





Tobacco Root **Mountains Care** Center

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



VIRGINIA CITY, MT 59755

OPEN HOURS

MONDAY WEDNESDAY 9AM - 2PM 10AM - 2PM

ALL items are FREE to the community! Mens, womens, and childrens clothing, toys, household items, sheets, towels, etc. Donations are greatly appreciated and can be dropped off during open hours or by appointment by calling P @ (406) 600-2983





PAT WELBORN C: 406-596-0354

H & M Handyman

Luis: 406-581-3148/hmhandyman@worksmt.com Luis Hernandez PO Box 129 Twin Bridges, MT 59754





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THE RUBY VALLEY NUGGET CAN BE ALSO FOUND ONLINE AT www.beaconbusinessctr.com

INTERVIEW WITH THOMAS J. BIRD IN 1942



The following interesting interview, written in the form of question and answer between Eleanor Luxton, who was a Glenbow Museum staff member and Thomas J. Bird who lived in the Twin Bridges community. He was one of the last Montana's western trail' blazers. Mr. Bird, who had many acquaintances in Montana, which has been his home since he was eight years old, was 87 at the time of this interview. He was born April 2nd, 1855 in Truxton, Lincoln County, Missouri, and died September 19th, 1944 in Madison County at age 89. In his youth, when he led the role of a man while still in his teens, was devoted, to teaming. 1870 he teamed for the Hecla Mining Co. at Glendive, and later-held a contract hauling salt from a point 40 miles south of Idaho Falls to Madison County. Following is his colorful story of the early days of his life here, and the stirring events of the times as he remembered them: By Thomas J. Bird Announcer: Mr. Bird, as a child you started for Oregon. How did it happen that you settled in Montana? Mr. Bird: I believe that I am one, if not the oldest, of the living Trail Blazers to come to Montana in a covered Wagon or: prairie schooner. In April 1863, my adoptee father, Joseph-Pennington, and mother rigged out for the west, taking with them a boy of eight years, which happened to be me. They were headed for Oregon, where my mother had a brother. This brother had lived there in the early 1840's before the gold was discovered in California. But when we got out on the plains, we

heard that gold was discovered in Grasshopper, or Bannock, and it being a direct route via the Landers cutoff and Mullen road, my father, with a few others, concluded to take the route in following the Landers cutoff we came to the Lewis, or Snake, river, fifteen or twenty miles above the present site of Idaho Falls at what was then known as Jake Meek's ferry, where we ferried the wagons but swam the livestock. After crossing Snake river, we came on to Beaver canyon where Spencer, Idaho, is now located. There we came to a Wagon Train owned by J. B. Laurin, who was waiting for one of his men, by the name of Johnson. Announcer: Was the J. B. Laurin the same Laurin who founded the town of Laurin on the Vigilante Trail? Mr. Bird: Yes. Announcer: Thanks. Continue with your story. Mr. Bird: Well, it was while we were camped at Beaver canyon, now Spencer. Idaho, that word reached us of the fabulous discovery of gold in Alder gulch and caused excitement in our party. Some of them wanted to travel day and night to get there as soon as possible, but my, father argued: "No, here we are 1000 or 1600 miles from civilization either way we go with our families. We must conserve our food and the ability of our stock to get us through. We must not take desperate chances by traveling day and night to get-to any reputed El Dorado. Our families are to be our first consideration. Never take any chances on another Donner catastrophe." These were my father's words of counsel. Announcer: The Donner catastrophe refers to the massacre of that trainload of immigrants to the new country by redskins, does it not? Mr. Bird: No, the Donner catastrophe refers to the wagon trainload of people who were snowed in at Donner lake in new country and perished: Father would chance nothing like that for the sake of the women and children in the party. But a part of the party would not heed his advice and the train was split, part traveling night and day and our part of the party at our regular gait. We arrived in Bannock on July 15, 1863. None of our friends had returned from Alder gulch yet, therefore my father, who had placer mined in California in the early 1850's, looked over Bannock placers on the 16th of July and was not favorably impressed. Many of the holders of claims were so anxious to sell that they salted their ground by sprinkling gold over the bedrock which had previously been cleaned up. Father asked where he should sample the dirt to pan it and was told to get a pan off bedrock anywhere. This he did and when he washed it down closely, he had 76c or \$1.00 in gold. After washing a pan, father turned to the men and said: "I came in here yesterday from the east but I have placer mined in California about ten years before coming here. Your claim is salted. No man who pretends, to be a Miner leaves this much gold on bedrock after cleaning up!" They said: "Keep low, Mr. Tenderfoot, don't say anything". That evening two of our friends returned from Alder gulch and reported that Alder was all right, only all the good claims were taken above and below the discovery. This proved to be wrong. They said that the Stinking Water valley, now called Ruby Valley, was most beautiful country and on their way back, they had staked off a ranch and called it the Cold Spring ranch because of a very told stream of clear water flowing from the ground and surrounded by a beautiful meadow of grass standing waist high and covering acres of rich Land. My father looked over the location and concluded: "This is near enough Oregon for, me." He unloaded our belongings, took off the extra-large box from our prairie schooner in which we stored our little all, excepting the cooking utensil mother had used while crossing the plains to our new home. Announcer: So the lure of this fine country got the best of the family. Tell me though, did you ever get to Oregon? Mr. Bird: Not at that time, but in later years I have visited there. Announcer: I suppose that the first thing your father did was to look for gold? Mr Bird: No, father let the others look for the gold. He was willing to work for his. The first thing father did was to take his team of oxen to the nearby mountains. Here he cut and hauled logs to build the first house between Bannock and Alder Gulch. It was his intention of keeping stage stock. It was what I call "the starting of a hotel", out in the



