

## PSAs Week of 11 / 28 / 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.

11/29	Tues.	12:00-6:00	American Legion in Milaca
12/8	Thurs.	1:00-7:00	Lakewood Church in Baxter

The **Brainerd Lakes Salvation Army's** annual **Red Kettle Campaign** is underway as the army works to help families during the Christmas season. As thousands of people continue to struggle to meet basic needs, the Salvation Army of Brainerd is calling on everyone to help individuals and families overcome the threat of eviction amid the holiday season. To learn more, visit [BrainerdLakesSA.org](http://BrainerdLakesSA.org). To **volunteer to ring bells** this season, visit [RegisterToRing.com](http://RegisterToRing.com).

Enjoy the magic of the holidays and drive through the **Northland Arboretum** to experience **Sertoma's Winter Wonderland!** See the light displays set in a wooded backdrop. Gates open at 5:30 each night that it's open. It's \$20 per vehicle at the gate. You can buy advanced tickets online and across the Lakes Area for \$10 at Brainerd and Baxter Cub Foods, Super One Foods, SuperValu Pequot Lakes, and the Northland Arboretum. Tickets are cash/check only. [SertomaWinterWonderland.com](http://SertomaWinterWonderland.com).

**Crossing Arts** presents its annual **Kringle Market** from **NOW through Fri. Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>** at Crossing Arts in downtown Brainerd. Kringle Market is an art and fine craft market featuring work from over 100 of the alliance member artists. Find pottery, blown and fused glass, books, paintings, knitted goods, unique jewelry, ornaments, stickers, woodworking and more! You'll also find a selection of art supplies for kids and adults, and take-home art kits. The Market, open to the public, will be open Tues. – Fri from 10:00-5:00 and Saturdays from 10:00-4:00. (If you're a Crossing Arts Member, join them Fri. Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00 for a sneak peak.) For more info, visit [CrossingArts.org](http://CrossingArts.org).

# **11/28 – 12/4**

The **Nisswa Lions** club is hosting a **Non-Food Supply Drive for Senior Citizens** in the area ***NOW through Thurs. Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>***. Items that our seniors need include new blankets and pillows, kitchen utensils, laundry soap, paper towels, facial tissues, incontinence products for men and women, new winter hats, gloves and mittens, NEW or gently used winter coats and boots. Donations can be dropped off at the American National Bank in Nisswa, The Nisswa Chamber office, Baia Della Italian Kitchen in Baxter or Goody's Gourmet Treats in the NP Center in Brainerd. To learn more, visit [Facebook](#) and search *Nisswa Lions*.

**Salty Dog Fundraiser** for the **RadioThon to End Child Abuse** will be held on **Tues. Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>** at The Salty Dog Saloon & Eatery in Backus (on Highway 87 east of 371). From 5:00-7:00, join the Salty Dog for a mouth-watering pulled pork dinner that includes the pulled pork sandwich, tots or fries and a beverage for just \$10. Special guest server will be Kirin Christianson, Mrs. Minnesota International 2023. Proceeds will benefit the Pine River-Backus Family Center's programs and services.

The community is invited to attend the next **Rosenmeier Forum** with **former State Department official Thomas Hanson** at both 12:00 noon AND at 7:00 pm on **Wed., Nov. 30** in the Chalberg Theatre, Central Lakes College Brainerd campus. With winter approaching, war in Ukraine rages and US allies struggle with energy crises that have caused some to turn away from green policies. Meanwhile, the world economy is impacted by food and energy inflation and by an incipient U.S. tech war against China. This program will analyze these and other global trends. [CLCMN.edu](http://CLCMN.edu).

The **Minnesota Department of Transportation** (MnDOT) and the **City of Garrison** invite the community to attend a **public meeting** to learn about plans to improve Highway 169 through Garrison on **Wed., Nov. 30**. The meeting will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Garrison Community Center. A short presentation is planned at 5:30 p.m., followed by an open house. Guests will have the opportunity to visit with project staff, ask questions and view improvement options, including a roundabout concept at Highway 18 and Highway 169. MnDOT will improve five miles of Highway 169 from south of Garrison at Crow Wing County Road 26 to north of Garrison at Pike Avenue in 2025. Work is anticipated to include new storm sewer, sidewalk and improvements to the busy intersection of Highway 18 and 169 in Garrison. For more info, visit [DOT.state.MN.US](http://DOT.state.MN.US).

