4:00 pm

8-Hour Course for "First Timers"

There are none scheduled at this time.

Did you know? If you are 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!

Recycle Smart

Keep plastic bags out of your recycling cart



Recycle Smart: Keep Tanglers Out of Your Recycling

"Tanglers" is a recycling industry term for items that get wrapped around equipment at recycling sorting facilities. You may not realize this, but all the recyclables that you combine in your curbside recycling cart must be separated by material, or they cannot be sold to companies that make products out of them.

Items like plastic bags and stretch film, holiday string lights, electrical cords, rope, garden hoses, clothing and chains are all considered *tanglers*. These items become tangled in sorting equipment. Workers can spend hours each day removing them, causing costly processing delays. However, some of these items are recyclable at drop-off centers since drop-offs collect items separately. They can be sent directly to market without sorting.

The following list are tanglers that can be recycled at drop-offs:

Plastic Bags, Stretch Film and Air Pillows

Reduce/Reuse: Avoid using plastic bags by bringing your own bag(s).

Recycle: Take clean, dry bags and stretch film to large retailers or grocery stores, or deposit them in the drop box in the vestibule of City Hall. Some other businesses have collection containers too.

Trash: Non-stretchy cellophane, wet or food contaminated bags, plastic handles.

Holiday/String Lights and Electrical Cords

Recycle: Many city halls (including Ham Lake's) and recycling centers collect these items for recycling. Scrap metal and electronics recyclers also accept them.

Metal Chains/Ropes/Garden Hoses

Reduce/Reuse: Ideas of what to do with old, leaky garden hoses abound on the internet. Having some spare rope on hand is usually a good idea.

Recycle: Metal chains can be recycled with scrap metal.

Trash: Rope and garden hoses cannot be recycled. If you can't repurpose them, worn rope and damaged hoses must be thrown away.

Clothing

Reduce/reuse: There are many outlets for clean, usable clothing. Some food shelves, drop boxes, thrift stores and various charitable pickup services accept usable clothing. If items are ripped or torn, it's best to use them as rags or donate them to organizations that accept rags.

Go to *AnokaCountyMN.gov/RecyclingDirectory* for additional information.

Hole-in-One Hall of Fame

Congratulations to the following golfers at Majestic Oaks Golf Club who got a hole-on-one recently:

- Alex Blaha from Minneapolis 175 yards on Executive Course #2 with a 7-Iron
- Julie Braastad from Ham Lake 80 yards on Executive Course #9 with a 9-Iron

Ham Lake Business Spotlight: AgeWise Services

AgeWise Services is a new business in Ham Lake that helps people navigate Medicare plan options: "Uniting Medicare and peace of mind."

Joslyn Harris Gates, the owner of AgeWise Services, is an independent insurance broker for many different carriers such as HealthPartners, United Healthcare, Medica and more. She works with her clients at no cost to them to find the best Medicare coverage for their particular situation and budget. She uses information including doctors (in any specialty), hospitals, medical devices and prescription medications to help make the best decision.

"Instead of calling the phone numbers on TV you can call me. We'll sit down face-to-face and go over your specific life situation to find the best fit," said Joslyn. "I can also help people with their process of signing up for original Medicare."

There are four different Medicare "parts." Part A and B are usually automatic for most people when they turn 65. Parts C and D are enrollment-based. They cover different healthcare costs: doctor visits, medical equipment, some home healthcare services, prescription drugs, dental care, vision care and more.



AgeWise Services owner Joslyn Harris Gates with her husband Nate and their dog Rocky

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Rather than having to figure out this process alone, Joslyn helps her clients decide which coverages and carrier(s) are best for them with their particular health needs and budget.

Joslyn loves working with the age group of people from retirement into their senior years. She said, "There's so much we can learn from them. I grew up with my grandma living at my parents' house, and she's my favorite person. We always have a good time together. I like connecting with and meeting new people and wanted to work in a way that I can continually build relationships and help educate."

October 15th through December 7th is the annual enrollment period for those on Medicare who want to make changes to their coverage for the upcoming year. Most people are first eligible for Medicare

when they turn 65 and should start the enrollment process three months before their birthday. Joslyn can help you sign on to any of these.

If you have any questions and are approaching retirement and/or age 65, consider AgeWise Services to help you through the Medicare process smoothly and easily.

Visit AgeWise Services at www.agewisemn.com for information to get you started. When you're ready, call Joslyn directly at 612-868-8407, email her at joslyn@agewisemn.com or fill out the Contact Form on the website.

The AgeWise Services office is located in the Vocate co-working space at Crosstown Mall (Highway 65 and Crosstown Blvd in Ham Lake).

Grow & Establish Your Local Business: Professional Seminar with Industry Experts

Are you a new, current or future small business owner who could benefit from industry expert advice? Whether you're an established business, newly created or thinking about starting one, this seminar is for YOU! You'll hear from business professionals in each area of expertise to be sure your business is set up for success. Featured Presentations Include:

- Small Business Basics: Legal advice from a licensed attorney with best practices to set up your business
- Financial Expertise: Funding, banking, accounting and tax guidance
- Human Resources and operational best practices from start-up to succession
- Industry experts: Marketing, IT best practices, networking tips and self-care

This full-day seminar is hosted by the Ham Lake Chamber of Commerce and will be held on Thursday, November 9th from 7:30 am-5:00 pm at Vocate in Ham Lake. Registration is required. The \$45 registration fee includes free breakfast and lunch. Please register at:

www.hamlakeareacc.org/events/establishingalocalbusinessseminar

Questions? Email them to kari@hamlakecc.org.



Where & When

Full Day Seminar Thursday, November 9, 2023 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM

ocate

17565 Central Ave NE Suite 200 Ham Lake, Minnesota 55304 \$45 to attend FREE Breakfast and Lunch!

Advance Registration Required www.hamlakeareacc.org

Questions? email to kari@hamlakecc.org

GROWING & ESTABLISHING YOUR LOCAL BUSINESS! HAM LAKE AREA ed imlakecc.org

Community Calendar

Oct 2: City Council mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm

Oct 9: Planning Commission mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm

Oct 11: *The Ham Laker* ads and articles deadline for the October issue @ noon

Oct 16: City Council mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm

Oct 23: Planning Commission mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm

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