

PSAs Week of 7 / 11 / 22 A

BLOOD DRIVES:

Call **1-800-RED-CROSS** or visit RedCrossBlood.org to schedule a donation time or to find a drive near you. **NO WALK-INS at this time...**

The American Red Cross continues to experience *an emergency blood shortage* that has caused the blood supply to drop to the lowest level in at least six years. Donors of all blood types – especially type O – are urged to make an appointment to give now.

**MAKE SURE TO CHECK THE SEPARATE
DAILY / WEEKLY PSA LIST
IN THE STUDIO, TOO!**

7/11 – 7/17

The **13th Annual Brainerd Rotary Club's Peach-A-Palooza** is taking orders right now for peaches that come from orchards in Washington and provide the best quality peaches! 1 Layer (18-24 peaches) is \$29.... A double layer (36-48 peaches) is \$48. The **DEADLINE TO ORDER PEACHES is Mon. Aug. 1st**. Delivery will be in late August – early September. You will be contacted when peaches arrive. Orders can only be made online, so order now at BrainerdRotary.org.

Join **Crossing Arts** in Brainerd as they celebrate '**A Collection Of Souls From Around The World**', featuring the **photography of Claudia Allene (ah-LEEN), on display NOW**. Beginning in 2013, Claudia embarked on a three year solo journey across the globe, as she visited 41 countries, including Peru, China, Mongolia, India, and more. She documented her travels through photography, capturing the people and destinations she came in contact with along the way. This exhibition paints an interesting picture of the incredible world around us, one that we share with so many different cultures, wondrous sights, and precious souls. The exhibit will, then, be on display at Crossing Arts through Sat. July 30. An **artist reception** will take place on **Fri., July 22**, from 5:00 - 6:00 pm. Wine and light appetizers will be served. The public is invited to attend. Learn more online at CrossingArts.org.

Ruby's Pop Up Pantry will be up and running on **Tues. July 12th** at the Northern Pacific Center in Brainerd, hosted by The Journey North Church. The drive thru-style food distribution will start at 4:30 and go until 6:00. For just \$25 per share, you will receive up to \$120 worth of food (or more). The variety and amount of food varies each month. To learn more, visit RubysPantry.org.

Join us here at **Hubbard Radio in Baxter** as we host **Business After Hours** on **Tues. July 12th** from 4:30-6:00. While attending, you can network with Brainerd Lakes Chamber members while enjoying heavy appetizers and beverages supplied by B Merri Gastro Pub and Jack Pine Brewery. Learn more about the ins and outs of radio here in the Brainerd Lakes from General Manager Jeff Hilborn. Plus, stick around for a chance to win 4 MN Twins tickets, Cragun's "Staycation" gift cards and radio station T-shirts! Please RSVP online at BrainerdLakesChamber.com or call 218-829-2838.

Bean Hole Days will be held in Pequot Lakes on **Tues/Wed. July 12/13**. The fun starts on Tuesday, the 12th at 5:30 in South Trailside Park. Watch as the Pit Crew lowers the 5 large cast iron kettles of beans so they can cook overnight! Then on **Wednesday, the 13th**, enjoy the craft fair and kids activities all day, but be there at 11:30 for the crowning of King & Queen Bean and the raising of the beans... then the Free Beans will be served starting at 12:00! Enjoy a free bowl of beans, dinner roll and water. Also at noon, do not miss The Memories of Elvis Tribute in the park and at 1:00, there will also be a chance to purchase containers of beans to-go carside... the cost is \$10. Learn more online at PequotLakes.com. Learn, too, how you can get a "fast pass to gas" mug.

Taco John's in Brainerd will be hosting a **fundraiser** for the **Pohl Children's Foundation** on **Wed. July 13th** from 4:00-8:00pm. During that time, 20% of all sales will be donated to Pohl's Children's Foundation, which provides support and services to children and families who have experienced the loss of a child or parent – and provides a quality-of-life to children with life-threatening illnesses. For more info, visit PohlsChildrensFoundation.org.

