

PSA

Apr. 9 – Apr. 21

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 or call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities:

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

Wed.	4/10	12:00-6:00	CentraCare Health in Long Prairie
Thurs.	4/11	9:00-3:00	CentraCare Health in Long Prairie
Fri.	4/12	8:00-2:00	Pierz Healy High School in Pierz
Fri.	4/12	12:00-6:00	Shoe Sensation in Baxter
Mon.	4/15	10:00-4:00	GLAR in Baxter
Wed.	4/17	10:00-4:00	Unity Bank in Pierz
Thurs.	4/18	11:00-5:00	Karvonen Funeral Home in Wadena
Thurs.	4/25	9:00-2:00	Aitkin High School in Aitkin
Fri.	4/26	11:00-5:00	First Lutheran Church in Brainerd
Mon.	4/29	12:00-6:00	St. John's Lutheran Church in Aitkin
Tues.	4/30	12:00-6:00	St. John's Lutheran Church in Aitkin

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.
Fri	4/12	10:00-12:00	Northland Area Family Center in Remer
Tues	4/16	10-12 & 1-2:30	Pillager Family Resource Center / Pillager
Tues	4/23	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 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 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.

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.

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

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.

Apr. 13	Watercolor Painting
May 11	Figure Studies

For more information and to register (required), visit CrossingArts.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. 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.

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.

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.

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!

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.

The **Minnesota Department of Health** is recommending that all homes in MN be tested for radon every 5 years. Radon is an odorless, colorless and tasteless gas that occurs naturally in the soil and can enter home through cracks and openings in floors and walls. Crow Wing County is providing **FREE RADION TESTING KITS** to residents who want them. The test kits are available in the CWC Land Services building at 322 Laurel Street behind the historic courthouse. There is a limit of one kit per household. Testing is easy and takes 3 days to get your results. If you have questions, call 824-1010.

Time to start prepping your team for the **16th Annual Good Sam Bowl** coming to Jack's House **May 5th & 6th**! 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.

Attention, drivers! Spring is here, and along with sun and warmth you can expect post-winter road hazards—like pot holes, uneven pavement, springtime showers, and an increased number of cyclists and pedestrians. Did you know that 2018 was the deadliest year for pedestrians since 1990? This spring, slow down on wet roads, avoid potholes, and stay on the lookout for pedestrians and cyclists.

Do you have **what it takes to “March the Mississippi?”** The Cuyuna Regional Medical Center encourages Crow Wing County residents to sign up for their **2019 Community Health Challenge**, which will give adults 18+ extra motivation to start – or keep – exercising as we head through spring! From April 1-June 20th, log your own miles as the community tries to “walk” the length of the Mississippi River “from Lake Itasca to the Gulf of Mexico” and back! As a community, we need to log 4,700 miles! At the end, one participant will randomly be chosen to win a travel voucher worth \$2,000! The deadline to register is April 15th... Register and learn more at CRMCHHealthChallenge.org.

The **Nisswa Chamber of Commerce** is accepting **nominations for the 2019 Nisswa Citizen of the Year**. Nominees should be outstanding servants of Nisswa, demonstrating passion and commitment toward the betterment of their community. Those nominated do not need to be Chamber members, or do they need to be citizens of Nisswa. Summer residents qualify. To nominate a candidate, submit a written letter, postmarked no later than Mon. Apr. 29th. For more information, visit Nisswa.com or call 963-2620.

Central Lakes College is proud to announce that **Mary Aarigaard, Play Off the Page**, will be offering youth theater workshops this June for students entering 1st through 4th and 5th-9th grades. Those entering 1st-4th grades will have the opportunity to create their own characters and work together to create a play. They will meet from 10:00-12:00 June 10-14, *but must register BY JUNE 7th*. Those entering 5th-9th grades will meet from 10:00-12:00 June 17-21 and *must register by June 14th*. Both workshops will meet in Dryden Theater at CLC Brainerd Campus. Registration fee is \$55/ person and is non-refundable. To register call 218-855-8253.

4/8 – 4/14

Area students and their families are invited to attend one of two PSEO, or **Post-Secondary Enrolment Options**, information nights at **Central Lakes College**. The events are on **Mon., Apr. 8** and **Mon., Apr. 15** from 5:30-6:30 pm in the Brainerd campus cafeteria. Parents/guardians and friends are welcome. For more information, contact Phil Olsen at 218-855-8035

Youth On Stage Open Mic night will be held **Mon, Apr. 8th** from 6:30-8:30 at the Brainerd Eagles Club. This time, participants are asked to meet in the "Eagle Underground Venue" in the downstairs venue. Anyone who has a family-friendly talent they'd like to showcase, this is your chance! For more information, visit Facebook and search Youth On Stage Open Mic Night.

