

Great Falls Rising Monthly Newsletter February 2024

February is the traditional month for celebrating love and ground hogs - love for the connection we humans have for one another and ground hogs for the hope of spring. In January, Great Falls Rising held a gathering with almost 100 people present called "Hate and Extremism in Great Falls and Montana." We handed out posters to put in windows saying "Hate has No Home Here." Our hope is that February can hold a bit more love than what we witnessed in January. Our poster now says "Love Has a Home Here." Please be sure to pick up your window flyer at the YWCA and the Great Falls Public Library.

There are several awareness months celebrated in February — though the ones that often get the most attention are Black History Month, Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, and American Heart Month. Random Act of Kindness Day is **February 17th**, and the World Day of Social Justice is **February 20th**. With 2024 being a leap year, we get an extra day this month.

What's coming up?

Tuesday, February 6th - City Commission Work Session **5:30 pm**, agenda [here](#); City Commission Meeting **7:00 pm**, agenda [here](#).

Monday, February 12th – Great Falls Public Schools Board of Trustees Meeting, **5:30 pm**. Agenda will be posted here when the date nears: [Agendas & Minutes / Agendas & Meetings \(gfps.k12.mt.us\)](#).

Tuesday, February 13th – Cascade County Commission Meeting, **9:30 am**. Agenda can be found here as the date nears: [Agenda Center • Cascade County, MT • CivicEngage \(cascadecountymt.gov\)](#).

Tuesday, February 20th – City Commission Work Session **5:30 pm**, agenda [here](#); City Commission Meeting **7:00 pm**, agenda [here](#).

Monday, February 26th – Great Falls Public Schools Board of Trustees Meeting, **5:30 pm**. Agenda will be posted here when the date nears: [Agendas & Minutes / Agendas & Meetings \(gfps.k12.mt.us\)](#).

Tuesday, February 27th – Cascade County Commission Meeting, **9:30 am**. Agenda can be found here as the date nears: [Agenda Center • Cascade County, MT • CivicEngage \(cascadecountymt.gov\)](#).

DOROTHY BRADLEY AUTHOR TALK: Dorothy Bradley joins us on Friday, **February 2nd at 5:00 pm**, at the Great Falls Public Library in the Cordingley Room to talk about her new book, "In Celebration" which she says covers three fundamental things in life, "What you do, where you do it, and who you do it with." At the age of 23, Dorothy won a seat in the Montana House of Representatives where she served as the only woman in 1971. Serving eight terms she was known for her leadership on difficult issues she championed and her consensus-building approach. Dorothy was the Democratic nominee for Montana governor in 1992.

VIOLENCE IS NOT TRADITIONAL: Native American support group for domestic violence victims/survivors holds gatherings every other Tuesday from **6:00 pm to 7:30 pm** at 615 Central Ave West. February gatherings are on **February 6th and 20th**. Please contact k.schindelc@lstribe.org or Call (406) 315-2400 ext. 132.

BLACK HERITAGE MONTH: Thursday, **February 8th, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**. Join us at the Great Falls Public Library, Cordingley Room, as we celebrate Black Heritage Evening and Black Heritage Month. Our keynote speaker is Kate Hampton, Community Preservation Coordinator with the Montana Historical Society. She will speak about her documentary, "Hidden Stories: Montana's Black Past." An offering of soul food will be served, and the Alexander Temple

Saints Dancers, the Community Gospel Choir and other local speakers will join the program, also. This is an event co-hosted by the Alma Smith Jacobs Foundation.

GFHS DRAMA CLUB: Great Falls Drama Club proudly presents 'The Elephant Calf' by Bertold Brecht, **February 8th through 10th** at GFHS. Thursday and Friday performances are at **7:30 pm** and Saturday at **2:00 pm**. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$8 for adults.

WINTER SPEAKER SERIES: Alyssa Roggow "The Art of Storytelling" on Thursday, **February 15th, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm**. Spend an evening at the Great Falls Public Library in the Cordingley Room with art, live music and poetry! In this multi-sensory, inquiry-based event, folks will embark on a guided exploration of narrative across different art forms and experience how elements of storytelling can help us understand what we see and hear led by the talented Alyssa Roggow. Guests will gain tools to engage with artworks of all types. Both seasoned lovers of the arts and curious beginners are welcome!

GFPS SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH: The District School Board has set aside **February 14th and 15th** for the hiring process of two Superintendent candidates: Executive Director of Student Achievement for Great Falls Public Schools, **Heather Hoyer**, and Superintendent of Froid Public Schools, **Steven Mayhue**. The Board will be making a final decision at a special Board Meeting on **February 20th at 5:30 pm** in the Aspen Room at the District Office Building. Leading up to that decision, the Board will be interviewing the candidates starting at **5:00 pm** on Thursday, **February 15th**. Prior to the Board interviews, time has been allowed for a variety of other groups to interview the candidates as well. Attend the Meet & Greet with the Candidates at the Paris Gibson Education Center cafeteria on **February 14th from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm**.