Central Lakes Community Performing Arts presents Mollie B & SqueezeBox with Ted Lange on **Wed. July 13th** on the outdoor stage of the CLC Brainerd Campus on Wed. July 13th. Enjoy the music from this award-winning polka band starting that evening at 7:00. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors, and \$10 for those under 18 and CLC Students. Get tickets at CLCPerformingArts.com or call 218-855-8199.

The **Northern Pacific Center** in Brainerd will host a **Farmer's Market** on **Thurs. July 14th** in the parking lot of the NP Center from 4:00-8:00. The market will feature a wide variety of vendors from around the Brainerd Lakes area. To learn more, go online to NorthernPacificCenter.com/FarmersMarket.

Brainerd Public Schools will host a **Job Fair** on **Thurs., July 14** from 10:00 – 6:00 at Brainerd High School (BHS). The fair will take place in the Music Commons located off of the BHS North parking lot. This Job Fair is a great opportunity for job seekers in the Brainerd Lakes and surrounding areas to find a new job or even a new career with ISD 181. Individuals looking to join their Warrior Team will be able to meet in-person with representatives to discuss positions in Activities, Building & Grounds, Community Education, Food Service, Fun & Friends, and Transportation, as well as student support roles within our buildings. Brainerd Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to an inclusive workforce. With full-time employment, Brainerd Public Schools offers an excellent benefit package in addition to competitive wages. To learn more, visit ISD181.org.

The **City of Crosby** presents **Music In The Park** the SECOND and FOURTH Thursday in June, July and August from 5:00-8:00, with the next concert scheduled for **Thurs. July 14th**. Everyone is invited to grab a lawn chair or blanket, friends and family, and head to the shores of Serpent Lake at Crosby Memorial Park for these free concerts which will also feature food, giveaways and fun.

The Pillager Flea Market will be held at the Pillager Fair Grounds on **Fri. July 15th** from 9:00-5:00, sponsored by the Pillager Area Lions and the Cass County Pillager Fair Board. The market will feature vintage, household and unique items... refurbished furniture, chalk couture Kits, clothing, footwear, food, beverages, ice cream, antiques, live animals and more! All are welcome! The fairgrounds can be found at 207 East Second St. S. in Pillager.

The **6th Annual Crosslake/Emily Knights of Columbus**, in partnership with **Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity**, will host a **Scramble Golf Tournament** on **Fri. July 15th** at Crosswoods Golf Course in Crosslake. The cost is \$100 per person and includes golf, card, dinner and a swag bag. Bring your own foursome or they will put one together for you. Getting a Hole-In-One could win you a 2 year lease on a 2022 Ford F-150 from Timber Creek Ford. For details and sponsorship opportunities, go online to KC9657.MNKnights.org.

Disney's **NEWSIES – The Broadway Musical** will be presented by the **Greater Lakes Area Performing Arts** as a production of the Pequot Lakes Community Theater **starting Thurs. July 14th** at the Pequot Lakes High School Theater. Join GLAPA as they feature the musical tale of Jack Kelly, who dreams of a better life far from the hardships of the streets. When Joseph Pulitzer and William Randolph Hearst raise distribution prices, Jack finds a cause to fight for and rallies his army of newsies to strike! Tickets are \$14 for adults... \$12 for seniors... and \$10 for youth. Showtimes are **July 14, 15 and 22 at 6:30. AND July 16, 17, 23 and 24 at 2:00.** Learn more online at GLAPA.org.

Iconic Minnesota Americana rock band **Gear Daddies** is coming to Aitkin on **Fri. July 15th** for a rare Minnesota concert. Showtime is at 7:00 and will take place outdoors on Minnesota Avenue in front of Block North Brew Pub. The concert is part of **Long Lake Conservation Center's 1st Annual Nature Rocks Concert for Conservation.** Proceeds from the concert will pay for scholarships allowing students to attend Long Lake for outdoor adventure camps, daylong excursions, or traditional two-night immersive nature school field trips. In addition, Brainerd's classic rock band King's Ransom will also be performing. To learn more, visit LongLakeCC.org.

