

## RUBY VALLEY GIVING TREE

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THE RUBY VALLEY GIVING TREE PROVIDES GIFTS

FOR NEEDY INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES & ELDERLY.

GIFT TAGS ARE ON THE CHRISTMAS TREE AT

OPPORTUNITY BANK, SHERIDAN

AS REQUESTS ARE RECEIVED!

PLEASE CALL **Billie @ 406 842-5044**  
TO PUT YOUR NAME ON THE LIST, OR IF YOU KNOW  
SOMEONE IN NEED, CALL WITH A NAME AND WORKING  
PHONE NUMBER. IT'S KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.

IF YOU'RE A SNOWBIRD, GOING TO BE GONE, OR PREFER  
TO GIVE MONEY, JUST CALL OR STOP BY THE  
BANK AND THEY CAN TRANSFER FUNDS AND/OR  
ACCEPT YOUR CASH OR CHECK!  
**It's EASY!!**

OPPORTUNITY BANK  
PO Box 587  
SHERIDAN, MT 59749  
(406) 842-5411

DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTING NAMES IS

DECEMBER 11TH.

TWIN BRIDGES COMMUNITY  
ASSOCIATION PRESENTS  
THE 2023

# CHRISTMAS STROLL

Have a jolly holly holiday season in our small town that cares!  
We invite you to stroll Main Street to visit, shop and enjoy our  
local businesses amenities!

DECEMBER 7TH 2023  
5:00PM - 8:00PM  
MAIN STREET, TWIN BRIDGES

5:00 to 7:00 CHILI FEAST AT CITY PARK

5:30 to 7:00 TURKEY BINGO AT THE BLUE ANCHOR

7:00 TWIN BRIDGES HIGH SCHOOL HOLIDAY CONCERT

KIDS GAMES, CRAFTS & FACE PAINTING AT THE VAULT

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOS WITH SANTA AT THE BOKONON (NEXT TO WEAVER'S STUDIO)

HAY RIDES PICK UP AT CITY PARK

VISIT PARTICIPATING BUSINESS LOCATIONS AND HAVE YOUR CHRISTMAS STROLL CARD STAMPED FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A GIFT BASKET!  
WINNER WILL BE DRAWN DECEMBER 8TH.



GIVING TREE AT OPPORTUNITY BANK!

SPONSORED BY: TWIN BRIDGES COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, ROTARY CLUB OF THE RUBY VALLEY,  
GREATER RUBY VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, KID COUNTRY DAYCARE & BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY

DECEMBER 2023 - 1ST ISSUE

# RUBY VALLEY NUGGET



PHONE INTERNET

406-467-2535  
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Residential &  
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Fax: (406) 842-5419

326 Madison  
P.O. Box 308  
Sheridan, MT 59749

## Shootin Shamrock's 4-H Silent Auction Bake Sale



Where: Sheridan Elementary School Cafeteria

When: Saturday, December 16th

Time: 4:00pm

@ Twin Bridges vs Sheridan Basketball Game (Varsity Boys Only)



ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE  
BAKE SALE WILL BE  
DONATED TO THE

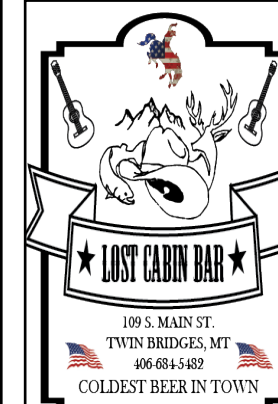
## Braaten Family

\*If you would like to make a Donation to the Braaten Family please contact  
Morgan Gilman 406-925-2708 or Tiffany Hemphill 209-617-3348\*

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miranda.wheeler@bhsmt.com

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301 N. Main 406-684-5050

**NEW HOURS:**  
We will be closed Sunday and Monday - Open Tues-Sat -11am-8pm  
Call 406-684-5050 for Daily Specials

P's Clothes Closet & More

Hours:  
Wednesday: 9-2  
Friday: 10-2  
Saturday: 10-2

All items are **FREE** to the community!

Mens, womens, and childrens clothing, toys,  
household items, sheets, towel, etc.  
**Donations are greatly appreciated!**  
They can be dropped off during opens hours  
or by appointment by calling P @ 406-600-2983

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Luis Hernandez  
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Twin Bridges, MT 59754

Opportunity Bank  
OF MONTANA

OPPORTUNITYBANK.COM

THE RUBY VALLEY NUGGET CAN BE ALSO FOUND ONLINE AT [www.beaconbusinessctr.com](http://www.beaconbusinessctr.com)



PUBLISHED BY BEACON BUSINESS CENTER ~ 406-842-7488

DESIGNED BY JOETTA WETZSTEON - CONTACT: RUBYVALLEYNUGGET@GMAIL.COM - WWW.BEACONBUSINESSCTR.COM

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HOME DECOR - TOYS - CRAFTS - PUZZLES - OFFICE SUPPLIES - COPY - FAX - GRAPHIC DESIGN - AND MORE...