prairie, from the ground up. At this time there were two stages running from Bannock to Alder. When I say running, I am speaking literally, and mean running. The drivers would stop just long enough for horses to be changed and then crack the whip and away, to return in the same manner.

Chances were against their return, but I can tell you more of that later, together with a few tales about the Vigilantes and their necktie parties. One of our first customers rode up to the Hotel Cold Springs and asked if he could get breakfast. My mother told him it was late for breakfast, it being about 9 or 10 o'clock. She said father had gone after timber with which to build, but if he would wait, she would cook breakfast. He said he would wait and let his horse graze while waiting, since it was quite early when he left Alder, and it was a long ride to Bannock. Mother hurried and

prepared something for him to eat; after which he took from his pocket a buckskin sack in which it was customary to carry loose gold dust. Mother had no scales for weighing gold; but she did have a blower which he poured the loose gold, gave a few shakes, and then blew out light dry sand. The worthless trash he poured out, had it been gold, would have been \$4 or \$6, but it was bogus brass, chips or fillings. Mother had been taught how to test pure gold, so she placed a small piece between her teeth, and it was harsh, like biting pot-metal, anti she told him: "Mr., this is bogusdust!" "Well, now, that is too bad for a stranger to come at this time of day and order breakfast, then pay for it in bogus dust, but I know who I got it from, and I will make him make it good," he replied. Then he poured out about \$1.50 in real gold. We learned afterwards that was Buck Stinson, who later was hanged in Bannock with Plummer, the sheriff, and Ned Ray, Plummer's deputy. This little tie-party happened about January 6th 1864, and was about the last to be hung by the Vigilantes.

Continued in next issue....

earched by Joetta Wetzsteon The information came primarily from written interviews with pioneers and their descendants, and from articles in Montana and Alberta newspaper

RUBY VALLEY HAPPENINGS

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH - The Blessings of the Animals (St. Francis Day) at Christ Episcopal Church in Sheridan Sunday, October 8th at the 10 am Service and blessing. For more information please call 406-842-7713

AMERICAN LEGION POST 89 - Meeting on October 10th at 6 PM at Post Building - VA Service Officer at Post Building on October 11th from 10 am to noon.

KATHY BALL MEMORIAL: The family of Kathy Ball invite you to a story telling potluck celebration in her honor. October 14th 1:00 PM in the square building at the Madison county Fairgrounds.

SHERIDAN SENIOR CENTER: OCT 16th from 6 - 9pm at the Sheridan Community Center at 210 East Crofoot for GAME NIGHT! Bring your own snacks! Please call 406-207-0334 for more information.

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK FALL FESTIVAL- OCT 21ST from 4-7 pm at the Sheridan Elementary Gym.

SENIOR CITIZEN HARVEST DINNER- OCT 25th from 4-6 pm at the Sheridan School Elementary Gym or there is local deliverycall 406-842-5302 to RSVP

TWIN BRIDGES SCHOOL FALL FESTIVAL - OCT 25th at 5:30 pm at the Twin Bridges School Farm

3RD ANNUAL WOMEN FOR VETERANS BAKED POTATO FEED AND CRAFT SHOW-. October 14th from 10 am to2pm

GRACE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP -. Good Old Ways, Friday Oct 6th at 6 p.m. Canning. Free Event -Harvest Party – Friday Oct 27th. 6:00 to 8:00 pm. For more info 406-842-5915. **Community Fellowship, Laurin. For more info 406-842-5915.**

