

B.E.C.O.N
April 1, 2022

Amazingly, there were no crazy April Fools pranks played. What a surprise from this group 😊

HAPPY 55th BIRTHDAY BREAKFAST EXCHANGE CLUB!!!

Mike McManus and Blake Fuhrman were in attendance as representatives for Veterans Navigation Network. VNN presented to BEC last year and explained how they network with Veterans and the Community to assist them with transitioning to civilian life. This help is for Veterans of any stage: those who recently returned, or those who have been out for decades. Anyone who needs help, they are there for them. VNN applied for a grant from The BED Food Truck Battle funds and we were happy to present them with \$7,500.

VNN will be spearheading the Veterans Resource area of this year's Food Truck Battle, which will be held on August 27, 2022. Mark your calendars and plan to be there. If you know any Veterans, please let them know about this event and how it benefits those in our area.

BEC Speakers were from Big Sky Senior Services. Tyler Amundson and Suzanne McKiernan, explained how BSSS provides home based care.

- They help with a variety of things to help our Seniors: chores, pet care, Caretaker Respite, transportation, personal care, etc.
- They assist the Senior with getting help with energy bills via LEAP.
- Volunteers provide companionship.
- They have 10-12 people in the Guardianship Program, which assist those Seniors who may not have family around to help. This program can help them with money management and other needs.

BSSS relies upon fundraising for some of their budget. Dancing with the Stars is their Spring fundraiser which is set for May 14th. The Rubber Duck Regatta is the Fall fundraiser set for September 11th at the Zoo.

Questions to BSSS:

1. Is there a cost to the Senior? Yes, but the cost is on a sliding fee so it depends upon the person's ability to pay.
2. What is the criteria to qualify for assistance? Over the age of 60 and have an obvious need.
3. How long does it take to get assistance? Normally, it takes about 2 weeks to process the application, but right now with their personnel shortage it's taking 2-3 months.
4. Is there a correlation between hearing loss and dementia? For those who have dementia and also have hearing loss new studies show that the hearing loss may be accelerating the dementia.

The committee signup sheet went around and we need many more volunteering for these committees, especially for weekly prayer and to help find speakers for our weekly meeting.

PLEASE CONSIDER BEING NOMINATED FOR A BOARD POSITION. Cavin explained what the President Elect's duties are, which is mainly going to the website and the events filled, filling in for the beer captain if necessary and attending the board meetings.

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SUPPORT THE FAMILY TREE CENTER:

- ✓ BLUE MONDAYS!! Yep, it's April and each Monday in April is Wear Blue To Support Child Abuse Prevention. The Pinwheel event at the Court House will be at noon on 4/21/2022.
- ✓ All Club Social – attend the Social Monday 4/18/2022 at 4pm. At Hooligans. 20% of the proceeds from the night will go to the Family Tree Center. FTC will have a silent auction at this event. Please come and support our CAP Center. If you can't make it to the event but want to donate a basket for the silent auction please let Stacey or Dina know. They need the baskets by 4/15/2022.

Bites of Billings is on Thursday 4/28/2022 – Mark your calendar!