## CHINESE TEMPLE IN VIRGINIA CITY



Chinese Temple

The history of Virginia City was very rich with ethnic and cultural diversity at one time. Gold was the magnet that brought settlers from all around the world to the Rocky Mountains. Among the first to arrive were the Chinese, who came during Montana's early territorial years.

Most of the Chinese that reached the Montana Territory emigrated from the Kwangtung Province of China, which includes Hong Kong. Poverty, overpopulation and political turmoil had been the reasons for leaving their Far East homeland. Like their European counterparts, most were poor and landless in China. America's natural resources offered an opportunity for a better life first drew them to California. As gold strikes dwindled in California, miners including the Asians moved inland to follow fresh strikes

in the territories of Colorado, Idaho, and Montana.

America was known as "Gum San," the Land of Golden Mountains, to the Chinese trying to escape the harsh conditions in their own country. When they arrived, they provided the labor needed to do the backbreaking work of mining and railroad construction as well as providing services the miners were reluctant to do, such as laundry and domestic work.

For the most part Asian immigrants left their families at home. In 1870, the Chinese population of Montana was 1,949 (nearly ten percent of the total population), but only 123 were female. Virginia City was said to home up to 1,000 Chinese miners during this time. The Chinese brought with them similar backgrounds, social structure, languages, and experiences that allowed them to endure the many hardships of the Montana frontier and in many cases to prosper. The miners that first arrived in the 1860's worked for the Chung Wah Kung Saw or the Chinese Six Companies, somewhat like a guild or secret society. Many also belonged to the Chinese Masonic Lodge. The Chinese miners built a Chinatown at the lower (east) end of Wallace Street. At the entrance to Chinatown was a two-story temple named the Joss House, which served the religious needs of the Asians and also provided a social meeting place. These organizations helped to define a code of conduct and served to maintain order among the immigrants. Their rules of conduct included: "Do not occupy by force the property of your brethren;" "Do not deceive your brethren by fast talking;" "Do not bully your brethren with your might."

The picture above is the Temple at the west end of Wallace Street in Virginia City, Montana, in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. It was originally a single-story log structure erected in the 1860s. By 1875 the temple was rebuilt as a two-story rough-hewn timber and plaster structure. In a gesture toward architectural refinement, the newer model was faced with narrow gauge horizontal wooden slats overhung with a porch, the upper level was screened with an awning and railing. The temple was designed to interface with the community: the Wallace Street sidewalk (i.e., boardwalk) passes through the temple porch, an exterior staircase joins the passageway to the balcony, and a great flagpole (or festival tower) ascends parallel to the porch at left. On the inside, the lower floor measured about twenty-five by thirty feet and was given over to gambling, sheltering sojourners, gathering for the community, and hosting elaborate banquets. Long-time resident Wiley Davis recollected as the space was hung with a red glass oil lamp that would scare away evil spirits and was edged with booths or bunks. The upper floor featured an altar that was placed against a plank wall with narrow-arched doorway on either side.

The first floor of the temple was reserved for these miners to socialize over games, smokes, and feasts.

The second floor was reserved for Chinese prayer, augury, and music making. The largest temple in southwest Montana, it became the most important destination for Chinese during the annual New Year's Festival in early February, entertaining about 600. The migrants would have opened the shrine to the curious on special feast days such as New Year's. It was written that "every Chinaman that went into the temple would stay and pray during the New Year's festival which was a three week celebration. Local residents and the curious were welcome to sit in the temple and watch and listen to them pray. Perhaps the biggest event would take place during this celebration on a small stage: an ensemble of musicians played tunes that could be heard by men working the Alder Gulch mines.

Later the Chinese were not allowed to work new claims so they reworked the placer abandoned claims. With an understanding that "many hands make light work," the Chinese were able to recover substantial ore. As a result they shipped millions of dollars worth of gold back to China. Their success came despite active discrimination against Asians

including a series of state or local laws excluding Asians from certain activities and assessing specific taxes on their activities in an attempt to force them to leave the state. Montana's Chinese population declined into the 20th Century as a result of stringent immigration laws and anti-Chinese sentiment.

As the number of Chinese residents decreased from about 1000 in 1870 to 10 in 1910, there was no sizable constituency to advocate preserving the temple. By the 1930's a decision was made to tear it down and straighten the juncture of the highway with the western edge of the town.

Photos of the temple sometimes appear in articles to affirm the vibrant Chinese presence that existed in our local area.



