

# *Great Falls Rising Monthly Newsletter July 2024*

Before we left June, we were happy to support Juneteenth and Pride month. Despite the refusal by our mayor to issue a proclamation for Pride month, there were several celebrations in Great Falls that were all well attended. As Lady Gaga stated, “Do not allow people to dim your shine because they are blinded. Tell them to put on some sunglasses, because we were born this way.”

## **What’s coming up?**

**Tuesday, July 2nd** - City Commission Work Session **5:30 pm**, agenda **here**; City Commission Meeting **7:00 pm**, agenda **here**.

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

**Monday, July 15th** – 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, July 16th** - City Commission Work Session **5:30 pm**, agenda **here**; City Commission Meeting **7:00 pm**, agenda **here**.

**Tuesday, July 23rd** – Cascade County Commission Meeting, **9:30 am**. Agenda can be found here as the date nears: [Agenda Center • Cascade County, MT • CivicEngage \(cascadecountymt.gov\)](#).

**4TH OF JULY COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS:** The 4th of July holiday is fast approaching! There are several events taking place that the whole family can enjoy, including the annual 4th of July Parade, Eagle Falls Golf Course Community Party, a free downtown concert by Rodney Atkins, and the community fireworks display.

Don't miss the 4th of July Parade! On Thursday, **July 4th**, grab your lawn chair and find your favorite viewing spot along the parade route. The parade begins at **11:00 am** sharp, and the route runs from 1st Avenue South to 8th Street, north to Central Avenue, and then heads west to Park Drive and disbands in Margaret Park (north of the Civic Center). There are several [parking facilities](#) available within walking distance of the parade. For more information about the parade, contact Lola Galloway at (406) 750-4721.

The 4th of July Hootenanny, with live music, will begin immediately after the parade on Central Avenue 5th Street. For details, visit [Facebook](#).

Cool off after the parade by sliding down the Power Tower Plunge, climbing the Kersplash Rock Wall, or hitting the riptide slide and chillin' in the Lazy River at the Electric City Water Park. There is fun for the entire family at the water park. The Electric City Water Park will be open from **12:00 pm** until **6:00 pm**.

Later in the evening, take the whole family to the People's Park & Recreation Foundation community fireworks display. The best viewing of the community fireworks display will be at Elk's-Riverside Park (River Drive North between Central & 6th Street) and will begin at around **10:15 pm** (when it gets dark) from West Bank Park. West Bank Park will be closed all day for the pyrotechnics to set up the display. Parking is available at Gibson Park. Other firework viewing options include Eagle Falls Golf Course and Centene Stadium. The Great Falls Voyagers are also in town, and the game begins at **7:00 pm** with fireworks to follow.

The golf course is hosting a free Community Celebration starting at **6:00 pm** with live music, games for kids, and food and drink specials in the Taphouse. For those who want to play golf, sign up for the nine-hole, two-person scramble beginning at **5:00 pm**. For more information, call Eagle Falls at (406) 761-1078.

As a reminder, leave your fireworks at home. As in previous years, fireworks may not be discharged in any city park or on any public sidewalk, Street, public right-of-way, public easement, or alley. They should only be discharged on private

property such as the sidewalk leading to a residence or driveway. If your family plans on discharging fireworks within the City limits this year, make sure you are in the know about the City's Fireworks Ordinance and understand the [basic rules and regulations pertaining to fireworks](#). The discharging of fireworks within the City limits can only take place on **July 2nd, 3rd, and 4th** from **8:00 am to midnight**. Have a Happy and Safe 4th of July.

**GREAT FALLS FARMERS MARKET:** The Great Falls Farmers' Market is a non-profit organization with the mission of "Growing Commerce Through Community." The market is open every **Saturday** from **8:30 am to 1:00 pm** from the first Saturday of June through the last Saturday of September. With over a hundred vendors every week, there is something for everyone.

