

# PSAs Week of 9 / 19 / 22 A

## BLOOD DRIVES:

Call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://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 very low levels. Donors of all blood types – especially type O – are urged to make an appointment to give now.

|      |      |            |   |
|------|------|------------|---|
| 9/21 | Wed. | 9:00-3:00  | Church of Latter Day Saints in Brainerd |
| 9/26 | Mon. | 12:00-6:00 | The Vets Club in Onamia                 |
| 9/28 | Wed. | 12:00-6:00 | The Community Center in Browerville     |
| 9/30 | Fri. | 9:00-3:00  | VFW in Brainerd                         |

## **Urgent NOTICE from H.A.R.T:**

Because the **Heartland Animal Rescue Team** in Baxter does not euthanize animals for time or space, they have had to make the difficult decision to **STOP all animal intake until further notice**. This includes personal surrenders or strays that you may have found. With this update, they are also stopping their surrender list. HART is extremely sorry for the inconvenience, but with slow adoptions and continuous intake, they simply do not have the kennel space anymore. Keep an eye out for an update as to when they will be back to accepting surrenders (personal/stray). Thank you for the continuous support and stop on over if you are looking for an amazing dog or cat to add to your family. For info: [HARTPets.org](http://HARTPets.org).

## **9/19 – 9/25**

**The 2022 Coats for Kids Drive** is underway and we are looking for **donations of new or gently used coats** of all sizes so we can keep our lakes area kids-in-need warm this upcoming winter season. Please bring your donations of new or gently used coats, snow pants, boots, hats, mittens, and/or gloves (any winterwear with working zippers and no holes/tears) to Crystal Cleaners on Washington Street in Brainerd **before Sat. Oct 1<sup>st</sup>**. Crystal Cleaners will clean the items and get them ready for distribution in October. The annual Coats for Kids Drive is a partnership between Crystal Cleaners, Kinship Partners and Hubbard Radio. Visit [KinshipPartners.org](http://KinshipPartners.org) for a current list of other drop-off locations or to volunteer.

**Community Action of Pequot Lakes** and the **Pequot Lakes Community Library** are teaming up once again for "**Parkas for Pequot Lakes,**" a winter clothing collection drive for hats/mittens/gloves in children and adult sizes during the months of **September and October**. All donations will be delivered to Eagle View Elementary School in early November. Donations should be new or in very good condition. Zippers must be in working order. The library (drop off location) is ½ mile north of the stop sign on Rasmussen Road in Pequot Lakes. They are open M, Tu, W, and F from 9:00-5:00... 9:00-7:00 on Thursdays and 10:00-4:00 on Saturdays. For more info, visit Facebook and search Community Action of Pequot Lakes.

**September is National Suicide Prevention Month** and although the topic of suicide can be scary to think about, it is time to deepen the conversation. We ALL have mental health that needs to be taken care of and there are resources available if you or someone you know is contemplating suicide. A new **mental health crisis line** is now available to Minnesota residents as part of a nationwide effort to make the **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** number easier to remember. Now, you can **CALL or TEXT 988** any time of any day to access resources. There are currently four call centers across the state of Minnesota. There is also a phone number to call if you need to talk... 1-800-273-TALK (8255). You can also contact Crow Wing County Community Services locally at 218-824-1140 or call The Crisis Line.

The **Brainerd Lakes Area Women of Today** are ready to help you **Flock Your Friends** and raise money to help animals! Right now, you can have a small, medium or large flock of pink, plastic flamingos delivered and set up at a location of your choice (within a 15 mile radius of Brainerd/Baxter) for \$1/bird. Twenty to fifty birds will "migrate" from location to location and stay in each spot for 2-3 days (restrictions apply). Don't want to be flocked? You can "purchase" flocking insurance for a \$50 donation. All the money raised from the flocking will be donated to the **Heartland Animal Rescue Team** (HART) and the **Ruff Start Rescue**. The flocking will continue until the birds fly south on **Sat. Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>**. To flock your friends, relatives, rival business, visit [BrainerdLakesAreaWomenOfToday.com](http://BrainerdLakesAreaWomenOfToday.com).