The **Brainerd Jaycees Ice Fishing Extravaganza** is back with their in-person ice fishing contest held on Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at noon on Hole-in-the-Day Bay on Gull Lake. The Extravaganza draws over 10,000 anglers annually who compete for more than \$200,000 in prizes. All proceeds from the event are donated to charities. **RIGHT NOW**, annual sponsor, Fleet Farm has their month long **early bird sale** with contest tickets discounted to \$35.00. This is the biggest sale on the Extravaganza tickets, so contestants will want to buy early to save. Catch of the Day and raffle tickets are also sold in Minnesota Fleet Farm stores this year as well. **On THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1st contestants can find their \$50.00 tickets** at participating outlets. To learn more, visit [IceFishing.org](http://IceFishing.org).

**Cherrywood Fabrics** will present its entire **Diana Quilt Collection** from its quilt challenge in 2020 at the Northern Pacific Center in Brainerd **Dec. 1 – 10** from 10:00-4:00. The exhibit will also include the latest themed challenge quilts: Graffiti. This is the first time that Cherrywood will have its entire Challenge Displays shown in the Brainerd area. For more info, visit [CherrywoodFabrics.com](http://CherrywoodFabrics.com).

The community is invited to come learn about the **culture and values of the Haitian people** at Central Lakes College's next **Cultural Thursday** event, happening at 12:00 noon on **Thurs., Dec. 1** in the Chalberg Theatre, Brainerd campus. Long-time Brainerd lakes area resident Jim Kirzeder has dedicated much of his life to the people of Haiti and has visited the country more than 100 times, building schools and clean water infrastructure. Kirzeder will share his experiences and perspectives about the past, present and future of Haiti through the lens of service and assistance. For more information on the Cultural

The **Heartland Symphony Orchestra** will present its Winter Concert Series **"Holidays Around the World"** with the **Thurs. Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>** starting at 7:30. The concert will take place at The Log Church in Crosslake. For more information on the show, visit [HeartlandSymphony.com](http://HeartlandSymphony.com).

As part of the annual RadioThon to End Child Abuse, the **Crow Wing County Family Services Collaborative** will host the annual **Brat Sale Fundraiser** at the Westgate Mall on **Thurs. Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>** from 10:00-2:00. Get a brat, chips and a pop for just \$4 and ALL of the proceeds will go back to the Crow Wing County community to help end child abuse.

The **29<sup>th</sup> Annual RadioThon to End Child Abuse** will take place on **Thurs. & Fri. Dec. 1 & 2** live from the Westgate Mall. WJJY, B93.3, The Power Loon and COOL 103.5 will join with area Child Protection Teams and Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota in an effort to raise funds for and awareness about the prevention of child abuse and neglect in central Minnesota. The RadioThon starts at 12:00pm on Thurs. Dec. 1 and ends at 12:00 noon on Fri. Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. During that time, listeners will be encouraged to phone in pledges to support the cause.

Everyone is invited to **A Cuyuna Christmas**, which will take place **Thurs. Dec. 1-Sat. Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>**. The weekend starts Thursday with a shopping event, Girls Night Out and a designer handbag/purse raffle at the Deerwood American Legion. Then Friday, enjoy an evening snowshoe hike, a Reindeer Rear Meat Raffle and the Jingle Bell Jam at the Ironton Legion. Saturday is FULL of events starting with a Fat Bike Ride, Lunch with Santa, followed by tons of fun in Crosby Memorial Park, the Snow Many Smiles event (fact painting, hay rides, cookie decorating, candy cane crafts and games, a petting zoo, bonfires and free soup, popcorn and hot chocolate. Top it all off with The Tree of Love lighting at 3:45 and fireworks at 6:00. More at [CuyunaChristmas.com](http://CuyunaChristmas.com).

**Brainerd High School's Acapella Choir and Windfall** will present their **12<sup>th</sup> Annual Madrigal Dinners** on **Thurs. Fri. & Sat. Dec. 1-3** at the Legacy at Craguns. Seating will start each night at 6:30 with the dinner and entertainment starting at 7:00. Tickets are \$35 and must be purchased at least 2 days in advance of the date you want to attend. Get tickets online at [BrainerdMusic.org](http://BrainerdMusic.org). (please note this is not an event for young children).

