

## CORONA-TIMES PSAs Week of 4/ 12 / 21 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 due to COVID- 19.**

(\* BATTLE OF THE BADGES blood drive... but mostly full at print time)

Tues.	4/13	12:00-6:00	Pillager Community Center
Thurs.	4/15	11:00-5:00	Lutheran Church of Little Falls
Thurs.	4/15	12:00-6:00	St. Mathias Cath. Church in Fort Ripley
Fri.	4/16	12:00-6:00	Shoe Sensation in Baxter
Fri.	4/16	12:00-6:00	First Baptist Church in Long Prairie
Wed.	4/21	9:00-3:00	Morrison Co. Gov't Ctr. In Little Falls
Thurs.	4/22	9:00-3:00	Karvonen Funeral Home in Wadena
Fri.	4/23	11:00-5:00	Lakewood Church in Baxter
Mon.	4/26	12:00-6:00	St. John's Lutheran Church in Aitkin
Tues.	4/27	8:00-2:00	Verndale Pop-Up in Verndale
Tues.	4/27	12:00-6:00	St. John's Lutheran Church in Aitkin
Wed.	4/28	9:00-3:00	St. John's Lutheran Church in Aitkin

## 4/12 - 4/18

**Crossing Arts** in downtown Brainerd presents its newest exhibition "**Young At Art**" that showcases the work of students from local schools on display at the gallery, which is described as "a lively exhibit that is floor to ceiling color and exploration." The display is open **now through Apr. 30<sup>th</sup>**. There will be no public reception due to COVID restriction. To view the display, visit Crossing Arts during regular business hours, wear a mask and know that only 18 guests are allowed inside at one time. Visit [CrossingArts.org](http://CrossingArts.org) for more information.

The next **Ruby's Pantry Pop-Up Pantry** will be on **Tues. Apr. 13<sup>th</sup>** at The Northern Pacific Center - Building #2, 1511 Northern Pacific Rd, Brainerd, MN 56401. Food distribution begins at 4:30 p.m. and ends at 6:00 p.m. Ruby's Pantry is a non-profit food ministry serving our community on the second Tuesday of the month. There are no income guidelines to participate; Ruby's Pantry is for everyone who eats. For a \$20 cash donation, participants will receive a "share" with an abundance of groceries. The variety and amount of food varies each month. Contact The Journey North Community Church at 218.824.5617 about volunteer opportunities at Ruby's! ((To comply with COVID-19 guidelines it will be an outdoor, drive-thru distribution. *You must stay in your vehicle.*))

Join **The Brainerd Lakes Chamber** at **Madden's Resort on Gull Lake** as they host **Business After Hours** on **Tues., Apr. 13** from 4:30 - 6:00 pm. at Madden's new Pavilion (weather permitting) or Wilson Bay Lodge. Guests will enjoy networking, light food sampling featuring restaurants at Madden's Resort, yard games and cash bar. Hear the history of Madden's Resort and future plans during the host interview with Ben Thuringer, Chief Operating Officer, and Matt Kilian, Brainerd Lakes Chamber President. RSVPs are requested as a courtesy to the host. Register in advance at [BrainerdLakesChamber.com](http://BrainerdLakesChamber.com)

**Essentia Health** is hosting a public **webinar to emphasize the importance of receiving a vaccine**, clarify vaccine myths and highlight recent COVID-19 trends and the prevalence of variants. The program is titled: "Undecided about the COVID-19 vaccine? Essentia Health experts address your concerns in a live online forum." And it's scheduled for **5 p.m. Wed., Apr. 14**. The hour-long event can be accessed at ((at [TinyURL.com/58m6pdsn](https://TinyURL.com/58m6pdsn))) ...or by calling Anthony at 218-428-1781. No registration is needed to attend. The second half of the webinar will feature a question-and-answer session. Attendees can ask vaccine-related questions and raise vaccine-related concerns via the "Q&A" function in Zoom. We'll do our best to address as many questions and concerns as time allows. Following the webinar, we will post the video to our Facebook and YouTube pages.

