

Great Falls Rising Monthly Newsletter

June 2022

May has been a very busy month with graduations, sports tournaments, trips planned by families, AND, on the other side of the coin, there are families all over the country losing children to school shootings. How sad it is that some parents can't celebrate their children's achievements as they progress in life. Something has to be done. We've had enough talk about thoughts and prayers, and now it's time to act. Please let Great Falls Rising know if you have an idea or you know of something that is being done elsewhere that we could replicate here in Great Falls. As the saying goes, "when will it be enough?"

DEDICATION TO AART DOLMAN: Aart passed away recently, which was a great loss to the community. He graciously did book reviews on current political and historical topics before each Great Falls Rising gathering several years ago, and lively discussion was always part of each session. His obituary is below. We will miss him very much!



Dr. Arthur (Aart) Dolman completed his life's work on May 16, 2022. Aart was a husband and a father, an educator and a soldier, a caring friend, and a passionate humanitarian.

Aart was born in Weesp, Netherlands, to Evert and Pietje Dolman, on February 28, 1933. He survived the Nazi occupation of 1941 to 1945, and with the sponsorship of an American officer who liberated his grandfather's farm, immigrated to the United States in 1950. He joined the US army and fought in Korea where he was twice wounded in combat. Following a stint as a drill sergeant at Ft Knox, he transferred into the US Air Force as a security police officer and was assigned to the radar base north of Havre. He met and fell in love with his first wife, Sue Rawlings of Libby, then a student at Northern Montana College. He also fell in love with Montana. He and his young family were then sent to Washington DC, where he served as a member of the Air Force One honor guard, protecting both the president and the vice president on numerous national and overseas trips.

Aart used his GI Bill to get bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Montana in Missoula, then served in the Army Reserve while he earned his doctorate from New York University. He taught at Wittenberg University in Ohio and St Mary's University in Texas before working his way back to Havre in 1969. For the next 30 years he taught as full professor at Northern Montana College, retiring with emeritus distinction. His field was modern European history, and his focus was studying the causes of war and peace. He believed that individual action could change the world for the better, and with his German-born colleague and friend Dr Hans Peterson would take hundreds of northern Montana students to Europe and Asia to show them that peace was possible even between the bitterest of former enemies.

His enthusiasm extended to local politics, especially for the conservation of Montana's precious resources and environment. He was a union supporter and strong advocate for social programs for poor and disadvantaged children, the mentally ill, and native peoples. An avid outdoorsman and riverman, he was president of Missouri River Citizens for many years, active in Citizens for Clean Energy and the Montana Wilderness Association, a lobbyist for education in the state legislature, and had lifelong association with the Nature Conservancy, Humane Society, Sierra Club, and the Democratic Party. He spoke seven languages and travelled the world continuously learning, including martial arts in which he was a decorated black belt, and sharing his deep knowledge with all he met. Over the last few decades, he took great pride and pleasure in a weekly

informal breakfast meeting to discuss current events and issues before the legislature.

Aart is survived by his loving wife of 30 years, Andree Deligdisch of Great Falls; his brother John Dolman; daughters Patricia Hurin and Debora Sudan; son Everett Dolman; six grandchildren; ten great grandchildren; and many, many dear friends.

PRIMARY ELECTION ON JUNE 7th: Same day registration is no longer available in the state of Montana. To verify your voter status, please check 'My Voter Page' and follow the prompts. You may also contact the Cascade County Elections Offices at 406-454-6803. There are many registration drives going on throughout the state, but there is only one Elections Office in each county and all registration forms must be turned into the county elections office in a timely manner. Please make sure that your registration forms are sent directly to Cascade County Elections at PO Box 2305, Great Falls, MT 59403 or you can drop them off in person at the Elections Office located at 325 2nd Ave N Room 100, Great Falls MT.

Ballot Drop Off

325 2nd Ave North

7:00 am to 5:00 pm, Tuesday thru Friday, May 31st to June 3rd.

9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Saturday, June 4th.

7:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday, June 6th.

7:00 am to 8:00 pm, Tuesday, June 7th.

Ballot drop off will also be available at Exhibition Hall at the fairgrounds:

7:00 am to 5:00 pm, Tuesday thru Friday, May 31st to June 3rd.

7:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday, June 6th.

7:00 am to 8:00 pm, Tuesday, June 7th.

We will also have a drive-thru drop box available from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm, June 7th.

Polling place voters on **June 7th** will also be provided with all party ballots, and must choose one to vote. Election judges at the polls will instruct voters to place their voted ballot in a separate secrecy sleeve from their unvoted ballots. The judges will deposit the voted ballot in the ballot box, and the unvoted ballots in a separate container. Because the ballots are placed in secrecy

sleeves, the judges do not know which party ballot the elector voted. Whether you vote absentee or at the polls, there is no record of which party ballot you voted.

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF MONTANA'S CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION: Please join the Constitutional Convention Celebration Committee and others for this special 50th Anniversary Celebration of Montana's 1972 Constitutional Convention and Montana's Constitution itself, which was ratified by the people of Montana in June of 1972. The detailed agenda for all the events of **June 15th and June 16th**, 2022 can be found [here](#).

As a Montanan who has a record of concern for public affairs in our state and nation, you are invited to all public events on the 15th and 16th. You need to go to the link below to fully register for the activities. Attire for the hosted cocktail reception at the Montana Historical Society on Wednesday evening is business-casual to cocktail, but not formal. There will also be a no-host bar.

We look forward to seeing you. In addition to the seven panel discussions and several speeches, of special interest to you might be the "Roll Call" of delegates the morning of the 15th. Nine of the 10 living delegates (out of 100) will be there to answer the roll call as will many relatives from deceased delegate families who will sit in the very seat that their delegate sat and will answer the roll on behalf of the deceased delegate. Brief remarks are allowed at that time.

Please be sure to have all RSVPs in by June 3rd, 2022.

The link for the public/general convention registration including the option to purchase tickets for the boxed lunches on the 15th and 16th can be found [here](#).

JUNE IS LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH: Pride month is upon us and the Great Falls LGBTQ+ Center is excited to announce the return of our annual gala! As a small 501(c3) this event is our most important fundraiser of the year. This year we're featuring a silent auction, local catering, local music, and all things 80s! We'll also be announcing our Advocate of the Year award winner. We've got several other events lined up for folks of all ages. For full details visit us at: <https://www.facebook.com/GreatFallsLGBTQCenter>.

Schedule of Events: **June 11th** - 11:00 am Pride Picnic at Gibson Park. **June 12th** - 7:00 pm Pride Worship at Gibson Park hosted by Central Christian Church. **June 19th** - 4:00 pm Pride Night at Centene Stadium, tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the Center. **June 24th** - 6:00 pm Annual Gala Fundraiser. Join us for Totally Gay! 80's Prom at the Black Eagle Community Center. Tickets can be purchased here: [Great Falls LGBTQ Center Gala - Totally Gay 80's Prom \(ticketstripe.com\)](http://ticketstripe.com). On **June 25th** - 8:00 pm Pride Patio Party at the Kellergeist featuring music by DJ Nosight. No cover!

STAGECOACH MARY HIGHWAY CLEANUP ON JUNETEENTH: We will be picking up trash along the section of highway Great Falls Rising adopted in memory of Stagecoach Mary, two miles of I-15 just north of Cascade. We have wagons and grabbers so the job is pretty easy. We will meet on **June 19th** at 1:00 pm at Denny's/Pilot Station. Call Shannon at (406) 750-1390 to RSVP. Bring gloves, sturdy shoes and water.

Have a great June. Get out and enjoy our public lands!