WICKED WONDERLAND - Shine Studio Dance The Magic Fundraiser - 7th of October - 3-11 pm - Costume Contest- Escape Room - Axe Throwing - Carnival Games-Concessions-Mickey Trick Or Treat - And More! \$10- Kids \$15- Age 15+ - \$50 Family - POKER RUN FUNDRAISER - October 7th - registration starts at 12 pm at the Ruby Valley Brewery. Will continue to Blue Anchor in Twin Bridges, Two Bit Saloon in Whitehall, Silver Dollar Saloon in Ennis, Chick's Bar in Alder, and ends at Dietrich's Robber Roost School House in Sheridan. Bring something fun for the Trunk or Treat. ESCAPE ROOM - Follow the Clues - October 7th from 4 - 11 pm- \$30

ANNUAL BAZAAR AND LUNCHEON - November 4th from 10-3 Lunch from 11-2 at the Sheridan Elementary

VETERANS DAY TEA - Sheridan Schools invites all our Ruby Valley Veterans to the Veterans Day Tea on November 9th from 9-10 am at the Sheridan Elementary lunchroom. Cinnamon Rolls, Tea and coffée will be served.

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: 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.

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 CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP - First and third Tuesdays at 6 pm For more information call 406-842-7981. TWIN BRIDGES - starting Wednesday September 20th join us to read, sing, and do crafts every Wednesday at 10:30. Open to children 2-5 years old. TBPL summer reading winners are Liam Cooper, Paige Dewey, Eleanor Hernandez, Josh Wayland, and Kyle Huss. Thank you to all participants and volunteers!"

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: GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - WEEKLY - FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT - 406-381-6677 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 a event you would like us to help you promote, please let us know. www.rubyvalleynugget@gmail.com

SENIOR CITIZEN HARVEST DINNER October 25, 5:30 pm

Elementary Gym or local delivery available







Gary & Heather Caprara

PHONE: 406-596-0593 406-580-1574

spiffybiffyportables@gmail.com



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www.harshbargerlawfirm.com

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.







Adam Davis

Dereck Short

406.596.5281

renegadeelectric406@gmail.com







Mike & Laura Geary, Owners

270 Tuke Lane - Twin Bridges, Montana Office: 406-684-5960 Office: 406-684-5960 Mike's Cell: 406-459-2030 Laura's Cell: 406-459-5582 www.hwlodge.com hwlodgemt@gmail.com

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Ruby, Beaverhead & Jefferson River Valleys

Annual Bazaar & Luncheon **NOVEMBER 4TH** SHERIDAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BAZAAR - 10 AM TO 3 PM

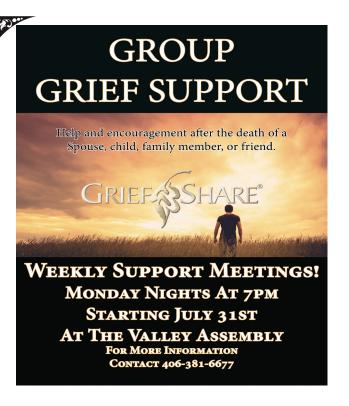
Join The Jeam

LUNCH - 11 AM TO 2 PM







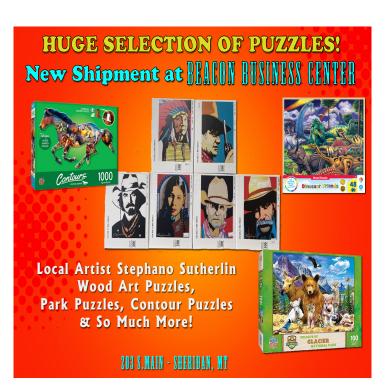




Open Saturdays 10-12 am 206 S. Main Street, Sheridan















LAST ISSUE ANSWERS

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- 2. Genus of gorse
- 4. Deport
- 5. Earlier
- 44. 54 in Roman numerals
- 45. Superficial amount 46. Growing old

33. Night before

36. Sea eagles

39. Assistant

41. Soothsayer

43. Foot digit

40. Central

38. Anger

34. Reverberation

35. French for "State"

- 48. Manta's cousin
- 50. Intimate
- 54. Deservedly receives
- 55. Massacred
- 57. Quickly
- 58. Bounce back
- 59. Anagram of "Dear"
- 60. Weighty books
- 61. Exploit
- 62. Alone

- 3. Superlative

- 6. Shakespearean verse
- 7. Primp
- 8. Tranquilizer
- 9. Ancient ascetic
- 10. Jargon
- 11. Location
- 12. Passed with flying colors
- 13. Affirmative
- 18. Haven
- 22. Boring
- 24. Plotting
- 25. Skirt fold

26. Relative magnitudes

DOWN

- 27. Avoid
- 29. Respond
- 30. American symbol
- 31. Fugitive
- 33. Finish
- 34. People given to foolish talk
- 37. River bottom
- 42. Farm
- 44. Focusing glass (plural)
- 45. Two-handed grass
- cutting tool 46. Subsequently
- 47. Condiment 48. Gulf toadfish

- 49. Streetcar
- 51. Black-and-white cookie
- 52. Marine mammal
- 53. Poi source
- 54. Consume food
- 56. Atlantic food fish

WHAT IS SHERIDAN SCHOOL'S ADULT ED?

