

# PSAs Week of 1 / 30 / 23 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.**

1/31	Tues.	11:30-5:30	American Legion in Milaca
2/3	Fri.	10:00-4:00	Milaca Evangelical Free Church in Milaca
2/6	Mon.	12:00-6:00	Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wadena
2/7	Tues.	10:00-4:00	Brainerd VFW
2/10	Fri.	8:00-3:00	Heartwood Senior Living in Crosby (CRMC)
2/10	Fri.	10:00-3:00	Central Lakes College in Brainerd
2/10	Fri.	11:00-5:00	Fellowship Bible Church in Pierz

## **1/30 – 2/5**

**(Tues 1/31 LAST DAY TO ORDER!!!)** The **Brainerd Lakes Area Women of Today** invite you to participate in their **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Happy Hour with a Purpose** – virtual fundraiser **NOW through Tues. Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>!** Tickets are just \$25 and each ticket purchased gets you TWO drink vouchers that can be used at any of the SIX participating locations (Dunmire's Bar & Grill, Roundhouse Brewery, Ernie's on Gull, Shep's on 6<sup>th</sup>, Jack Pine Brewery or Dunmire's On The Lake). You will also receive a door prize with a minimum value of \$10! Tickets are sold during the month of January with the vouchers and door prizes mailed out on Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. You then will have all of February and March to use your vouchers! All the proceeds will be donated to The Cuyuna Regional Medical Center's **Courage Cabinet** (helps cancer patients) and to the **Pohl Children's Scholarship Foundation**. Get more info. & tickets online: [BrainerdLakesAreaWomenOfToday.com](http://BrainerdLakesAreaWomenOfToday.com) or from any BLAWT member.

Join **Jack Pine Brewery** in Baxter for another **Pints for A Purpose** on **Wed. Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>** from 5:00-8:30 where one dollar from every pint sold will be donated to a local non-profit. This time, dollars raised will be donated to the **Lakes Area United Way**, who will be on-hand that night to talk about their impact on the community.

**Common Goods** invites the community to join their **Sweet Treat BINGO Challenge** starting **Wed. Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> through Tues. Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>** (Valentine's Day). To play along, participants will complete in-store challenges to earn stamps and will need five stamps in a row to earn a Bingo. Completed Bingo cards can then be turned in to receive a Sweet Treat at ANY Common Good location (Baxter, Crosslake or Crosby). Then, on Valentine's Day, three lucky BINGO card will be drawn for a Sweet Treat Shopping Spree were the winners will receive 50% off their entire purchase with no spending limit! To learn more, visit [BridgesOfHopeMN.org](http://BridgesOfHopeMN.org).

**Central Lakes College's Cultural Thursday** series presents: ***Civil Disobedience and the Culture of the Civil Rights Movement***. The presentation will be held at 12:00 noon on **Thurs., Feb. 2** in the Chalberg Theatre, Brainerd campus. Presenting will be a panel of Upward Bound Program students and staff and Sociology instructor Scott Foster, who were part of a trip last summer that looked at the U.S. Civil Rights Trail. For more information on the Cultural Thursday series, please contact Jason Edens at [Jason.Edens@CLCMN.edu](mailto:Jason.Edens@CLCMN.edu).

Join the **Brainerd Lakes Chamber** for the **2023 Eggs & Issues Legislative Breakfast** on **Fri. Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 7:30-9:30 at Madden's on Gull Lake. The event will feature a discussion with lakes area legislators focused on business, jobs and the economy. The session will allow guests the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the key issues that will impact your organization in 2023 and beyond.

**Crosslake Winterfest** will take place the weekend of **Feb. 3-5** in Crosslake. Starting on **Thurs. the 3<sup>rd</sup>**, you can search for the Lost Medallion where someone will win a huge prize package from chamber member businesses. From 6-8pm, take part in Loons & Lakes Trivia at 14 Lakes Brewing and more trivia at 8pm at Moonlite Bay! On **Friday**, have a blast at the Crosslake Community School Cabin Fever Carnival Kickoff from 3:30-6:00, fun throughout the town from 7:00-9:00 with **Fireworks** at 9pm! **Saturday**, enjoy the Crosslake Firefighters Pancake Breakfast at Crosslake Lutheran Church from 8:00-11:30, the WinterFest Craft & Vendor Fair from 10:00-3:00, Tours of the Railroad Museum, a snowman building contest, Italian Olympics at 12:00 at Maucieris. At Noon, don't miss the **SoupFest** where you can sample soups from a ton of Crosslake businesses! Radar runs, bonfires, s'mores and hot beverages! So much going on! For a list of the weekend's events, visit **Crosslake.com** or download the free Crosslake app.

