

# *Great Falls Rising Monthly Newsletter*

## *November 2024*

So, what is special about November? Well, there's Election Day on November 5th, and we hope you are all voting for the candidates who will maintain our Democracy and Constitution. See more info below. It's also a time when we thank our Veterans for their role in preserving our Democracy and Constitution. Also more info below. In a few days we'll be waking up to more daylight when we set back our clocks early morning November 3. Did you know that November is Native American Indian Heritage Month? And it's the month when we give thanks for all the blessings we enjoy for the privilege of being Montanans and Americans.

### **What's coming up?**

**Wednesday, November 6th** - City Commission Work Session **5:30 pm**, agenda [here](#); City Commission Meeting **7:00 pm**, agenda [here](#). (Special day due to federal election).

**Monday, November 11th** – 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, November 12th** – 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, November 19th** - City Commission Work Session **5:30 pm**, agenda [here](#); City Commission Meeting **7:00 pm**, agenda [here](#).

**Monday, November 25th** – 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, November 26th** – Cascade County Commission Meeting, **9:30 am**. Agenda can be found here as the date nears: [Agenda Center • Cascade County, MT • CivicEngage \(cascadecountymt.gov\)](#).

## **IMPORTANT VOTING DEADLINES**

- **November 4th** - Noon deadline for election administrator to receive applications for absentee ballot.
- **November 4th** - Early preparation and count of absentee ballots will take place from 8:30 am - 5:30 pm at Exhibition Hall, Montana Expo Park.
- **November 5th** - 7:00 am Polls Open. 8:00 pm Polls Close

The Election Office will be relocated to Exhibition Hall at Montana Expo Park on Election Day. All voters wishing to register on Election Day must do so at Exhibition Hall. The drop box at the County Annex will be available in the lobby area from 7:00 am - 8:00 pm. Check the Montana Secretary of State's [Voter Registration Page](#) to determine ballot status.

**COLD WEATHER SERVICES FOR THE UNHOUSED:** Great Falls Public Library, **Thursday, November 7th, 6:30 pm**. Cold Weather Services will be starting soon as the temperatures drop, and the seasons change. The Great Falls Public Library is partnering with the United Way of Cascade County, The Electric, and the Great Falls Continuum of Care to bring a community opportunity to you for open discussion on what is provided for the unhoused during the colder weather. This program will bring in community organizations for a panel discussion led by Jenn Rowell of the Electric and Sarah Cawley of the Library. Some panelists will include representatives from The Great Falls Rescue Mission, Alliance for Youth, the Great Falls Public Library, Housed Great Falls, and St. Vincent de Paul's Angel Room.

All community members are encouraged to join this discussion to learn more about services available as winter approaches. An opportunity for community questions will be available at this program as well. Facebook event [here](#).

**PLAINS INDIAN SIGN LANGUAGE:** Dr. Real Bird will explore the intertribal movement of traditional language revitalization and demonstrate how language acquisition is enhanced through the use of traditional Plains Indian Sign Language. Once the primary communication medium between indigenous nations and the western movement, this approach integrates language learning with movement, creating an effective, action-based method for indigenous learners. Through this presentation, you'll gain a deeper understanding of indigenous culture and heritage, along with techniques for bridging knowledge between mainstream and Native communities in Montana, including the Apsaalooke (Crow). **Thursday, November 7th, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.** Don't miss this opportunity to learn from a master teacher! This event is **FREE** and open to the public thanks to a grant provided by Humanities Montana.

**GUYS AND DOLLS:** **Thursday, November 7th**, Guys and Dolls at Great Falls High School, also runs **November 8th, 9th, 14th, 15th and 16th.**

**CLICK AND CAPTURE: PHOTOGRAPHY FUNDAMENTALS:** Saturdays, through **November 9th** from **10:00 am to 12:00 pm**, at the CM Russell Museum for new photographers with no professional experience. Call museum for more information.

**SYMPHONY PREVIEW:** Learn more about the Saturday night Mozart concert with music director, Grant Harville. **Friday, November 8th, 12:00 pm** at GFC-MSU Room B-101.