Adult ed is a, free or cost of supplies, continuing education class/workshop offered to community members, 16 years of age and non-school members, and up. There are ngoing classes along with monthly workshops that you can sign up fo

Where can I find class information?

2. Ruby Valley Nugget

4 School Website Departments Adult Ed

Current Ongoing Schedule

Class/Instructor	Day, Time & Location					
Volleyball	Sundays, 6pm-8pm, Elementary Gym					
Yoga (Renata)	Wednesdays, 6pm 7pm, HS Gym					
H.I.I.T. Exercise Class (Lindsay)	*Sundays, 11:30, Memorial Park tennis courts Fridays, 6am-7am, HS Gym					
Basketball	Coming soon!					
Pickleball	Winter!					

ect changes with the weathe

Upcoming Ukulele Workshop

When: Tuesdays (10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 11/7) at 7pm-8pm Where: Elementary lunchroom

Cost: \$10 for music sheet folder, optional ukulele rental for \$15 or purchase for \$50

<u> Interested in leading a class/workshop?</u>

WORD PUZZLE

Algebra Word Search



EQUATION DEGREE LINEAR TRINOMIAL CUBIC MONOMIAL POLYNOMIAL ZERO BINOMIAL OUADRATIC ROOT VARIABLE ALGEBRA CONSTANT

Cow Pie Bingo

Geo-'catch' clue release:









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Just \$5 (small) or \$10 (large) per spice & take it home in Tupperware!!

Choose 1 or all of the following to make: Apple Pie Spice

> **Pumpkin Spice** Ranch Seasoning Steak and Chop Seasoning



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TWIN BRIDGES PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Columbus Day

Student Co. mtg

Noon Exec

October 2023



U of M Western

Hot Springs (H) 7pm HS FB w/

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4pm HS VB w/

4pm MS FB w/

WSS (H) 7pm HS FB w/

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Rural Friday

2pm Vitalant

Hot Springs (H)

Rural Friday 4pm MS FB w/

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	10am MT Rep. Theatre presents "The Odyssey", grs 6-12, MP gym 12:35pm MT Rep. Theatre workshops, MT rm 4:30pm JV VB w/ Dillon C-Squad (H)	Noon Jr class mtg 4pm MS VB w/ WY (H) 5pm HS VB w/ Gardiner (T) 6pm Booster Club mtg	Noon BPA mtg	4 PICTURE DAY - Elem & MS individuals & MS fall sports Cross Country meet in Helena Noon FFA mtg 4pm HS VB W/ Man. Ch. (H)	HS Individual & fall sports U of M Western Rural Friday Noon Sophomore class mtg 7pm HS FB w/ WY (H)	HS VB at Anaconda tourney MS VB at WY tourney 12pm MS FB w/ WY (T)

8:15am Coffee

Noon Close-Up

4pm MS VB w/

Harrison/WC

Teacher Conven

6pm Super Stars

District Vo

Go Falcons!!

w/ the

MS GBB practice starts

Noon Sr class
mtg
6:15pm
Trailblazers 4-H
mtg, lunchroom

16
Noon staff lunch
mtg
4pm HS VB w/
WSS (T)

MS GBB practice starts

23

MS GBB practice starts

24

End 1st Quarter Fall Festival at School Farm 6pm Reach Higher MT Parent Night

Student Co. mto

4pm HS VB w/

Harr/WC (T)

Whitehall/

7pm REG

29 30 Halloween

print-a-calendar.com







Noon safety



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ANSWERS FROM LAST ISSUE

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Sheridan Schools

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Rustic Styles, Chinking, Consulting

Home: 406-684-5509 Cell: 406-596-9403

Important Dates to Remember - October 2023

Thursday, October 5 Early Release Day 1:00 pm - NO PALZ

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Scholastic Book Fair during conferences

