



Crosslake Area Senior Services, Inc.

Connecting Seniors to Services

# SENIOR CONNECTIONS

Volume 19 | Summer 2026

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## SENIOR DAYS & EXPO JUST KEEPS GETTING BETTER. 2026 WAS A HUGE SUCCESS. MORE EVENTS! MORE SENIORS! MORE FUN!



Mark your calendar for the next  
Crosslake Cares' **Senior Days & Senior Expo**  
the weekend of  
**April 24, 2027**

Mike Max, Sports Director at WCCO was our Keynote Speaker at the 7th Annual Senior Expo held on Saturday, April 25, 2026. You can watch the video of his wonderful presentation on our website, [www.CrosslakeCares.org](http://www.CrosslakeCares.org).



Visit [CROSSLAKECARES.ORG](http://CROSSLAKECARES.ORG)

Crosslake Cares is a local 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization started in 2018 and dedicated to connecting area seniors to services and information that can enrich and help improve their lives. **Senior Days & Senior Expo** is held annually during the last weekend in April. This year was our 5th Senior Days and our 7th Senior Expo.

2026 Senior Days began on Thursday, April 23 with **Senior Bingo**. The turnout of Seniors was amazing and everyone enjoyed popcorn, beverages, food, and fun games of bingo.

On Friday morning, April 24 everyone gathered at Crosslake Lutheran Church for **Senior Education Sessions**. Our first presentation was from Tremolo Communications, Krystin Peterson and Dylan Raph, helping Seniors understand technology affecting them. Then Jon Moberg updated us on the exciting developments for the National Loon Center. Followed by Chip Lohmiller, Crosslake Fire Chief on "*Staying Safe At Home*". It was a great and fun educational morning. Later on Friday Seniors were invited to Moonlite Bay to enjoy food, beverages and prizes at **Senior Trivia Night**.

On Saturday, April 25, the day was packed with Senior activities. We started off the morning with a **3K Walk** for area seniors lead by Donna Keiffer, and joined by our Mayor, Jackson Purfeerst. This was followed by the **Senior Expo**. We sold out again this year with over 50 Exhibitors displaying their wares and providing information to our largest crowd.

We enjoyed great informative speakers Dr. Stephen Schmid on "Arthritis of the Foot and Ankle" and Molly Haskins, RN, from Home Instead on "A Better What's Next". The **Senior Expo** Keynote address was given by Mike Max to a packed room with his inspirational talk on "Never Quit Living Your Best Life". Everyone left pumped up to continue to live to the Max! Many thanks to CRMC, our Platinum Sponsor for the third straight year of their support.



*The staff of CRMC Orthopedics Department at the Senior Expo*

After the Expo, Seniors were invited to enjoy **Pickleball** at the Crosslake Community Center's 10 courts for good exercise, socializing, and fun for everyone.

As always, we ended our Senior Days weekend with a Mardi Gras themed **Senior Prom** held at Manhattan Beach Lodge with

dinner, and then dancing the night away.

2026 Senior Days & Senior Expo had wonderful events for Crosslake Area Seniors so make sure to put April 22, 23 and 24, 2027 on your calendar for another spectacular *Crosslake Cares Senior Days & Senior Expo!*

### GENEROUS DONORS for SENIOR DAYS & EXPO

Crosslake Cares recognizes the wonderful support of the following:

Cuyuna Regional Medical Center



CUYUNA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

and Crosslake Ideal Lions



Thank you for their generous financial support of *Crosslake Cares' Senior Days and Senior Expo*.

Without their generous financial support we could not successfully serve our area Seniors.

We dedicate this issue of Senior Connections to CRMC and Crosslake Ideal Lions.



# THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR MAKING SENIOR DAYS A SUCCESS!

We wouldn't be here today without the support and participation of all the individuals and organizations who have assisted *Crosslake Cares* over the past seven years. This past **Senior Days & Expo Weekend** was our most successful yet. We are deeply grateful to our volunteers and partnering organizations for making this possible.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 23

Thank you to **Pam Vaughan and Donna Kieffer**, and the Crosslake/Fifty Lakes American Legion for organizing and hosting the second year of **Senior Bingo** during Senior Days. We had lots of fun and a fantastic turnout.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 24

Thank you to our speakers during the **Senior Education Sessions** on Friday. Our first presenters this year were **Tremolo Communications**, with **Dylan Raph** and **Krystin Peterson**, and their talk on helping seniors understand technology.

Our second presentation was given by **Jon Mobeck**, Executive Director of the **National Loon Center** with his update on the work and building of the National Loon Center here in Crosslake, and lots of interesting information on the lives of loons on our area lakes!

For our third presentation, **Chip Lohmiller**, **Crosslake Fire Chief**, provided safety tips for keeping us safe in our homes. He identified, and made us aware of the hazardous obstacles that can cause fires in our homes.

Thank you to **Gail Smith** and the team at **Crosslake Lutheran Church** for hosting our presentations and providing refreshments.

Thank you to **Moonlite Bay's Jesse and Richard Eide** for our hosting our second well-attended **Trivia Night** and for offering meal and drink specials.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 25

Thank you to **Donna Keiffer**, of Silver Sneakers at the Community Center, and her team of volunteers for organizing and leading the **Senior 3K Walk** to kick off the start of the events on Saturday. We were excited to have Crosslake **Mayor Jackson Purfeerst** join us again for our 3K walk and at the Expo.

Many thanks to **The Log Church** and **Senior Pastor Troy Nelson**, and team who have hosted all 7 of our Senior Expos. We thank

**Patty Norgaard** who leads the *Crosslake Cares Expo Team*.

Thank you to **Immaculate Heart Church, Reeds, Mauiceri's Italian Bistro, Crosslake Coffee** and **The Yellow House** for providing delicious pastries for guests to enjoy.