The **Brainerd Jaycees** will (in ADDITION TO THE EXTRAVAGANZA) VIRTUALLY present **America's Ice Fishing Tournament** on **Sat. Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>** on any frozen lake you choose! Tickets are \$40 and can be purchased online at [VirtualIceFishing.org](http://VirtualIceFishing.org). Then, to register, you must download the Fish Donkey App, select *Fish In A Tournament* and search from *America's Virtual Ice Fishing Tournament*. Eligible species for this tournament are walleye, northern pike, crappie, perch and sunfish. All the details are online at [VirtualIceFishing.org](http://VirtualIceFishing.org)

The **2023 Justin Morneau Ice Fishing Classic** will be held on **Sat. Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>** on Lake Mille Lacs and will be benefit United Heroes League, which helps military families heal, build friendships and engage their communities through sports. The tournament will run from 8:00-4:00 on Mille Lacs, out of Nitti's Hunters Point (near Isle). There are 3 grand prizes, one of which is an Ice Castle Fish House. A meet-and-greet will happen from 12:00-2:00 at Hunter's Point Resort. The cost is \$20 per ticket (no limit) and your ticket doubles as your door prize entry. Tickets can be purchased online at [GiveUHL.org](http://GiveUHL.org).

Join the **Cuyuna Lakes Chamber of Commerce** for the **19<sup>th</sup> Annual Ice Fishing Tournament and Scorpion Homecoming** on **Sat. Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>** at Serpent Lake Memorial Park in Crosby. The contest starts runs from 12:00-3:00 on Serpent Lake, with cash prizes being awarded for top three biggest fish in three categories and additional prizes from the smallest fish. Tickets are \$10 per hole (up to two holes) and available from a number of Cuyuna Lakes Chamber businesses. That same ticket also makes you eligible for the raffles, which include at least three huge prizes! Learn more by visiting [Facebook](#) and searching *Cuyuna Lakes Chamber of Commerce*.

**Brainerd Public Schools Foundation** will host its annual **BIG Event** on **Sat. Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>** at Gather on 3 at The Woods on Co. Rd. 3, where the theme will be "Farm Fresh BPSF – Planting Seeds of Generosity. Doors will open at 5:00 with a program at 7:00. You can also support the cause by bidding on items in the online auction (which will open Tues. Jan 31). Games, raffles, entertainment and a delicious plated meal are all included in the ticket price. For tickets and information, visit [BPSF.org](http://BPSF.org).

The **Minnesota Loons** hockey team invites the public to its game on **Sat. Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>** where proceeds from that night's game will support area cancer patients. Dollars raised will be donated to **The Courage Cabinet at Cuyuna Regional Medical Center**, which makes the journey a little easier for cancer patients by providing financial assistance to help meet basic needs and allow patients to focus on healing. Cancer survivor and recipient of Courage Cabinet assistance, Cassie Stenson from Brainerd, will make the ceremonial puck drop just before the 7:30 game. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and students and free for active military and youth under age 6. Get more info at [MNLoons.com](http://MNLoons.com).

You are invited to the **Northland Arboretum** for a magical **Full Moon Snowshoe Hike** under a full moon on **Sat. Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>** from 7:30-8:30pm. Bring snowshoes and/or winter boots and plan for an hour hike. If it's cloudy, consider a headlamp. Snowshoe rental will be available in Visitor Center. After the hike, warm up inside with hot chocolate! The cost is \$10 for Arb Members and \$20 for Non-members. Class size is limited, payment due upon registration - Class is non-refundable. To register, stop by the Northland Arboretum, call 218-829-8770 or go online to [NorthlandArb.org](http://NorthlandArb.org).

## **2/6 – 2/12**

"**The News Photography of Steve Kohls**" will be the focus of the next **Rosenmeier Forum**, scheduled for 7 p.m. on **Wed. Feb. 8** in the Chalberg Theatre at Central Lakes College, Brainerd campus. The event is free and open to the public. Kohls has shot news, sporting events and artistic photos for the Brainerd Dispatch for more than 47 years. A sampling of his work will include images of Brainerd's 1987 and 1991 downtown fires, the city's long fight against mandatory fluoridation, a devastating train crash near Motley, as well as feature photos of Little Falls artist Charles Kapsner and Bataan Death March survivor Walt Straka. Images will range from black and white pieces from the beginning of his career, to current day photography and short videos.

