

PSA

June 4 – June 16

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. 6/5	10:00-4:00	Central Lakes College in Brainerd
Thurs. 6/6	1:00-6:00	Light of the Cross Church in Garrison

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	6/5	9:30-11:30	Pine River-Backus Family Center in P.R.
Fri	6/14	10:00-12:00	Northland Area Family Center in Remer
Tues	6/18	10-12 & 1-2:30	Pillager Family Resource Center / Pillager
Tues	6/25	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.

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.

Sat. June 8	Learning about Graphic Design
Sat. July 13	Origami
Sat. Aug 10	Dance Movements
Sat. Sept. 14	Mosaics

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

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.

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. 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 Journey North Church 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!

Central Lakes College is proud to announce that **Mary Aarlgard, 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.

The **Brainerd Public Schools Above and Beyond Award** is intended to annually recognize employees who demonstrate a positive attitude that inspires others and consistently go above and beyond what is expected so students can be successful. **Nominations** are now being accepted. Eligibility: All employees, full- or part-time, are eligible for this award regardless of their job classification or other awards received. Nominations: A student, parent, staff member or community member can nominate an employee. Nominations can be completed online and submitted electronically or completed by hand and mailed in. To submit an electronic nomination go to www.isd181.org. To receive a copy of the nomination form to submit by mail, contact Janet Horn at Washington Educational Services Building, 804 Oak St., Brainerd, MN 56401. Nominations will be **accepted through June 7**. Selection process: The selection process will involve a selection committee to determine winners. The committee, made up of district staff and administrators, will review nominations and make recommendations.

The Brainerd Writers Alliance is encouraging excellence in literary writing. We are currently accepting writing entries for this year's contest. Deadline for submission is at noon on Sat. June 22, 2019. The Brainerd Writers Alliance welcomes submissions under the following regular categories: Fiction, Creative Non-Fiction and Poetry. Winners in each category will receive a cash prize and free entry to this year's writers' conference. Details on our guidelines and how to submit your entries are located on our website at www.BrainerdWriters.com

Would you like to make a difference in the life of a child? **Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota** is seeking **individuals and couples who can serve as foster parents** to children, especially older children and sibling groups. Ideal foster parents have compassion for kids and are open to caring for children from different backgrounds. Professional training and ongoing support is provided. If you can open your home and your heart to a child and would like to learn more, visit FosterCareMN.org.

The **Downtown Aitkin Farmers Market** will open every Saturday through Labor Day from 9:00-1:00 at the historic Butler Building. Fresh Minnesota grown and raised food, fruits, vegetables, plants, herbs and spices, honey, maple syrup, free range chickens, eggs and more! For more info, visit TheButlerBuilding.org.

The **Nisswa Area Farmer's Market** is open every Thursday from 8:00-12:30 in the Nisswa American Legion parking lot. Fruits, meat, veggies, baked goods, crafts... it's all there!

The **Brainerd Lakes Area Farmers Market** will be up and running every Tuesday at the Franklin Art Center parking lot ... And every Friday at the Vikingland Harley Davidson parking lot in Baxter through the fall from 8:00-12:30. Find locally grown fruits, veggies, plants, meats, baked goods, and more!

Northern Lakes Youth Hockey Association will be hosting a garage/rummage sale on Friday, June 28 and Saturday, June 29 from 8:00 am-5:00 pm and 8:00 am-2:00 pm, respectively at the Trailside Center in Pequot Lakes. **Donations for the sale are being accepted now through June 27.** You may drop off items on Thursday, June 27 from 5-9 pm at the Trailside Center or if you'd like to donate before that time, you may contact Lacey at 218-851-8117. When donating items please remember they need to be in good, clean condition. We are looking for big ticket items like furniture, tools, hunting and fishing items, etc. Please no VHS tapes, printers/computers, mattresses/box springs and only good condition children's books. Stop by the Trailside Center for some good finds, buy a raffle ticket for a chance to win \$10,000 or play some fun games for some give-aways!

