

# PSA

## Feb. 11 – Mar. 3

The American Red Cross continues to face a critical blood shortage and is issuing an emergency call for eligible blood and platelet donors of all types to give NOW and help save lives. Blood donations are being distributed to hospitals faster than donations are coming in. Commit to give and make a difference. Use the Blood Donor App, visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment.

### **Upcoming blood donation opportunities:**

Visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) (where you can download the FREE Red Cross Blood Donor App) or call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make your appointment:

<b>Tues.</b>	<b>2/12</b>	10:00-4:00	Brainerd VFW in Brainerd
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>2/14</b>	12:00-6:00	Palisade Assembly of God Church
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>2/14</b>	10:00-4:00	CRMC in Crosby
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>2/15</b>	8:00-2:00	CRMC in Crosby
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>2/18</b>	12:00-6:00	Elks Lodge in Wadena
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>2/20</b>	12:00-6:00	American Legion in Pequot Lakes
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>2/20</b>	12:00-6:00	Sebeka High School
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>2/22</b>	12:00-5:00	Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Baxter
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>2/27</b>	2:00-7:00	Upsala High School in Upsala

**Cass County Public Health** is hosting some upcoming walk-in **Immunization Clinics** for children who are on MA/MnCare or who are un- or under-insured.

Select immunizations are available for adults who are un- or under-insured:

Wed		9:30-11:30	Pine River-Backus Family Center in P.R.
<b>Fri</b>	<b>2/8</b>	10:00-12:00	Northland Area Family Center in Remer
<b>Tues</b>	<b>2/19</b>	10-12 & 1-2:30	Pillager Family Resource Center / Pillager
<b>Tues</b>	<b>2/26</b>	9:00 – 11:00	Cass Co. Health, Human & Vet. Serv

For more information, call 218-547-1340 ext. 246

**Crow Wing County** and **Lakes Area Law Enforcement** have come together to introduce **The Vitals App**. Vitals is the new app that helps protect people with visible and invisible conditions and disabilities by voluntarily communicating critical information to law enforcement and first responders. Each Vitals individual is assigned a Vitals beacon that transmits a private and secure signal to authorized first responders that are within 80 feet, allowing them temporary access to critical information that can help the individual and law enforcement de-escalate what could become a dangerous or emergency situation. To learn more, or to register for the service, visit [TheVitalsApp.com](http://TheVitalsApp.com) or text VITALS to 797979.

Brainerd Lakes Area residents are encouraged to **turn in your empty toner and ink jet cartridges** at either of **The Office Shop** locations (Brainerd or Aitkin) for recycling. By doing so, you will be helping the **Zachary Johnson Kids with Cancer Fund**. The fund offers grants to surrounding area families with a dependent child (age 21 or under) who has any form of cancer. It can be used for anything that the patient or caregiver wishes. If you are interested in applying for a grant, contact Riverwood Foundation or stop at either Office Shop location. Or to donate, visit [RiverwoodHealthCare.org/foundation/giving](http://RiverwoodHealthCare.org/foundation/giving) or call 218-927-5158.

The **City of Brainerd** will use **Crow Wing County Alert** powered by EverBridge to make sure you know about issues that may affect your safety. This system allows the City of Brainerd to contact thousands of residents in seconds, so you can find out about an emergency right away. Receive important messages from the City of Brainerd via email, phone, and much more! Get up-to-the-minute information about severe weather, road closures, snow emergencies, event cancellations, and much more! To register for the Crow Wing County Alert, visit [ci.Brainerd.mn.us](http://ci.Brainerd.mn.us).

History and Brainerd Public Schools history, is made every day. The missions of **BPS Archives** are to protect and preserve the history of BPS, its students, graduates, teachers and staff through the collection and display of BPS-related artifacts. John Erickson, the BPS Archivist & Curator, is looking for artifacts, items and donations to BPS Archives that may currently be hidden away in your attic or basement just waiting to be displayed, talked about and appreciated. If you have any items (BHS letter jackets, flyers, photos, pamphlets, pins, crowns, etc) that you would like to donate to the cause, please call John at 218-330-1780 or send an email to [BPS.History@isd181.org](mailto:BPS.History@isd181.org).