The **Minnesota Loons Hockey Team** is still accepting applications for it **Billet Program** for the **2022-23 season**. The team needs host homes/families to house players and be a role model to these players who come from all over North America to play hockey here in Breezy Point/Central Minnesota. Families/individuals receive a monthly stipend & complimentary season tickets to the home games. To apply, visit [MNLoons.com](http://MNLoons.com) or send an email to: [Bailey@MNLoons.com](mailto:Bailey@MNLoons.com).

Walk-ins are welcome at the **Bivalent COVID Booster Clinics**. MDH is having a booster clinic **Tues. Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>** in the Safety Building at the Crow Wing County Fairgrounds from 12 noon until 6pm. A second clinic will be at Emily City Hall on **Wed. Sept. 21** from 9:00am until 1:00pm. Pfizer bivalent boosters and primary series are available at both locations free of charge. No appointments are needed. If you have questions, contact Crow Wing County Public Health at 218-824-1170

The **League of Women Voters** is partnering with the **Brainerd Chamber of Commerce** to host a **2022 Brainerd School Board Candidate Forum** on **Tues. Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>** at Forestview Middle School in Baxter from 6:00-8:00pm. All residents of ISD 181 are encouraged to attend and learn more about the candidates so that you can make informed votes on Election Day in November. For more information, visit [BrainerdLakesChamber.com](http://BrainerdLakesChamber.com).

**\*\*\*** On **Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**, **Blaze Pizza** in Baxter will host a **fundraiser for Connor Erickson**, the Brainerd Warrior Football player (#21) who recently suffered a brain injury and is hospitalized while he recovers. From 11:00am-10:00pm, 100% of the profits will be donated to the Connor's family to help cover medical costs for his care. There will also be additional donations canisters at Blaze Pizza to collect additional donations if you don't have time order food. Please stop by and do what you can – and support Connor as he makes his way down the road to recovery. **\*\*\***

The **Initiative Foundation** in Little Falls will host a **2022 Safety Summit for Safety & Human Resources Professionals** on **Thurs. Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>** from 8:00-5:00. Gather, Collaborate and Inspire! Join other safety and human resources pros in all industries to gain insights, get training, learn industry trends, and discuss emerging issues or concerns. Learn more and register through a link at [BrainerdLakesChamber.com](http://BrainerdLakesChamber.com).

The **Northern Pacific Center** in Brainerd will host a **Farmer's Market** on **Thurs. Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>** 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](http://NorthernPacificCenter.com/FarmersMarket).

The **Northland Arboretum** will host a **Stress Reduction Workshop & Eco-Therapeutic Nature Walk** on **Thurs. Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>** from 5:00-7:00 at the Northland Arboretum. If your mind is cluttered from stress, this event will teach you how to improve your mood and memory, slow your heartbeat, lower blood pressure, improve sleep quality, boost emotional well-being and spark happiness! There will be a 45-minute presentation followed by an eco-therapeutic nature walk at the Arb. Bring water, closed-toe shoes and dress for the weather. The cost is \$60. 5% of the proceeds will go to feed hungry kids in Minnesota. Advance registration is requested by calling the Arb at 218-829-8770. More info at [NorthlandArb.org](http://NorthlandArb.org).

The **League of Women Voters of the Brainerd Lakes Area** will host its September Program entitled **"ELECTIONS: How They Work and Are They Secure"** on **Thurs. Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>** at the Brainerd Public Library. The presentation will feature Deb Erickson, Crow Wing County Administrative Services Director, who is also one of THE MOST knowledgeable people in Minnesota when it comes to the "nuts and bolts" of an election. Social hour starts at 5:00. The speaker will start at 5:30. Refreshments will be provided.

**Lutheran Church of the Cross in Nisswa** will host its **Annual Huge Fall Rummage Sale** on **Thurs. & Fri. Sept. 22 & 23** from 8:00-6:00 and on **Sat. Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>** from 8:00-12:00 (half price on Sat.). No Early Sales. Shoppers will find furniture, clothing, shoes, home decor, collectibles, jewelry, housewares, electronics, toys, books and MUCH MORE! The proceeds from the sale will benefit a number of lakes area charitable organizations. Lutheran Church of the Cross can be found right behind Shaefer's Foods in Nisswa on Co. Rd. 13<sup>th</sup>. For more info, visit Facebook and search Lutheran Church of the Cross, Nisswa MN.