Join the **Lakes Area Music Festival** for a concert as part of its **Prelude Series** on **Fri. July 15th** at Tornstrom Auditorium at 7:30. The Thalea String Quartet will present music by a wide variety of composers – from Antonin Dvorak to the Beatles! Learn more at LakesAreaMusic.org. No tickets are required. Donations will be accepted at the door.

Celebrate Emily Day will take place on **Sat. July 16th** in Emily City Park! The day will start at 7:00 with the Pancake Breakfast at the St. Emily's Church Hall that will be served until 11:00, followed by live music in the park with Donnie G, The Band You Like, Kale Jones, Kate Switzer and Emily Hammer! Close out the music with Wanted from 6:00-10:30. Food booths, kids games, craft fair, medallion hunt, a beer garden, meat raffle, a cornhole tournament, the Miss Emily contest and more! Then, don't miss the FIREWORKS that will start at 10:30 over Lake Emily. Do not miss the fun!

The **Lakes Area United Way**, along with Essentia Health, will host its "**Llama Llama Read-O-Rama**" event on **Sat. July 16th** from 10:00-1:00 at the Serenity Now Alpaca Farm on Co. Rd. 15 in River. The free community children's event will help promote childhood literacy in the lakes area and will include Imagination Library Books read by local celebrities, a Touch-A-Truck area, hot dogs/chips with a free-will donation, snacks, concessions, live music, door prizes and REAL, LIVE ALPACAS! To learn more, visit Facebook and search Llama Llama Read-o-Rama.

The **17th Annual Butterfly Release** will be held at Pelican Woods Cemetery (rain or shine) on **Sat. July 16th** at 11:00. Butterfly order forms and coloring contest sheets are available on the City of Breezy Point website or at City Hall on Co. Rd. 11.

Reichert Bus Service will host a **Bus Driver Job Fair** on **Sat. July 16th** from 11:00-3:00 at the Brainerd High School's lower parking lot by the football field. Guests will have the opportunity to test drive a bus and will, then, be entered to win a \$50 gift card for groceries or gas. If you end up filling out an application, , you could win a \$100 Kohl's Gift Card and if hired, you'll be entered to win an brand new outdoor grill! Earn up to \$15,000 per year working part time and if you don't have a license to drive a bus, they will pay you to learn! Contact Reichert Buss for more information.

The public is invited to a **Sunday Breakfast** at the **Brainerd VFW** on **Sun. July 17th** from 8:00-12:00. Seven menu choices for \$9. Support this veteran organization at 309 South Sixth Street in downtown Brainerd. More info at BrainerdVFW.org.

The **Lakes Area Music Festival** will continue its summer Prelude Series with a celebration of the Gichi-zibi Cent'ers new 9' Steinway Model D Grand Piano featuring Steinway Artist and returning LAMF star, **Henry Kramer**. He will perform on **Sun. July 17th** at 2:00 at the Gichi-zibi Center for the Arts. No tickets are required. Donations will be accepted at the door. Visit LakesAreaMusic.org for more information.

The **Brainerd Ski Loons** will host a free, family-friendly water ski show on **Sun. July 17th** at 5:00 and guests are invited to Lum Park to watch the show! Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on, concessions will be available for purchase and you can learn more online at SkiLoons.com. You can always stay up-to-date by following The Ski Loons on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SkiLoons) and Instagram.

7/18 – 7/24

Free frozen meals for Crow Wing County seniors age 60 and older will be distributed in the parking lot of the Deerwood Auditorium on **Mon., July 18**, from 11:00-12:00 by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of St. Cloud's Senior Dining program. During this drive-through, no-contact distribution, seniors will receive pre-packaged bags of 10 frozen meals. Each senior may receive up to 30 meals in a month. There is no fee for the meals; however, contributions are accepted. For more information, contact CRMC Social Worker Kari Lee Pietz at 218-545-5361.

