

# BECON

**"The Best Way to Find Yourself is to Lose Yourself in the Service to Others."**

—Mahatma Gandhi

## Welcome / Introductions / Announcements:

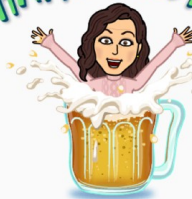
### What's on the Horizon...

- ✦ November 10th—Club Breakfast to Honor our Veterans
- ✦ November 17th—Harlem Globetrotters
- ✦ November 18th—Senior Lights Tour
- ✦ November 18th—Mannheim Steamroller
- ✦ November 21st—Float Decorating at B & B
- ✦ November 23rd—Holiday Parade
- ✦ November 27th—Cirque Musica
- ✦ November 28th—Festival of Trees Tree Decorating
- ✦ November 29th-December 2nd—Festival of Trees Festivities
- ✦ December 1st—Dress a Child
- ✦ December 23rd—Chase Hawks Rodeo
- ✦ January 27th—Jeff Dunham
- ✦ January 29th—Bob Seger



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**HAPPY FRIDAY**



November 9, 2018  
BECON Editor:  
Dina Harmon

Cavin is your November BECON Editor, but he needed a little R & R this weekend so he offered me \$100 to fill in for him. I couldn't pass that up so you're stuck with me this week.

Cory H. must have hit the snooze button one too many times this morning as Tony was filling in!

Guests joining us today included our speaker, Debbie Singer with NorthWestern Energy and Tom Lowry with Marine Corp League.

Tom Lowry with the Marine Corp League spoke briefly about the Veterans Day Events to be held at MSU-B campus. Toys for Tots is coming up quickly, so if you can donate a new toy that would be appreciated. He also mentioned they will be hosting the 2019 Annual National Marine Corp Convention and looking for sponsors to help with entertainment. One night of the convention will be held on Metra Grounds and they would like the club to consider pouring beer for the event.

John E. and the House Committee are again planning a fantastic end of the year/holiday breakfast so stay tuned for that. John & his crew did an awesome job last year, so it's sure to be great this year!

Tony reminded everyone to bring new socks and/or gloves for the bin that will be donated to Tumbleweed.

Wiley announced float decorating will take place at B & B Tire on Wednesday, November 21st after work (5:30ish). If you have any Christmas decorations that would fit the Peace on Earth theme and would be willing to lend them for the float, get with Wiley. The holiday parade will then be held on Friday, November 23rd. This is an all hands on deck event!

Tanner reminded everyone that the breakfast to honor the Veterans in our club is tomorrow morning (11/10) at 8:00 a.m. at the American Family Restaurant. Text/email/call Tanner to get signed up!

Bill mentioned all the Veterans Events going on at MSU—B this weekend. Montana State University Billings has been selected as a recipient of special recognition as a Purple Heart University by The Department of Montana Military Order of the Purple Heart.

A designation ceremony will be held during the Veteran's Day celebration at MSUB on Nov. 11 following the keynote speakers which begin at 10 a.m. Commander of the Department of Montana Military Order of the Purple Heart, Captain Charles Gatlin (Retired) will present Chancellor Dan Edelman and MSU Billings with this great honor. Q Staton to perform with the Lockwood



Band.

Stacy let everyone know that the Festival of Trees to benefit The Family Tree Center is almost here. Please consider volunteering to help out with the event in some capacity and/or attending the gala. Tickets are \$75/person or \$800 for a table of 8 which includes two bottles of wine and publicity in the brochure and slide show.

Speaking of the Festival of Trees...membership is donating a tree to be auctioned at the gala. So, this means, donations are needed! This year's tree theme is A Night Fit for a King and Queen. PLEASE consider donating date night related gift cards or elegant style ornaments in silver, white, purple, blue and deep pink. I am also willing to shop for you if you prefer donating cash!

Tony is looking for a District President Elect if you have been a Club President and would be willing!

Last week, Shawnee purchased a raffle ticket from the Veterans Meat Locker when they came to speak, won \$2,000 and donated back \$500. Congrats!

Why couldn't the Thanksgiving entertainment band perform?

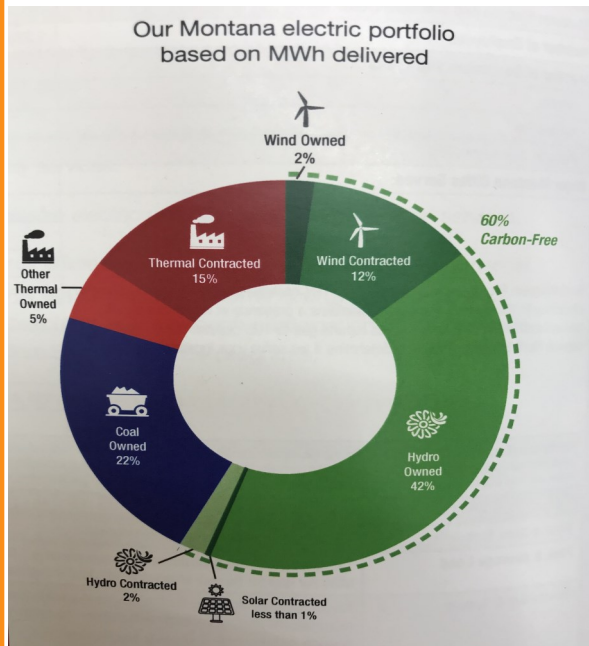
*Somebody had eaten the drumsticks!!*

P.S. Just kidding about the \$100 Cavin!! (I actually owed him one for filling in for me in the past.)

## NorthWestern Energy

This morning we had the fabulous Debbie Singer who has been with NorthWestern Energy for 40 years!

Below, is the chart Debbie used to show where NorthWestern Energy gets their supply.



In order to better manage utilities NorthWestern Energy is joining Western Energy Imbalance Market (EIM), a real-time energy market using state of the art software to analyze regional power grid needs and make available low cost generation to meet energy needs every five minutes.

It will be easier to integrate variable renewable output with 24/7 resources including hydro, coal and natural gas generation.

The goal is cost savings, more efficient use renewables, improved grid reliability and using most economic resources available.

If you have heard that NorthWestern Energy is building more gas plants, that is not true at the time. They do not have a location in Montana to build at this time.

They do not have any ownership in Colstrip Plants number 1 and 2 that are being closed.

Debbie also talked about the street lights project that they are taking on. They are converting the street lights that they own to LED. They are starting first in Billings, then Helena. Keep in mind they do not own all of the street lights.

Some of the street lights are owned by the City and they will not be converting the city-owned lights. If you have questions about your street light district fees assessed to you on your property taxes, you would contact the City not NorthWestern Energy. Just don't call me, I get enough calls in a day that have nothing to do with low income housing that I can't help out with.....

If you own a business, there are rebates available, so if you're interested give Debbie a call. Brandin M. who works at CTA also seems very knowledgeable on the rebates for NorthWestern Energy so I'm thinking he could point you in the right direction.

We also learned that when your power goes out, don't call Dan! He doesn't know why your power is out!!

Debbie also spoke for a few minutes on bitcoins. This was entirely over my head and apparently above my intelligence so I didn't even get good notes on it to share with you!



Have a great three day weekend!! See you all next Friday!!