Inside the Chinese Temple



## RUBY VALLEY HAPPENINGS

**TWIN BRIDGES CHRISTMAS STROLL - DECEMBER 7TH AT 5 PM** - Chili Feast - Pictures with Santa - Horse Drawn Hay Rides - Kids Games and Crafts

**MULTI AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING AT THE SHERIDAN LIBRARY** - December 8th from 5-7 pm - See ad

**VC CHRISTMAS STROLL** - Dec 9 - 12-6 See Ad

**CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW AND UGLY SWEATER CONTEST** - December 9th - 10 am to 2 pm at the Twin Bridges Fairgrounds. See Ad

**SHERIDAN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING - December 11th at 6 pm at the Town Hall.**

**65TH ANNUAL VETERANS COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER** - December 16th from 5-7 pm at the Twin Bridges School Lunch Room - See Ad

**DC DANCES MONTANA PRESENTS THE NUTCRACKER** - December 16 at 1 and 5 pm and December 17 at 1 pm at the Ennis Elementary School - See Ad

**ELLING HOUSE** - \*The Splendid Feast Dinner is on December 15th and 16th. For additional detail check out [ellinghouse.org](http://ellinghouse.org) or the EHAHC Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ellinghouse>. 404 E. Idaho Street PO Box 104 Virginia City, MT 59755 406.843.5507 [info@ellinghouse.org](mailto:info@ellinghouse.org)

**SHOOTING SHAMROCK'S 4-H SILENT AUCTION BAKE SALE** - December 16th at 4 pm at the Twin Bridges vs Sheridan Varsity Boys basketball game at the Sheridan Elementary School Cafeteria. All proceeds from the bake sale will be donated to the Braaten Family - If you would like to make a donation to the Braaten Family please contact Morgan Gilman at 406-925-2708 or Tiffany Hemphill at 209-617-3348

**SHERIDAN CLOSE UP INVITES YOU TO FAMILY MOVIE AND DINNER NIGHTS- SHOWING AT THE SHERIDAN ELEMENTARY - DECEMBER 21ST - HOME ALONE - JANUARY 18 - CARS - FEBRUARY 15- FREE WILLY - MARCH 21ST - SUPER MARIO BROS - DINNER AT 6 PM AND MOVIE 7 PM - DINER AND MOVIE - \$8 PER PERSON - MOVIE ONLY - \$3 PER PERSON**

**WILDFLOWER MUSIC ACADEMY** - Mondays-10 am (Toddler Class up to age 5) Wednesdays - 5:45 to 6:45 Children's Chorus (Age 8+) Thursdays - 5:45 to 6:30 - Youth Group Ukulele (Age 5+) Private Piano Lessons Available As Schedule Permits - Call or Text Jaeleen Munns - 406-465-5934 Country Roots - 117 N Main St Unit A - Sheridan, MT

**P'S CLOTHES & MORE:** Located above the Twin Bridges Library. Hours: 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.

**LOST CABIN BAR:** Monday: Open Pool Table 5-7 - Tuesday: Music Trivia 6:30 - 8 - Wednesday: Whiskey Wednesday (Discount flights and tastings) - 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  
**CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** - First and third Tuesdays at 6 pm For more information call 406-842-7981.

**TWIN BRIDGES** - Twin Bridges Book Club meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at the Blue Anchor.

Dinner at 6:00 with meeting at 7:00. Please email [dmmontana@3rivers.net](mailto:dmmontana@3rivers.net) for information  
Accepting applications for a part time library clerk. Position will be 15 hours per week, with Wednesday being a full day and flexibility for other days. Wage depends on experience. Please inquire at Twin Bridges Public Library.

**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. - **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

**DEADLINE OR SUBMISSIONS TO THE RUBY VALLEY NUGGET HAS CHANGED TO 1ST & 3RD MONDAYS!**

**If you have an event you would like us to help you promote, please let us know.**  
**[www.rubyvalleynugget@gmail.com](mailto:www.rubyvalleynugget@gmail.com)**



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Lori A. Harshbarger, Attorney  
Kylee Gibson, Attorney  
Hilary O. Betson, Attorney  
Tai Goldin, Of Counsel

204 S. Main Street  
P.O. Box 445  
Twin Bridges, MT 59754

Phone: (406) 684-5001  
Fax: (406) 684-5116

2022 has brought some exciting changes to our business! We have relocated our office to Twin Bridges. We look forward to helping you with your legal matters at our new location, by phone or via Zoom.

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RUBY VALLEY BREW  
REMAIN UNTAMED  
WE TIP OUR GLASS  
TO THE WILDER ONES

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406-684-5128

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Star, MT 59751

## TB Auto Parts



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PO Box 434  
Twin Bridges, MT 59754

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Fax: 406-684-5377  
tb\_auto@yahoo.com

Monday - Friday  
8 am to 5 pm  
Saturday  
9 am to 12 pm

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Adam Davis

Dereck Short

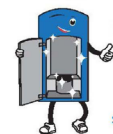
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# CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW & UGLY SWEATER Contest