Enjoy ***Christmas In July*** at **Hope Lutheran Church in Walker** on **Tues. July 19th** from 10:30-1:30. Guests will find crafts, a bake sale, a plant sale, a quilt raffle, a silent auction and hand-made greeting cards for sale. A salad luncheon will be served, \$12 for adults... \$5 for children 10 and under. Christmas in July is a fundraiser sponsored by the Women of Hope, with proceeds donated to Walker Food Shelf, Faith in Action, Family Safety Network, Second Harvest, WHA Pantry, Boys & Girls Club and more. Hope Lutheran Church is on 10th Street South in Walker.

ArtWorking is a newly formed and growing network of lakes area artists and creative minds and is working to expand a sense of community amongst diverse artists of all mediums. They meet to talk, bounce ideas around, and inspire each other. This is an informal **gathering of "artsy oddballs."** Looking for your people? They invite you to join them! The group meets on the third Tuesday of every month from 5:00 - 7:00 pm, at Ya Sure Kombucha (right around the corner from Crossing Arts, at 216 S 8th St, Brainerd, MN). Their next meeting will take place on **Tues., July 19th**. Afterward, everyone is invited to shop local at Crossing Arts to stock up on supplies! For more information contact Crossing Arts at 218-833-0416 or by visiting CrossingArts.org.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hackensack will host its **39th Annual County Fair** event on **Wed. July 20th** from 9:00-2:00 and the public is invited! Enjoy morning rolls and coffee. Then shop for baked goods, arts and crafts, plants and a huge selection of "nearly new" items! There will be root beer floats, too, for just \$.50 and a quilt raffle (tickets just \$1.)! Lunch will be served from 9:00-2:00 and take out is available. All the proceeds from the fair will be used for community, mission and church projects.

Join **Pine Grove Zoo** on **Wed. July 20th** from 1:00-3:00 for "**Where the Wild Things Art**". This art class is designed for both adults and children of any ability. You don't have to be an artist to participate in this fun experience as an instructor from Art Bar 39 leads participants to create their own painted masterpiece – featuring Pine Grove Zoo's River Otters as an inspiration. All materials and supplies are included for you to walk away with your own artistic creation. Entrance to the zoo the day of the class, is included in this one-of-a-kind experience. Cost for Age 10+ \$45.00 (\$35.00 if a member) and ages 3-9 \$35.00 (\$25.00 if a member). To sign up or register, contact the zoo at 320-616-5595 or send an email to info@pinegrovezoo.com.

Join **Crossing Arts** in Brainerd as they celebrate '**A Collection Of Souls From Around The World**', featuring the photography of **Claudia Allene**. Beginning in 2013, Claudia embarked on a three year solo journey across the globe, as she visited 41 countries, including Peru, China, Mongolia, India, and more. She documented her travels through photography, capturing the people and destinations she came in contact with along the way. The exhibit is open now and will be on display at Crossing Arts through Sat. July 30. An **artist reception** will take place on **Fri., July 22**, from 5:00 - 6:00 pm. Wine and light appetizers will be served. The public is invited to attend. Learn more online at CrossingArts.org

The Brainerd Lakes area will celebrate **Armed Forces Veterans Tribute Day** on **Fri. July 22nd** at the All Veterans Memorial in Brainerd at 1:00. The event will include guest speakers along with a color guard and salute. After the ceremony, all are invited to participate in a walk/bike/stroll along the Paul Bunyan Trail (starting at the Arboretum) at 3:00 and make sure to stop by the Arb to see the Tribute Garden. You may even win some prizes for taking part! If you have questions, call Tammy at 218-838-1057.

The **Garrison Commercial Club** invites everyone to 25th Annual **Garrison Play Days Festival** weekend taking place **Fri. July 22nd – Sun. July 24th** in Garrison! The weekend will include a parade, raffle, food, bingo, a bags tournament, a softball tournament, a car show and craft fair. To learn more, visit Facebook and search Garrison Play Days or go to GarrisonMN.com.

