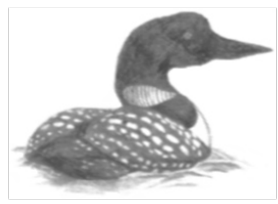


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THE Ham Laker

Published by the City of Ham Lake, Minnesota

July 2023 ~ Volume 38, No. 7

Fireworks Display • July 1

Mark your calendars for Ham Lake's Fireworks Display! They'll begin at dusk at Lion's Park on Saturday, July 1st.



Freedom Festival • July 1

Celebrate Freedom on Saturday, July 1st with an amazing afternoon of food and fun at the annual Ham Lake Freedom Festival.

The Festival kicks off at 3:00 pm in Ham Lake Lion's Park and ends with the city's fireworks display you won't want to miss!

Freedom Festival will host a number of great family activities such as an obstacle course and inflatables. Kids can practice their archery skills at an archery stand hosted by the BSA.

We will once again hold an Artisan Craft Fair and Business Expo featuring multiple craft vendors as well as informational booths from 3:00-9:00 pm. Join our charitable gambling team at 4:00 pm for Bingo in the pavilion, followed by live music by the Shotgun Drama Junkies.

Food and beverage vendors will be set up in the parking lot near the pavilion so you can enjoy delicious eats and sweet treats throughout the event.

Back by popular demand is 500 FREE pork sandwiches sponsored by Upper Midwest Athletic Construction. These begin at 6:00 pm and are available first-come-first-served until they run out.

The annual Ruck & Roll 5-mile Walk/Run hosted by 13th Hour Training and Self Defense will begin at 4:00 pm. For those who want something less intense, try the Freedom Fun Run at 4:30! No need to worry about being a professional runner for this one—it's only 0.5K! (After all, we don't want to overdo it!)

For full event details plus registration information for both the Ruck & Roll and the Freedom Fun Run, go to the Ham Lake Chamber's website at: www.hamlakeareacc.org/events/freedomsfestival

City Hall Closed

City Hall will be closed on Monday, July 3rd and Tuesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day. The City Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 5th.

Ham Lake Golf Tourney

Wednesday, August 9

Wacky's back, bring your friends! We are back with a Wacky Wednesday theme at the golf course for our 43rd annual Ham Lake Area Chamber of Commerce Open Golf Tournament!

The tournament will be held at The Refuge Golf Club in Oak Grove on Wednesday, August 9th. Prizes will be awarded to the most wacky team theme! Additional prizes will be awarded for our golfers as well, including a chance to win \$10,000 with a hole-in-one.

After a fun-filled afternoon of 18 holes and friendly competition, relax with a delicious dinner and entertainment included with your golf registration.

Thank you to our Loon Elite, Eagle and Par Sponsors for helping to make this event memorable!

For more information and to register online, please see our event webpage at www.hamlakeareacc.org/events/golfopen. We hope to see you there!



Ham Lake Farmers Market is Back

Our 7th season of the Ham Lake Farmers and Artisan Market kicked off on Wednesday, June 21st in the Mickman Brothers Parking lot (14630 Hwy 65 NE, Ham Lake). The Market will be held every Wednesday from 3:00-7:00 pm through September 27th.

Whether you're looking for food or fun, you're sure to find plenty to please your palate. From syrup to salsa, berries and baked goods, our Market carries a colorful assortment of locally-grown fresh produce, herbs, kettle corn, cotton candy, salsa, Kansas City-style barbecue sauce, beef, chicken, pork, eggs, honey, maple syrup and pickled items.

Some of the vendors attending this year are The Saucy Mamma, Bernie's Bloody Mary Mix, Shekinah Wellness, Humblebeez Honey, Rice Creek Farm, Windmill Creek Inspirations and many, many more. Food trucks will also be there with both "real" food and sweet treats!

For information on which vendors and food trucks to expect each week, check out our website at: www.hamlakeareacc.org/events/farmersmarket and weekly updates on Facebook and Instagram.



Night to Unite

Night to Unite (N2U) is the first Tuesday in August, which is August 1st in 2023. We are looking forward to seeing everyone! Through N2U we work to:

- Build strong, safe, and united neighborhoods
- Heighten crime prevention awareness
- Strengthen police-community relationships

Planning an event for your neighborhood can be as simple as turning on the outside lights, locking your doors and inviting your neighbors over to your front yard. To register your party, go to this link:

www.anokacounty.us/formcenter/sheriffs-office-13/night-to-unite-Registration-92

Once your party is registered, you will get an email with the flyer, instructions, any other important information.