The annual **Bataan Memorial Service** in Brainerd will be held on **Tues. Apr. 9th** inside the Bataan Memorial Hall at the National Guard Armory starting at 10:00. All are welcome at the event that will honor and remember the Heroes of Bataan. Refreshments will be served

Join the Brainerd Lakes Chamber for another **Business After Hours** on **Tues. Apr. 9th** at the **Cuyuna Regional Medical Center's new clinic in Breezy Point**. Business After Hours runs from 4:30 to 6:00 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! Refreshments will be served and everyone will receive a complimentary outdoors safety and first aid kit. There will also be live entertainment. The new clinic is located across from the Breezy Ice Arena on the south side of County Road 11.

DEADLINE is NOON on WED. APR. 10 to register for **Kinship Partners' 12th Annual Purses for Partners** brunch on **Sat. Apr. 13th** at the Grandview Lodge in Nisswa. This spring brunch for women and girls will include a silent and live auction consisting primarily of purses, fashion accessories, spa packages, gift certificates, jewelry and more. There will be plenty of purses and items for the young girls who attend. Registration and the silent auction will start at 9:00 (NEW TIME)... The brunch and program will start at 10:00. Tickets are \$40 for adults... \$20 for those 12 and under. Get tickets online at KinshipPartners.org.

As part of the **Alzheimer's Education Series**, the public is invited to a class entitled "**Effective Communication Strategies**" on **Wed. Apr. 10th** at Heartwood Senior Living in Crosby. As those with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias progress in their journey, their ability to use words is lost, so families need new ways to connect. Learn to decode the verbal and behavioral messages delivered by someone with the disease and find new ways to connect. The Free class will run from 5:30-7:00. Registration is required. To register, please call 218-998-3603 or send an email to KLund@alz.org.

The **Brainerd Sports Boosters** are hosting the **5th Annual Tapped & Corked Tasting Event** on **Sat. Apr. 13th** at the Essentia Health Sports Center in Brainerd from 4:00-7:00pm. Sample over 200 craft beers and wines (must be at least 21 to attend). A limited number of tickets (available after Feb. 1st) are available for \$40 in advance (\$50 at the door, if available). Get tickets at Cash Wise Liquor in Brainerd or Baxter, the BHS Activities Office, Jack Pine Brewery, Gull Dam Brewing or at Roundhouse Brewery. They can also be purchased online at BrainerdSportsBoosters.org.

The **Brainerd Public Library** is offering **free classes** to area residents who are new to computers, haven't used them for a while, are a little unsure and uncomfortable, or need a refresher. All of the classes are taught using computers equipped with Windows 10 and Microsoft Office 2013, unless otherwise noted. Class size is limited to 10 students and those interested can register by calling 218-829-5574. Part 2 of the Introduction to Windows 10 class will be held on **Friday April 12**, from 2:30-4:30 p.m., and will cover new features including the Microsoft Edge browser and OneDrive cloud storage service. Attendees must have the ability to use a mouse and keyboard and have some familiarity with previous versions of Windows. Attending Windows 10 part 1 prior to taking this class is recommended but not required. Classes are taught by Laurel Hall, public services library assistant at the Brainerd Public Library.

Legendary pianist **George Winston** will perform a solo **concert** on **Fri. Apr. 12th** in the Chalberg Theater at CLC in Brainerd. The concert will start at 7:30. Tickets are \$25 for adults.... \$18 for those under 18 and can be purchased by calling 855-8199 or online CLCPerformingArts.com.

The **Legacy Chorale** invites the public to its performance of "Wanting Memories – World Wide Songs of the Journey Called Life." Shows will be held **Fri. Apr. 12th** at 7:30 at the Cascade United Methodist Church in Deerwood.... **Sat. Apr. 13th** at 7:30 at the Holy Cross Catholic Church in Onamia....and on **Sun. Apr. 14th** at 3:30 at Tornstom Auditorium in Brainerd. The shows are free to attend, although a free will donation will gratefully be accepted. For more info on the shows, visit LegacyChorale.org.

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. The next class will be **Sat. Apr. 13** and will feature Watercolor Painting. For more information and to register (required), visit CrossingArts.org.