**The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Crosslake Days Fall Festival** will take place in Crosslake from **Thurs. Sept. 22-Sat. Sept. 24**. The premiere event is a weekend of family fun with activities for all ages. The Arts & Crafts fairs, Lost Chili Pepper Hunt, Cider & Candlelight Tour, Corn Hole Tournament, Chili Cookoff (Sat. 12-3pm) and the Street Dance will all make it a weekend full of fun! For the entire rundown of all things Crosslake, visit [Crosslake.com](http://Crosslake.com) or download their free app.

If you are looking for a great way to support the **Brainerd Lakes Area Walk To End Alzheimer's**, stop by **Culver's in Baxter** and "purchase" a **Forget-Me-Not** anytime **now through Fri. Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>!** The paper flowers will be displayed at Culver's and your donation will go toward helping the Alzheimer's Association fight Alzheimer's and other related dementias. The Walk is on Sat. Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> at Forestview Middle School in Baxter starting at 2:00. [ALZ.org/walk](http://ALZ.org/walk) to register yourself or a team!

**Early/Absentee Voting for the November 8<sup>th</sup> General Election** will start on **Fri. Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Voters who wish to vote early may go to the Historic **Crow Wing County** Courthouse in Brainerd during regular business hours. CWC residents can vote by absentee ballot in person at the Elections Office on the second floor from 8:00-5:00 Monday through Friday. Voters can also visit [MNVotes.org](http://MNVotes.org) to apply for an absentee ballot, find their polling place, check their registration status and view a sample ballot for their precinct. For more info, call the Elections office at 218-824-1051.

**The Center** in Brainerd will host its **Annual BBQ Dinner** on **Fri. Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>** featuring BBQ Master Mike Jay and his famous ribs! There will be two seatings for the dinner... one at 5:00 and one at 6:30. Tickets must be purchased in advance at The Center's front desk. Tickets are only \$15! For more information, visit [Facebook](#) and search The Brainerd Center.

Head to **Jersey Mike's Subs** in Baxter on **Fri. Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>** between 2:00-6:00 when \$2 from each sub sold will be donated to the **Brainerd Lakes Walk To End Alzheimer's**. Jersey Mike's is on Edgewood Drive in Baxter, where good goes beyond the subs!

**The 22nd Annual Ripple River Gallery Fall Open House** and **Wild & Free Benefit** will be held on **Sat. Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>** for a day of fun activities, refreshments and wonderful art. The event goes from 10AM to 5PM. Through-out the day there will be wood and weaving demos and weaving activities. At noon there is a nature walk with a master naturalist and at 1PM Wild & Free will do a bird release (this will depend on the bird's readiness to fly). Wild & Free will also have new merchandise for sale, All welcome!

The hoot, the tremolo, the yode and the wail... these are four of the most well-known calls of the common loon and **The National Loon Center** will host the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Loon Calling Contest** on **Sat. Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>** at the gazebo in Crosslake Town Square during Crosslake Days! There will be two age groups for the contest: adult/teenager (13 and older) and youths (12 and under). To register, stop into the National Loon Center ("The Nest") in Crosslake Town Square the day of the event between 1:00-3:00. Judges will include National Loon Center staff and prizes will be awarded to the winners of the two age groups.

**Bridges of Hope** will host its **Building Hope Gala** on **Sat. Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>** at the Gull Lake Center at Grand View Lodge in Nisswa. The semi-formal event, that will celebrate 20 years of "building bridges" in our community, will include dinner, a program, auction and dancing. VIP tickets are also available. Social Hour will start at 5:30 with dinner at 6:30. Tickets start at \$75 each for general admission. Sponsorships available. Learn more, or get tickets online at [BridgesOfHopeMN.org](http://BridgesOfHopeMN.org).

**Northern Lakes Youth Hockey Association** will host **Come Try Hockey for FREE** on **Sat. Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>** at the Breezy Point Hockey Center from 4:00-5:30. Gear will be provided at no charge and pizza will be served. Following the event, participants are encouraged to attend the Minnesota Loons game for a chance to ride the Zamboni and win some Loon Gear. Register for Come Try Hockey at [NorthernLakesLightning.com](http://NorthernLakesLightning.com).