The **Brainerd Jaycees** will host its annual **Street Fest** in downtown Brainerd **Fri. & Sat. July 22 & 23rd**. On Friday, enjoy music from Junk FM starting at 9:00. Then on Saturday, there will be family fun & games starting at 12:00, a bean bag tournament at 2:00, and music starting at 3:00. There will be pie & ice cream eating contests at 4:00 and the Cub Foods Rib Fest will start at 5:30. More music all day, ending with the 9:00 show from RHINO. BBQ, Beer, Live Music and Family Fun await at the 2022 Brainerd Jaycees Street Fest. Learn more on Facebook by searching Street Fest.

The **Merrifield Lions Park-Fest & Car Show** will be held on **Sat. July 23rd** from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at the Merrifield Lions Park on County Road 3, six miles north of Brainerd. The Car Show will be held on the baseball field of the park and registration of \$10.00 begins at 8:30 a.m. The Car Show is free to spectators. Pulled Pork, BBQ Rib and Hot Dog Dinners and Root Beer Floats will be for sale throughout the day. This fundraiser is to benefit the maintenance and improvements at the Merrifield Lions Park. Last summer a pickleball court was added to the tennis court and the installation of new playground equipment is in the planning stage for the park. All are invited to the Merrifield Lions Park-Fest & Car Show to support the Merrifield community!

The public is encouraged to participate in the **Cuyuna Iron Range Riders ATV Club's** charity event, "**We Ride Because of Brandon,**" on **Sat., July 23**, on the Miller Black Bear Trails. Guided rides for the fundraiser for diabetes patients will begin at 10 a.m. Because of Brandon was started in 2016 as a fund raiser in memory of Brandon Houge who unexpectedly passed away in 2015 from complications from diabetes. Since that time, more than \$230,000 has been raised to support area diabetes patients with travel expenses, fund youth diabetes camps, and provide educational and awareness events. Those participating in the We Ride event are asked to meet in Ironton and park vehicles at the Fire Shack. Following the event, the Fire Shack will provide a lunch special. For more information about the ride, visit CuyunaIronRangeRiders.com or call Ken at 651-470-2601.

Brainerd Elks Lodge #615 invites kids to the **Elks Batters Up! Batting Challenge** on **Sun. July 24th** from 1:00-5:00. The event takes place at Oscar Kirstofferson Park in Baxter, with check-in/registration starting at 12:00. This event is open to boys and girls ages 5 – 15 and there will be 5 different age groups in the challenge. Awards will be given out and lunch will be provided! Visit MNElks.or/BattersUp for more info.

The **Gull Chain Of Lakes Association (GCOLA)** is hosting its **10th Annual Gala Fundraiser, "For the Love of Our Lakes,"** on **Sun., July 24th** at Cragun's Legacy Clubhouse from 5:30-8:30. Tickets are \$60 and include appetizer and dessert service, a super exciting Trivia Game Show ("The World's Most Ridiculous Trivia Game Show"), along with a live auction. You can also purchase raffle tickets for \$20.00 where you could win a PAIR of E-Bikes valued at \$3,500.00. For more information and to purchase tickets go to www.GCOLA.org.

7/25 – 7/31

People who need someone to talk to or listen are encouraged to attend a **Mental Health Support Group, "I.O.U."** (Importance of Unimpaired), on **Mon., July 25**, at **Cuyuna Regional Medical Center** in Crosby. The confidential, non-religious based support group type environment allows those attending to share, learn, inspire, and more regarding all concerns about mental health. Meetings are held from 2-3:30 p.m. and 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Earl Bedard Board Room on the lower level of the hospital. Registration IS NOT required. For more information, visit [Facebook.com/Groups/InHonorOfConner](https://www.facebook.com/Groups/InHonorOfConner).

