

THE HEART OF THE RUBY VALLEY ~ SHERIDAN

The town of Sheridan has gone through many changes and renovations over the years since the 1800's. In the late 1850's and early 1860' some of those who traveled to Alder Gulch in search of gold and the men whom either failed or decided to move on found local areas rich in other

opportunities. This led them to other opportunities other than mining like trapping, agriculture, and lumber. Two Canadian Frenchmen, Mark Perraualt and Frank Birer, built a cabin on the present site where the Ruby Hotel now stands and spent their days trapping on Mill Creek. In 1867 Rozelle P. Bateman bought the cabin built by Perrault and Birer and filed a claim

with the government for all land lying south of Mill Creek. In 1868 a large barn was built where Opportunity Bank currently sits and was used for celebrations. By 1874 he had the town site surveyed and platted and he became known as the "father of Sheridan". In 1867 a little log school was built in the town proper on what is now Water Street. By 1900 a new brick school was built and still stands today near the Sheridan schools and is the old high school building.



In 1875 Jesse McCoy was building the first hotel, but died before it was completed. His wife would later re-marry Fred Schultz and he finished the hotel and called it the Schultz Hotel. Later it became the Ruby Hotel and Livery Stable operated by Fred Hermsmeyer. Many businesses were part of the Ruby Hotel such as a Dentist Office, barber, and different cafés. It has since changed hands, and the Livery Stable is long gone, but the Ruby Hotel and Sump Saloon is still up and running and currently owned by Jennie Bogart Short and Ford Davis.

Mr. Bateman built a two-room log cabin that served as his home and later he added on a store and hotel. Henry Elling and Company would replace the log structures of Mr. Batemans store and hotel with a new brick building and ran it as a general department store. Later Charles Walter would buy this structure and is still to this day Walter's Family Foods and Ace Hardware.

By the early 1890's a log post office would be quietly moved from a stage stop about 9 miles towards Twin Bridges to sit where High Peaks/Sheridan Liquor is located. This post office was already given the name of Sheridan, so became the name of this new little town and in 1893 Sheridan became one of the earliest towns to incorporate in the newly formed State of Montana.

The first newspaper, "The Messenger", was published by a man named Hiram Brundage in the late 1870's. By 1896 Mr. Brundage would later move to Dillon and merge with the Dillon Tribune. Other papers were started in Sheridan named "The Paper", "The Chinook", "The Enterprise" and the "Sheridan Forum". A second merchandise store was started in the late 1870's by Hamilton and McCranor. It changed hands over time to Hall and Hardesty, H. D. Rossiter, Maddison and Carey, B bar B and later Jensen's today this brick building is part of the Ruby Valley Brew. Sheridan showed steady growth and by 1879 it had a population of 150 and by 1893 the population was around 350. As the town grew, old log buildings were replaced with brick buildings such as the Sheridan State Bank built in 1903. A cement block building known as the Sheridan Garage sat at the corner of Hamilton and Main. It was built in 1915 by William Lenkersdorfer and housed a garage on the main floor with fourteen rooms on the second floor that were used for offices, hotel and apartments. This building was torn down in 1973 and The Sheridan Bank built a new structure in its place and today it is known as the Philanthropy building.

There were five saloons, three blacksmith shops, two livery barns and a milliner store. At one time the population grew to around 800 in the early 1900's. Many of the old landmarks that once were a part of Sheridan are long gone were business like Fox's Department Store, Thomas Store, the Telephone Exchange, Schultz Hotel, Corner Saloon and Hegenberger Meat Market which sat where the old Mill Creek currently sits.

The iconic Sheridan Bakery was at one time the Kellog Saloon. Next to it was the O.J. Olsen Mortuary which changed hands to Emmett Marsh and later L. Scott. It then became a clothing store called Big Sky Western Wear and now it is Beacon Business Center.

The Stockman Bar was known as Leary's Smoke Shop, latter it was called the Hub Bar and Café and later it was the Club Hotel, Bar and Cafe. The Club was re-built in 1939 by Harry Graves. Next door there was a Dental Office ran by a Dr. McKenzie. Then next to that was Ted Darby's Insurance Office and Doornbos Agency in the old Telephone exchange building. On Ruby Street stood Marlow's Building which was formerly Birrer Lumber. Williams Feed, Inc. replaced the Ferry Morse Seed Plant and stands silent today.