The **Brainerd Public Library** invites members of the public to join the **Brainerd Book Club**, held **every second Wednesday** of the month at 1:00 p.m for one hour. The book club currently meets online via Zoom, and is welcoming new members The title to be discussed on **Wed. Apr. 14<sup>th</sup>** at 1:00 p.m. is "Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love" by Dani Shapiro. "Inheritance" is a memoir about the staggering family secret uncovered by a genealogy test. Upcoming selections include "Homegoing" by Yaa Gyasi in May, with more titles to be announced soon. To get the link to join the Zoom discussion, email the Library at [brainerd@KRLS.org](mailto:brainerd@KRLS.org). For more information on any of the events, contact the library at 218-829-5574 or visit the library's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/brainerdpubliclibrary](http://www.facebook.com/brainerdpubliclibrary).

The **Destination Downtown Coalition** wants to **bring Babe the Blue Ox back to downtown Brainerd** but needs your financial help to raise the \$2,400 needed. Nor-Son Construction has donated a Babe the Blue Ox statue that they've had since 2008. Babe is in need of repairs and a new look. The Crossing Arts Alliance has agreed to head the artistic side with a call to local artists. They will be putting together a panel to determine placement, find great artists, and judge who will be doing the honors of creating downtown's latest attraction! Sponsors of \$500 or more will have their name or business logo on a plaque next to the statue. [DowntownBrainerd.org/donate](http://DowntownBrainerd.org/donate).  
**Submissions DUE BY THURSDAY APRIL 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Cass County Public Health** will host a FREE **COVID-19 Vaccine Event** on **Thurs. Apr. 15<sup>th</sup>** from 1:00-6:00 at the Pillager Community Center. The vaccine will be Moderna Vaccine, which is a 2-dose vaccine, 28 days apart. The event will be open to everyone 18 years and older, but pre-registration is required. Register by calling 218-547-6847 or online at [co.cass.mn.us/CovidClinic](http://co.cass.mn.us/CovidClinic).

**Riverwood Healthcare** is hosting a **COVID-19 vaccine clinic** at Journey North Church in Aitkin on **Thurs. Apr. 15<sup>th</sup>**. The vaccine will be the two-shot Pfizer vaccine. Appointments will be made between 9 am to 12pm and 4 to 6 pm. For an appointment, call Riverwood at 844-428-1323, Mon-Fri, 8 am to 4:30 pm.

The week of **April 12 – 16<sup>th</sup>** is considered **Severe Weather Awareness Week** in Minnesota and the state's counties will participate in statewide tornado drills on **Thurs. Apr. 15<sup>th</sup>**. County emergency management officials throughout the state will set off outdoor warning sirens at 1:45 and 6:45 that day, which is considered Tornado Drill Day. The drills will allow everyone to practice their plans in case of a tornado. The first drill is intended for institutions and businesses. The second is for second shift workers and families.

**National Healthcare Decisions Day** is on **Fri. Apr. 16<sup>th</sup>** and it will be a day to educate and empower the public and healthcare providers and will encourage guests to take part in important advanced care planning. **Cuyuna Regional Medical Center in Crosby** will host an event that day from 10:00-2:00 in the front lobby at the main entrance where they will have staff members on hand to help start the process. They will encourage everyone to make their healthcare wishes known to their family and physician and to go through the planning process. The day is aimed at increasing the number of people who have completed an advance directive ("living will"), in which they name the person who will make medical decisions for them in the event they are seriously ill and cannot speak for themselves. To learn more, visit [CuyunaMed.org](http://CuyunaMed.org) or start the process early online at [HonoringChoices.org](http://HonoringChoices.org).

**Essentia Health** is hosting an **Advance Care Planning (ACP) class** from 11:00 to 12:00 on **Fri., Apr. 16**, which is National Healthcare Decisions Day. Advance care planning is a process that helps you think and talk about your choices for health care in the future. It's important for every adult to have an advance directive, also known as a living will or health care directive. Everyone is invited to join in thought-provoking conversation to discover the value of ACP, reflect on your values, choose a health care agent, explore goals for treatment and take steps toward completing a health care directive for yourself. By having these conversations proactively, you can ensure that your preferences are understood if you become unable to make medical decisions for yourself due to an accident, injury or sudden illness. For the safety of our communities, all classes are currently being offered virtually. Register online at [EssentiaHealth.org](http://EssentiaHealth.org) and click on Classes/Events. Another class will be offered from noon to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, May 12.