Registration closes July 18th.

The Anoka County Sheriff's office is the law enforcement agency for the following cities: Andover, Ham Lake, Columbus, Nowthen, Oak Grove, East Bethel, Linwood and Bethel.



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 **May 15, 2023** meeting the City Council took the following actions:

Approved items on the Consent Agenda included:

- Re-appointment of Safety Committee Members Mike Raczkowski, Andrea Murff and Jim Kappelhoff
- Resolution No. 23-21 scheduling a public hearing to vacate a portion of the drainage and utility easement located on Lot 12, Block 1, Timber Woods and Lot 1, Block 1, Sherman Woods in Section 35
- Approved Resolution No. 23-19 recognizing Mark Kollman for his 35 years of service on the Ham Lake Fire Department.
- Approved Resolution No. 23-20 recognizing Joseph Thomas for his 24 years of service on the Ham Lake Fire Department.
- Approve item 4.4 on the Consent Agenda amending portions of the Chicken Ordinance and increasing the number of chickens allowed from fifteen to twenty and also corrections as noted.
- Adopted Resolution No. 23-22 approving the request of Hany Omar, YSMN Properties LLC, and Faiz Jameel and Sami Sekhi of GT Auto Sales, requesting a Conditional Use Permit to operate GT Auto Sales, an auto sales and service, car repair and auto body shop, at 16905 Baltimore Street NE 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.

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

Approved items on the Consent Agenda included:

- Ordinance No. 23-03 regarding chickens
- Temporary One-Day Liquor License for the Brown Boys Benefit at the Willow Tree Winery on July 15
- Exempt Permit for Zachary NF Research Fund to hold a raffle on August 14, 2023 at Majestic Oaks Golf Club
- Rescinding Resolution No. 23-17 and adoption of Resolution No. 23-24 for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding of equipment for Public Works and City Hall
- Hiring Administrative Assistant II and summer seasonal employees in Public Works
- Resolution No. 23-25 scheduling a public hearing to vacate a portion of the drainage and utility easements located on Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 3, Creekside Farms
- Approval of several on-sale, Sunday on-sale and off-sale Liquor Licenses
- Approved the request of Seng Vang for a Temporary Conditional Use Permit to raise pigeons at 142 154th Avenue NE subject to requirements.
- Approved a Conditional Use Permit to operate Fleet Star Truck and Trailer, LLC (a full-service trucking terminal business) at 16522 Buchanan Street NE subject to requirements.
- Approve the Commercial Site Plan requested by Akil Ibrahim to construct a 12,613 square foot office/warehouse building for a truck terminal (Fleet Star Truck and Trailer, LLC) at 16522 Buchanan Street NE subject to requirements.

Oak Wilt Inspections to Start Soon

Remember, we are still in our “no-cut” period for oak trees, effective through July 15th. If you need to cut a tree before then, you must first get a permit.

Ham Lake Tree Inspectors will do drive-by inspections from public roads looking for signs of oak wilt starting August 1st.

Tree Inspectors will note addresses where trees with visible evidence of oak wilt are located and will send notices via U.S. Mail to property owners. Inspectors will offer to do closer inspections of the trees on the property with the property owner's permission.

If you have any tree-related questions, please contact John Witkowski at 763-235-1662.

Fire Department Calls

The Ham Lake Fire Department responded to 35 calls during the month of May: 20 during the day and 15 at night. The department spent just over 65 hours on calls with a total personal time adding up to 484 hours.

Year-to-date, the department has answered 162 calls compared with 162 calls at the same time last year.

May Building Permits

The City of Ham Lake issued 139 permits in May with a valuation of \$1,748,793.00.

The issued permits are as follows: three commercial remodel, two commercial signs, one temporary tent, one commercial miscellaneous, four residential new construction, three residential basement finish, four residential accessory buildings, ten residential deck, one residential demolition, one residential miscellaneous, one residential pool, one residential solar panel, one residential window and 30 roofing/siding.

Other permits include 43 mechanical, 22 plumbing and 11 septic installations.

Sheriff's Report

Thefts & Damage to Property

05.28 14xx 165 Ave NE—a mower on a trailer at the business was stole

Arrests

05.10 133xx London St NE—Obstructing Legal Process; deputies responded to a male physically lashing out at family members. He was arrested.