The **Lake Hubert Grange** will be hosting a **Pancake Breakfast with Santa** on **Sat. Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 8:00-10:30 at the Lake Edward Town Hall. Guests will enjoy two pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, coffee, milk and orange or apple juice. The town hall is located at 23977 County Road 3 in Nisswa. The cost is a \$10 donation. Proceeds will be split between the Relay for Life and the Lake Hubert Grange.

**Brainerd Community Ed** will host the **Annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Festival** at Brainerd High School on **Sat. Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 9:00-3:00. Tons of vendors will be on hand selling their goods. Concessions will be available. Free to attend.

The **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday at the Dam in Crosslake** is on **Sat. Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 12:00-3:00 and will feature holiday fun for the whole family at no charge! Visit with Santa, take a family photo with a holiday backdrop, make & take a fun holiday craft, sip hot cocoa while you roast a S'more over a warm campfire and collect your 2022 Holiday ornament to decorate at home. (Please bring a new, unwrapped gift to Maucieri's for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas for Kids). To learn more, visit [Crosslake.com](http://Crosslake.com).

The **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Fundraiser for Christmas For Kids Crosslake** will be held on **Sat. Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>** at Maucieri's in Crosslake with the doors opening at 3:00. From 3:00-6:00, enjoy food, fun and a silent auction with TONS of fantastic items. THEN, stay for the live auction at 6:00! Donations can be made during the event, for which you'll receive 1 free drink coupon. You must be at least 21 years old to attend. No reservations are needed. Everyone is welcome. For more information, visit **Facebook** and search *Christmas For Kids Crosslake*.

The **Heartland Symphony Orchestra** will present its Winter Concert Series **"Holidays Around the World"** with the **Sat. Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>** starting at 7:30. The concert will take place at The Charles D. Martin Auditorium in Little Falls. For more information on the show, visit [HeartlandSymphony.com](http://HeartlandSymphony.com).

The **Heartland Symphony Orchestra** will present its Winter Concert Series **"Holidays Around the World"** with the Brainerd HS Orchestra and CLC String Orchestra on **Sun. Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>** starting at 2:30. The concert will take place at the Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts in Brainerd. For more information on the show, visit [HeartlandSymphony.com](http://HeartlandSymphony.com).

**The Longville Area Community Choir** presents **"That Old Fashioned Christmas"** on **Sun. Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>** at Salem Lutheran Church in Longville. The concert will start at 4:00 and is free to attend. All are welcome. A free-will offering will be collected.

# 12/5 – 12/12

**Lakewood Health System**, in partnership with the **Alzheimer's Association**, will be offering a **Support Group For Caregivers** of those with loved ones diagnosed with dementia or Alzheimer's disease. The group meets the first Wednesday (**Wed. Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>**) of every month from 11 to 12 in the Burlington room, located through Door C at Lakewood's Senior Campus. The group is designed to provide emotional, educational and social support for those who care for a loved one with dementia or Alzheimer's. Participants will develop coping methods, and encouragement to help maintain their person, and their physical and emotional health, as well as optimally care for the person with dementia or Alzheimer's. For more info, call 218-894-8818.

**Actors Repertory Theatre** presents ***It's A Wonderful Life – A Live Radio Play*** from **Thurs. Dec. 7-Sat. Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>** at the Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts in Brainerd with all showtimes at 7:00. General admission tickets are \$16 for adults...\$13 for seniors... \$11 for those 18 and under. For tickets, visit [Art4MN.org](http://Art4MN.org).

**Lutheran Church of the Cross's PrimeTimers** group in Nisswa will present **Christmas Festival of Tables** on **Thurs. Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>** at 12:00 in their Celebration Center. Tickets for the event are \$10 and includes a baked ham dinner with all the trimmings and entertainment from the BHS Windfall Singers. Tickets can be purchased at the LCC office or Sunday mornings in the church Narthex. Learn more by going to [Facebook](#) and searching *Christmas Festival of Tables*.

The **Brainerd VFW** invites all kids 12 and under to a **Children's Christmas Party** at the Brainerd VFW from 11:00-1:00 on **Sat. Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>**. The event is free. There will be food for all and gifts for kids when they visit with Santa. The VFW is at 309 South Sixth Street in downtown Brainerd. Visit [BrainerdVFW.org](http://BrainerdVFW.org) for information.