The **Northern Pacific Center** in Brainerd will host a **Farmer's Market** on **Thurs. July 28th** in the parking lot of the NP Center from 4:00-8:00. The market will feature a wide variety of vendors from around the Brainerd Lakes area. To learn more, go online to NorthernPacificCenter.com/FarmersMarket.

The **City of Crosby** presents **Music In The Park** the SECOND and FOURTH Thursday in June, July and August from 5:00-8:00, with the next concert scheduled for **Thurs. July 28th**. Everyone is invited to grab a lawn chair or blanket, friends and family, and head to the shores of Serpent Lake at Crosby Memorial Park for these free concerts which will also feature food, giveaways and fun.

Crow Wing County will host another **Public Land Sale Auction** on **Fri. July 29th** at the county's Land Services Building, behind the Historic Courthouse in Brainerd. The auction will start at 10:00, but all are asked to arrive early to register and get a bidding number. Bring a lawn chair for seating. Properties up for auction are located near Breezy Point, Whitefish Chain, Mille Lacs Lake, recreation trails and public hunting land. 15 are waterfront parcels. To learn more about the Land Sale Auction, call 218-824-101 or go online to CrowWing.US.

The **2nd Annual Ironton Fire Department Day** will be held on **Sat. July 30th** at the Fire Hall in Ironton from 9:00-2:00. The event is for all ages and will feature vendors, crafters, cars, motorcycles, ATVs, UTVs and food available for sale! Donations will be taken to support students in the area who wish to continue their education after high school. For more info, call Sarah at 218-838-1822.

Erin's Wish, a fund-raiser in memory and honor Erin Broadhead, who at 50 years old lost her fight with colon cancer this past December, will take place in Ironton the last weekend in July. The event will **benefit Cuyuna Regional Medical Center's Courage Cabinet** which makes cancer patient's journey a little easier by providing financial assistance to help meet basic needs and allow them to focus on healing. **On Sat., July 30**, activities will take place at the Town Tavern in Ironton. Beginning at 11 a.m., a variety of food and a dunk tank will be available. A bag tournament with prizes begins at 3 p.m., a meat raffle at 6:30 p.m., and a live concert with the band Yesterdaze at 8 p.m. **Then on Sun. July 31**, the fun begins with a pancake breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Ironton American Legion. A motorcycle run will also start there at 10 a.m. A raffle with \$8,000 in prizes is also being held. Tickets are \$5 each and are now available at the Town Tavern and American Legion in Ironton, Crosby-Ironton Courier in Crosby, and the Deerstand in Deerwood. The top three prizes are \$2,500; \$1,500; and \$1,000. Winners will be announced Saturday evening, July 30. For those who cannot participate, donations to CRMC's Courage Cabinet can be made online at ErinsWish.GiveSmart.com. For details, contact Jennifer at 218-545-4455 or visit CuyunaMed.org.

The **Brainerd Ski Loons** will host a free, family-friendly water ski show on **Sun. July 31st** at 5:00 and guests are invited to Lum Park to watch the show! Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on, concessions will be available for purchase and you can learn more online at SkiLoons.com. You can always stay up-to-date by following The Ski Loons on Facebook and Instagram.

MISC...

The Brainerd Lakes Area Chapter of Let's Go Fishing serves seniors living independently or in a care facility, families, disabled adults and veterans on Gull Lake or Bay Lake who want to go fishing or simply go on a lake cruise from May through September 1st. All pontoon trips have two trained volunteers on board to guide the fishing and provide a safe, enjoyable trip. Outings are offered morning and afternoon and last about 2.5 hours. Call to reserve a trip or get more information, 218-851-6028 or go online to Brainerd.LGFWS.com.

Residents of Crow Wing County are reminded that **Absentee Voting for the August 9th PRIMARY is now open** (through Aug. 8th). Voters who wish to vote early may go to the Historic Courthouse in Brainerd during regular business hours. Residents can vote by absentee ballot in person at the Elections Office on the second floor from 8:00-5:00 Monday – Friday. There will be an additional day, Sat. Aug. 6th, that voting can be done from 10:00-3:00 as well. For more information, call CWC Elections at 218-824-1051 or send an email to Elections@CrowWing.US.