Some of the other business in town were: Doug Smith's Law office which is now the Ruby Valley Food Pantry, The Mini Tire and Car Wash which is now part of the Storage Units, Rule Reality which is now Rocking S Business Services, Faye's Beauty Shop which was in Dr. Kitt's Dentist Office, and also The Ruby Bonnet which was located in the Old Montana Power building on Mill Street. This was also Myrna's and later Donna Lloyd's Aquarius beauty shop. On Mill Street also was The Kreative Korner and Sewing Your Wild Oats. In another part

of town the Ruby Valley Hospital was built in 1964. For a long time the hospital sat next to where the Sheridan Senior Center currently sits, the hospital

building was torn down and rebuilt across the way in 2018. Sheridan boasts three parks: Main Street Park, the Ray Silve Park on Water Street, and a little one next to the Sheridan Library where there once a wading pool now long buried. In 1974 the Sheridan Swimming Pool was built. Sheridan also had a theater for many years but it was torn down in 2019 to make way for more gas pumps for the Sinclair Gas Station. George Latus Jewelry Store where Bread Zep currently sits, where Main Street park is located was once Ruby Cleaners sat. A covered wagon building called The Prairie Schooner was used as a cafe that was moved from the Laurin area to Sheridan. Later it became a private residence. Outside of Sheridan there were business like Hamler Motors, Wertz Saddlery and Sunbow Farms which was a fish farm. Also, the Tobacco Root Guest

Ranch later that became a private residence. In 1959 the city sewer lines were put in and natural gas was brought into town in 1964. Many changes over the years but Sheridan still is a pretty town with lots of trees,

wildlife, and pride in not only the high school sporting events but in community spirit as well.



A PANORAMIC VIEW OF SHERIDAN, 1907 Drawn by Ida Courtney Taylor the community and the wife of stone mason and miner Richard Taylor. Mrs. Taylor was an active

Researched by Joetta Wetzsteon

CHICKS BAR: Sat. Feb. 25th Chick's wet mop pool tournament. \$10 a person, Blind draw partners. Sign up starts at 10am games starts at 11am.

LEPRECHAUN DASH - NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK - March 11th - Starts at 1 pm at the Ruby Valley Brew in Sheridan, MT

ROTARY CLUB OF THE RUBY VALLEY - CASINO NIGHT - March 25th at 6 pm at the Blue Anchor

MADISON COUNTY CATTLE WOMEN: Hey LADIES! The Madison County Cattle women is starting its 2023 memberships. The Montana Cattle women support the livestock industry, and its environment through communication, education, and legislative activities. Agriculture is an essential part of Montana's economy. "Do I have to own cattle or know about cattle to join?" NO! Anyone can join. When you join MCC you become part of a supportive network of women that starts in your local community and expands across the State of Montana. You become a member of a lively group of women with similar interests, passions and proud partners with their families and friends in the great BEEF industry. Our mission is to provide a strong proactive voice for all of Montana's beef families. We promote AG and BEEF in our local schools and community festivals. For more information contact Salena Daems at 907-232-1670.

TWIN SPIRITS YOGA: Happy New Year from Twin Spirits Yoga. New year, same you, but growing! Yoga schedule for the first week of 2023 - Monday 6:00 P.M. - Tuesday 8:30 A.M. - Thursday 8:30 All levels welcome, bring a friend! Offering pranassage and private classes

MAVERICK MOUNTAIN SKI SCHOOL: If you would like to schedule lessons give me a call or text to get on the schedule. Thursday-Sunday from January 5- March 26 Anna Rhodes 406-925-1772

P'S CLOTHES & MORE: Located above the Twin Bridges Library. Hours: Monday: 10-2 Wednesday: 9-2 Friday: 10-2 Saturday: 10-2 - All items are FREE to the community. Call P at 406-600-2983 to donate or for questions.

ZUMBA! 6:30 pm every Monday and Wednesdays above the Twin Bridges Fire Hall in Twin Bridges.