Thank you to our two informative and valuable mini-talk speakers at the Senior Expo, **Molly Haskins, RN** of Home Instead and **Dr. Stephen Schmid** of Cuyuna Regional Medical Center's Orthopedic Department.

Thank you to all the wonderful **exhibitors** for participating in the Senior Expo and for their years of support in providing resources to our area's seniors. Thank you to **CRMC** for being our platinum sponsor for our Keynote Speaker, Mike Max. His presentation left our audience both engaged and inspired.



Senior Pickleball Event

Thank you to **Peter and Pam Graves** for organizing and hosting pickleball on Saturday. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport, so it was a perfect way for our seniors to spend an afternoon. Thank you to the **Crosslake Community Center** for providing the outdoor courts for our Senior Pickleball.

Thank you to **Gail Smith and her team of volunteers** for all their hard work and dedication to make **Senior Prom** so dazzling and spectacular. We had a great attendance enjoying Prom with a Mardi Gras theme.

## ALL THREE DAYS!

Thank you to **Jackie Wipper** for organizing the Senior Retail Deals again this year, and thank you to all retailers who provided special senior discounts all weekend.

Thank you to **Dawn Mauceri** for organizing all the restaurant deals throughout Senior Days and thank you to all the restaurants for offering senior discounts as well.

Thank you to **Mike and Kelly Stone** of **Crosswoods Golf** offering senior discounts on golf and mini-golf. A special thank you to **Joan Johnson** and her troop of volunteers who work diligently behind the scenes promoting Senior Days and the Senior Expo.

We also want to extend a special thank you to **Cindy Myogeto**, Director of the **Crosslake Chamber of Commerce**, for all her help on organizing banners and connecting our group more to the business community. Thank you to our marketing team, **Judy Regan** and **Vanessa Ruedisili**, on all their assistance with marketing efforts for *Crosslake Cares*. Thank you to the *Crosslake Cares Team*, and all our **Volunteers** for all their help with planning, preparing, and executing not only the Senior Days, but all the initiatives of *Crosslake Cares* providing resources to our area seniors to enrich their lives.



Senior Prom at Manhattan Beach Lodge



Mayor Jackson Purfeerst and John Bruder, founder of Crosslake Cares, at the 2026 Expo



Crosslake Cares Volunteers!



THANK YOU to AREA  
RESTAURANTS & RETAIL

Thank you to these area restaurants and retail stores who gave our Seniors great deals on the specials they offered during Senior Days.

Restaurants:

- Andy’s Bar and Grill
- Cedar Chest
- Crosslake Coffee
- Dairy Queen
- The Yellow House
- Manhattan Beach Lodge
- Maucieri’s Italian Bistro
- Mission Tavern
- Moonlite Bay
- Norway Ridge Supper Club
- Up North Social
- Pine Peaks Restaurant
- Rafferty’s Pizza
- Red Pine Cookhouse
- The Wharf
- Zorbaz

Retail:

- Ace Hardware
- Crosslake Drug
- Common Goods
- Dark Horse Brew
- Kicks Art Place
- Curious Belongings
- Simply Rustic Floral
- Squirrely Mama
- Maverick Boutique
- MN Roots



Expo Keynote Speaker Mike Max

INFORMATIVE MINI-TALKS at EXPO

At this years’ Senior Expo, we presented two informative mini talks, each lasting about 15 minutes, and each provided valuable and informative topics for seniors.

Our first mini-talk was presented by Molly Haskins, RN of Home Instead “A Better What’s Next”.



The second talk was given by Dr. Stephen Schmid DMP, FACFPS, of CRMC “Arthritis of the Foot and Ankle”.



MORE PHOTOS from SENIOR DAYS

Senior Bingo at the American Legion



Senior Trivia at Moonlite Bay



Mardi Gras at Senior Prom



Senior 3K Walk



Senior Discounts



Senior Expo Café Cares





THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 EXPO SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS

Platinum Sponsor

Gold Sponsors & Exhibitors



  
CUYUNA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER









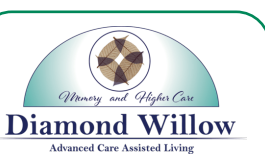


Silver Sponsors & Exhibitors









Other Donors & Supporters

In Kind:

- Simply Rustic Floral Design

Financial Donations:

- Crosslake Ideal Lions Club
- Immaculate Heart Church

Expo Banners:

- Crosslake Chamber of Commerce

Expo Program:

- Crosslake Presbyterian Church

Expo Prizes:

- Hubbard Broadcasting Twins Tickets
- Manhattan Beach Lodge
- Norway Ridge Supper Club
- Whitefish Lodge and Suites
- Minnesota Wild Hockey Tickets

Bronze Sponsors & Exhibitors

- Alzheimer's Association

Brainered Lakes Community Foundation

Brainered Medical Supply

B&C Construction

Camp Knutson

Central MN Council on Aging

Chris Cullen Real Estate Group

Cornerstone Caregiving
- Crosslake Historical Society

Crow Wing Energized

Lutheran Social Services

Northern MN Railroad Heritage Assoc.

Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway

Precision Driving Center of MN

Rising Tides Wealth Management

Space for Everything

THANK YOU

Many thanks to **The Log Church** for hosting this year's Expo. We couldn't do it without their support and generous donation of their wonderful facilities, and also to **Crosslake Lutheran Church** for hosting our *Senior Presentations*.

THANK YOU for the PASTRIES

Crosslake Cares offered free coffee and pastries for the attendees to enjoy at **Café Cares** during the Expo. We would like to extend heartfelt thank you's for pastry donations from the following: **Crosslake Coffee, Immaculate Heart Church, The Yellow House, Reeds, and Maucieri's.**