After having to cancel last year's show due to the COVID-19 lockdown, the **Breezy Point Figure Skating Club** is happy to be able to take the ice for friends and family. This year's theme is "Skate, Hope, Love," which they say embodies what are needed at this time. The performances will be 6:30 p.m. **Friday, April 16**, and 2 p.m., **Saturday, April 17**, at the Breezy Point Ice Arena. The show features members of the Breezy Point Figure Skating Club and Skate School, ages 3-17. The price of admission is \$5 per person, with children 5 and under free.

It's time for the **Brainerd Jaycees 2021 Run for the Lakes** and this year, it is being done virtually! Choose to run a Full Marathon, Half Marathon, a 10K, 5K or Kids 1K and do it wherever you choose! You can run your race anytime you want **between Sun. Apr. 18<sup>th</sup> and Sun. Apr. 25<sup>th</sup>** and/or join them for **a Live Start on Facebook on Sat. Apr. 24<sup>th</sup>!** Participants will receive race swag via mail in May OR you can pick it up on Fri. Apr. 23<sup>rd</sup> during a drive thru pickup. All of the proceeds of the event will be donated to local charities with the primary beneficiary is the Brainerd Family YMCA. Register now at [RunForTheLakes.com](http://RunForTheLakes.com) and "like" them on Facebook for updates!

The **Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen** wants to remind lakes area residents that that if you are in need of a **lunch on the weekends**, they provide free weekend lunches to anyone regardless of age. If you know anyone who might benefit from a free lunch on the weekends, just stop by the sharing Bread Soup Kitchen at 923 Oak Street in Brainerd on **Sat. Apr. 17<sup>th</sup>** between 12:00 and 12:30. Meals will be given out then.

Over the past year, **Lakes Area Music Festival** organizers have turned to streaming concerts as a way to continue its mission of bringing together nationally-acclaimed classical musicians and central Minnesota audiences. Through a partnership with Lakeland PBS, regional classical music fans will have another opportunity to take in these incredible concerts. **Sunday afternoons in April and May**, LAMF concerts will be broadcast at 4 p.m. on KAWE and Lakeland Prime. A wide range of programming - from chamber music to opera, vocal programs and baroque ensembles - each weekly program will feature musicians from the LAMF roster. The next concert will be:

**Sunday, April 18: DIGITAL FINALE**

LAMF musicians from around the world, performing in their homes during quarantine.

\*\*\*\*\*Not in the KAWE listening area? Try streaming with the PBS app and online at [video.lptv.org](http://video.lptv.org).

## **4/19 – 4/25**

It's time for the **Brainerd Jaycees 2021 Run for the Lakes** and this year, it is being done virtually! Choose to run a Full Marathon, Half Marathon, a 10K, 5K or Kids 1K and do it wherever you choose! You can run your race anytime between **NOW and Sun. Apr. 25<sup>th</sup>** and/or join them for **a Live Start on Facebook on Sat. Apr. 24<sup>th</sup>!** Participants will receive race swag via mail in May OR you can pick it up on Fri. Apr. 23<sup>rd</sup> during a drive thru pickup. All of the proceeds of the event will be donated to local charities with the primary beneficiary is the Brainerd Family YMCA. Register now at [RunForTheLakes.com](http://RunForTheLakes.com) and "like" them on Facebook for updates!

Meteorologist Paul Douglas and climatologist Mark Seeley will speak on **"weather and the link to climate change"** at the next **Rosenmeier Center's forum** on **Mon. Apr. 19<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00pm. The dual presentations are titled "The Climate Conundrum: Threats and Opportunities for Minnesota's North Woods." They will discuss weather/climate risks in Minnesota opportunities for resilience and renewal. To attend the forum, send an email to [RosenmeierForum@gmail.com](mailto:RosenmeierForum@gmail.com).