In an effort to provide a safe environment to share stories, provide support and education to those who have lost a loved one to suicide, a **Survivors of Suicide Loss Support Group** invites you to its bi-weekly **Monday** meetings on the first and third Monday of each month. The group meets from 7:00-8:30 at Lutheran Church of the Cross on County Road 13 in Nisswa. This is a group for adults only. With questions, contact Jeri Borgwarth at [jeriborg@hotmail.com](mailto:jeriborg@hotmail.com)

If you are looking to **volunteer** more in 2019, please visit the **United Way of Crow Wing and Southern Cass County's** website at [UnitedWayNow.org](http://UnitedWayNow.org). There, you can click on the Volunteer tab. Choose the organizations you'd like to help or the people you'd like to work with and the United Way will send you notifications when volunteer opportunities arise that you have chosen! No commitment... Just Volunteer... make a difference – visit [UnitedWayNow.org](http://UnitedWayNow.org).

**Beginner Ski Lessons** for those 13 years of age or older are available at **Mount Ski Gull** every **Saturday** from 11:30-1:00. The cost is \$29.99/person/lesson. Lift ticket and Rental are additional. Please call ahead to reserve your spot – 218-963-4353. For more information, visit [MountSkiGull.com/lessons](http://MountSkiGull.com/lessons)

Want to introduce your kids to the sport of **Curling**? You can bring your child/ren ages 6 to 18 to the ice of the **Brainerd Curling Club** for a fun and FREE **introduction to the sport of Curling**. They'll learn some of the rules and etiquette of the game while working on skill development. Each session will be led by experienced instructors. Participants should wear clean, rubber-soled shoes, and warm, loose-fitting clothes. (Temp is 45). Parents can watch from the comfort of the social area. Call the Brainerd Curling Club for more information. The sessions run from 2:00 to 4:00 on:

**Sun. Feb 17**

**Sun. Feb. 24**

The **Crossing Arts Alliance** in downtown Brainerd offers fun **events for KIDS** every **second Saturday** of the month from 10:00 to 11:30... AND from 12:00-1:30. A \$3 per child (or \$5 per family) donation for materials is requested (but no child will be turned away for inability to pay). Pre-registration IS REQUIRED for the classes.

**Mar. 9** Intro to Animation

**Apr. 13** Watercolor Painting

**May 11** Figure Studies

For more information and to register (required), visit [CrossingArts.org](http://CrossingArts.org).

Free **federal tax forms and instructions** on how to file the forms are now available in limited quantities at the **Brainerd Public Library**. The Internal Revenue Service has provided forms and instructions for the 1040 and the new Schedules 1-6. For all other forms, Kitchigami Library System patrons may use the library computers to access them online, and printing will be available for 15 cents per page. Computer access is free for anyone with a library card in good standing. For more information call 218-829-5574 or visit the library's Facebook page at [facebook.com/brainerdpubliclibrary](https://facebook.com/brainerdpubliclibrary).

The **Brainerd Public Library**, as part of a generous grant from the Essentia Health St. Joseph's Foundation, purchased **three light therapy boxes** that have been shown in clinical studies to alleviate many of the symptoms of Seasonal Affective Disorder. They are positioned in comfortable reading areas throughout the library and are available for patrons to use in the library when they wish. For more information call 218-829-5574 or visit the library's Facebook page at [facebook.com/brainerdpubliclibrary](https://facebook.com/brainerdpubliclibrary).

Having cancer is often one of the most stressful experiences in a person's life. But support groups help many people cope with the emotional aspects of cancer by providing a safe place to share and work through feelings and challenges. **Any female with a cancer** diagnosis is invited to this **supportive and caring group** facilitated by professionals and meets the second Friday of the month from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Essentia Health-St. Joseph's Medical Center. Speakers will also be asked to attend and discuss various topics throughout the year. For more information about the Women's Cancer Support Group please call 218-828-7685.

Everyone in **Brainerd School District 181** are invited to review and provide feedback on the schematic design for the new drop-off and pick-up zones and controlled entrance at **Forestview Middle School** in Baxter. Visit the Forestview page on **Blueprint181.org** to review the plans and submit input. A computer is available for public use in the Welcome Center, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday- Friday at the Washington Educational Services Building, 804 Oak Street in Brainerd. The input submitted by the public will be shared with the Board of Education and the project oversight team for consideration.