## Saturday December

FACE PAINTING  
POPCORN

### 9th

COTTON CANDY  
COOKIE DECORATING

10AM-2PM AT TWIN BRIDGES FAIRGROUNDS

WEAR YOUR BEST UGLY SWEATERS  
THE VENDORS WILL BE JUDGES

WINNER GETS A GIFT BASKET  
PROVIDED BY PARTICIPATING VENDORS

ROBOTICS TEAM SOUP FUNDRAISER ROBOTICS IN ACTION



**BEACON BUSINESS CENTER**  
**IS STOCKED WITH CHRISTMAS CARDS,**  
**CHRISTMAS TAGS & GNOMES!**

SEE THE VARIETY OF CHRISTMAS CARDS, GNOMES AND TAGS AT 203 S. MAIN IN SHERIDAN, MT

FOR SALE: 2 sets of Draft Harnesses  
 1st set with leather, silver spotted harness with collar & pads.  
 2nd set Biothane silver spotted harness with collar & pads  
 \$1200.00 each  
 Call Steve at 406-533-5592

**Ruby Valley Sheds**  
**DANIEL & LEONA LEE**  
**179 JUDY LANE - ALDER, MT**  
**CELL: 406-217-2131**  
**HOME: 406-842-5206**

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 \*Your locally, family owned fuel distributor\*

2 convenience store locations  
 Norris & Sheridan  
 Delivering fuel in Madison & Jefferson counties  
 Main office: 685-3379  
 Sheridan store: 842-5478  
 Norris store: 685-3361

**BLUE ANCHOR BAR & GRILL**  
 OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK  
 8 A.M. - 9 P.M.  
 DAILY SPECIALS  
 NIGHTLY SPECIALS  
 TWIN BRIDGES MT.  
 406-684-5655  
 CONTACT  
 596-7636 OR 539-4238

**ROCKIN' S BUSINESS SERVICES LLC**  
 PO Box 156 Sheridan MT 59749  
 406-682-7769 406-842-7778  
 Cell: 406-581-3818 Fax: 406-281-7242  
 Melody@rockinstax.com WWW. Rockinstax.com

The FRIENDS of the SHERIDAN LIBRARY will host Several Madison and Beaverhead County Writers for  
**a MULTI-AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING**

**Jan Elpel** *Berrigan's Ride, etc.*  
**Tom Elpel** *Foraging the Mountain West, etc.*  
**Gary Forney** *Rascals, Ruffians, and Rebels, etc.*  
**Cherie Lewis** *Never Say Uncle*  
**Ray Marxer** *Cowboy in a Corporate World*  
**"Swede" Troedsson** *Smoke Jumper*  
**Burleigh CW Leonard** *Way Out West*

**Friday, December 8, 5-7pm**  
**at the Sheridan Library**  
**Give a BOOK for Christmas!**

**FIREWOOD BANK OF THE RUBY VALLEY**  
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**  
**Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
**406-842-7392**  
 A LOCAL CHARITY

*the* **Etting House**  
 ARTS & HUMANITIES CENTER  
 presents  
**the Splendid Feast**  
 DEC 15<sup>TH</sup> & 16<sup>TH</sup>  
 6:30-7PM ~ WASSAIL SOCIAL HOUR  
 7PM ~ SIX COURSE DINNER  
 BY CHEFS JANET MARSH & RUTH HAURI

*Please join us for a magical evening of good food, whimsical ambiance & holiday cheer to benefit the Etting House Arts & Humanities Center*

\$75 PER PERSON  
 \$125 PER COUPLE  
 \$550 PER TABLE\*  
 \*purchaser receives a hand-built wreath

*Those attending are encouraged to bring your own wine*

*reservations required*  
 406.843.5454

The Alder School is in need of a maintenance person. This position is on an as needed basis. Wages are negotiable. If you are interested in this position, Please call 406-660-1006. Stop by the school for an application."

**LAST ISSUE ANSWERS**

R	E	S	E	T	B	L	O	C	M	I	L	E			
A	B	A	S	H	L	I	M	O	I	L	E	X			
P	O	I	S	E	A	M	E	N	L	I	N	E			
E	N	D	E	A	R	M	E	N	T	L	A	D	S		
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A	C	H	E		T	E	T	E		I	D	E	A	S	
R	E	A	D		S	A	S	S		T	E	S	T	S	

- ACROSS**
- Mindful
  - Indian music
  - Plate
  - Greens with dressing
  - Ages
  - Put \_\_\_\_ words
  - Fatuous
  - Play parts
  - Pretentious person
  - Acculturate
  - Belgrade native
  - In the center of
  - Floor
  - Molten rock
  - Consumed
  - Our star
  - Frosts, as a cake
  - Essence
  - Coniferous forest
  - Flying disk
  - Turned a corner
  - Above a baritone
  - Pierce
  - Open to all
  - 18-wheeler
  - Night before
  - Large northern deer
  - Suppurate
  - Plateau
  - Unit of paper
  - Subjugation
  - A Great Lake
  - Taps
  - Push
  - Portent or omen
  - Type of sword
  - Consumer of food
  - Miami basketball team
  - Fathers
  - Pottery fragment