We are also excited to introduce the new Thursday Night Market at Scheels Aim High Big Sky Aquatic and Recreation Center in Great Falls. Starting **July 11th** through **August 29th**, enjoy locally grown produce, handmade crafts, and more from **6:00 pm to 8:30 pm** every **Thursday night**. For more information and updates, follow their Facebook page: [Facebook](#).

**STREET DANCE:** On Sunday, **July 7th**, at **3:00 pm**, the KellerGeist Pub Theater will be having a street dance with Igor and the Red Elvises. See the Facebook event here: [Kellergeist street dance | Facebook](#).

**MUSIC IN THE LIBRARY PARK:** Held on **Tuesday, July 9th, 16th, 23rd** from **7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**, music in park behind the Great Falls Public Library. Bring a chair or a blanket and enjoy **FREE** musical performances. Select food vendors will be on site.

**THE MUSIC MAN:** Great Falls Theater Company presents Meridith Willson's 'The Music Man.' Dates: **July 11th, 12th, & 13th** | July **18th, 19th, & 20th**; Time: **7:30 pm**. Venue: Great Falls High School Davidson Family Auditorium. Get tickets here: [Great Falls Theatre Company | The Music Man](#).

**GREAT FALLS MUNICIPAL BAND:** Great Falls Municipal Band, in their 131st year, performs every **Wednesday** at **7:00 pm** in Gibson Park. Concerts begin in late June and run through mid-August each year. Entertaining for all ages, concerts are free to the public and sponsored by Park and Recreation Department and free-will donations. Limited bleacher seating is available, or bring your own chair or blanket. Concessions and restrooms are available. For additional information contact Phil Burton, Band President at (406) 899-9982. Facebook page here: [Facebook](#).

**TRIVIA IN GIANT SPRINGS PARK:** Held on **Tuesdays** in July. Trivia nights will resume in August and September with a time change according to sunset. Bring your thinking cap, and a team of seven or less to enjoy a weekly night of competitive, random category, family-friendly Trivia presented by park staff. The events will be set up in the grassy area in front of the Giant Springs. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, food and drink to comfortably enjoy 4 rounds of trivia presented with 10 questions each. Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 scoring teams. Registration is not required for this event. Facebook event for **July 9th**: [Trivia in the Park! \(July\) | Facebook](#).

**TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN (TDP) UPDATE:** Consultant Transportation Management & Design, Inc. (TMD) has developed the Draft Plan Overview and Recommendations. We would like to invite you to review the TDP plan progress and take our survey. A QR code and link to the Story Map and survey are included in the attachment and are available on our website, [www.gftransit.com](http://www.gftransit.com).

Please share this information. The feedback we receive will ensure the TDP will focus on recommendation that best serve the needs of the community. Paper surveys are available. If you would like more information, would like to make

comments about the Transit Development plan, or would like copies of the paper survey please contact us by phone (406) 727-0382, or by email, [admin@gftransit.com](mailto:admin@gftransit.com).

**MONTANA STATE FAIR:** Runs from **July 26th** to **August 3rd**. Check the Cascade County calendar for special events during the fair here: [Calendar • Montana ExpoPark \(cascadecountymt.gov\)](#).

*Coming up in August...*

**GREAT FALLS THEATER COMPANY (GFTC) SUMMER CAMP:** GFTC first summer camp for kids ages 10 - 14. Held **August 5th** through **August 8th**, at the Ursuline Center. Kids will take classes in acting, voice, movement, art and more! Registration is limited to 30 kids. After you submit your registration and payment for your child, GFTC will email you an enrollment form with more information. Register here: [2024 GFTC Summer Camp - Great Falls Theatre Company \(square.site\)](#).

**VOLUNTEER GREAT FALLS:** Volunteer Great Falls is a great resource to find volunteer opportunities from local organizations. No ads, no opportunities that aren't local, and fully searchable. Check out [United Way of Cascade County \(galaxydigital.com\)](#) for opportunities.