05.12 Hwy 65/Andover Blvd NE—Warrant Arrest; a deputy stopped a driver for not having a license plate. When identified, the driver had multiple warrants out of Mille Lacs County. She was arrested.

05.13 14500 Block Hwy 65 NE—DWI 3rd degree; a deputy observed a vehicle swerving all over the road and in the ditch at one point. Driver appeared impaired but stated he hasn't drank in over 6 months. He PBT'd .15 and was arrested.

05.14 Hwy 65/165 Ave NE – Warrant Arrest; a deputy saw a female driving a vehicle and he knew she had a warrant. She was stopped and arrested.

05.22 Crosstown/Xylite St NE—DWI 3rd degree; a deputy responded to a call of a vehicle that had gone off the road into a ditch at a creek. She located a male exiting a vehicle who appeared impaired. He PBT'd .24 and was arrested. He did not have a driver's license and charges were elevated due to a prior DWI.

05.28 35xx Interlachen Dr NE—Warrant Arrest; deputies were called to a physical domestic between a male and female. The female had four warrants out of Pine County. She was arrested.

05.29 18xx 153 Ave NE—Warrant Arrest; a DNR officer requested deputies to the location to arrest a male who has a MN DOC warrant. They arrived and took custody of the male.

05.30 150xx Lever St NE—No Contact Order Violation; a deputy was at a home for an unrelated reason when she saw a male who she knew had a No Contact Order against him by a female who lives in the residence. The order was confirmed and the male was arrested.

Scam Reports

The Sheriff's Office started to track scams several months ago because they are so common. Here are scams or scam attempts from the past month:

Home Repair Scam—The victim wrote a check for \$3,300 to a male to complete remodel work on the bathroom and deck. She called today because she has been unable to get ahold of the male. The victim began doing online research of the contractor and found many Yelp reviews of him taking customer's money and never completing the agreed upon work.

Fake Jewelry Scam—The victim was putting fuel in his vehicle when a male at a different pump asked him if he would like to buy some jewelry. He said he, his wife, and kids were down on their luck and he needed some money for gas and food. He said he felt bad for the family and gave the male \$500 for a Rolex watch and some other jewelry. When he went to sell the items he was advised they were fake.

Xcel Energy Scam—The caller reported receiving a phone call from a male named James saying he was from Xcel energy. The male reported he was going to shut their power off unless they gave them \$100 with their debt card. She did not give any money and are not out anything.

Student Loan Email Scam—“(Reporting Party's Name), Hello this is Quinn Cleur on behalf of the Student-Loan Debt Department. We tried to contact you at your home and did not hear back. Your Student-Loans have been marked as eligible for forgiveness under the new 2023 guidelines. Your case number is #82947, and your file will remain open in my system for only one more day. If you could please give your dedicated eligibility line a call at: 888-728-2074, we can have this applied immediately. Our office hours are 11am-7pm (EST) Monday-Friday. Thank You, Quinn Cleur”

TIP: The federal government will never contact you via phone or email, only via US Post Office mail.

August Issue Deadline: Wed., July 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

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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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612-978-2764

bkirkham@ci.ham-lake.mn.us

Jim Doyle (Council)

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Al Parranto (Council)

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aparranto@ci.ham-lake.mn.us

Jesse Wilken (Council)

763-458-4608

jwilken@ci.ham-lake.mn.us

CarFit Coming to Ham Lake Senior Center

CarFit is a FREE, interactive program that teaches participants how to make their personal vehicle "fit" them to increase safety and mobility. They review 12 key areas including seat belts, mirrors, head restraints and spacing. Each checkup takes about 20 minutes.

The event will be held at the Ham Lake Senior Center parking lot on September 9th from 9:00 am to noon. To schedule your appointment, please call the Ham Lake Senior Center at 763-434-0455.

This is not a driving test or mechanical inspection. For more information, visit www.car-fit.org.

Lawn Watering Tips in Droughty Times

Did you know that lawn and garden watering accounts for an average of 40% of total household water usage during the summer?

During drought conditions this is a problem because our drinking water is not getting replenished by rain and:

- Multiple, short waterings can damage turf roots, and help weed growth instead.
- Watering can create runoff from leaky or malfunctioning sprinkler heads and carry pollutants like grass clippings and excess fertilizer into ponds and our ditch system. The excess phosphorous can cause algal blooms which can be smelly and also harm aquatic life.