The **International Watercross Association** (IWA) is bringing snowmobile watercross racing to BIR for another wet and wild weekend **Sat. & Sun. Sept. 24 & 25**. Watch as a number of snowmobiles as they race on open water! There will be drag racing from one shore to another and oval racing, where races make four or five laps around floating bouys. For more information and tickets, visit [BIRMN.com](http://BIRMN.com).

**Tickets are ON SALE NOW** for the **Nisswa Lions Club Childhood Cancer Lunch**, which will take place **Sun. Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>** from 11:00-1:00 at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Nisswa. It will be "chicken & All The Fixins" lunch. Tickets are \$10/person and **MUST** be purchased in advance (no walk-ins). You can dine in or get it to go. The money raised from the lunch will be used for families in the Nisswa area that have a child 19 or under who is living with cancer. For more info, visit [Facebook](#) and search Nisswa Lions Club.

## **9/26 – 9/30**

Join the **Confidence Learning Center** and the **Brainerd Lakes Chamber** as they host **Business After Hours** on **Tues. Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>** from 4:30-6:00 at Camp Confidence in East Gull Lake. This is being held in conjunction with the center's Community Day where guests are invited to tour the camp, network and enjoy delicious appetizers from Black Bear Lodge & Saloon, plus beverages from Roundhouse Brewery. There is also a chance to win some fun prizes! As a courtesy to the host, please RSVP online in advance at [BrainerdLakesChamber.com](http://BrainerdLakesChamber.com).

The **Brainerd Lakes Area Drug Education Coalition** (BLADE) has partnered with the **Northland Arboretum** to host a **Recovery Walk** on **Thurs. Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>** at 5:30. This is a chance for the community to come together to celebrate Recovery Month by increasing awareness and understanding of mental health and substance use disorders and restoring hope by spreading these important messages, "behavior health is essential to health, prevention works, treatment is effective and people recover." The event will include music, activities, door prizes and fellowship. There will be a candlelight walk through the Arb at dusk to honor those in recovery and their loved ones. All ages are welcome. For more information, visit [Facebook](#) and search BLADE Brainerd Lakes or send an email to [BLADE@CrowWing.us](mailto:BLADE@CrowWing.us).

The **Grassroots Concert Series** continues in Nisswa which will take place again on **Fri. Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>** and feature **Dennis Warner**, who will take to the Live Well Nightclub & Coffee Bar stage at Journey Church in Nisswa at 7:30. Doors open at 6:30. General admission is \$10. Until further notice, masks are still required to attend. (N-95 masks will be available for those who need one). Seating will be arranged for provide social distancing. To learn more about this concert and the series, visit [GrassrootsConcerts.org](http://GrassrootsConcerts.org) or call 218-838-4266.

**Heritage Church in Baxter** invites you to join them in celebrating 100 years with a **Centennial Homecoming!** The weekend begins **Fri. night Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>** with interviews with former pastors and youth pastors, alumni choir, and worship time that will feature music from several decades. **Saturday's** activities include a social time and hymn sing in the morning featuring former Pastor's son Paul Schaible; a time to review the Our Heritage Display, Opportunity to tour the Adult and Teen Challenge Facility, and a Family, Food and Fun night. **Sunday** morning will feature the recognition of former staff members and their families with retired District Superintendent, Pastor Clarence St. John, as keynote speaker. Get more information at [IAmHeritage.org](http://IAmHeritage.org) and join the celebration September 30<sup>th</sup> – October 2<sup>nd</sup> at Heritage Church in Baxter!

## MISC....

Bridges of Hope announces that the **Brainerd Area Overnight Shelter** is now open for the season. If you are in need of a warm, safe place to sleep between the hours of 7:00PM and 8:00 AM and are 18 or older, you are welcome. Those who need a bed need to arrive at the shelter between 7:00 and 11:00 PM. The shelter address is 1926 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street. For more information, visit [BridgesOfHopeMN.org/WarmingShelter](http://BridgesOfHopeMN.org/WarmingShelter).

**The POHL Children's Foundation** is offering a **Forever Family Grief Support Group**, a 6-week grief support group that invites families who have lost a loved one to come together and create a community of support that encourages healing and growth of the entire family who are in transition after loss. The groups are FREE to families through scholarships provided by the Pohl Children's Foundation. The groups are offered in Little Falls, Staples, Deerwood and Baxter. For more information, send an email to [PohlChildrensFoundation@gmail.com](mailto:PohlChildrensFoundation@gmail.com) or call 218-820-2626. The website is [PohlChildrensFoundation.org](http://PohlChildrensFoundation.org).