Crow Wing County DWI Task Court is looking for monetary donations so it can continue its efforts to work with people who are repeat offenders of DWIs and are in need of long term support as they work to keep those who drive drunk from repeating the offense. (80% success rate!). The funds raised are used to purchase incentives such as gas cards, food cards, small reductions in fees and to host two annual events with all of the members and their families in an effort to build community. Checks can be made out to Brainerd Community Action and mailed to 321 S. 7th Street, Suite 105 in Brainerd or online at BrainerdCommunityAction.org.

Earn extra income, stay connected, give back and impact the lives of children and youth in your community as a **Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota Foster Grandparent Volunteer**. Foster grandparents are adults age 55 and older that provide one-to-one mentoring a few hours a week to at-risk children and youth to help them boost their self-esteem and overall academic success. No prior experience is required and training is provided. Get started today by calling 888-205-3770 or by going online to LSSMN.org/Volunteers/FosterGrandparent. (run through end of Aug).

Every month during 2022, **The Crossing Arts Alliance** is hosting a **Second Saturday Creativity Kit Giveaway** at its downtown Brainerd location. These kits are free to the public on a first come, first served basis. If you are interested in **donating to the Creativity Kit Program**, they are in need of certain new, unused supplies for the kits like Elmer's Glue Sticks, Q-tips, boxes of extra-fine Sharpies, pieces of colorful fabric (cut into strips 1"-2" wide), bags of balloons, misc. patterned scrapbook paper and student Fiskars scissors (in the package). If you are able to make a donation, you can drop them off at Crossing Arts on Laurel Street in Brainerd during their business hours, or visit CrossingArts.org/donate for more ways to help.

The **Crow Wing County Highway Department** is in its second year of the **Pick A Mile Program**. The program asks residents to pick a mile of county roads to **assist in roadside cleanup**. An easy to use app allows residents to reserve an available stretch of road to cleanup as a family, business or organization. The Pick A Mile app allows residents to choose a specific two-mile section of county roads to cleanup, see what roads have already been chosen and what county roads remain available. More information about the Pick A Mile county road program and easy to use app is available online at CrowWing.US/PickAMile.

The **Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen** in Brainerd offers free meals to those in need every **Mon.-Sat. from 5:00-6:00 p.m.** and on **Sun. from 12:30-1:30 p.m.** If you are in need of a meal during the week, please stop by during these hours and food will be served free of charge. Sharing Bread can be found at 923 Oak Street in Brainerd. Visit SharingBread.com for more. Volunteer opportunities are available.

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.

Find your next career in the **Brainerd Lakes Area as local businesses** are **searching for employees** in a wide variety of sectors. Retail, healthcare, finance, construction, hospitality, manufacturing, and more! **The Bridges Career Depot** is a one-stop shop for exploring careers. Visit Chamber.BridgesConnection.org and click on Jobs. (There are currently over 300 job postings for 14-18 year olds – so LIKE the Bridges' Facebook Page and updates will be immediately sent to your FB page!).

If you are looking for **volunteer opportunities** here in the lakes area, the **Lakes Area United Way** has a bunch of choices for you! Visit UnitedWayNow.org and click on the Get Connected banner. From dog walkers, to crisis line volunteers, to handyman services... game players, wheelchair transport drivers... the list goes on. If you want to volunteer, visit that site. Non-profits are also encouraged to register if they are in need of volunteers!

The Crow Wing County Land Services Department's Household Hazardous Waste Program is now **open Monday – Friday** from 8AM-5PM. County residents can bring in all types of household chemicals for disposal such as cleaning products, pesticides, herbicides, paints, stains, and automotive chemicals. Upon arrival at the landfill site, residents must stop at the Landfill Office where you will get instructions on how to proceed. Visit CrowWing.US for more information.