**The Pequot Lakes Diary Queen** is hosting a **fundraiser** in support of the **Breezy Point Figure Skating Club** on **Tues. Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>** from 3:00-8:00pm. 20% of all sales during this time will be donated to the BPFSC to use toward scholarships for skaters to attend skating camps, skate sharpening equipment, free rental skates and Ice Skating Show costumes and equipment. The extra money will help to keep the costs for skaters' families low. For info, visit [Facebook](#) and search *Breezy Point Figure Skating Club*.

**Crow Wing Power** is seeking high school juniors to apply for an all-expenses paid trip to Washington D.C. for the **Annual Washington Youth Tour**. Since 1964 the Washington Youth Tour provides students from across Minnesota the trip of a lifetime. This year's event will be held June 13 – 18, 2023. High School Juniors residing in Crow Wing Powers service territory, Cass, Crow Wing, or Morrison counties are encouraged to apply. Students do not need to have their electric service from Crow Wing Power. Required is a short essay sharing a little bit about yourself and why you would be a good candidate to receive this trip. If selected, students receive this once-in-a-lifetime trip, valued over \$2,000 where they take in the historical sights, monuments, and memorials, but most of all the memories they make along the way. Two candidates will be selected. **Applications to apply are due by Friday, February 10, 2023.** For more information visit [CWPpower.com](http://CWPpower.com).

**Happy Dancing Turtle** in Pine River, along with **Pine River-Backus School Community Education**, will host its annual **Back To Basics** sustainable living event on **Sat. Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>** at the Pine River-Backus High School. The event, which runs from 8:00-5:00, combines workshops, vendors and exhibitors, a keynote speaker, lunch, door prizes and more all in an effort to teach guests more about sustainability and resiliency. In addition to the 40+ workshops, the event includes a large vendor area with 50+ booths offering educational materials, services and locally-made/grown goods. If you want to attend a WORKSHOP, you must pre-register as space is limited. To learn more and register, visit [HappyDancingTurtle.org](http://HappyDancingTurtle.org).

The first phase of **BPS 150: THE EXHIBITION** may now be visited at its exhibition location, Brainerd High School. The next guided tour, given by BPS archivist John Erickson will be held on **Sat. Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>** at 1:00 (additional tours will be held Feb. 25 and Mar. 4<sup>th</sup>). The tour takes about 30 minutes and will include an introduction, overview and commentary on the 45 exhibits of Phase 1. The event is in celebration of the 150 years of delivering educational public services to the people of Brainerd and beyond by Brainerd Public Schools. There is no limit of registrants, but registration is required. Visit [Facebook](#), search *Brainerd Public Schools Archives*, and register on the link provided.

The **Aitkin Area Chamber of Commerce** will celebrate **Winter Wonderama** on **Sat. Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>** from 2:00-4:00, with a chili cookoff at 4:30. All around the town of Aitkin, you can enjoy kids' games, ice skating, bon fires, snowshoeing, and hot cocoa! For more information, visit [Facebook](#) and search *Aitkin Area Chamber of Commerce*.

The **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Sunny Zwilling Memorial Ice Carousel Extravaganza (I.C.E. Fest)** will take place on **Sat. & Sun. Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>** starting at 10:00 on Green Prairie Fish Lake in Little Falls. The event is held as a fundraiser for the Pay It Forward Foundation and is free to attend. Guests will enjoy curling, spear fishing, human foosball, ice fishing, an underwater drone, figure skating, igloo building, human bowling, parachute rides and more! A warming tent will also be on the ice with free food/beverages available. Once again, a world record ice carousel will be attempted... come and see it for yourself! For more information, visit [Facebook](#) and search *I.C.E. Fest 2023*. The event will raise money to help kids through the Flyer Pride Pack program and the Kare Closet.

The **Northland Arboretum** will host a **Valentine's Day Snowshoe Hike & Dinner** on **Sun. Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>** starting at 5:00. Couples will enjoy a guided snowshoe hike through the woods, lined with ice luminaries. Please bring your own snowshoes. You'll receive a certificate for a heart-shaped Rafferty's pizza. After, cozy up at home with a bottle of wine and some chocolates, all included in this date night package. The cost is \$55/couple. ***Registration is required no later than Thurs. Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>.***

## **2/13 – 2/19**

Join the Brainerd Lakes Chamber for **Business After Hours** on **Tues. Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>** at the **Crow Wing County Jail** in Brainerd from 4:30-6:00. Guests will gather in one of the empty housing units and enjoy mixing with other chamber members, delicious appetizers, beverages, tours and learning more about the Crow Wing County Jail from Sheriff Eric Klang. Guests may even win some prizes! RSVP online in advance at [BrainerdLakesChamber.com](http://BrainerdLakesChamber.com).

