

# PSA

## Jan. 2 – Jan 13

**JANUARY IS NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH** and 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>Thurs.</b>	<b>1/3</b>	12:00-6:00	Nat. Guard Armory in Brainerd <b>838-LIFE</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>1/4</b>	9:00-3:00	Horizon Health in Pierz
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>1/4</b>	12:00-6:00	Hallett Center of Crosby
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>1/10</b>	12:00-6:00	Church of J.C. of Lat. Day Sts Brainerd
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>1/15</b>	12:00-6:00	Hill City Assembly of God in Hill City
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>1/16</b>	12:00-6:00	Emily City Hall in Emily
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>1/17</b>	12:00-6:00	Our Savior's Luth. Church in Pequot Lks.
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>1/17</b>	12:00-6:00	First Lutheran Church in Aitkin
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>1/18</b>	9:00-3:00	First Lutheran Church in Aitkin
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>1/18</b>	12:00-6:00	Good Sam. Society Bethany in Brainerd
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>1/22</b>	1:00-7:00	St. Francis Center In Little Falls
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>1/23</b>	12:00-6:00	St. Francis Center in Little Falls
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>1/24</b>	8:30-2:30	St. Francis Center in Little Falls
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>1/24</b>	12:00-6:00	Motley United Methodist Church in Motley
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>1/25</b>	12:00-6:00	Bertha-Hewitt High School in Bertha
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>1/31</b>	8:00-2:00	Camp Ripley Armory in Little Falls

**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>1/11</b>	10:00-12:00	Northland Area Family Center in Remer
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>1/15</b>	10-12 & 1-2:30	Pillager Family Resource Center / Pillager
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>1/22</b>	9:00 – 11:00	Cass Co. Health, Human & Vet. Serv

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

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)

**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).

Tootie Harris is pleased to announce that she will be providing the **Silver & Fit Exercise & Healthy Aging Program** at the Nisswa Community Events Center to help older adults achieve improved health through regular exercise. The Silver & Fit program was designed to provide Medicare beneficiaries with opportunities to improve their fitness by offering no cost or low cost access to contracted trainers across the country. The class schedule will start in **January 2019 on Tuesday and Thursday** mornings at 10:00. Advanced registration is required. Call Tootie at 712-330-6312 to reserve your spot today.

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).

**\*\*January is National Mentoring Month and Kinship Partners is looking for mentors** for a number of lakes area children who are on a waiting list. If you would like to make the difference in the life of a child here in our community, please contact Kinship Partners. Mentors can be individuals, couples, or families. It doesn't cost a lot of money, just a little time. Visit [KinshipPartners.org](http://KinshipPartners.org) for more information.

**The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Brainerd Jaycees Ice Fishing Extravaganza** is set for **Sat. Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>** on Gull Lake's Hole-In-The-Day Bay (ice conditions-permitting). Tickets to participate are \$50 and can be purchased on-line at [IceFishing.org](http://IceFishing.org), or at participating businesses (Fleet Farm, Cash Wise Liquor Brd/Baxter, Holiday Stores in Baxter, Nisswa and Brainerd, S&W Bait & Tackle, and Super America in Baxter). For more information in the contest, the rules, parking, beneficiaries and more, visit [www.IceFishing.org](http://www.IceFishing.org).

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).

## **1/1 – 1/6**

Help **Junior Achievement** ring in the New Year and celebrate the nearly 7,000 Brainerd Lakes Area students served by over 200 community volunteers! All you have to do is head to **Jack Pine Brewery** in Baxter for **Pints for a Purpose on Wed. Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>**, drink some awesome, locally brewed beer, and Jack Pine Brewery will donate \$1 of every pint sold to support JA's K - 12 financial literacy, entrepreneurship and workforce readiness programs. Papa Murphy's will also be on hand serving up hot, yummy pizza. Giving back has never been so easy. Or delicious. Pints for a Purpose runs from 5:00-8:00pm.

**The American Red Cross** is hosting a two-day blood drive at the National Guard Armory in Brainerd on **Wed. & Thurs. Jan 2 & 3** from 12:00 – 6:00 each day. If you are able to donate blood during this drive, please call 838-LIFE, that's 838-5433.

Join the growing **Brainerd Lakes Area Children's Museum** for the first **open play time** of the new year on **Sat. Jan 5<sup>th</sup>** from 10:00-12:00 at the Brainerd Public Library. Kids will enjoy the variety of hands-on exhibits, STEM, imaginative play and gross-motor items and exhibits. The event is great for toddlers through early elementary aged children. No registration or fee is required to attend. Contact the Brainerd Library for more info.

It's time for the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sample's Agate, Gem and Mineral Shop's Agate Show** on **Sat. Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>** at the Northland Arboretum in Baxter. The "buy-sell-trade" event will run from 10:00-5:00 and admission is only \$1. Enjoy over 20 vendors, food and door prizes. Free agate stickers go to all kids 13 and under. For more information, call 218-537-3988.

The public is invited to the **Lakes Area Music Festival's Winter Journey** at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Nisswa on **Sun. Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>** from 2:00-3:30pm. World renowned baritone John Taylor Ward will be joined by pianist Scott Lykins for this concert. No tickets are required, donations are encouraged. For more info, visit [LakesAreaMusic.org](http://LakesAreaMusic.org).

The public is invited to come hear some of the **Lakes Area Music Festival's** finest musicians perform your favorite Christmas music on **Sun. Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>** at the First Congregational United Church of Christ. The "**12<sup>th</sup> Night of Christmas Community Concert**" will run from 7:00-8:00pm. A free-will offering will be collected which will benefit the Brainerd High School Music program.

## **1/7 – 1/13**

The community is invited to a **Self-Healing Communities presentation** addressing childhood trauma and what individuals can do to help. The event will be held from 5:30-8:00 on **Mon. Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>** at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Brainerd. Free childcare and dinner will be provided for those who attend. ACE's and Resiliency is a project stemming from the Self-Healing Communities initiative sponsored by Bridges of Hope, along with support from several community partners, including Journey North Church. For more information, visit [BridgesOfHopeMN.org](http://BridgesOfHopeMN.org).

Join **Dennis Drummond Wine Company** as they host **Business After Hours** on **Tues. Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>** from 4:30 to 6:00pm at their location in Brainerd. Attendees will enjoy Italian meatballs with marinara sauce, a variety of cheeses and crackers, veggies and dessert. A cash bar, coffee and water will be available. Plus you could win prizes, so bring your business cards. Please RSVP in advance at the Brainerd Lakes Chamber's website. The event is free to attend.

**Mary Mack's** endearing, slightly quirky stage presence and musical surprises make her popular with a wide range of people. With her mandolin in hand and off-kilter stories of life as a former polka band leader, music teacher, and all-around confused individual, Mary delivers a one-of-a-kind performance that is sure to make you laugh. Mary Mack will be onstage at the Pequot Lakes High School Theater on **Sat. Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30 pm. Ticket information can be obtained online at [GLAPA.org](http://GLAPA.org).

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sunny Swilling Memorial Ice Carousel Extravaganza will take place south of Camp Ripley the weekend of **Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>**. The crew is going for a world record-size ice carousel that will be built – along with other smaller carousels – on Green Prairie Fish Lake, south of Camp on Highway 115. For more information on the weekend's events, which will feature fun for the whole family, visit [MNIceFest.com](http://MNIceFest.com).