Lawn Care Tips

- If you are watering, water your lawn deeply once per week to equal 1-inch total of rain and watering.
- When you water, make it count by watering before 10:00 am when it's cooler and the winds tend to be calmer. This allows water to soak into the soil and be absorbed by the grass roots before evaporating.
- Check your irrigation system for leaks and misdirected heads. The UMN Extension has two fact sheets to help. You'll find them here: extension.umn.edu/soil-and-water/irrigation
- Make sure your downspouts water your yard and gardens and not your driveway, patio or sidewalk.
- Use fine fescue grass seed for sunny areas. It needs less water.

Please use less drinking water on your lawn!

Information from Coon Creek Watershed District.

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Happenings 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.

URGENT! Bus Driver Wanted! This is a paid position. Drive bus on Monday and Wednesday for lunches, and twice a month for grocery shopping. Inquire at the Ham Lake Senior Center Office

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.

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 over-wrap, salt bags, pallet wrap and stretch film, wood pellet bags and produce bags.

Senior Center Activities include vet coffee, 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 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, September 15: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Friday, November 10: 12:00 - 4:00 pm

8-Hour Course for "First Timers"

There are none 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!

Keep Sharps Out

Keep "sharps" out of your curbside recycling carts!

Sharps are syringes, lancets, used epipens, hypodermic pens or IV needles. Sharps should be taken to special drop-offs that dispose of them properly.

Why do sharps need to be managed separately? Injury and disease transmission occur when sharps are not managed properly.

Prevent injuries and disease transmission by disposing of these items safely. Recycling sorting facilities are not built to process sharps and workers can be injured by them. That is why many facilities throw away any black plastic bags of materials. No one wants a needle stick.

Proper Disposal

Used sharps may be stored in a puncture resistant container such as an empty laundry detergent bottle. Free disposal is available at the Anoka County Household Hazardous Waste Facility.

Go to AnokaCountyMN.gov/HHW for details.

Additional collection programs may exist at clinics and hospitals or through mail-back programs.

Recycling Event • July 22

Residents may drop off recyclable items at Recycle Technologies, 10040 Davenport Street NE in Blaine on July 22 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Two items can be recycled at no charge by presenting the coupon (right).

For a list of accepted items go to recycletechnologies.com/minnesota-recycling.

Note: Furniture and carpet/carpet pad will NOT be accepted at this event.

To improve traffic flow during the event please use the entrance on 99th Lane NE (from Hwy. 65 turn east onto 99th Ave N).

Contact Recycle Technologies at 763-559-5130 or the City of Ham Lake Recycling Coordinator at 763-434-9555 if you have any questions prior to the event.

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

Anoka County Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility

Anoka County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility is at 3230 101st Avenue NE in Blaine. The Household Hazardous Waste Facility accepts many materials that should not be put in your curbside trash or recycling cart.

Besides pesticides, painting and refinishing products, you may not realize that the following materials are also accepted:

- Automotive Products (antifreeze, gasoline, used motor oil and used oil filters)
- Fluorescent Bulbs (including HID and CFL's)
- Household Batteries (alkaline, lithium ion, cell phone, power tool, button and rechargeable batteries)
- Lead tackle
- Sharps (syringes, lancets, used EpiPens®, hypodermic needles, pen needles and IV needles) Sharps must be placed in a rigid, puncture-resistant plastic container.

Go to AnokaCountyMN.gov/HHW for hours, the complete list of materials accepted and transportation guidelines.

RECYCLE 2 ITEMS FREE

This coupon entitles the bearer to recycle two (2) items free on Saturday, July 22, 2023 at:

Recycle Technologies, LLC
10040 Davenport Street NE
Blaine, MN 55449-4423
Phone: 763-559-5130

Drop off hours are 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

This coupon must be presented at the time the items are recycled and bearer must provide a driver's license or some form of identification showing he/she is a resident of Ham Lake.

Night to Unite at Cedar United Methodist Church

Cedar United Methodist Church wants to meet their neighbors for Night to Unite on Tuesday, August 1st. All ages are welcome to join them from 5:00-8:00 pm at their location at 17541 Jefferson St. NE in Ham Lake. They'll have live music, a car show, games and food. See you there!

