



BRAINERD VFW

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HELPING VETERANS AND THE COMMUNITY

Radio Interview for the Freedom Festival, June 17, 2023. rev.3

Announcer:

Mark Persons and Sue Sterling are in the studio today. They are committee members for the second annual Freedom Festival, which is coming up on Saturday, June 17th. Mark, what led to this?

Mark Persons:

It all started in the 1700s when we were “subjects of the Crown.” We were a British colony. Freedom was born in 1776 when we “Americans” revolted against foreign rule.

It has been said many times, freedom isn’t free. Some 1.3 million American servicemen and women died in defense of freedom worldwide. It was in 1917 when America entered the world stage by getting into World War One. We tipped the balance to win against aggression, but peace only lasted twenty years. Then we had to do it again on a global scale against the Germans and the Japanese in World War Two.

So many Americans take freedom for granted because they grew up in our free society. They would feel differently if they lived in many other countries. It is no wonder that millions from elsewhere want to come to America.

Sue Sterling:

Let’s celebrate the freedom we have today. The Brainerd VFW is putting on a free family event for everyone to do just that on Saturday, June 17th. (Read Freedom Festival poster)

Mark Persons:

There will be two tents from Camp Ripley if it rains. See the story from last year and find out more at BrainerdVFW.org

The Brainerd Elks is a very patriotic organization helping veterans. Their annual Flag Day ceremony was Wednesday, June 14th, at the All-Veterans Memorial. They told the story of our country’s history and our flag. Daughters of the American Revolution tend to the flowers at the All-Veterans Memorial and do a great job.