



GFWC Big Rapids Newsletter



June, 2021

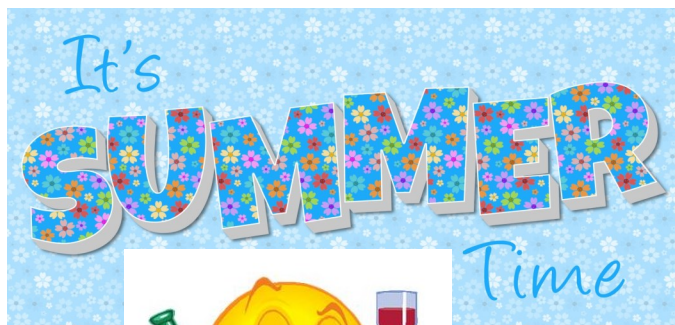
"Words have no meaning until they are put into Action."

Hello Ladies,

Big Rapids was awarded with Michigan State Club of the Year plus 7 other 1st place awards!! WOW! Congratulations to everyone for all your time and effort. It is well deserved. I am proud to be a part of this group. The May banquet and 50th Anniversary celebration was a success. Thank you to all who helped make it happen. Another show of what great women you are.

I hope everyone has a joyful and relaxing summer. Keep an eye open for emails of social events during the summer. We hope to see you soon.

Ann



**COME JOIN US
AT**

**The Winery at
Young Farms**

**for Wine Wednesday on
June 30th at 6:00pm**

Come enjoy a relaxed fun evening with your GFWC sisters



**Sending our care, concerns and
hugs to:**

Jennifer Houttiker

Mary Sue Hansen

Joan Boroff

Joe, Celeste's son in law who is
recovering from COVID hospitalization

Amy, Mary O's daughter who is
recovering from a stroke

Our Sympathy to the families of:

Joan Boroff's Mother-in-law, Elizabeth Maneke

Linda Telfer's Mom, Lillian Mondrella

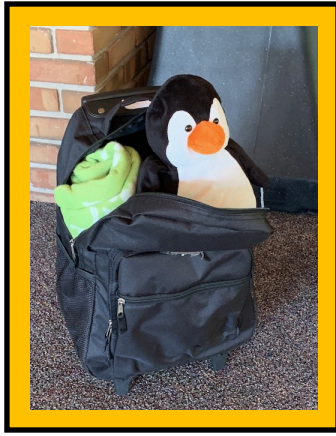
Congrats to Carrie Franklund on the
arrival of a new grandchild!



Bonnie Jacoby 6/4

Mary Beth Vanderlist 6/9

Celeste Szczerowski 6/22



FOSTER CARE SUITCASES

With the help of all of your donations, we have donated 13 suitcases, backpacks, and duffel bags to the Foster Care program. Thanks to everyone for helping to provide foster children a place to carry their personal items.

Plastic sleeping mats delivered

Pat delivered 14 plastic crocheted sleeping mats to Our Brothers Keeper in May. They were very appreciative to receive them since the shelter will be closing for the summer.

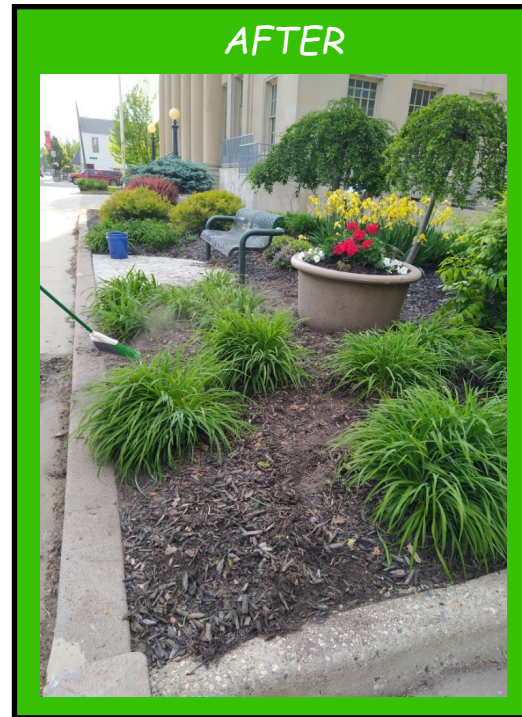
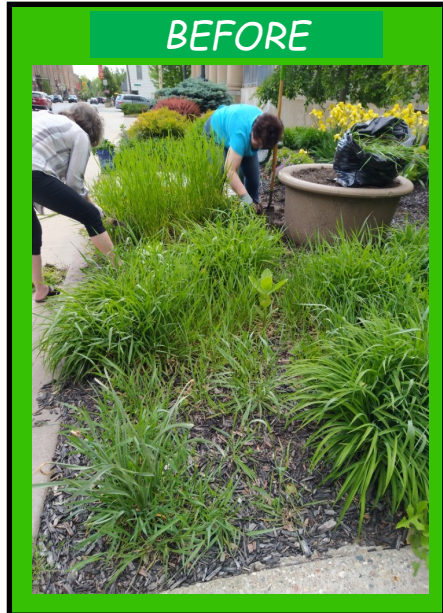


