

Great Falls Rising Monthly Newsletter

March 2025

With the weather in fluctuation mode, it's hard to know if March will be "lion or lamb." The important thing is that we get outside and enjoy the increasing daylight and snow available to us at this time of year. So, what is special about March? Well, it typically marks the beginning of spring in the Northern Hemisphere, bringing warmer weather and blooming flowers and is associated with holidays like St. Patrick's Day, International Women's Day and the observance of Women History Month. It is also the month of events such as Daylight Saving Time and the Vernal Equinox. How about Fat Tuesday or National Pancake Day which will be over by the time you receive this message. And, Mardi Gras marks the beginning of Lent for Christians.

What's coming up?

Monday, March 10th – Great Falls Public Schools Board of Trustees Meeting, **5:30 pm**. Agenda will be posted here: : [Agendas and Minutes \(GFPS\)](#).

Tuesday, March 11th – 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, March 18th – City Commission Work Session **5:30 pm**, agenda [here](#); City Commission Meeting **7:00 pm**, agenda [here](#).

Monday, March 24th – Great Falls Public Schools Board of Trustees Meeting, **5:30 pm**. Agenda will be posted here when the date nears: [Agendas and Minutes \(GFPS\)](#).

Tuesday, March 25th – Cascade County Commission Meeting, **9:30 am**. Agenda can be found here as the date nears: [Agenda Center • Cascade County, MT • CivicEngage \(cascadecountymt.gov\)](https://www.cascadecountymt.gov/agenda-center).

So, what else is new?

Tuesday, March 11th at 6:30 pm at the Great Falls Public Library. Leigh Larson presents Fort Shaw Indian Boarding School basketball team.

Friday, March 14th at 7:00 pm Cascade String Quartet performs at the Newberry; also **Sunday, March 16th at 2:00 pm** at the First Congregational Church

Saturday, March 15th at 5:30 pm at Mansfield Convention Center, Cowboy Cabaret

Saturday, March 15th at 7:30 pm Moonlight Ski at Silver Crest Trails in the Little Belts

Tuesday, March 18th at 6:30 pm at Great Falls Public Library, The American Prairie Educational Lecture; mission and protection.

Wednesday, March 19th at 6:00 pm in The DarkHorse Hall at the Celtic Cowboy. Great Falls Rising presents: Is there a future of growth in Great Falls? Growth Policy explained by city staff experts. Q&A.

Thursday, March 20th at 6:00 pm at Great Falls Public Library; The Wordmeister Challenge.

Monday, March 24th at 5:00 pm at Great Falls. Public Library, Leigh Larson presents History of American Religious Pluralism and Women's Rights.

Thursday, March 27th at 6:00 pm at Great Falls Public Library. Island Range Chapter of Wild Montana presents Jordan Lefler, Montana Adventure Lifestyle Photographer.

Saturday, March 29th at 4:00 pm for demos; **6:00 pm** for dinner; Night Out for Science at GF College MSU. Reservations necessary.

FEISTY WOMEN WEEK: “Visit Great Falls” is celebrating the feistiness of women and what better place to do it than in Great Falls, Montana. **March 3rd** through **March 9th** is officially Feisty Women Week where they have a variety of events celebrating tenacity and determination that culminates with the premiere of the documentary, Feisty Women 1.0, which features five of Montana’s own: Nancy Russell, Alma Jacobs, Mary Fields, Annie Busby, Norma Ashby Smith and the opening of the Feisty Women 1.0 Exhibit at The History Museum. VIP Tickets get you a commemorative shirt, designed by Nadine Josephine, a feisty woman in her own right, that honors Feisty Women and access to every event. To see all events, [click here](#). Some of the events are free, and some are only available to VIP passholders (with limited availability). [Click here](#) to purchase a VIP Pass.

REALITY FAIR: Volunteers needed for The Reality Fair, a special in-school event designed to give students a look at the actual expenses of life in contrast to their future incomes to highlight the importance of education, is coming back to Great Falls on **March 11th** to accommodate students from seven regional schools! Volunteers are needed to help with general tasks throughout the event from 8:15 to 10:30 a.m. at the Paris Gibson Education Center. Volunteers will help direct students and work through budgets as they move through stations. If you have any financial education teaching or coaching experience, please note that when responding. For more information, please contact Jessica at jbriggs@uwccmt.org or 727-3400 (press 5).

ST. PATRICK’S DAY PARADE: Held on **Saturday, March 15th, 1:00 pm**, Civic Center and Central Ave./First Ave South. Sponsored by the Great Falls Division, Ancient Order of Hibernians. You can get the entry form [here](#).

VETERANS COFFEE SOCIAL: Monthly get together with other veterans in the community. Learn about various services available for veterans and what is going on in our community. Guest speakers every month. Held the third Tuesday from **8:30 to 9:30 am** at the Great Falls Senior Center, second floor. This month it will be on **March 18th**. Veterans, caregivers, family, members of the public interested in veteran issues are invited to attend. Have a cup of coffee or tea and a treat while visiting with other veterans. Sponsored by Black Eagle VFW Post 4669 and American Legion Post 3. **FREE**.

SPIRIT FAIR: Event by Art Up Montana and Destination Downtown Great Falls, 525 Central Ave., Ste. M5. **Saturday, March 22nd**, from **10:00 am to 6:00 pm**. Step into the Mystical and Marvelous: A Day at the Spirit Fair. Looking for a unique and enriching experience that nourishes both body and soul? The Spirit Fair, a vibrant tapestry of the mystical and the everyday, is an event you won't want to miss. Packed with a diverse range of offerings, the fair provides a captivating day out for seekers of all stripes, from the curious novice to the seasoned spiritual explorer.

Imagine walking into a space buzzing with positive energy. The air is filled with the enticing aroma of delicious food, tempting your palate as you begin your journey. Maybe you'll grab a gourmet treat or a comforting classic while you plan your next adventure through the fair. Beyond the culinary delights, the Spirit Fair is a playground of engaging activities. Test your luck and skill at the various games on offer, with the chance to win exciting prizes. The laughter and friendly competition create a vibrant atmosphere, a perfect backdrop to the more introspective elements of the fair. Facebook event [here](#).

GROWTH POLICY SURVEY: Great Falls Rising is asking all our supporters to fill out the Growth Policy Survey below. It is your chance to let the City of Great Falls know how you feel about the direction and type of growth you feel is appropriate for our city. It's a wonderful opportunity for all of us.

The City of Great Falls is making critical updates to its Growth Policy, a plan that

will guide development, housing, economic growth, and sustainability for the next 20 years. This is your opportunity to shape the future of your community. By taking the Growth Policy Survey, you will influence decisions on housing, workforce opportunities, land use, and more. If you don't share your perspective, key decisions will be made without your input.

The survey is simple and takes just 20-30 minutes to complete. As a thank-you for your time, you'll also have the option to enter a drawing for prizes generously provided by local businesses. Every response makes a difference!

The deadline is **March 31st**. Don't wait. The choices we make today will define Great Falls for decades to come.

Take the survey now. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FutureGreatFalls2045>

We have a [Great Falls Rising YouTube Channel](#), where you can watch previous gatherings and panel discussions, such as the January 22nd panel, "Is Public Education Under Threat in Great Falls and Montana?"

Do you have time to give to our community. Go to VolunteerGreatFalls.org and find your passion!