Everyone is invited to the **Garrison Fire & Rescue Relief Association's 32nd Annual Fireman's Ball** on **Sat. Apr. 13th** at the Green Lantern east of Brainerd on Highway 18. Social Hour starts at 5:00, dinner will be served at 6:00. *October Son* will be the live entertainment and there will be a raffle (including guns) following the dinner. Raffle tickets are available at the door and from any Garrison firefighter. Proceeds to the Relief Association for fire department equipment.

The **Pine River-Backus Boy Scout Troop #73** will be hosting its annual **Pancake Breakfast** on Palm **Sunday, Apr. 14th** from 8:00-1:00 at the Pine River American Legion (Post 613). Enjoy pancakes and sausage, coffee, mild and juice. The scouts will be serving the pancakes. All are welcome. The cost is \$8 for adults... \$5 for those ages 4 to 10....Free for those 0-3. The fundraising event is used to help offset the cost of attending summer camp for the individual scouts in the troop.

St. Michael's Church in Motley is hosting **Ham Bingo** on **Sun. Apr. 14th** starting at 7:00. Prizes include 10 hams, 10 \$10 cash awards, and \$50 Blackout. Lunch will be served and there will also be door prizes for kids. All are welcome.

4/15 – 4/21

As part of a **“Get Prepared” Senior Series**, the public is invited to **“OLD AGE IS NOT FOR SISSIES”** event at the Pine River United Methodist Church on **Tues. Apr. 16th** from 1:00-3:00. This presentation is entitled “More Changes?” and will feature St. Croix Hospice and Making a Plan. There is no charge to attend, just information. Bring your questions with you!

Join the **Brainerd Lakes Area Community Foundation** for the **Brainerd Lakes Area Women Making Waves Dinner** on **Tues. Apr. 16th** at the Arrowwood Lodge at Brainerd Lakes. The dinner will run from 5:30-8:30 and the event will honor the 2019 Women Making Waves Award Recipient, Ruth Gmeinder. Register online at CommunityGiving.com/Events

Lights, Camera, Action... it's Movie Night at **Central Lakes College** as **CLC Performing Arts** presents the film “Neither Wolf Nor Dog” at **Tues. Apr. 16th** at 6:30 pm at the Chalberg Theater in Brainerd. Adapted from the acclaimed novel Neither Wolf Nor Dog by Kent Nerburn, the story follows a white author who gets drawn into the heart of contemporary Native American life in the sparse lands of the Dakotas by a 95 year old Lakota elder and his side-kick. The film is 110 minutes. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased online at CLCPerformingArts.com or by calling 855-8199.

As part of the **Alzheimer's Education Series**, the public is invited to a class entitled **“Understanding & Responding to Dementia Related Behaviors”** on **Wed. Apr. 17th** at Heartwood Senior Living in Crosby. Learn how to decode some behavioral messages, identify common behavior triggers and learn strategies to help intervene with some of the most common behavioral challenges of Alzheimer's Disease. The class will run from 5:30-7:00. Registration is required. To register, please call 218-998-3603 or send an email to KLund@alz.org.

There are too many hurting kids in Minnesota. 2 moms, with 1 mission, are **Stepping UP** to do something about it. Attend a meeting to learn who the hurting kids are in our community and how we can all Step UP to make a difference. A Step UP MN Meeting will be held **Thurs., Apr. 18th** from 6-7pm at the **Brainerd Public Library**. For more information: <http://www.StepUpMN.org> or call 651-373-3457.

The **Brainerd Public Library** is offering **free classes** to area residents who are new to **computers**, haven't used them for a while, are a little unsure and uncomfortable, or need a refresher. All of the classes are taught using computers equipped with Windows 10 and Microsoft Office 2013, unless otherwise noted. Class size is limited to 10 students and those interested can register by calling 218-829-5574. An introduction to Microsoft Word 2013 will be held on **Thursday, April 18** from 2:30-4:30 p.m., and will cover how to type and edit a letter using Word's tools and features, as well as saving and sharing files. The ability to use a mouse and keyboard is required. Classes are taught by Laurel Hall, public services library assistant at the Brainerd Public Library.

Take the kids to **Pequot Lakes** for its annual **Easter Egg Hunt** on **Sat. Apr. 20th** from 9:00-11:00. The hunt and activities will take place in and around the Trailside Center starting at 9:00. The egg hunt starts at 10:00. Enjoy crafts, cookies and coffee AND have your photo taken with the Easter Bunny! The event is free to attend. For more info, PequotLakes.com.