The **Mark Munson School of Rock** is held at First Lutheran Church in Brainerd with the final concert held July 25th at Tornstrom Auditorium. The "school" - open to students in 5th-12th grades - is open to guitarists, drummers, keyboardists and vocalists. Learn from established area musicians, develop skills and friendships, and rock out! The cost is \$230 per student, scholarships are available. The Mark Munson School of Rock Camp is a program of The Crossing Arts Alliance. 2019 enrollment is open online at CrossingArts.org.

Brainerd Public Schools is seeking the community's input in defining what it means to be a Warrior; what are the ideas and values that make us Warriors? As you ponder the topic, you are asked to take a short survey found at BluePrint181.org regarding the school district's culture - past, present and future.

The **Brainerd Public Library** has launched its annual **Summer Reading Program** that includes free events, activities, story times, movies and more to encourage the love of reading in children of all ages. The theme this year is "It's Showtime at Your Library!" Participants can win prizes for reaching their reading goals now through the end of July. Register anytime now through July. For more info, call the library at 829-5574 or visit the Library's Facebook page by searching Brainerd Public Library.

6/3 – 6/9

The public is invited to an **Open House and informational gathering** regarding the massive **Highway 210 Construction Project** that will be starting just after the 4th of July between Crosby/Ironton and Brainerd. The open house will be held **Tues. June 4th** from 4:00-7:00 at Crosby High School in the Forum Room. All are welcome to stop by in that window and get information, ask question and learn about the detour that will be in place during the construction time. For more info, visit MnDOT.gov.

The first official **Nisswa Turtle Race** of the 2019 season will take place on **Wed. June 5th** in downtown Nisswa at 2:00. Registration starts at the Turtle Track next to the Nisswa Chamber building at 1:00 and for \$5, you can race a turtle for fun and bragging rights! All turtles are provided. For more info, visit Nisswa.com.

Pints For A Purpose at Jack Pine Brewery on **Wed. June 5th** will go to support veterans, first responders and EMS heroes! Be at Jack Pine Brewery between 3:00-8:00 where \$1 from every pint will go to the cause, plus an additional \$1 will be matched by pint sponsors. Pizza will also be provided by Papa Murphy's Take N' Bake pizza for an additional donation. Fund from the night will be used in helping support a mission of getting our nation's true heroes in the great outdoors to heal and share their stories of service and sacrifice.

Historic **Sherwood Forest** in Lake Shore will host **Happy Hour for Grassroots Concerts** on **Wed. June 5th** from 5:00-7:00pm. The wind and appetizer social features hors d'oeuvres from Prairie Bay catering and donated wine samples from Cash Wise Liquor. A minimum \$15 will be taken at the door with 100% of the proceeds benefitting Grassroots Concerts, a non-profit concert series that has showcased lakes area musical artists for 32 years.

A Lunch Fundraiser has been scheduled to help the family of little **Achille Sam** (son of Darios Sam & Beth Sabourin) on **Thurs. June 6th** at the Mille Lacs Band Community Center-District 1 from 11:00-2:00. ALL are welcome to enjoy grilled bugers, hot dogs, brats, chips, beans, fruit and beverage. There will also be raffles and door prizes. Achilles is afflicted with Hirschsprung's Disease that is a congenital disability involving missing nerve cells. He's been in the hospital since his birth in January and needs to see a specialist in Ohio. The fundraiser will help his family get him there for treatment. For more info, call 218-330-1366.

"Donut" miss out! **Register your team for this year's Walk to End Alzheimer's by June 7th** - (which is National Donut Day) for a chance to win a gift card for donuts and coffee. One registered team will be selected. Teams can register at www.ALZ.org/Walk, and look up the Baxter Walk! Good Luck!

Join the fun at the **15th Annual Bachelor-Bachelorette Auction** on **Fri. June 7th** at Shep's on 6th! The fun starts at 7:00. Bid on a fun on-site date with one of the bachelors or bachelorettes – or more-so, their amazing prize packages! Enjoy a fun night as you raise money for the Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity, hosted by the Brainerd Lakes Area Women of Today. Learn more at BrainerdLakesAreaWomenOfToday.com or find them on Facebook.