LOST CABIN BAR: Monday: Open Pool Table 5-7 - Tuesday: Music Trivia 6:30 - 8 - Wednesday: Whiskey Wednesday (Discount flights and tasters) - Thursday: First Thursday of Month Ladies Night - Friday: Red (Remember Everyone Deployed) Friday. Come in or call for details - Every Monday through Friday Happy Hour 5-6 - Check our FB page for weekend specials @lostcabinbar

PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS: SHERIDAN - Newspaper History Group - Tuesday mornings @ 9 AM. Knitting Group - Thursdays @ 2 PM. For more information call 406-842-7981. | TWIN BRIDGES - February is Library Lovers month, so stop by for a sweet treat and a gift, and tell us what you love most at our library! Ask about our new Lego club, happening the 3rd Thursday of the month from 3:45-4:30. Need some help in the wait for warmer weather? We have some new to us DVDs of classic movies, and new book releases. There is always a jigsaw puzzle going in the back! Did you know the largest puzzle for sale has 60,000 pieces? Now that's a puzzle! | VIRGINIA CITY - Thompson Hickman - 10:30 a.m. Library Story and craft time.

TWIN BRIDGES HELPING HANDS: Twin Bridges-MT Helping Hand Food Pantry, we aim to End Hunger in Montana. We have moved to 208 1/2 S. Main St. Wednesday's. 10am to 3pm. Call for appointment any other day or time. We are here for you Madison County and neighboring towns. Pantry is open every Wednesday 11-2 or call for an appointment. Have on Hand canned fruits, vegetables, soups, sauces, jams, jellies, more. Boxed or bags of rice, beans, dinner helpers, pasta, dry milk, some meat. Toiletries. Adult pads/ pull ups. Laundry items. Cleaning supplies. Dog, Cat food and Litter. If you don't see what you would like us to carry, please let us know. 596-1978 & 233-9616

RUBY VALLEY FOOD PANTRY: Food is distributed on Saturday mornings from 10-12 @ 206 S. Main in Sheridan, MT -between gas station and post office.

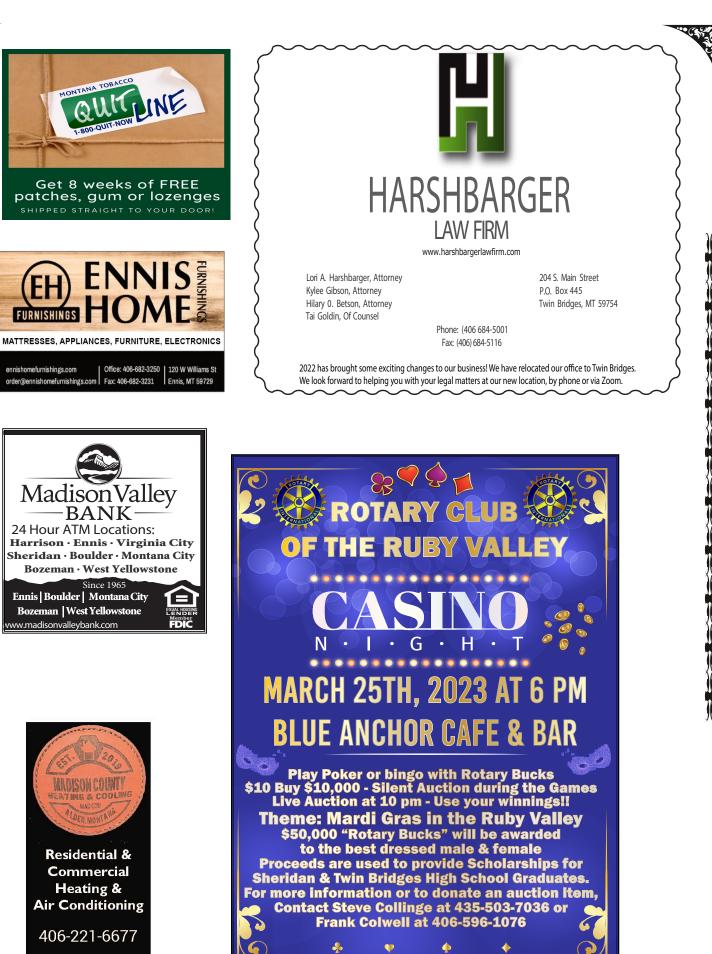
3 RIVERS WORSHIP CENTER: Worship is what we are all about and we would love to have you join us. Come as you are and be blessed. Every Sunday @ 10:30 am @ 3648 MT-287. Family friendly.