**Ruby's Pantry** is a non-profit food ministry serving rural communities. There are no income qualifications to participate in Ruby's Pantry – Ruby's Pantry is for everyone who eats and would like to save on their grocery budget. Ruby's Pantry is "a hand up, not a hand out." For a \$20 cash donation you will receive a "share" with up to \$120 or more worth of groceries. There are no limits of how many shares that can be purchased at this time. Ruby's Pantry food distribution for the Brainerd Area is at the National Guard Armory the **2nd Tuesday of the month**. Food distribution begins at 11:00 a.m. and ends at 12:30 p.m. Ruby's Pantry has no government funding. It is primarily funded by the contributions of our guests. Participants should bring containers to put their food in. Contact The Journey North Community Church at 218-824-5617 about volunteer opportunities at Ruby's!

Time to JUMP IN THE LAKE! Teams are forming now for the **2019 Polar Plunge** at Breezy Point Resort. The plunge will take place on **Sat. Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>** starting at 1:00. Get yourself and/or your team ready, gather pledges and get ready to jump! Check-in will start at 10:00, the plunging starts at 1:00. Visit [PlungeMN.org](http://PlungeMN.org) for more information and to register!

Time to start prepping your team for the **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Good Sam Bowl** coming to Jack's House **May 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>**! Organize your team, make a pledge, contribute a prize, sponsor a bowler, donate to the silent auction or simply make a tax-deductible donation! For more information or to reserve a lane, call 825-2505.

## **2/11 – 2/17**

**"The Pleasures of Cottage Gardening"** will be presented by Master Gardener JoAnn Weaver on **Tues., Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>** at 12:00 p.m. at the Brainerd Public Library. A cottage garden traditionally has an informal appearance, contains old-fashioned flowers, and is located close to the home. This class will review cottage garden design principles and highlight plants suitable for Zone-3b cottage gardening. Register for this free program by calling the library at 218-829-5574.

The **Kiwanis Club of Brainerd** invites the public to a **Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser** on **Tues. Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>** at First Lutheran Church in Brainerd. The dinner will run from 5:00-7:00, and is catered by Chef Mike's Catering, LLC. The cost is \$7 per meal and the proceeds will support the Brainerd High School Key Club.

It's time for a Hawaiian themed **Business After Hours** hosted by **Prairie Bay** in Baxter. The Brainerd Lakes Chamber's Business After Hours will be held at Prairie Bay on **Tues. Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>** from 4:30-6:00. Those who attend this business networking event will enjoy their tropical indoor paradise with Hawaiian inspired appetizers, free mini Mai Tais, leis and cash bar! Attendees will have a chance to win a \$100 and 2- \$25 gift cards that can be used at Prairie Bay Grill, Sherwood Forest or the Iron Range Eatery. Winner of the People's Choice Costume Contest for the Best Dressed Hawaiian will receive a \$25 gift card! RSVP by contacting the Brainerd Lakes Chamber or going online to BrainerdLakesChamber.com.

Friends, family and fans of **Ed Yunker**, a.k.a "Mr. Geritol Frolic, are invited to an **80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Open House** that will take place at the Eagles Club in Brainerd on Wed. Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. The celebration will take place from 2:00-5:00 and organizers say NO GIFTS PLEASE.

**Auditions for Brainerd Community Theatre's** production of **A Few Good Men** are scheduled for **Tuesday, February 12th and Wednesday, February 13th** at 7:00 pm in CLC's Dryden Theatre. The cast calls for 19 men and 1 woman. Particularly seeking actors to play enlisted Marines/Navy personnel. Auditions will consist of readings from the script. Rehearsals will begin mid-March. Opening night is May 2nd. For more information, contact the director - patrick.spradlin@clcmn.edu or 218-855-8255.

The **Salvation Army in Brainerd** is celebrating **Valentine's Day** with a **Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser** on **Thurs. Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>** from 6:00-7:00. For a \$5 requested donation, you'll enjoy spaghetti with choice of sauce, a side salad, garlic bread and a homemade dessert. RSVPs are required by calling 829-1120. The dinner will be held at the Salvation Army at 208 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Brainerd. The proceeds will be used toward their youth programs.

Please join the **Brainerd Lakes Chamber** at their annual **Eggs & Issues** breakfast on **Fri. Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>** at the Wilson Bay Dining Room at Madden's Resort from 7:30-9:30 a.m. There will be an interactive panel discussion with their team of Lakes Area legislators. Network with other members and get the inside scoop on issues that will impact your business or organization in 2019! Individual seats are \$25. Please register for the breakfast online at BrainerdLakesChamber.com.