It's **Take A Kid Fishing Weekend** in Minnesota, **Fri. June 7 – Sun. June 9th**. This weekend, Minnesota residents can fish without a license if they take children 15 or younger fishing. Even though Minnesotans 15 and younger do not need a license to fish any time of the year, Take A Kid Fishing weekend is a way for adults and kids to fish together, skipping the need to get a license. For info, visit MNDNR.gov/GoFishing.

The 20th Annual Nisswa Stamman, a Scandinavian folk music and dance festival, will be taking place on **Fri. and Sat. June 7th and 8th** in the Pioneer Village in Nisswa. Performers from Norway and Sweden, as well as the U.S., play this festival on several stages. Saturday's activities include a Fiddler's Parade (at 10:00), all day folk music, dancing, dance workshops, ethnic foods, children's tent with activities and wandering musicians. For more information, visit NisswaStamman.org or call 218-764-2994.

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Sat. June 8 Learning about Graphic Design (they will make a poster, postcard or button. For more information and to register (required), visit CrossingArts.org.

Crossing Arts Alliance celebrates **Worldwide Knit in Public Day** on **Sat. June 8** in downtown Brainerd. Knitters and other fiber artists are invited to join The Crossing Arts Alliance for Worldwide Knit in Public Day on Saturday June 8th from 11-3pm in downtown Brainerd. The event will be held in the parking lot on Laurel Street, next to Sage restaurant. Attendees are encouraged to bring a chair and their knitting. CrossingArts.org for info.

Sober Squad presents **A Walk 4 Hope** community event on **Sat. June 8th** at Lum Park in Brainerd. The Event will start at 11:00 with a Welcome. The walk starts at 11:15 with prize drawings at 1:45 and closing remarks at 2:00. A free Sober Squad T Shirt will go to the first 200 walkers. Sign a pledge to be clean and sober and create your own sign of hope. Lunch will be served. For more information, visit BridgesOfHopeMN.org.

Don't miss the **FINAL Sour Grapes Trail Run** on **June 7th and 8th** at the Northland Arboretum. The Sour Grapes Kids Races will take place on Friday at 6:00pm, with the Half Marathon Trail Run and 10.55K Trail Run/Walk to be held on Saturday at 7:30am. Register for any of the events online at SignMeUp.com/sourgrapes or call 829-8770. (Register by May 1st to get the early bird price of \$40 adults (\$50 after May 1)... \$15 kids until June 1st. Race day registration will be available as well. Proceeds from the event go to the Arb.

6/10 – 6/16

Is your girl heading off to Kindergarten or First grade in the fall? **Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin Lakes and Pines** is hosting a party to introduce girls to Girl Scouting. In addition, parents and caregivers will learn more about the leadership experience and find out about volunteer opportunities. The **launch party** for the future Girl Scout Daisies will be held **Mon. June 10th** from 5:30-7:00 at Brainerd High School. With questions, call 800-955-6032 or to learn more, visit GirlScoutsLP.org.

Ready to Party? Join the fun at the **Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity's 23rd Annual Dinner and Auction**. The party will be held **Mon. June 10th** at the Whitebirch Room at Breezy Point Resort. Tickets are \$75. For info and tickets, visit LakesAreaHabitat.org.

Are you ready for some fun? **Nisswa Chamber** members, their staff and families are invited to Safari North Wildlife Park on **Tuesday, June 11th** for **Nisswa Family Fun Day**. Get into the zoo anytime between 9:00-6:00 at a discounted price (\$10 for Adults....\$7 for kids 2-12). Purchase tickets in advance at the Nisswa Chamber office or by calling 218-963-2620. THEN, just check in at the zoo when you go!

Join **CrossFitGrow and Ardor Boutique** as they host **the Brainerd Lakes Chamber Business After Hours** on **Tues. June 11th** from 4:30-6:00 at their locations on Highway 371 in Baxter. Everyone is invited to stop by, enjoy some networking time, refreshments and learn more about the businesses. RSVPs are appreciated at BrainerdLakesChamber.com.