Tuesday, October 10 School Board Meeting 7 pm

Wednesday, October 18 Early Release Day 1:00 pm - NO PALZ

Thursday, October 19 NO SCHOOL

Friday, October 20 NO SCHOOL - NO PALZ

Saturday, October 21 New Kids on the Block Fall Festival

Tuesday, October 24 Ennis Lions Club student vision screenings 9:00 am

Wednesday, October 25 Senior Citizen Harvest Dinner

Tuesday, October 31 Halloween Parade 1:00 pm,

Parents can help with costumes beginning at 12:30 pm





FULL SERVICE DIAGNOSTIC AND REPAIR CLINIC

M-F 7:30AM to 5:00PM

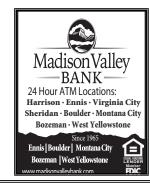


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HomeServices

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Frank Colwell

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Montana

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



GET INVOLVED by following the steps:

- $1.\ SHOE\ BOX:$ Available at Beacon Business, many of our local churches or get great preprinted shoe boxes available on our website.
- 2. "WOW" ITEM: Select a quality "wow" toy such as a doll, soccer ball with pump, or stuffed animal to bless a $\mbox{child}.$
- 3. OTHER GIFTS: Pack full with other fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies. Do not tape your shoe box closed. Use rubber bands instead. The Distribution Centers need to check the contents of the box.
- $4.\ PRAY:\ Most importantly,\ pray for the child who will receive your gift. Include a personal note and photo to delight the heart of a child.$
- 5. DROP OFFLOCATION: During the Collection Week of November 13th to the 20th at Valley Assembly Church, $114\,N$. Main Street in Sheridan.

Monday, November 13th - 1:00 - 3:00 pm Tuesday, November 14th - 1:00 - 3:00 pm Wednesday, November 15th - 1:00 - 3:00 pm Thursday, November 16th - 5:00 - 7:00 pm Friday, November 17th - 5:00 - 7:00 pm Saturday, November 18th - 9:00 - 11:00 am Sunday, November 19th - 12:30 - 2:30 pm Monday, November 20th - 8:00 - 10:00 am

6. DONATE \$10 PER SHOE BOX: A donation of \$10 per box is critical to cover shipping and other project costs. For easiest processing you can give online, or give by check using a postage-paid envelope. You can also track your shoes box if you choose to donate online.

> For more information & materials please contact Kathleen Wuelfing at 406-596-1080.

Build a Shoebox online by Scanning the QR code.





BERKSHIRE | HATHAWAY

MONTANA PROPERTIES

HOMESERVICES

Community Events

October 2023

O Maria Maria Pharma End Cot											
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat					
OCTOBER	2	3 Land Stewardship Workshop @ Alder Fire Hall 3-5pm	4 Twin Bridges Food Pantry 10am-3pm	5	6 Good Old Ways - Canning @ Grace Comminity in Laurin 6pm	7					
8	9 COLUMBUS DAY	10	11 Twin Bridges Food Pantry 10am-3pm	12	13	14 Baked Potato Feed & Craft Show @ Mad Cou Fairgrounds 10am-2pm					
15	16	17	18 Twin Bridges Food Pantry 10am-3pm	19	20	21					
22	23	24	25 Twin Bridges Food Pantry 10am-3pm	26	27 Harvest Party @ Grace Community in Laurin, 6-8pm (406)842-5915	28					
29	30	31 Happy Halloween									



Nicholette Picken BROKER® (406)698-0853 nicholette.picken@gmail.com



Should You Buy a Home Before 2024?

In 2022, housing inventory dropped to its lowest since 1999, causing many homebuyers to become discouraged by rapidly rising prices and too much competition. By mid-year 2022, prices began to moderate on rising mortgage interest rates. As the Federal Reserve contin battle runaway inflation, homebuyers pulled back slightly, but so did home sellers who der to sell high and buy another home at a much higher price and mortgage interest rate. New home construction lags demand by the millions, exacerbating housing shortages.

So, what's changed? With mortgage interest rates that have risen to the point that 7% is "tl new normal," the housing market is reacting in surprising ways. Despite slower sales and I prices throughout the first half of 2023, there are currently three offers for every home on open market, according to Lawrence Yun, chief economist for the National Association of REALTORS®, suggesting that homebuyers are shrugging off higher interest rates.

Housing market analyst <u>Black Knight</u> says that housing sales could be on the verge of a resurgence and that housing prices will move higher in certain regions. Year-over-year, ho prices are down 0.1%, but the reheating of the housing market is already underway in 27 c 50 largest markets at or above their previous home price peaks, say researchers.

Ask your Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices network professional to explain your local ma conditions. Get prequalified for a mortgage loan so you can move quickly before home pri rise again before 2024.



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