BOOKS AND BREWS: Silent Book Club, brought to you by the great Falls Public Library, hosted at Luna Coffee Bar, 9 5th St. North. **February 17th** from **10:00 am to noon**. Start with a chat with others about the book you brought, then read while you sip your beverage. Short chat at the end. Held every third Saturday.

Other things happening in our area...

Thursday, February 1

University of Providence Hockey at Great Falls Ice Plex

Wine Tasting at The Holiday Inn Great Falls-Convention Center

Friday, February 2

Americans at Great Falls Ice Plex

Chefs, Champagne, & Art at The Newberry

50 Watt Sun at The Do Bar

Joel Corda at The Sip 'n Dip

Tom Catmull at Celtic Cowboy

"In Celebration" Author Talk with Dorothy Bradley at The Great Falls Public Library

Stand-Up Comedy at Backroads Bar & Grill

Shakedown at Whiskey Ridge

Family Bingo Night at Paris Gibson Education Center

Saturday, February 3

University of Providence Men's Basketball at McLaughlin Center

University of Providence Women's Basketball at McLaughlin Center

50 Watt Sun at The Do Bar

Joel Corda at The Sip 'n Dip

ShakeDown at Whiskey Ridge

Family Film - Happy Feet at The Newberry

Great Falls Dance Company at The Newberry

Walleyes Unlimited Banquet at Montana ExpoPark

Winter Trail Days at Silver Crest Winter Trails

Wednesday, February 7

Bringing the U to You Lecture Series at Great Falls College MSU

Thursday, February 8

University of Providence Men's Basketball at McLaughlin Center

Friday, February 9

Symphony Preview at Great Falls College MSU

University of Providence Women's Wrestling at McLaughlin Center

Murder Mystery Masquerade Ball at Columbus Center Chapel

Joel Corda at The Sip 'n Dip

We Ski Cousins at Celtic Cowboy

Backcountry Film Festival at Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center

Artist Reception & Talk Jesse DesRosier at The Great Falls Public Library

Saturday, February 10

Champagne Sunday at Belt Performing Arts Center

Love Letters at The Mansfield Theater

Jackpot Party Ying Yang Twins, Paul Wall & Petey Pablo at The Newberry

Free Admission at The C.M. Russell Museum

Murder Mystery Masquerade Ball at Columbus Center Chapel

Chocolat Noir 2024 at Rendezvous at Four Ten

Joel Corda at The Sip 'n Dip

Wednesday, February 14 (Valentine's Day)

Americans at Great Falls Ice Plex

Thursday, February 15

Alyssa Roggow The Art of Storytelling at The Great Falls Public Library

Montana Christian Athletes Association State Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

Friday, February 16

Architecture + Music at The Newberry

Americans at Great Falls Ice Plex

Montana Christian Athletes Association State Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

F*Bomb at Whiskey Ridge

Joel Corda at The Sip 'n Dip

Lucky Valentines at Celtic Cowboy

Saturday, February 17

University of Providence Men's Basketball at McLaughlin Center

University of Providence Women's Basketball at McLaughlin Center

Banked Slalom at Showdown

Winter River Fest at The Newberry

Montana Christian Athletes Association State Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

Joel Corda at The Sip 'n Dip

Sunday, February 18

Architecture + Music at First Congregational Church

Banked Slalom at Showdown

Tuesday, February 20

Divas3 at The Mansfield Theater

Wednesday, February 21

Bringing the U to You Lecture Series at Great Falls College MSU

Northern C Divisional Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

Thursday, February 22

Eli Young Band at The Newberry

University of Providence Men's Basketball at McLaughlin Center

University of Providence Women's Basketball at McLaughlin Center

Northern C Divisional Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

Friday, February 23

Tardi Gras 2024 at The Newberry

Joel Corda at The Sip 'n Dip

Northern C Divisional Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

"Unsettled Lands" Exhibition Reception and artist talk at The Paris Gibson Museum of Art

Erik Ray at The Celtic Cowboy

Saturday, February 24

University of Providence Men's Basketball at McLaughlin Center

University of Providence Women's Basketball at McLaughlin Center

2024 Wine & Food Festival at The Heritage Inn

Joel Corda at The Sip 'n Dip

United We Dance at The Newberry

North Country Stock Horse Association at 406 Arena

Northern C Divisional Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

Monday, February 26

Grace Potter at The Newberry

Thursday, February 29

Frontier Conference Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

"56 Counties: A Montana Journey" Author Russell Rowland at The Great Falls Public Library

Friday, March 1

Black Tie & Blue Jeans at The Newberry

Americans at Great Falls Ice Plex

Frontier Conference Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

Saturday, March 2

Frontier Conference Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

Sunday, March 3

The Elovaters at The Newberry

Wednesday, March 6

Class C State Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

Thursday, March 7

Class C State Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

Friday, March 8

Rebecca Folsom at Belt Performing Arts Center

50 Watt Sun at The Do Bar

Class C State Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

Red Not Chili Peppers at The Newberry

Saturday, March 9

50 Watt Sun at The Do Bar

Free Admission at The C.M. Russell Museum

Class C State Basketball Tournament at Montana ExpoPark

Tuesday, March 12

Menopause The Musical 2 at The Mansfield Theater