**The Lakes Area Growers** hosts the **Brainerd Farmer's Market every Tuesday** in the parking lot of the Franklin Art Center in Brainerd from 8:00-12:30. Find Minnesota grown fruits and vegetables like asparagus, peas, green beans, broccoli, peppers, cucumbers, tomatoes raspberries, grapes, apples and more! They will also have hand-crafted items and locally raised food like meat and dairy products, buffalo meat, eggs, etc.

**Nisswa Farmer's Market** is open **every Thursday** at the American Legion in Nisswa from 8:00-12:30. Lakes Area Growers feature Minnesota grown fruits and vegetables like asparagus, peas, green beans, broccoli, peppers, cucumbers, tomatoes raspberries, grapes, apples and more! They will also have hand-crafted items and locally raised food like meat, breads and dairy products, buffalo meat, eggs, etc.

**Baxter Farmer's Market** is open **every Friday** in the parking lot of the Westport Shopping Center and will be open from 8:00-12:30. Lakes Area Growers feature Minnesota grown fruits and vegetables like asparagus, peas, green beans, broccoli, peppers, cucumbers, tomatoes raspberries, grapes, apples and more! They will also have hand-crafted items and locally raised food like meat, breads and dairy products, buffalo meat, eggs, etc.

**Community Action of Pequot Lakes** and the **Pequot Lakes Community Library** are teaming up once again for "**Parkas for Pequot Lakes,**" a winter clothing collection drive for hats/mittens/gloves in children and adult sizes during the months of **September and October**. All donations will be delivered to Eagle View Elementary School in early November. Donations should be new or in very good condition. Zippers must be in working order. The library (drop off location) is ½ mile north of the stop sign on Rasmussen Road in Pequot Lakes. They are open M, Tu, W, and F from 9:00-5:00... 9:00-7:00 on Thursdays and 10:00-4:00 on Saturdays. For more info, visit Facebook and search Community Action of Pequot Lakes.

Whether you are brand new to the sport of ice skating, have taken lessons before, or just love to skate outside, **Vacationland Figure Skating Club (VFSC)** has the perfect class for you. Options are available for every age and ability – preschool to adult! The **Learn To Skate** regular season runs from **Sun. Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>** with all classes held at the Essentia Health Sports Center in Brainerd. IF you would like to learn more or register for classes, visit [VacationlandFigureSkaingClub.com](http://VacationlandFigureSkaingClub.com).

**Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity** is in **need of volunteers** to help us complete three current build projects, as well as in our bustling ReStore. Here are the areas where we need help right now: Construction, ReStore staff, pick-up/salvages and others. If you want a rewarding volunteer experience, many of our volunteer say that they receive more by volunteering than they feel they give...and that there is so much to learn! To volunteer or see opportunities, visit [LakesAreaHabitat.org/Volunteer](http://LakesAreaHabitat.org/Volunteer) or call 218-454-7021.

The **Lakes Area United Way** is proud to announce that the annual **Chili Cook-Off** is returning to the Westgate Mall in Brainerd on **Wed. Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>** from 11:30-1:00. The celebratory theme is "Together Again!" The UW is looking for businesses to register, with booth sponsorships starting at \$100. Tickets for the event will be \$10, which will include entry into the event and a bowl for tasting! Visit [UnitedWayNow.org](http://UnitedWayNow.org) for info.

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](http://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!

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.

A new **mental health crisis line** is now available to Minnesota residents as part of a nationwide effort to make the **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** number easier to remember. Now, Minnesotans can **CALL or TEXT 988** any time of any day to access resources. There are currently four call centers across the state of Minnesota.

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](http://SharingBread.com) for more. Volunteer opportunities are available.

**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](http://CrowWing.US) for more information.



**The Northern Minnesota Railroad Heritage Association (NMRHA) Train Club**

invites the public to stop by their club in Crosslake to see all the trains! They have three different scale layouts in their 8,000 square foot facility in Crosslake. There are fun things for kids and free gifts for them as well! The club is located on County Road 66 across from Zorbaz in Crosslake and is open to visitors **every Saturday** from 10:00-2:00 year round! A donation of \$5 for those over the age of 5 is appreciated.