If you have a event you would like us to help you promote, please let us know. www.rubyvalleynugget@gmail.com

RUBY VALLEY HAPPENINGS













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109 S. MAIN ST

COLDEST BEER IN TOWN

DOME PARK

STED LIVIN

842-5133

homeparkassistedliving.com

504 RAY LANE

SHERIDAN, MONTANA

TWIN BRIDGES, MT 406-684-5482









NOVICH INSURANCE novich@montanainsurance.net P: (406)684-5264 / F: (406)684-5701 PO Box 394 / 104 W 4th Ave - Twin Bridges, MT 59754

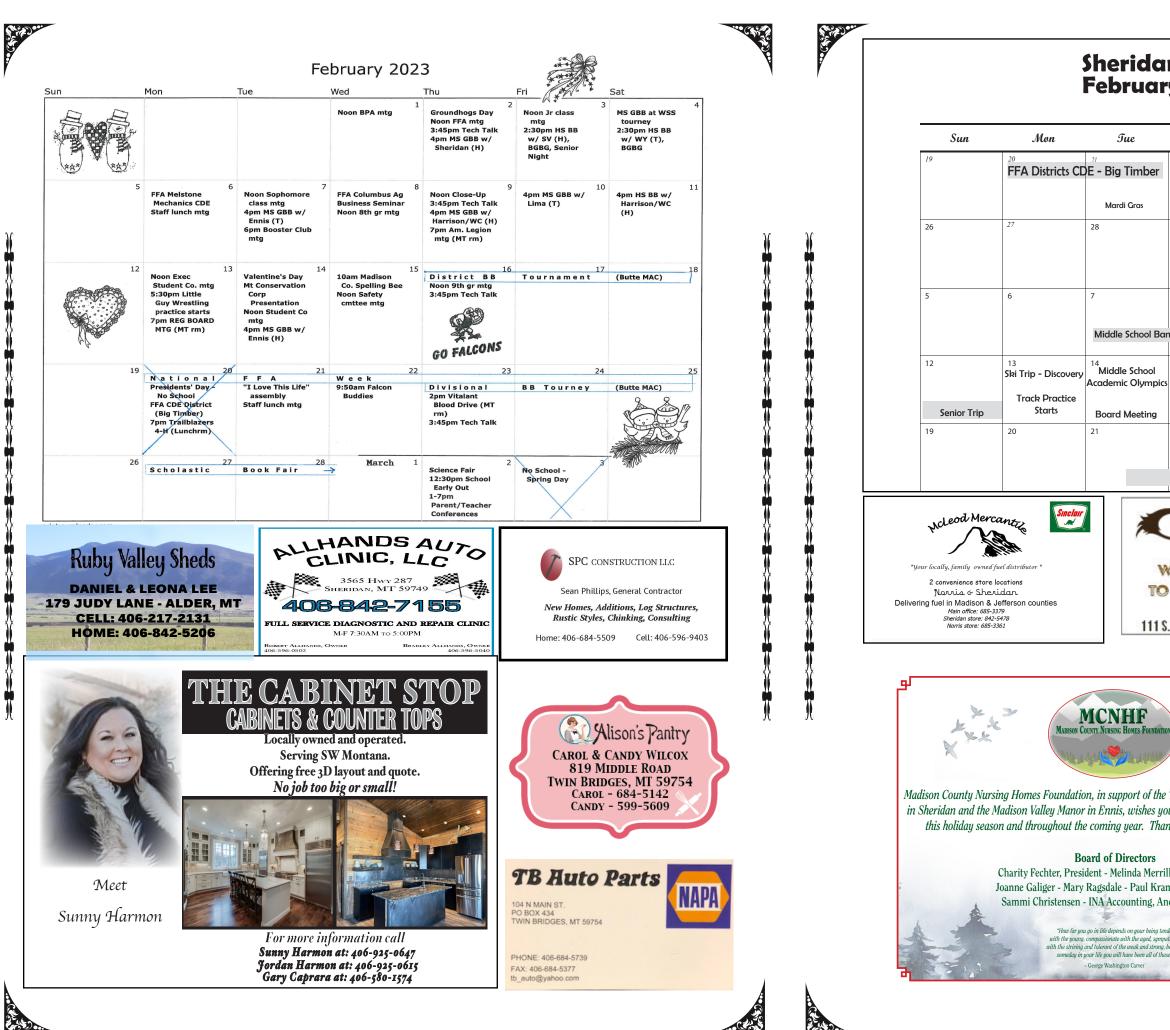
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117 North Main Unit D Sheridan, MT www.aldercreekcoffeeco.com Hours - 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.







Sheridan School Events February/March 2023

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