HABITAT BOOKSHELF DONATION

On May 27th the filled bookshelf was delivered to the newest Habitat home recipients, Casey & Mary. Thanks to everyone who donated personalized books for this family and the Education and Libraries CSP for organizing the project. Casey and Mary were very appreciative.

SPRING CLEANUP of the Post Office Garden

Environment CSP members worked hard to tackle the huge weeds and beautify the Post Office garden for the summer. Well Done!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Brothers Keeper is in need for volunteers to assist with the various shifts at OBK until they close for the season on June 30. Due to recent graduations and other staff turnover, current staff are being stretched to their limits. Or, if you know someone who would be interested in securing a Shelter Monitor position, that would be great also.

If you are interested, contact the Shelter Administrator Lila Ecker at 231-629-8033.



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WISE needs volunteers to help answer the crisis line and assist at the shelter. Requires 40 hours of training. If you interested in helping, call WISE at 796-6600 and ask for Brittany Dudley.



Ruth Ann Northon, our GFWC
MI President



Our GFWC Big Rapids 50th Celebration



Celeste Szczerwoski receiving
BR Club Woman of the Year
award from Pat Rossi, 2nd VP



Remembering Judy Irvin



Maureen Nelson sharing her
Mom's memories of BR GFWC
in the earlier years.



Members receiving their yearly membership awards.

(Left to right) Mary Bechaz, Sue Bean, Pat Rossi, Sue Johnson, Vickie Vogel, and Bonnie Jacoby (not pictured)

Celebrating Our 50th Anniversary



Beth Martz, Mary Beth Vanderlist, Sue Bean, Vickie Vogel



(Left to right) Maureen Nelson, RuthAnn Northon
GFWC MI President, Connie Hopkins GFWC State
Treasurer, Joyce Ilitis.



Celeste Szczerowski BR Secretary, Carrie Franlund, Joan
Boroff, Linda Telfer BR 1st Vice President



(left to Right) Sue Johnson Past GFWC MI President,
Kathy Lewis GFWC MI 1st V.P., Ann Stellard BR
President, Mary Bechaz.



Pat Rossi BR 2nd Vice President, Sue Pohl, Mary Olshewski



Jerena Keys, Ruth York, Dee VanHorn BR Treasurer

ONGOING DONATIONS :

Greeting Cards for all occasions

Children book donations of nearly new books

Bottle and Cans for BR Scout Fund

Pop can tabs for Ronald McDonald House

Used batteries for recycle

Foster Child Suitcase items

Used shoes for Soles for Souls

Quarters or check for Heifer International

Plastic grocery bags to be crocheted into sleeping mats for the homeless



YEARLY PROJECTS:



Foster Child Suitcase project: Collecting books, flashlights, night lights, plush animal, blanket, suitcases or duffle bags. Sue Bean is collecting donations.

Creating mats from plastic grocery bags for the homeless . Get your finished mats to Pat Rossi.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Project Starburst : Looking for a volunteer to pick up a weekly Friday evening donation of breads, etc. from Panera

Contact Diane Long at 231-79-5342

br@projectstarburst.org

DRIVERS NEEDED: John Klever from DHHS expressed the need for the volunteer transportation program they have for individuals who need transportation to medical appointments and for CPS and Foster Care visits. Volunteers can work as many days a week as they choose and are reimbursed \$.56 a mile.

If you or someone you know are interested in volunteering for this, you should contact John Klever at 231-796-4312 and leave a message. This is his office number and he is still working from home.