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
14						15					16				
17						18					19				
20						21					22				
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32					33			34		35		36	37	38	
39				40				41	42						
43						44	45					46			
				47		48		49				50			
51	52	53					54			55					
56						57	58					59	60	61	62
63						64					65				
66						67					68				
69						70					71				

- DOWN**
- Largest continent
  - Grows pale
  - "Oh dear!"
  - Hindu princess
  - Swelling
  - Facts
  - Colonnades
  - An international trade treaty
  - Judge
  - Disharmony
  - Not outer
  - Cache
  - Spare-time occupier
  - Picture
  - Ballet attire
  - Boost
  - Anagram of "Care"
  - Blood vessel
  - Variety
  - Crosses
  - False god
  - Nerd
  - Combines
  - French cheese
  - Overweight
  - Enticed
  - Felt blindly
  - Not stale
  - Spooky
  - Siberian antelope
  - Donkeys
  - Daddy
  - Monarch of Iran
  - Infinitesimal amount
  - Not under
  - Geek



# 65 Years!

65<sup>TH</sup> Annual Veterans Community

## Christmas Dinner

Saturday, December 16, 2023

5 to 7 PM

Twin Bridges School Lunch Room

RAFFLE - (2) \$200 Meat Packages from Western Meat Block  
Queen Size Quilt


\$3.00 each or \$25.00 for 10 tickets  
and MANY MORE DOOR PRIZES

### WORD PUZZLE

### Candy

B	C	O	T	T	E	N	C	A	N	D	Y	C	S
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T	S	A	X	E	N	R	R	A	N	K	T	E	N
E	R	S	H	I	Y	T	E	Y	C	A	S	C	A
R	E	T	E	A	C	H	O	U	B	B	L	A	T
F	V	S	W	C	R	A	S	S	I	A	G	U	M
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N	S	I	A	I	Z	E	C	C	I	S	T	Y	Z
G	E	T	A	H	I	Z	N	A	A	N	D	F	S
E	F	T	D	A	K	C	L	R	N	N	B	D	D
R	I	L	T	Y	A	H	D	E	S	D	D	Y	S
S	L	E	K	I	T	K	A	T	R	H	Y	Y	U
N	B	S	D	I	Y	E	N	E	V	S	A	E	Y

CRY BABYS  
AIR HEADS  
TWIZZLERS  
COTTEN CANDY  
MEXICAN CANDY  
LIFESAVERS  
MENTOS  
SUCKERS  
SKITTLES  
GUM  
BUTTER FINGERS  
MANDMS  
KIT-KAT  
HARD CANDY



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Photo is courtesy of Colter Raben. Members pictured sitting- Lorrayne Meredith, Korissa Cary, Kait Hyde, Haydon Broksle; standing- Isaac Cary, Riddick Goodwin, Colter Raben, Hazin Dwyer, Lilly Banks, Kaycee Hanson; sitting on table- Claire Hyde; standing is club leader, Lacey Clark. The Super Stars 4H Club enjoyed a brisk and sunny day on November 12, 2023. The group spent the afternoon picking up trash items on a stretch of MT Highway 41 N, near Silver Star. The safety equipment and trash bags were provided by the Highway Department. The members split into boys verses girls groups. This allowed them to cover more area and encouraged a friendly competition. During this community service project the group learned the damage that litter can cause to our environment. Super Stars members would like to encourage all to find a trash can. Do Not Be a Litter Bug!

Submitted by Super Stars 4H Club- Reporter, Claire Hyde

## TROY BRAATEN'S 1st Grade Classmate's

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DC Dances Montana presents



# The Nutcracker

Performances at Ennis Elementary School  
Saturday, December 16, 2023  
1:00 pm and 5:00 pm  
Sunday, December 17, 2023  
1:00 pm

Admission: Ages 3 and older: \$15.00 per ticket  
Tickets Available at the DC Dances Montana Studio  
or by emailing dcdancesmontana@gmail.com



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					2nd qtr midterm 3pm HS BB w/ Whitehall (T), BGBG	1 MS GBB at WY tourney 2pm HS BB w/ WY (H), BGBG
	3 FFA Big Timber CDE	4 4pm MS GBB w/ Sheridan (H) 6pm Booster Club mtg	5	6 7pm HS/MS Holiday Concert	7 HS BB Tip-Off SDD meet in	8 Trny (Manhattan) Three Forks MSS GBB at Sheridan trny
10 4:30pm HS BB w/ Dillon (H); JV vs "C", Var girls vs JV 6:30pm REG BOARD MTG (MT rm)	11 4pm MS GBB w/ Ennis (T)	12	13 	14 8:15am Coffee w/ the Counselor 4pm MS GBB w/ Whitehall (T) 6:30pm Elem Holiday Program (MP gym) 7pm Am. Legion mtg (MT rm)	15 SDD meet in	16 Belfry Am. Legion Christmas Dinner (lunchroom) 4pm HS BB w/ Sheridan (T), BGB
17 Perry Church group mtg (MP gym)	18 2:30pm HS BB w/ Broadwater (T), BGBG 4pm MS GBB w/ Man. Ch. (T) 6:15pm Trailblazers 4-H mtg (Inchrm)	19	20 	21 No School	22 Christmas Vacation 2pm Vitalant Blood Drive (MT rm)	23 
24 	25 No School Christmas Day 	26	27	28	29	30
31	School resumes Jan. 2, 2024.					