Attention Silver Sneakers and Silver & Fit Members

Anytime Fitness Ham Lake (1460 133rd Ln NE, Unit B) offers Silver Sipper Sessions for seniors 65+. Come for a coffee, stay for a workout! These classes are growing so there are some time changes:

- Monday/Tuesday/Thursday: 9:15 and 10:00 am
- Tuesday: 11:00 am

These are first-come, first-served. Staff will hand out tickets to the first 15. After those are taken, the next 15 will be handed out for the 10:00 session, then for the Tuesday 11:00 session.



12-Step Recovery Program

Overcomers Outreach is an international community of 12-Step support and Bible study groups that are Christ-centered and minister to men and women suffering the consequences of any addiction or compulsive behavior.

Participants recover together as they meet to study, grow and share God's Word. Overcomers Outreach welcomes everyone regardless of age, race, gender, lifestyle, background or belief. Believing that Jesus Christ is their "higher power," they serve as a bridge between traditional 12-Step recovery groups and churches of all denominations.

Overcomers Outreach meets weekly on Tuesday evening from 6:30-8:00 pm at Ham Lake Alano (13536 Central Avenue, Ham Lake). Participation is 100% free, although free-will donations are always appreciated. If you have questions or would like more information, call 763-447-9012.

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Ham Lake Business Spotlight: North Metro Storage

If you travel Highway 65 at all going to and from Ham Lake, you've seen the campus of North Metro Storage on the east side of the highway just south of 143rd Avenue.

North Metro Storage offers a wide variety of self-storage options in a clean and secure location that's easy to use and affordable. You can choose a unit from 25 to 250 square feet that's heated with hall-way access, or one that's non-heated with drive-up access.

Megan Luciano is North Metro's Regional Storage Manager. She handles property maintenance and will be the person you see in the office on-site.

When asked how long people typically store their things there, she said, "Everybody intends to be short-term, but tenants typically rent for about six months. People will clean out their house before they move, then want to get settled after the move before getting their things out of storage."

Most tenants choose month-to-month rentals, with no deposit required. 6-month and 12-month leases are options, too, if you know you'll need a unit that long. You'll get a bit of a price break.

North Metro Storage also offers secure outdoor parking for those who want to store a vehicle, boat or RV. The property is fully fenced with recorded surveillance cameras going 24/7.

Some of the benefits of choosing North Metro Storage are the free use of dollies and flatbed carts, well-lit and clean aisles and buildings, available online payment or auto-payment, and ground-level access. All the tenants have their own code to get in and out of the electronic gate, so only staff and tenants can access the property.

Megan offered this storage tip: "It's really important with a cement floor not to put things like cardboard

boxes right on the cement. The temperature will change and the humidity settles on the cold cement. If you put cardboard right on it, it'll get musty. We recommend using a pallet, blocks of wood or even just a sheet of plastic under them."

You can find more storage tips on the website, as well as a few items you may NOT put in your unit. You'll find the website informative and very easy to navigate.



Megan Luciano, NMS Regional Storage Manager

North Metro Storage is located at 14205 MN-65 in Ham Lake. Their website is www.northmetrostorage.com. You can start your rental process directly on the website or by calling 763-434-3234.

Hole-in-One Hall of Fame

The following golfer at Majestic Oaks Golf Club got a hole-on-one recently:

- Connor Mogensen from Andover • 140 yards on Executive Course #7 with an 8 Iron
- Connor Mogenson from Andover • 165 yards on Executive Course #5 with a 9 Iron (no, this is *not* a misprint—Connor has two this season!)
- Brandon Boisvert from Coon Rapids • 164 yards on Signature Course #15 with a 7 Iron
- Taylor Kunkel from Ham Lake • 174 yards on Executive Course #1 with a Pitching Wedge
- William Schuhwerck from Andover • 90 yards on Executive Course #9 with a Pitching Wedge

Vacation Bible School

Stellar- VBS at Spirit of Christ Lutheran Church, 2749 Bunker Lake Blvd in Ham Lake.

Sunday, July 23 to Thursday, July 27 from 6:00-8:00 pm • Kids from preschool (age 3) through 5th grade. Register at: Spiritofchristhamlake.org

Or use the QR code:



Community Calendar

July 3-4: City Hall will be closed in observance of Independence Day

July 5: City Council mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm

July 10: Planning Commission mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm

July 12: *The Ham Laker* ads and articles deadline for the August issue @ noon

July 17: City Council mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm

July 24: Planning Commission mtg, City Hall 6:00 pm

JULY 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	1/8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



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