

BECON

3/27/2026

Good morning, here is the BECON for March 27th, 2026. Charlie Loveridge recorded the meeting on an App called Craftnote. It transcribed most of the meeting. You have to edit it a little bit but looks like a great tool. Thanks Charlie.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Pint Night:** Scheduled for Wednesday, April 1st, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Meadowlark
 - . Proceeds will support the district youth scholarship program
 - . Attendees are encouraged to contribute raffle baskets for a silent auction to boost fundraising.
- **Child Abuse Prevention Month (April): - Pinwheel Planting:** On April 10th at 11:00 AM on the courthouse lawn, followed by proclamations at noon. - Afterward, members will go to Metra, where Tony from the club will speak. - Bill shared a calendar of events for the month; attendees were encouraged to save the dates. I added them to the schedule on the right.
- **Community Fundraiser at Diamond X:** Set for April 27th. Similar to Pint Night, a portion of proceeds will go to the Family Tree Nurturing Center. Donations of raffle baskets are also welcomed for this event.
- **Air Bash at Metra:** A major event on Saturday, April 4th, which has already sold 300 tickets. Not a lot hopefully there will be good walkup.
- **PBR Event:** The schedule will be released in about a week. The event is set for April 17th and 18th.
- **Blue Mondays** will continue, with Danielle from the Family Tree Nurturing Center providing an update at the next meeting.
- **The West High Youth of the year** program will feature one student at the next month's business meeting.

Community Easter Egg Hunt

- Hosted by the South Side Task Force, Family Tree, and local businesses on April 4th at South Park .
 - Volunteers are needed at 9:00 AM to set up; the hunt begins at noon.
 - The event includes eggs, bikes, and other donated items.
 - A fire truck will signal the start with its whistle-no one is dressing up as the Easter Bunny.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

April 4th – Big Air Bash

April 4th – Easter Egg Hunt.

April 17th and 18th - PBR

Upcoming Events

April 1st at noon– Unattended Veterans service at National Veterans Cemetery

April 1st - Meadowlark Brewing Pint Night

April 10th Pinwheel Ceremony. Courthouse lawn. 10am plant pinwheels. Ceremony at noon.

April 23rd 5:00 -7:00 Pinwheel Awards at FTNC

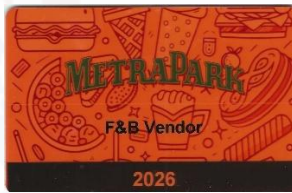
April 24-28th – Jersey Mikes BEC fundraiser

Blue Sunday. Awareness of Child Abuse Prevention at Area Churches

April 27th – BEC and FTNC fundraiser at Diamond X. 5pm to 7pm

Logistics

- Vendor Cards from Metra are available for those scheduled to serve beer. These must be carried during service.
- Cards will be placed near the cash drawing table for pickup. Or see Shawnee or Shannon. The card looks like this.



Student Introductions

The final four students scheduled for the current series were introduced:

- Maclayn Clark
- Brynn Sogaard
- Joanne Ragsdale
- Landon Hughes

Brynn Snogaard was first to speak

- Will attend Montana State University (MSU) to major in nursing, possibly minor in Spanish.
- Shared her evolving religious journey, beginning with confusion at her first Catholic mass in eighth grade.
- Was raised in a different faith tradition but was drawn to Catholicism through the actions and compassion of Catholic peers.
- Questioned her faith for years before realizing her calling was not to abandon her past but to grow her identity through Catholicism.
- Is currently undergoing the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) and will take her first communion at the Easter Vigil on April 4.
- Emphasized that faith is not static but a continuous journey of living and believing.

Brynn's activities include: - Band (vice president) - Swimming (4 years), club swimming - Vocal performances (national anthem at events) - Film score director (creates music for school-produced films) - Formerly in soccer; involved in track and swimming - NHS (National Honor Society) vice president - HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America), preparing for a state public service competition

Landon Hughes plans to attend Rocky Mountain College to study health and human performance.

- Focused on the importance of community service and leadership.
- Introduced to service through Boy Scouts, where he completed required service hours and led a major Youth Project.
- Participated in impactful projects: building fencing at a wildlife sanctuary, distributing Thanksgiving turkeys, and fire mitigation in the Beartooth Mountains.
- Described service as "type two fun"-challenging in the moment but deeply rewarding.
- Joined the Order of the Arrow, a service-based scouting honor society inspired by Native American traditions, involving a silent, physically demanding ordeal symbolizing "cheerful service."
- Believes youth service builds character and future leadership; plans to continue serving in college through organizations like Knights of Columbus and Boy Scouts.
- Will mentor his own children through scouting to instill service values.

Landon's activities consist of: Football (4 years at Billings Central) - Track (2 years), baseball (1 year, won state championship in inaugural season) - Plays in a band with his brother and friends, performs at local bars in Billings and has an upcoming performance the following night.

Maclayn Clark will attend the University of Hawaii at Manoa to study anthropology.

- Spoke about his long-term struggle with mental health, beginning at age eight with feelings of isolation and not belonging.
- Learned to "mask" his emotions by appearing happy despite inner turmoil.
- In fourth grade, disclosed suicidal thoughts to his school counselor, leading to hospitalization and psychiatric care.
- Began therapy and medication management, a difficult but gradual path to coping with anxiety and depression.
- At age eleven, chose to participate in a documentary on youth mental illness, believing his story could help others.
- Documentary released in summer 2022; since then, he has spoken at events across Montana and nationally, including in Los Angeles, Chicago, Las Vegas, and at the White House and Capitol Building.
- Most impactful moment: a young boy in Powder, Montana, approached him after a talk, sharing similar struggles-confirming for Maclayn that his purpose is to help others feel less alone.
- Defined his life's purpose: to show there is light at the end of the tunnel, encourage help-seeking, and remind people to never give up.

Maclayn's activities include Swimming (4 years, team captain this year) - NHS, HOSA, Environmental Club - Travels with his therapist to rural Montana towns to support mental health initiatives - Involved with a new nonprofit started by his therapist

Joanne Ragsdale has not yet chosen a college; top choice is Berkley College of Music in Boston.

- Addressed the key traits of leadership: serving, listening, meeting people where they are, and leading by example.
- Grew up serving alongside her parents, helping thousands of veterans and homeless individuals through direct support, including housing some in their home.
- Recalled a deeply impactful experience: a woman and her infant daughter lived with them, but left suddenly in the night, reinforcing that good intentions don't guarantee outcomes-"you can only control what you control."
- Applies leadership through band, YMCA camp counseling (supervising over 100 children), film scoring, suicide awareness, and supporting friends and strangers.
- Two leadership examples: - Started cleaning up trash after school games as a freshman; over time, others joined, turning a major chore into a quick group effort. - Acted decisively when a young girl suffered a head injury at a YMCA waterpark: called 911, notified parents and management, applied first aid, and comforted the child.
- The girl's father later recognized and thanked her at a football game.
- Believes humility and failure are essential to leadership; wants to be a tool through which God serves others.

- Joanne's activities include Band (leads at games) - YMCA camp counselor (40 hours over summer) - Film score director - Volunteer work with veterans and suicide awareness.