The **Crow Wing County Volunteer Coordinators Open House** will be held on **Wed. Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>** from 8:00-9:00 a.m. at The Center in Brainerd. If you are a volunteer coordinator or if you work for an organization that uses volunteers, please join this group for a light breakfast and coffee to learn more about the Association and how it can benefit your organization. For more information, visit [Facebook](#) and search for *Volunteer Coordinators Association of Crow Wing County*.

Join **Jack Pine Brewery** in Baxter for another **Pints for a Purpose** on **Wed. Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>** from 5:00-8:00pm. \$1 from every pint sold during that time will be donated to the **Pohl's Children's Hospice**. For more information, visit [Facebook](#) and search *Pints for a Purpose Baxter*.

**Kinship Partners** presents a **Who's Got Game** Fundraiser on **Fri. Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>** at the Taconite Canteen & Event Center in Ironton from 6:00-10:00pm. Teams of 4 to 8 are invited to join them for a brain-busting night of trivia, appetizers and fun all to support mentoring in the Brainerd Lakes Area! Tickets are \$40 per person and can be reserved online at [KinshipPartners.org](http://KinshipPartners.org).

The breathtaking glamour of the Jazz Age comes to the stage in Simon Levy's adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic novel, ***The Great Gatsby*** at the Pequot Lakes High School Auditorium starting on **Fri. Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00. Presented locally by the **Greater Lakes Area Performing Arts (GLAPA)**, the play is set in New York and tells the story of Jay Gatsby, a self-made millionaire, and his pursuit of Daisy Buchanan, a wealthy young woman who he love in his youth. Show times are Feb. 17, 18, 24 and 25 at 7:00 and on Feb. 19 & 26 at 2:00. Get tickets online at [GLAPA.org](http://GLAPA.org).

The public is invited to the **Breezy Point Ice Arena** on **Sun. Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>** for a **Family Skate Night** that will run from 6:00-7:00. Admission is \$5 per skater, with a maximum \$20 for a family. Limited free skate rental and sharpening will be available. Members of the Breezy Point Skate School and Figure Skate Club skate for free. Popcorn, candy and hot cocoa will be available for purchase.

## MISC....

**The Minnesota Department of Health** and **Crow Wing County** remind county residents that **FREE Radon Testing Kits** are available right now by stopping by the Land Services building in Brainerd. The Department recommends that all home should be tested for radon every 5 years. Radon is an odorless, colorless and tasteless gas that occurs naturally in the soil and can enter homes through cracks and openings in floors and walls. Two-in-Five homes have radon levels that could cause significant health risk, but it is preventable. Free test kits can be picked up at Land Services at 322 Laurel Street. One kit limit per household. Call 218-824-1010 for more information.

**Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity** is in **need of volunteers** to help us complete two current build projects, as well as in our bustling ReStore. 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! Habitat needs help with construction of the homes, helping at the ReStore, which deals in recycling new and like-new building and home materials AND they need help with pick-ups and salvages. If you can help in any of these areas, please send an email to [Heidi.Gould@LakesAreaHabitat.org](mailto:Heidi.Gould@LakesAreaHabitat.org) or call 454-7012.

**Crow Wing County Community Services** is looking for **volunteer drivers** to help some residents get to and from appointments, grocery stores, doctor appointments and other important destinations. Volunteers must have a reliable vehicle, pass a background check and have a valid driver's license. Reimbursement is available for some mileage (at current IRS rate). If you would like to volunteer, call Matt at Community Services 218-824-1228.

It's snowplow season and residents of **Crow Wing County** can once again find out just where their snowplow is during snow events! **Where's My Snowplow?** is a web-based map that uses GPS to track the 15 county plows and show you the current location of each plow. Track the plows in real time- updated every five minutes during winter events. Visit [CrowWing.US](http://CrowWing.US) to find the snowplow tracker!

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](http://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.

**Bridges of Hope** reminds the public that the **Brainerd Area Overnight Shelter** is open for those in need of a warm place to sleep. 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 **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](http://CommunityGiving.org/BrainerdWomensFund).

**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 will meet the **first Wednesday of every month** from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Burlington room, located through Door C at Lakewood's Senior Campus (401 Prairie Ave. NE). The group is designed to provide emotional, education and social support for those who care for a loved one with dementia or Alzheimer's. Participants will develop coping methods, along with some 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. Masks are required to be worn during the meeting.

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!

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.

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 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.

**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.