**Free frozen meals for seniors** age 60 and older will be distributed at **Cuyuna Regional Medical Center** in Crosby on **Mon., Apr. 19**, from 10:30 to 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 a pack of 10 frozen meals. There is no fee for the meals; however, contributions are appreciated. Seniors will obtain their pack in their vehicle near a mobile unit in front of CRMC's Business Support Services building across Highway 210 from the hospital's main entrance. The drive-in will begin at the Heartwood Senior Living Community entrance near the intersection of Highways 210 and 31 and exit through CRMC's employee parking lot onto 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Northeast near the Great River Eye Clinic. For more information, contact CRMC at 218-545-5361.

**Crow Wing Energized** invites the public to participate in a **Lunch & Learn** online presentation, "**Importance of SLEEP: why it matters and how to improve it**" on **Wed. Apr. 21<sup>st</sup>** from 12:00-12:30. (Sleep. It is like air and water. Without it we would die. Yet many Americans take it for granted. The importance of sleep and its effect on our mental and emotional well-being should not be underestimated.) Please join us for a presentation on sleep given by Beatrice Comty-Charnock. The event is free, but registration is required. Register at [CrowWingEnergized.org/events](http://CrowWingEnergized.org/events)

**The Legacy Chorale of Greater Minnesota** will be holding their **Virtual Spring Concert** on **Fri., Apr 23** beginning at 7:00 PM. Entitled, "**Our Flight Begins As Song,**" the event will be presented on YouTube through a hybrid-streaming format. Along with select pre-recorded performances by the chorale from their past 19 seasons, viewers will also see the chorale in two virtual videos that are currently being produced and watch them sing live from the Franklin Arts Center Auditorium in Brainerd. Along with the music, the virtual audience will enjoy live introductions to each piece by singers of the chorale, many of whom are 19-year veteran members. Repertoire includes the first song performed at the chorale's very first concert in October, 2002 and much more! Visit [LegacyChorale.org/events](http://LegacyChorale.org/events) to find the link.

**Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity's ReStore, Bridges of Hope's Common Goods and Greenforest Recycling Resources** are teaming up for an **Earth Day Recycle** event on **Sat. Apr. 24<sup>th</sup>** at the Habitat ReStore in Brainerd from 9:30-2:30. They ask that you sort your items to donate and/or recycle and join them at the store (1110 Wright Street) for brats provided by Cub Foods. Items to donate include (lightly used items ready for resale: ) Clothing, books, Décor, sporting goods, appliances, furniture and building materials. (Items to Recycle that are damaged and NOT for resale: ) Fabric/clothing, books, magazines, paper, newspaper, junk mail, cardboard. For donation guidelines, visit [LakesAreaHabitat.org](http://LakesAreaHabitat.org) or [CommonGoodsMN.org](http://CommonGoodsMN.org).

The **Northland Arboretum** in Brainerd invites all kids to grab their bikes and be ready to roll on **Sat. Apr. 24<sup>th</sup>** starting at the Arb's Trailhead parking lot. **Recreational Youth Development & Encouragement** (R.Y.D.E.) is hosting the event, which says that positive influence and continued exposure to recreation empowers youth to become better citizens and future leaders! The event will start with a meet & greet at 10:00 with the paved trail rides starting at 10:30. Bring your bike, helmet and appropriate clothing. For more information, visit [RYDEMn.org](http://RYDEMn.org).

**TheShop** in Brainerd is excited to announce its first ever **Virtual Variety Hour** fundraiser! On **Sat. Apr. 24<sup>th</sup>** from 2pm-4pm, they will be streaming both live and prerecorded performances by area youth and local talent and there will be an absolute bevy of silent auction items to bid on! The silent auction will be open Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> and will close after the Variety Show on Saturday afternoon. For more information, contact TheShop at 454-0009 or email [Info@TheShopBrainerd.org](mailto:Info@TheShopBrainerd.org). You can also visit the group's website at [TheShopBrainerd.org](http://TheShopBrainerd.org).