**HARVEST HOWL:** The event features a casual, fun-filled atmosphere and includes dinner, silent auction, local craft beers, and musical acts. All proceeds go to the improvement, maintenance, and operation of Camp Rotary. Montana Expo Park, **Friday, November 8th, 5:30 pm to 11:00 pm.** 'Asleep at the Wheel' and Dale Watson are performing at the event. Learn more at <https://harvesthowl.com/>.

**HOOK & LADDER DAYS OF THE GREAT FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT:** The History Museum, 422 2nd St. South, **Saturday, November 9th, 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm.** Learn about the history of the Great Falls Fire Department at the History Museum's Second Saturday series. Ashleigh McCann, the Museum's collections curator will be presenting images and stories from the earliest days of the Fire Department.

**FREE ADMISSION AT THE CM RUSSELL MUSEUM:** Join us at the museum at 400 13th St. North, on the second Saturday of the month through the winter and enjoy FREE ADMISSION. It's the perfect way to spend the afternoon on a cold day. **Saturday, November 9th, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.** Facebook event [here](#).

**VETERANS DAY:** **Monday, November 11th at 11:00 am,** Montana Veterans Memorial, 1009 25th St. North. This year, the 19th Annual Veterans Day Ceremony celebrates the service of all women veterans. Come show your appreciation for our veterans for keeping our country free from autocracy.

**CASCADE QUARTET:** The public is invited to a special concert by the Cascade Quartet at the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, 600 3rd Ave. North. **Monday, November 11th at 7:00 pm.** Admission is free.

**ARMCHAIR TRAVELER:** We are flying off to Poland on **Thursday, November 14th at 7:00 pm** in the Cordingley Room of the Great Falls Public Library.

Retired Tribune editor Tom Kotynski and wife Katie Kotynski, retired teacher, will take you on a tour of Poland from the highs of the Tatra Mountains to the lows of Auschwitz and everything in between. The Kotynskis will discuss history, political climate, cathedrals and hiking as well as pierogi and gofry.

**YOUTH CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT:** Concert at Alliance for Youth, 3220 11th Ave, South, on **Friday, November 15th at 7:00 pm**. Admission is **FREE**.

**EMPTY BOWLS:** This heartwarming fundraiser brings together community members to support those in need while enjoying a simple meal of soup and bread. Attendees will choose a handcrafted bowl made by local artisans to take home as a reminder of the empty bowls in our community. Tickets are \$35. University of Providence, 1301 20th St South, **Saturday, Nov. 16th, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm**. Facebook event [here](#).

**YOUTH ORCHESTRA:** Fall Colors, **Sunday, November 17th at 3:00 pm**, Mansfield Theater.

**NATIONAL HIKING DAY:** Guided hike at First Peoples Buffalo Jump, **Sunday, November 17th, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**.

**CASCADE QUARTET:** Cascade Quartet Chamber Music Series presents "Progressions" at the Elks Lodge, **Friday, November 22nd at 7:00 pm**; also **Sunday, November 24th at 2:00 pm** at First Congregational United Church of Christ.

**NUTCRACKER:** Magical Christmas Ballet; Mansfield Theater, **Friday, November 22nd at 7:00 pm.**

**HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS CRAFT SHOW:** 38th Annual show, **November 23rd and 24th**, Four Seasons Arena, Montana Expo Park.

**BURN THE BIRD FUN RUN AND WALK:** **Thursday, November 28th**, Thanksgiving Day, Gibson Park.

**PARADE OF LIGHTS:** Join us in Downtown Great Falls as we light up the holiday season and the Downtown Christmas Tree at the 30th Annual Parade of Lights on **Saturday, November 30th at 6:00 pm.** This year's theme is "Holiday Luau", so put on your leis and decorate those palm trees! To volunteer, click **here**. Contact Harley at [marketing@downtowngreatfalls.net](mailto:marketing@downtowngreatfalls.net) to register your float & for more information. Float entries are due **NO LATER than Friday, November 22nd.**

**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 \(galaxydigital.com\)](http://UnitedWayofCascadeCounty(galaxydigital.com)) for opportunities.