BECON

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

-Mahatma Gandhi



What's on the Horizon...

- ♦ October 9—Ian Munsick
- October 18—Dress a Child;
 Heights WalMart
- **→** October 18—NILE Rodeo
- **→** October 31—Zach Top
- ✦ November 1—Halloween Pub Crawl

Welcome / Introductions / Announcements:

Guests today included Eric Bayse, ED of Child Bridge; Kaytee Green and Sierra Singer with Child Bridge.

Last night (9/18/25) was the summer sendoff PARTY at the Lohrenz residence/ shop. News was that it got pretty wild, or as wild as it gets for this group. The beer from past few events was finished off with some pizza and snacks.

Foundation BINGO was last Saturday and doubled it's fundraising dollars from last year's event. \$6,559 was raised. Shawnee thanked the event sponsor Entre as well as the game sponsors and those

that attended. There are still \$20 squares available for the Cats/Griz game.

Be leary of emails asking you to donate gift cards or money. Apparently, Rod has been sending out emails asking for gift cards without even knowing it.

Fun fact, in 1975, the Club held it's weekly breakfast at the Northern for the big ole' Price tag of \$2.25 a member plus gratuity.

Rene won the pot of money this week for her Birthday week!

And...

How do you fix a broken pumpkin?!

With a pumpkin patch!





Program: Child Bridge

Child Bridge helps to find foster homes for kiddos. They are not a placement agency or licensor but they help families navigate the process.

Child Bridge initially began in Flathead Valley in 2010 and is now a statewide organization.

Montana is experiencing a crisis with a breakdown of the family system. MT is now 3rd in the nation of highest need for foster families. There are 2,002 children in foster care; 1,414 children under guardianship and; 9,000+ children in kinship care.

In Yellowstone County, there are 476 kids in care; 145 licensed foster families; 111 new removals in just five months (01/01/25—05/31/25). The average stay in care is 17.2 months.

You can get involved by opening up your home to children in need, support foster families with meals, childcare, etc. or giving financially.

They launched their Native Family Services (NFS) Program in March of 2025.

Program is for equipping kinship and foster families for Native Children, support cultural connection and recruit Native families.

Partnerships include Tibe, State, BIA, and Community Organizations. If you are interested in helping in some way or know of someone who might be, you can contact:

Kaytee Green

406.250.4429

kgreen@childbridgemontan a.org

Or

Sierra Singer for the NFS program:

406.679.2660

ssinger@childbridgemontana.o rg.

They also have a wealth of information on their website: childbridgemontana.org

September 19, 2025 BECON Editor: Dina Harmon