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To: The Twin Bridges Working Group and Ruby Valley Chamber of Commerce

I will be moving to the Children's Center in time for the Christmas Stroll. I will be residing in the former Superintendent House. I look forward to having an open house at this new residence during the Twin Bridges Christmas Stroll, Thursday, December 6 from 3-6pm. I invite you to come see the nearly completed house.

I would like to invite your participation in developing a cooperative grocery effort to become the first tenant of the former Children's Center.

I am proposing this idea to the Madison County Economic Development Council and representative's from the Headwaters RC&D organization in Butte. I would like to see an entity created that includes employee participation and a locally supplied grocery outlet with sales to the general public.

We envision providing a meat counter and the freshest produce, dairy and canned goods possible creating the need for local suppliers of fresh household goods for local consumption. I would like to see the store provide 50 percent bulk grocery items through a distributor similar to the one used by MacAlear's in years past. I would be interested in seeing the store provide 50 percent of the items in each category of sales to be hormone free, un-genetically altered, and tested products that are environmentally friendly to ourselves and our landfills.

Residential rental housing will be created along with this effort at the Center in the way of 13 one two and three bedroom apartments as well as storage and shop rental space in various outbuildings in the first phase of bringing the Center back to life.

This opportunity may be financially supported using economic development and rural development efforts while creating jobs and rental housing in Twin Bridges. The best method to provide sewer and water to the Fairgrounds and the Children's Center is currently being assessed using my funds, a CDGB planning grant and a Madison County contribution to the effort.

Sourcing the river crossing could be a component of a tax increment financing district that includes a walking bridge bringing sewer and water over the river instead of under it. A bridge creates emergency secondary access across the river. I would consider incorporating public access trails at the river crossing to support the effort

I have not seen any reason why such a store could not be open within a year. If there is an interest in holding a weekly coop meeting place this winter, we could make the space available in the Blue Anchor once a week to share in the cost of crossing the hill for basic groceries. It would give us a chance to discuss the coop effort while buying products at Costco or using Butte produce and other local suppliers to deliver to us. We would plan our lists ahead and take advantage of the best pricing possible. Frocella meats has offered local pork, lamb and beef as well as the Amish cheese and butter.

I am truly excited to see the Center coming to life. I hope you find an interest in this effort and invite anyone in the community to participate in this job creating effort to bring a grocery store back to our community. The topic is on the Twin Bridges Town Council agenda November 13 where we will have further information and discussion.

Sincerely,

Leslie Adams
President