**Santa is Bobbin' Into Town** in Pequot Lakes on **Sat. Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>** and the fun starts at 2:00 in Trailside Park. Enjoy a bonfire with cocoa, s'mores and caroling, hosted by the Miss Pequot Lakes Royalty. Free horse and wagon rides, a kids bobber hunt. At 3:00 there will be a Magic Show at the Cole Memorial Building, from 4:15-5:30 there will be Photos with Santa, candy canes and dinner at the PL Legion and the Light Up The Night Parade will start at 6:00 followed by fireworks at 6:20! For more information, visit [Facebook](#) and search *11<sup>th</sup> Annual Santa's Bobbin Into Town*.

Join the **Crossing Arts** on **Sat., Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>** from 10:00 to 12:00 noon, as they give out **creativity kits** to anyone who wants a little bit of creative fun. Kits will be available on tables inside of Crossing Arts. Kits include two art projects, a coloring sheet, and more! This month's kit will feature the creation of Holiday Ornaments. Creativity Kits are free to the public. Kits are limited. First come, first served. For more information contact Crossing Arts at 218-833-0416 or visit [CrossingArts.org](http://CrossingArts.org). Crossing Arts is a 501c3 nonprofit in downtown Brainerd at 711 Laurel Street.

Join **Hubbard Radio** on **Sun. Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>** as **Tonic Sol-Fa** brings its **Misfit Tour** live to the Gichi Ziibi Center for the Arts in Brainerd. Get tickets for this holiday concert at your favorite Hubbard Radio station's website. \$30 for general admission, \$40 for VIP.

## MISC...

With the holidays fast-approaching, now is the perfect time to stock up on **Lakes Proud Chamber Bucks**! The Brainerd Lakes Chamber's newly re-branded Chamber Bucks have a fresh, new look, but the benefits of this program have remained the same. Chamber Bucks are a great way to show your appreciation to your employees as a gift, prize, or reward this holiday season. And, when you support the Chamber Buck program, you also support shopping local at small businesses throughout the Lakes Area. It's just another way to show your Lakes Proud spirit and give back to your employees and our community. Make sure that dollars spent here, stay here.

Tickets are selling fast for the **2023 Clear Vision with Confidence** event coming **Mon. Mar. 6, 2023** to Grand View Lodge. The event will be held from 11:00-5:00 where attendees will enjoy a Keynote Presentation about "Powering Up: How Self-Awareness Helps Women Succeed (by Dr. Tasha Eurich), networking opportunities, a panel of local leaders, a plated lunch, silent auction and more! Tickets start at \$75 for general admission. Get tickets online at [ClearVisionWithConfidence.com](https://ClearVisionWithConfidence.com). Funds raised will benefit The Confidence Learning Center and Camp Confidence, a camp that serves people of all ages with cognitive and developmental disabilities.

The **Brainerd Lakes Area Women's Fund** (BLAWF) invites everyone to save the date and plan to join them at Grand View on **Tues. Apr. 18, 2023**, to honor the **Women Making Waves and Ripple Maker Recipients**. The Woman Making Waves and Ripple Maker awards recognize women who have significantly contributed by giving of their time and/or financial resources to help local charities. We ask that if you know any local women who fit either of these criteria to please nominate them online at [CommunityGiving.org/BrainerdWomensFund](https://CommunityGiving.org/BrainerdWomensFund).

**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](https://BridgesOfHopeMN.org/WarmingShelter).

**The Crow Wing County Landfill** has now gone to its **winter hours** of operation. The landfill will no longer be open weekends. It will be open from 8:00-5:00 Monday through Friday and is located just east of Brainerd on State Highway 210. The landfill can accept household garbage, mattresses, furniture, recyclables and other items for proper disposal. For more information, visit [CrowWing.us](https://CrowWing.us) and search Solid Waste.

**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.

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.

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 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 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).

**My Neighbor To Love Coalition** is a local non-profit with a mission to end homelessness in the Brainerd Lakes Area by building affordable rental housing, connect people to supportive services and create a community of hope and belonging. They are raising funds right now to build the first four housing units. To learn more or give a donation, visit [MNTLC.org](http://MNTLC.org).

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.