The **Crow Wing County Drug Coalition** will present a **community roundtable** in order to gather input from the community and ask for involvement on addressing the drug problem in and around Crow Wing County on **Tues. June 11th**. The roundtable will take place in the Brainerd High School Cafeteria from 4:00-6:00 and will feature a presentation from the Drug Awareness Coalition of Crow Wing County. For more info, visit CrowWing.us.

Everyone is invited to the **Nisswa Chamber's Family Fun Day at Safari North Wildlife Park** on **Tues. June 11th** from 9:00-6:00. Discounted Tickets are \$10 for adults... \$7 for kids 2-12 and can be purchased at the Nisswa Chamber office or by calling 963-2620. This is a great way for everyone to experience a great attraction at a discounted rate. The special rates are open to all Nisswa Chamber members, employees and their staff.

Bring the kids to **Safety Town in Aitkin Tues. June 11th – Thurs. June 13th** at Rippleside Elementary School. The program teaches kids ages 4 to 7 about safety in several areas: playground, bike, eye, animal and sun. Each day features a session in Safety Town, a kid sized "town" complete with buildings, vehicles, crosswalks, railroad crossing and a working stoplight. Registration forms are available at Rippleside Elementary, the Aitkin Library, and on the Aitkin Women of Today's Facebook page. 4 & 5 year olds are there from 8:00-9L30, 6 & 7 year olds are there from 10:00-11:30. The cost is \$10 per child and includes a tshirt.

Enjoy a bratwurst, chips and a drink during **Lunch At The Restore** on **Wed. June 12th** from 11:00-1:30. You'll find the Habitat for Humanity ReStore at 1110 Wright Street in Brainerd. Proceeds will go to the Deb Kowalzek build. For more info, LakesAreaHabitat.org

It's time for **2nd Thursday Happy Hour for a Cause** at Prairie Bay Grill & Catering on **Thurs. June 13th** from 5:00-7:00. Prairie Bay will provide a variety of hors d'oeuvres and Cash Wise Liquor of Baxter will provide a number of beverage samples. For a minimum \$15 donation per person, you will enjoy an evening of great food, great drinks and you'll learn more about a local non-profit. RSVPs are appreciated by calling Prairie Bay. By the way, this month, proceeds will benefit the **Mark Munson School of Rock**.

The Cuyuna Regional Medical Center sponsors **Music In The Park** at Crosby Memorial Park on **Thurs. June 13th** from 5:00-8:00. Plant vegetable seeds and take home a potted plant; assemble caterpillars and pizzas with fresh fruits and veggies; participate in potato sack races, an obstacle course, relay races and more at the event. Games for kids, prizes and fun, plus MUSIC from Top Hat Owls and the Cuyuna Rhythm Band will provide entertainment. Bring blankets or lawn chairs to sit on and enjoy the view of Serpent Lake. For more info, visit CuyunaLakes.com or call 218-546-8131.

The **Brainerd High School Key Club** is hosting an American Red Cross **Blood Drive** at the Brainerd High School cafeteria on **Thurs. June 13th** from 12:00-5:00. Register online at RedCrossBlood.org.

The Little Falls/Morrison County Airport will host a fly-in/drive-in pancake breakfast on **Sat. June 15th** from 7:00-11:00am. As part of the Little Falls Dam Festival, this will serve as a fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity of Morrison County. A Breakfast of French toast and sausage will cost \$8 for adults... \$5 for kids 5-12...and free for kids under 5. Funds raised will be used to help build Habitat for Humanity's next house. More info at 320-616-2084.

Aitkin County will present the **Rivers & Lakes Fair** on **Sat. June 15th** at Rippleside Elementary School from 9:00-2:00 and admission is free! See a bald eagle from Raptors of Minnesota, learn more about dragonflies and see a number of exhibits and programs. The Lake Superior Zoomobile will be there from 10:00-1;00 and you can even build a bluebird or bat house! Food will be available for sale. Great fun for kids of all ages. For more info, visit AitkinCountySWCD.org.

Celebrate Father's Day and the Arts on **Sat. June 15th** at **Crosslake Lutheran Church**. The theme is "This Is My Father's World." Music, art and refreshments will be on hand. All are welcome.