The **Brainerd Public Schools Foundation** announces the **2019 general scholarship application is still open** for Brainerd Public Schools seniors to apply. BPSF hosts over 80 different scholarship funds and plans to award over \$100,000 again this year. The general scholarship application **will close on Fri. Feb. 15 at 11:59pm**. Brainerd Public Schools seniors are encouraged to apply. Visit BPSF.org for the application link or visit with Jenny Barnhart in the Student Success Center at BHS.

The **Nisswa Youth Scholarship Organization** is accepting registrations for the **Miss Nisswa Scholarship Pageant**. Girls must be in 11th or 12th grade or homeschool equivalent. Over \$4,000 worth of educational scholarships and cash prizes will be awarded. Areas of competition include: Talent, interview, written essay, onstage question and interview. The Nisswa Youth Scholarship Organization (NYSO) is a non-profit organization whose main purpose is to recognize purpose-driven, civic-minded youth in the Nisswa Area by awarding educational scholarships. Message organizers at Nisswa Youth Scholarship Organization Facebook page or call 218-831-0138 to get a registration. **Registrations are due by February 15th.**

Join the fun at this year's **Nisswa Winter Jubilee, Fri. Feb. 15 – Sun. Feb. 16** in and around Nisswa! Get in on the snow sculpting contest, the smooch races, enjoy the wood splitting competition, bean bag competition and musical entertainment! For more information on the Jubilee, visit Nisswa.com. On Sunday, don't forget about the **Nisswa Fire Department's Annual Fishing Derby** on Nisswa Lake from 12:00-2:00. It's just \$5 per hole and there will be raffles and prizes! For more on the Fishing Derby, search Nisswa Fire Department on Facebook.

It's time for the **15<sup>th</sup> Annual Fishing For Ducks** ice fishing contest, **Sat. Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>** on Mille Lacs Lake, Garrison Bay. Gates will open at 9:00 and the contest runs from 12:00-3:00. 100 total prizes will be awarded, plus on-ice raffles. The first place angler wins \$20,000 cash! Tickets are available at FishingForDucks.org or at local outlets. Tickets are \$40 per person, per hole. (There is a kick-off party Fri, the 15<sup>th</sup> at the Y-Club that is free for paid contestants.) The event is hosted by The Garrison Wildlife Chapter of Ducks Unlimited.

The **Midwest Ice Racing Association** (MIRA) returns to race on Big Sandy Lake near McGregor on **Sat., Feb 16<sup>th</sup>**. 2-wheels, 4-wheels, they'll be racing and spectators are welcome! There will be refreshments available for sale on the ice. To register to race visit MidwestIceRacing.com.

The **Pine River United Methodist Church** is hosting their annual **Ham Dinner** on **Sat. Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>** from 4:30 – 7:00pm. The cost is \$10. Kids 5 and under free. Tickets are for sale at the door. All are welcome. For more info, call 218-587-2409.

**St. Rita's Parish** in Hillman invites the public to a **Prime Rib or Chicken Dinner** on **Sat. Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>**. Dinner will be served from 5:00-7:30. The prime rib dinner is \$18. The parmesan chicken dinner is \$15. It is handicapped accessible and a cash bar will be available.

**Good Samaritan Hospice, Nisswa** is hosting a **Hospice Gala** at Wilson Bay Lodge at Madden's on Gull Lake on **Sat. Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>** from 5:00-9:00. Dress in formal attire and be ready to have fun. Enjoy a silent auction, hors d' Oeuvres, dinner, and music by the "Q" Swing Band. The event is being held to support Good Sam's Client Dreams fund. Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased at Good Sam Nisswa, Good Sam Bethany and Good Sam Pine River. For more information, call 963-9452.

It's a **Reunion Concert** including Jack Franzen & Boys, The Center's Theatre, and Diane Saumer & Friends coming to Franklin Auditorium on **Sun. Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>** at 2:00. Enjoy classic country, 50's, rock, jazz, and swing music, along with a radio show performance. Tickets are on sale now at The Center on Kingwood Street in Brainerd and are \$15 for members of The Center.... \$18 for non-members... \$5 for children 12 and under. They will be \$18 at the door...seating is limited. Proceeds benefit **The Center**.

## **2/18 – 2/24**

Join **Wild & Free Wildlife Rehabilitation program** for **Pints For A Purpose** at the Jack Pine Brewery in Baxter on **Wed. Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>**. From 5:00-8:00, for every pint sold, Jack Pine will donate \$1 to Wild & Free. Papa Murphy's pizza will also be available for donation to Wild & Free.

