

Great Falls Rising

Monthly Newsletter

December 2022

Great Falls Rising hopes you had an opportunity to join family and friends for Thanksgiving to celebrate all that we have to be thankful for. And, as we give thanks, let's remember those who are less fortunate, especially our fellow community members who have scarcity of food, shelter and opportunities to enjoy the blessings of life in Great Falls and Montana.

PARIS GIBSON SQUARE: The Art of Christmas: Holiday Open House at the Paris Gibson Square Museum on Friday, **December 2nd** from 10 am to 5 pm & Saturday, **December 3rd** from 10 am to 3 pm. Shop the gift shop, have lunch in the cafe, holiday art activities, docent tours, face painting, and craft market, photos with Santa, the Grinch, and Santa's Elves. Free to the public. 1400 1st Ave North.

CMR HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB: Put on your calendars for December, "Beauty and the Beast" at CMR High School on Friday, **December 2nd** at 7:30 pm and a matinee performance on Saturday, **December 3rd** at 2 pm. The following week, on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday (**December 7th, 8th, 9th**), performances will be at 7:30 pm. A matinee performance will be held on Saturday, **December 10th** at 2 pm. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

FIRST PEOPLES BUFFALO JUMP STATE PARK: Celebrate the holidays at everyone's favorite buffalo jump by helping First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park trim their tree on Saturday, **December 3rd** from 1 pm to 3 pm. Enjoy hot chocolate and cookies in the visitor center while making your own paper ornaments, decorating the tree, and sharing some holiday cheer. Santa will be visiting the park from 2 pm to 3 pm to hand out little gifts and Ranger Mert will also share some holiday songs.

During this program and both Saturday and Sunday all items in the gift shop will be 25% off. The park's gift shop is open during regular winter hours Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm and Sunday from 12 noon to 4 pm.

The park is 3.5 miles north of Ulm, just off Interstate 15 at Exit 270. For directions or more information about First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park visit: <http://stateparks.mt.gov/first-peoples-buffalo-jump>.

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY: Feel the spirit embodied in the music and song of the season on Sunday, **December 4th** at 3 pm at the Mansfield Center for Performing Arts. Many holiday favorites are featured. Why You Shouldn't Miss It: Polar Express, "Believe" from this soundtrack received a Best Song Oscar nomination. Old Christmas Music, Seasonal works from the 16th - 20th centuries. Gloria, an "exalted, devotional and jubilant" choral work. Christmas Overture, a masterful instrumental arrangement of well-known favorites. A Musicological Journey - Twelve Days of Christmas, a delightful Christmas concert gem. Sing the Carols of Christmas...your chance to sing with us! See more information and ticket info at: [CHRISTMAS | Facebook](#).

HELP WANTED: Pass it on...GFPS is looking to hire teacher aides, food service workers, Para educators, substitutes and more. Current openings are always found here: <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/Page/1569>. Big Sky Bus Lines needs bus drivers as well. You can contact them at 454-1283 for more information.

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SENIORS: Join the Rotary Club for a Christmas Cards for Seniors Signing Activity at the KellerGeist Pub Theater, 300 1st Ave South, on Tuesday, **December 6th** at 6 pm. They will be signing Christmas cards to be hand delivered to local senior living facilities to help share the spirit of the holidays and send our holiday wishes for a bright holiday season! Christmas cards will be provided. Feel free to bring your favorite pens or markers or coloring pages for kids to color. This is a family friendly event open to members and guests. Bring your holiday cheer and look forward to creating holiday messages. Join the Facebook event here: [Christmas Cards for Seniors Signing Activity | Facebook](#).

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS: Jessica Goosen, Business teacher at CMR High School, Tess Jacobs, Art Teacher at CMR High and Eric Chaon, History teacher at GFHS have all been named as Montana State Teachers of the Year in their respective disciplines. In addition, the School Administrators of Montana, SAM, has named Tamera Faulkner as the Montana Associate Principal of the Year for 2022. We are fortunate to have these award-winning educators here in the Great Falls Public Schools.

INDEPENDENCE ROCK COALITION: Join the launch of the Independence Rock Coalition by Lela Graham and Matthew Pipinich on Friday, **December 9th** at 6 pm, at Luna Coffee Bar, 9 5th Street North. They aim to elevate the voice of cities and towns in the Mountain West by advancing inclusive, civil discourse on issues of faith, recovery and social justice. They do so by fostering an atmosphere free from bias and partisanship. At the Independence Rock Coalition, they believe in building bridges, not barriers. All are welcome. IRC will bring local and regional voices to the public stage alongside academics, writers, artists, and public figures from outside the region. The nonprofit seeks to foster dialogue from a broad spectrum of political, philosophical, and unconventional voices on issues ranging from violence and poverty to those of faith and meaning. They will be going live on their Facebook page during the event: [Independence Rock Coalition Launch Party | Facebook](#).

GREAT FALLS HIGH SCHOOL VIDEO PRODUCTIONS CLASS: Under the direction of teacher, Kelly Wiles, the students have produced another outstanding video for a public service announcement for the Great Falls Public Library Foundation's Book A Thon 2022. It is being played on KRTV and KFBB. You can also see the video here: [Nancy & Charlie Pay it Forward - YouTube](#).

LEGISLATIVE TOWN HALL SESSION: An informative online town hall on the upcoming Legislative session hosted by Big Sky 55+ with special guests Senator Shannon O'Brien and Montana Federation of Public Employees President, Amanda Curtis. Learn more about the event on Monday, **December 12th** at 6 pm here: [Legislative Session Town Hall | Facebook](#).

Additional Events:



A promotional poster for the 2022 Christmas Stroll Pop-Up Shop. The background is blue with a string of colorful Christmas lights (red, orange, yellow, green, blue) framing the text. At the top, there are four logos: a blue bison head with 'BISON' written on its side, the Charles M. Russell High School seal, the PG&E logo, and the Great Falls Public Schools (GFPS) seal. The main title '2022 Christmas Stroll Pop-Up Shop' is in large, bold, red and green letters. Below it, the location is listed as 'WHERE: CELTIC COWBOY 'RED ROOM' BACK OF HOMETANA STORE' in blue. The date and time are 'WHEN: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, 5PM TO 9PM' in orange. The purpose is 'WHAT: SUPPORT LOCAL STUDENTS AND VIEW PART OF WHAT THEIR CLUBS ARE DOING' in red. At the bottom, there is a Facebook icon followed by 'Great Falls Public Schools' and the website 'https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/'.

2022 Christmas Stroll Pop-Up Shop
WHERE: CELTIC COWBOY 'RED ROOM'
BACK OF HOMETANA STORE
WHEN: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, 5PM TO 9PM
WHAT: SUPPORT LOCAL STUDENTS AND VIEW PART OF WHAT
THEIR CLUBS ARE DOING

 Great Falls Public Schools <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/>

Grinch Pictures

Check out YWCA -
Great Falls
facebook page to
sign up for mini
photo sessions in
December!

Whoville
at
Rendezvous 410
410 Central Ave.
Great Falls



Christmas
Stroll
December 2nd
5-9 pm

**Have
yourself a
very Merry
Grinchmas!**

All donations benefit the children at YWCA Mercy Home for
Christmas. NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED, FCFS \$20+ donation

*Great Falls Rising wishes everyone a happy holiday season. May we look
forward to steps toward peace in our world and joy in our hearts.*