Over the past year, **Lakes Area Music Festival** organizers have turned to streaming concerts as a way to continue its mission of bringing together nationally-acclaimed classical musicians and central Minnesota audiences. Through a partnership with Lakeland PBS, regional classical music fans will have another opportunity to take in these incredible concerts. **Sunday afternoons in April and May**, LAMF concerts will be broadcast at 4 p.m. on KAWE and Lakeland Prime. A wide range of programming - from chamber music to opera, vocal programs and baroque ensembles - each weekly program will feature musicians from the LAMF roster. The next concert will be: **Sunday, April 25: LOVE LETTERS** An intimate vocal recital featuring LAMF artistic directors John Taylor Ward and Scott Lykins, recorded in Lykins' Minneapolis home.

## **4/26 – 5/2**

**Youth On Stage** presents an **Open Mic Night** on **Mon. Apr. 26<sup>th</sup>** from 6:30-8:30 at The Eagles Club in Brainerd. Any youth with a family-friendly talent is welcome (singing, dancing, comedy, poetry, magic, etc). Each performer gets up to 15 minutes to perform. A free cheeseburger meal is given to all performers, plus there are chances to win prizes! Masks are required at the Eagles Club except while sitting at your table eating or while performing. Registration is required in advance at [YouthOnStageMN.org](http://YouthOnStageMN.org).

The Brainerd Lakes Chamber's **Blue Ox Success Series: Business Financing Essentials** will be held on **Tues. Apr. 27<sup>th</sup>** from 10:00-11:30 over Zoom. This session will cover the key steps in obtaining commercial financing for your business and to provide answers to questions you have. It will also outline the steps required to successfully secure financing. Registration is required. Visit [BrainerdLakesChamber.com](http://BrainerdLakesChamber.com) to sign up.



**Human trafficking** is a growing public health concern throughout the US. Minnesota is not exempt. Please join the **Brainerd Lakes Area Sex Trafficking Task Force** for at 1:00 on **Tues., Apr. 27<sup>th</sup>** at Emmanuel Lutheran in Backus, MN to hear current information gathered from the Task Force. The presentation will include information on current trends, language and what to be aware of. Emmanuel Lutheran Church is located on 603 State Hwy 371, Backus, MN.

Are you looking for a time-effective workshop to grow as a successful supervisor? Through three interactive sessions packed with tools and techniques, participants in the Brainerd Lakes Chamber **2021 Blue Ox Business Academy's Supervisor Advantage** course, you will learn the skills and confidence needed to manage high-performing teams. The course is limited to 32 chamber members only! The **REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, APRIL 30<sup>th</sup>**. The CLASSES will be held on Wed. May 12 from 8-12...Wed. May 19<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-4:30... And Wed. May 26<sup>th</sup> from 8-12. All sessions are held locally in the Brainerd Lakes Area. If you have questions, please call Paula at 822-7113 or send emails to [BlueOx@BrainerdLakesChamber.com](mailto:BlueOx@BrainerdLakesChamber.com).

## MISC...

The **American Heart Association's Heartsaver CPR/AED and First Aid classes** for people interested in learning how to save a life are being offered by **Cuyuna Regional Medical Center** on **Wednesdays and Thursdays in April** from 4 to 8 p.m. at its Crosby campus. In the courses designed for anyone with little or no medical training, participants learn how to provide first aid and CPR and use an automated external defibrillator in a safe, timely and effective manner. The fee is \$50 for each course or \$80 for both CPR and First Aid. To register, call 218-546-4367 or send a message to [jodi.bedard@cuyunamed.org](mailto:jodi.bedard@cuyunamed.org).

Is your home in need of repairs, but you're unsure of affordable financing options? You may be eligible for a home repair loan or grant through **USDA Rural Development**. They offer very-low-income homeowners 62 years of age or older to remove health and safety hazards. For more information, call the Baxter office at 218-829-5965 or visit [RD.USDA.gov/MN](http://RD.USDA.gov/MN). A message from the USDA Rural Development, an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

The **Brainerd Public Library** invites members of the public to join the **Brainerd Book Club**, held **every second Wednesday** of the month at 1:00 p.m for one hour. The book club currently meets online via Zoom, and is welcoming new members who like to discuss a variety of books including literary novels, mysteries, as well as nonfiction titles such as memoirs and biographies. Library staff members lead the discussion and often recommend related books and other materials available through the library. The Friends of the Brainerd Public Library support this book club by providing the funds to purchase ten copies of a title for patrons to borrow. These copies may be requested for curbside pickup appointment during the month prior to the meeting by calling the Library at 218-829-5574 during business hours. To get the link to join the Zoom discussion, email the Library at [brainerd@KRLS.org](mailto:brainerd@KRLS.org).

