

BECON
11/30/18

****IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT****

The Dress A Child event takes place tomorrow at the Heights Wal-Mart at 7 am. We are signed-up to help pick out clothes for 70 children. As of right now, we are short on people so if not already volunteering for this, please consider helping out and for those of you who have volunteered (thanks!) convince your spouse or friend or relative to also help out. This would be much appreciated.

Note that even though the official show-up time is 7 am, I would recommend getting there earlier because the volunteer line is long and the farther up the line you are, the quicker you will get connected with your kiddo and the less congested the shopping area will be when you start picking out clothes.

Guests

- Troy & Melinda Maguire (sp?) joined us this morning as guests of Leif to check out the club.
- Our speaker this morning was Mary Lou Affleck from Rebuilding Together Yellowstone County

Announcements

- Thanks all around for all those who helped with and donated towards the Festival of Trees particularly Dina and Shawneal. It was apparently a big hit and our tree was auctioned for a whopping \$1,700 by the Binstocks from the Heights Exchange Club.
- The Senior Lights Tour is set to happen on Tuesday December 18th and more volunteers are needed to help with the expected six or more busloads of senior citizens expected to attend. Show-up time is 5 pm at the Community Center just east of Tiny's Tavern.
- Wiley offered a thanks to all that participated in our float decoration and the Holiday Parade. Another big hit although the parade organizers apparently are still not happy about our flag distribution or at least, the manner in which we do it. They are trying to keep spectators out of the street and out of harms-way from the floats and such so they don't want us giving out flags to folks on the curb – only those behind the curb on the sidewalk. The same concern is also why the candy handouts were kyboshed. Maybe we just need to put the flags in Exchange Club boxes along the sidewalk and direct patrons to those as we float by? All other ideas welcome.
- A new member and familiar face (if you read the paper) was introduced today – Ashley Miranda – who came up and told us a little about herself and husband and kids and that our mission and what we do is what led her to join. Be nice to her, you may end up in front of her bench someday – that is if they ever get her Judge election finalized, which BTW, she is pretty certain she has won.
- It was announced that we wrote some checks to grant some money to the Foundation; to cover the highway cleanup efforts; and for replacement cemetery flags – and maybe some other things. Feels good to see the fruits of our efforts doesn't it?
- Speaking of feeling good and our efforts, a couple of thank you's came in from the MT Rescue Mission and the YWCA for our donations. Which reminds of the special section in last Sunday's Gazette that highlighted the organizations that give back to this community – MANY of which we are able to provide our financial help. Nice work BEC!
- And also speaking of good organizations that give back to the community, we have the opportunity to man a Salvation Army bell-ringing station(s) at the west-end Wal-Mart on Dec. 8th

from 10 am to 7 pm. Rene and Tanner Critelli are spearheading this and have already volunteered for a two-hour shift. Please let Rene know if you are interested in volunteering (I think I just saw an email go out on this from Rene).

- And finally, speaking of Rene, she will be assigning shifts for the December events including the Chase Hawks rodeo on Dec. 22nd and the MMA “Season’s Beatings” (catchy) on Dec. 15th. Now if watching a couple of women beat the hell out of each other doesn’t put you in the Christmas spirit, I don’t know what will 😊

Speaker

Our speaker today was Mary Lou Affleck from Rebuilding Together Yellowstone County. No, not a goose, Mary Lou is a genuine and caring person who heads up this organization whose Mission is to repair homes, revitalize communities and rebuild lives by realizing their vision of providing safe home and communities for everyone. In a nutshell, what they do is go in and fix dwelling units for folks that need help with these kind of things. They are affiliated with the National Rebuilding Together organization and rely on funding and volunteers from the likes of LOWES, Home Depot, Spectrum and SEARS (they are going to need to fill that void).

Please contact Mary Lou if you would like to volunteer – both skilled and unskilled labor needed. They do their work on around \$50K to \$60K per year with the help of volunteers.

Have a great weekend everyone. Root for the Cats – they’ll need it. I know there are some NoDak fans in the club so good luck to you as well – you never know about those Cats they are unpredictable.