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DECEMBER-23	JANUARY-24	FEBRUARY-24
7th All Class Cattle Sale	4th Special Feeder & All Class Cattle Sale	1st Special Stock Cow & All Class Cattle Sale
14th Special Bred Cow & All Class Cattle Sale	11th Special Stock Cow & All Class Cattle Sale	8th TBD
21st Special Feeder & All Class Cattle Sale	18th Special Feeder & All Class Cattle Sale	15th All Class Cattle Sale
28th No Sale	25th All Class Cattle Sale	22nd TBD
		26th Circle L Angus Bull Sale
		29th All Class Cattle Sale

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**SUDOKU PUZZLE**

					2	8	4
						7	
		6			9		
6		2	8	3	7	4	5
			4	9	8		
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	3	7	9			2	8

**ANSWERS FROM LAST ISSUE**

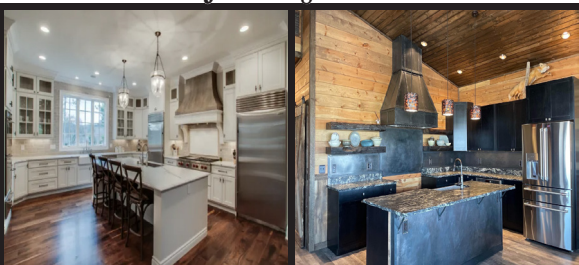
9	3	1	5	4	6	7	8	2
8	4	2	9	7	1	3	5	6
7	5	6	2	3	8	9	4	1
4	6	7	8	2	9	1	3	5
2	1	9	4	5	3	6	7	8
3	8	5	6	1	7	2	9	4
6	7	3	1	8	5	4	2	9
5	9	4	7	6	2	8	1	3
1	2	8	3	9	4	5	6	7



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We cannot thank the volunteers enough for their time and effort. We sincerely hope you continue to support the Twin Bridges Historical Association with your membership for the upcoming year.



MAIN STREET 1920s

### Membership...Information and Fees

Membership in the Historical Association is open to any individual, family, corporation or organization that is interested in furthering the goals of the Association. Various levels of membership have been established with annual dues.

The Board may waive these annual membership dues and grant a "Life Membership" to any member as recognition for outstanding service to the Association. Any member who makes a contribution of \$5,000.00 or more shall be Life Members.

Individual.....	\$15.00	Family.....	\$25.00
Supporting.....	\$50.00	Contributing.....	\$100.00
Associate.....	\$250.00	Sustaining.....	\$500.00
Patron.....	\$1,000.00	Life Membership...	\$5,000

The Federal ID Number for the Association is 81-0511732 (501 c(3)).

We thank you for your past donations and hope you will consider doing so again.

Preserving our past for future generations.

Twin Bridges Historical Association  
P.O. Box 277 - Twin Bridges, MT 59754

## TWIN BRIDGES HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2023 NEWSLETTER



### Thank you!

Time goes by so rapidly, with each year seeming to pass more quickly than the one before. And so... here it is time again, the weekend after Thanksgiving, to set up the annual display of the Christmas village in the large front windows of the museum! All the pieces and parts of this extensive display of wintery wonder have been donated over the course of several years by members and former members of our community, and local volunteers continue to step up to help put it all together so caringly. Please stop by to see it this holiday season. Our Twin Bridges Historical Association could not function or provide all its many services without a cooperative community effort which includes the all-volunteer staff, the many continuing memberships, sponsors, and the donations received from visitors over the course of the year. We THANK THEM ALL for what they do, and we would like to encourage others to join in our efforts to collect and preserve our local history for future generations. This past year our museum was hit with higher costs than usual as several maintenance issues required attention. These included finishing the skylight repair, chimney repairs and a seal coat on the roof. Thankfully, it's a solid brick building built in 1917. Because of these concerns, we are hopeful you'll continue your membership or consider a donation for a worthy all volunteer non-profit. Do try to visit next summer; we think you'll understand what an asset it is in saving the Ruby Valley history.