**The Brainerd Public Library** is now open scheduled hour for patrons to go in and browse the library. **Grab & Go short browsing sessions** are now available Monday through Friday during specific hours. During Grab & Go, customers wearing a mask can come into the library building to pick up requests, browse for 15 minutes or less, use the public internet computers or get assistance with brief reference questions. The also still offer contact-free curbside pickup by scheduled appointments as well and can help people access library resources over the phone and by email. For Grab & Go hours, visit [BrainerdPublicLibrary.wordpress.com](http://BrainerdPublicLibrary.wordpress.com) and click on Menu... or call 829-5574.

Are you a caregiver for a loved one? Do you have a plan for if you were suddenly unable to care for them? **Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota** can help you build peace of mind through **Emergency Care Planning Services**. LSS can work with you to answer questions like: Who will care for my spouse if I no longer could? What resources would be available to my family? Work with an experienced care provider to develop a plan at no cost to you. Get started by calling 1-800-488-4146.

The **Brainerd VFW** is accepting **applications for the annual Scout of the Year Award**. This is a K-12 program. Last year's winner was Jenna Lee of Brainerd. She received \$300 locally, then won district competition. Jenna was a 12<sup>th</sup> grader and is now in college to become a teacher. The **deadline for applications this year is May 1<sup>st</sup>**. Awards go up to \$5000 nationally. Details and application forms can be found at [BrainerdVFW.org/scout](http://BrainerdVFW.org/scout).

**Pine Grove Zoo** is taking applications for **Zoo Keeping Interns** for the upcoming 2021 season. As a non-profit organization and community partner, Pine Grove Zoo has created an Internship Program to give back and support students interested in the animal field and natural world. Interns gain knowledge and experience with all of Pine Grove Zoo's animal family, not just certain species. Internships allow individuals to learn and discover things about all areas of the Zoo, which can guide students in deciding which part of this field interests them more. Pine Grove Zoo has received high ratings from interns that have been part of the Pine Grove Zoo Team, while some even continue as paid staff during the season. If you are interested in an internship, call 320-616-5595 or email [Info@PineGroveZoo.com](mailto:Info@PineGroveZoo.com).

**Crow Wing County** is seeking candidates for **seasonal watercraft inspector** positions. These positions conduct inspections of entering and exiting watercraft equipment at public water accesses and will have frequent public contact with boaters to educate them about aquatic invasive species. Those interested in applying can visit [CrowWing.us/careers](http://CrowWing.us/careers) or contact Human Resources at 218-822-7030.

**Cuyuna Regional Medical Center** is continuing to care for residents of our communities by offering **contact free COVID testing** in a mobile unit on its Crosby campus. The service is offered weekdays by appointment only. Call 218-546-7462 to schedule a test. The mobile unit is located in front of the Business Support Services building in CRMC's staff parking lot across Highway 210 from the hospital and clinic's main entrance. Patients drive up to the unit and remain in their vehicle during the brief test administered by a nurse. Visit [CuyunaMed.org](http://CuyunaMed.org) to schedule your appt.



**The Crisis Line & Referral Service** is looking for compassionate **volunteers** to help answer calls from those in the area who may be experiencing a crisis and need someone to listen. Their volunteers are truly a lifeline for those who call the Crisis Line, with compassion, concern and with the highest level of integrity and confidentiality, the volunteers listen, affirm, encourage and offer hope by connecting with callers to resources that can truly help them. Hours for volunteers are flexible, you can do it from home or wherever! Training will be provided. You must be 18 or older. To learn more, visit [CrisisLineAndReferralService.org](http://CrisisLineAndReferralService.org).