The **Brainerd Public Library** will host an engaging program featuring Scandinavian folk music on **Thurs., Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>** at 12 noon. Arne Anderson, Paul Wilson, Mary Abendroth and Bob Anderson of the Brainerd area will present a **program about violin building and Scandinavian folk music**. It is free to attend. For more info, call 829-5574.

The **40<sup>th</sup> Annual International Eelpout Festival** will be taking place in Walker **Thurs. Feb. 21-Sun. Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>**.

**Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity** and its **Women Build** program invite the public to **Snowshoe By Candlelight** at the beautiful Cragun's Legacy Golf Course on **Fri. Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>** from 5:00-7:30. Enjoy a winding 9-hole loop – complete with a hot cider stop – ending with complimentary soup, bread and dessert with hot chocolate at the Legacy Grille. A cash bar will be available. There will be live music from Brendan Flynn and Almost Blue. The cost is \$35 per family of 4... \$15 for individual. All the proceeds will benefit the Women Build Home.

A **Benefit Spaghetti Dinner** will be held **for Louis Gorman** at the American Legion Post 255 in Brainerd on **Sat. Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>** from 5:00-8:00. Louis, who many know as a CNA in and through his job at an area gym, suffered a stroke on New Year's Day and he's only 45. In addition to the dinner, there will be a meat raffle and a silent auction. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children. (they are looking for a DJ for the event as well...if you can help, send an email to [ALLGOR12@outlook.com](mailto:ALLGOR12@outlook.com)).

Don't miss **Shaun Johnson & The Big Band Experience** coming to Franklin Arts Center's auditorium on Sat. Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>. The show starts at 7:00. Enjoy the sounds of Emmy award winning Shaun Johnson (lead vocalist for Tonic SolFa) and his big band as you take-in tunes from the "Great American Songbook." Tickets are only \$35 and available on our station's website.

**St. Rita's Parish** in Hillman will host **Quilt Or Cash Bingo** on **Sun. Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>** starting at 1:30. In addition to winning a quilt or cash, you could win door prizes. Lunch will be served after the games. The event is handicapped accessible.

## **2/25 – 3/3**

Join the Brainerd Lakes Chamber for another **Business After Hours** on **Tues. Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> at The American Institute of Nondestructive Testing**. Business After Hours runs from 4:30 to 6:30 and guests are encouraged to bring their business cards, be ready to network, have fun, learn more about this chamber business and maybe win a prize!

Time to JUMP IN THE LAKE! Teams are forming now for the **2019 Polar Plunge** at Breezy Point Resort. The plunge will take place on **Sat. Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>** starting at 1:00. Get yourself and/or your team ready, gather pledges and get ready to jump! Check-in will start at 10:00, the plunging starts at 1:00. Visit [PlungeMN.org](http://PlungeMN.org) for more information and to register!

**The Warehouse** in Pine River will host its **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Fundraiser – an Indoor Flea Market, Crafts, Garage Sale and Silent Auction** on **Sat. Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>** from 8:00-2:00 at its location on Norway Avenue. The fundraising event will feature a variety of vendors, garage sale items, a bake sale and a silent auction (auction runs til 3:00). Goodies will be available. All the proceeds will support the Warehouse's After-School Program and Community Center. Call The Warehouse with questions – 587-5404.

Get ready for a fun **Benefit for The Shop** in Brainerd, **Sat. Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>** at the Franklin Art Center in the upper gym! The Rock of Ages Community Dance will take place and everyone is welcome! From 3:30 to 8:00, enjoy music, games, prize drawings, entertainment and other surprises! Admission is based on age, but ranges from 99-cents to \$9.99. Proceeds will benefit The Shop, which is Brainerd/Baxter's Youth Defined Space at 723 Washington Street in Brainerd. (To make a donation for admission to help at-risk or homeless youth, please call 454-0009. For more info, visit [Facebook.com/TheShopBBYC](https://www.facebook.com/TheShopBBYC)).

Join **Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity** for a **Wine & Food Pairing** on **Sat. Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>** at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Crosby. The event will run from 6:00-10:00 and include a social, program and wine/food pairing with heavy appetizers. Tickets are \$25 per person and available at St. Joseph's church office or online at [LakesAreaHabitat.org](http://LakesAreaHabitat.org) and click on Events. Proceeds will benefit two homes being built for two different families.