### CHRISTMAS IN THE RUBY VALLEY EARLY DAYS

Christmas is one day of the American calendar that is made the principal holiday of the year, an occasion for mirth, music, feasting, innocent sports and general amusements, the old and young participating with equal zest and befitting enthusiasm. As the residents of Madison county are closing a year of material prosperity, it is assumed that they will make the holiday season a week of merriment and good cheer, featured by numerous public entertainments. (Excerpts from the Madison County Monitor, 1916)

Normal hall was filled to its utmost capacity with people from Twin Bridges and vicinity who assembled there to participate in the festivities in honor of the anniversary of the Savior. At 8:30 o'clock the curtains were drawn aside and a beautiful sight was presented to the audience. The stage was artistically decorated with an arch of evergreens beautifully decorated and suspending a bell. Two Christmas trees on either side of the stage were seen in all their glory of radiant candles. The exercises were opened by four little girls ringing the bell. After all the songs and performances by the children were through, Santa Claus and his wife appeared on the scene, plucked the good things from the Christmas trees and distributed them among the audience. (Montana Centennial Melange, 1888).

At the state orphans' home, the children will render a characteristically pleasing program, featured by a Christmas cantata, "Around the World with Santa Claus", and several selections by the boys' band. The dancing population of Twin Bridges and vicinity represents the registration list of the community, according to rough guess, hence the dance scheduled for Monday night at Paige's hall will be a big ballroom event. The music will have the rhythmic jingle. The midnight supper will be served at Mrs. Amarine's restaurant and will be some spread. (Madison County Monitor, 1916.)

At Estlin's theater, Santa Claus—the genial, bewhiskered, gruff, but kindly old fellow, fresh from Bear Gulch, was a visitor at the first Twin Bridges Community Christmas tree. He distributed 160 stockings (red, green, and white) filled with Christmas goodies to all the children. The children performed a Christmas program while waiting for Santa and it was deemed very successful due to the children who so kindly gave their time and talents to the Yule time celebration. (Twin Bridges Independent and Madison County Monitor, 1916).

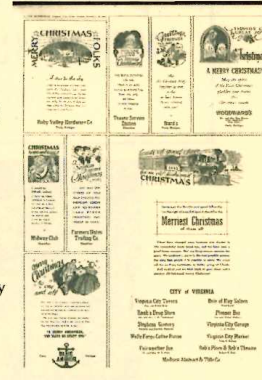
Christmas gift suggestions from historical Ruby Valley stores. The Whiteman Drug Co. recommended books, white ivory toilet sets, embossed stationery, rings, pins, chain necklaces, brooches, folding Kodaks and Brownies, rifles, drums, candies, and perfumes. (Twin Bridges Independent, 1916). Handkerchiefs, ties, shirts, hats, caps, sox, and shoes were put forth by Joe Marshall Clothier, who boasted the "prices right on every article". (Twin Bridges Independent, 1916).

The Twin Bridges Drug Co. suggested Victrolas, Victrola records, silverware, jewelry, hairbrushes, manicure sets, toys, handbags, clocks, Eastman Kodaks, albums, fine bulk and box candy, stationery, shaving sets, cut glass, Persian ivory, flashlights, cigars, pipes, cigarette cases, smoking sets, and chinaware. "We have everything suitable for Xmas whether your purse be large or small". (Twin Bridges Independent, 1916).

Victrolas (our special offer makes it possible for everyone to have music in their homes on Christmas day), bread and cake boxes, universal percolators, princess electric flat irons, baby electric flat irons, Clark's carriage heater, automatic screwdrivers and drills, hatchets, granite roasters, savory steel roasters, razor strops, pearl and stag-handle pocket knives, two-bladed knife with chain, ice skates, roller skates, wagons, framed pictures, (Twin Bridges Independent, 1918).

George Curtis played Santa Claus to the children of Twin Bridges and vicinity last Friday, distributing over 220 sacks of candy among the young hopefuls and by so doing has made a warm spot for himself in the hearts of all the young folks. Mr. Curtis also remembered his older customers during the holiday week with a Christmas cigar. (Twin Bridges Independent, December 1923)

Give a sensible, and at the same time, a useful gift, this year of all years. The sentiment of Christmas giving is best expressed in thoughtfulness, rather than by experience. Then too, the ever mounting cost of things that are of vital necessity, precludes the idea of lavish and over-costly articles that do not properly now have a fitting place in the affairs of everyday life. Liberty Bond subscriptions, Red Cross donations and the many avenues of expense are a patriotic drain on every purse; rightly so and yet we must ever hold in mind the fact that loved ones must be remembered. (Madison County Monitor, 1917)



TUNNEL AT NOBLE MINE

### NOBLEVILLE

On the right (or south) fork of Wisconsin Creek we have what has been known for half a century as the Noble mine. This mine operated in the early days of mining history starting in the 1870's. The original discoverers of the vein on which the several claims at Nobleville are located were Jim Ingles and Henry Fitch. Both were pioneers in this locality. These men later sold their interests to D.A. Noble. He was known to all of the old timers as "Dan". The camp was then named Nobleville in honor of the promotor and owner of the mining camp. Dan operated the mine by crude methods until 1880 with the advent of the railroad into Dillon. Modern machinery was then freighted and installed which helped build a 2,300 foot cross cut underground tramway and other improvements which involved much labor and capital.

In the winter months the mine would run only one shift where only a few men were able to work. Mr. Noble superintended the mine until his death in September of 1899. After his death the property was purchased by a St. Louis capitalist. This owner never gave the mine the needed attention or invested the capital necessary to make it a paying proposition it otherwise could have been. Through the efforts of R.W. Noble, the company's manager, D.H. Noble was appointed superintendent of the mine and it was soon up and running with two shifts per day. The roads leading to the mine were improved and the high grade ore was shipped to the smelters for treatment. With hard work and effort the mine yielded rich returns for the money. After the death of R.W. Noble in 1904 the company did not deem it advisable to continue operations. The Mine closed and one by one the miners were laid off. Many men would later lease Nobleville and work the claims for the next 25 years producing thousands of dollars in precious metal. Among those miners who worked the Noble properties over those early years were, Charles Hill, Thomas A. Foster, Lou Moore, Joe Black, Sam Pritchett, Al Halse, Jim Brakey, Walter Hill, Walter and Oscar Mesch, Ed and Lou Planalp, Ed Reed, Thomas Gibbon, Dick Lueck, Carl Lueck, Hans Albrecht and many others. Is Nobleville is dead? The consensus of opinion is decidedly that it is not. Ask any of the men who have leased or worked on this property and they will tell you the same thing. That they would sooner take a chance on the Nobleville property than any other mine in the area. For a local prospector or miner to start mining this claim he would have to have the funds greater than average to open the property back up again. Until these funds are obtained the mine will likely lie idle.

Information compiled by Mrs. G.W. Righenour and Millard Bullerdick, Editor of The Sheridan Forum, October 29, 1920. Edited by Joetta Wetzsteon





The RubyRoots 4-H club would like to thank our community and the following people and groups for supporting our club this past year!

To the Trailsend Ranch, Mr. Kennedy, Montana Ducks Unlimited and Bob Sanders for a wonderful experience learning about wetlands and so much more! Madison-Jefferson 4-H Council for supporting our county wide hat and tote fundraiser. Madison County Fairgrounds for allowing our hat and tote sale. The Holland family for your donations and help with snow cones and concessions. To Main St. Market for your help with our community service and concessions. To Mia Babcock for judging our record books, and the Nye family for donating our record book awards. To the Twin Bridges Senior Center for the use of your beautiful facility. To Montana Farmers Union for the one sentence grant! Thank you to Opportunity Bank for providing the Buyer's BBQ lunch at the fair! To the Hamilton Ranch, Trailsend Ranch, Allen Landscaping, Pivots Plus, Shepherd's Garage, Bill and Missy Wood, Andy Suenram, and 5L Red Angus-Ruby Valley Meats for purchasing our market animals. A special thank you to the Novich Family and everyone who made a donation to 4-H in Betty Novich's honor.

The RubyRoots 4-H Club looks forward to another great year of rooting success in our youth.

TWIN BRIDGES COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PRESENTS  
THE 2023

# CHRISTMAS STROLL

Have a jolly holly holiday season in our small town that cares!  
We invite you to stroll Main Street to visit, shop and enjoy our local businesses amenities!

**DECEMBER 7TH 2023  
5:00PM - 8:00PM  
MAIN STREET, TWIN BRIDGES**

**5:00 to 7:00 CHILI FEAST AT CITY PARK**

**5:30 TO 7:00 TURKEY BINGO AT THE BLUE ANCHOR**

**7:00 TWIN BRIDGES HIGH SCHOOL HOLIDAY CONCERT**

**KIDS GAMES, CRAFTS & FACE PAINTING AT THE VAULT**

**PROFESSIONAL PHOTOS WITH SANTA AT THE BOKONON (NEXT TO WEAVER'S STUDIO)**

**HAY RIDES PICK UP AT CITY PARK**

VISIT PARTICIPATING BUSINESS LOCATIONS AND HAVE YOUR CHRISTMAS STROLL CARD STAMPED FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A GIFT BASKET!  
WINNER WILL BE DRAWN DECEMBER 8TH.


**GIVING TREE AT OPPORTUNITY BANK!**

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**Community Events**

**December 2023**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	1 <sup>st</sup> SHERIDAN CHRISTMAS STROLL - 5pm	2
3	4	5	6 Twin Bridges Helping Hand Food Pantry 10am-3pm	7 TWIN BRIDGES CHRISTMAS STROLL - 5pm	8 ENNIS Christmas Stroll 3-7pm	9 Christmas Craft Show, Mad Cou Fairgrounds 10am Virginia City Christmas Stroll 12-6pm
10 Wild Game Feed Potluck @ Lu's Lost Cabin in Twin - 2pm	11 	12	13 Twin Bridges Helping Hand Food Pantry 10am-3pm	14	15	16 Silent Auction Bake Sale @ Sheridan Elementary 4pm
17	18	19	20 Twin Bridges Helping Hand Food Pantry 10am-3pm	21	22 	23
24 Christmas Eve	25 	26	27 Twin Bridges Helping Hand Food Pantry 10am-3pm	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve						

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