

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMAN'S CLUB

BIG RAPIDS NEWSLETTER



Linda Telfer, President
Pat Rossi, 1st Vice President
Melanie Henry, 2nd VP (Membership)
Joyce Iltis, Secretary
Sue Johnson, Treasurer
Ann Stellard, Parliamentarian

WEBSITE: GFWC-BIGRAPIDS.ORG

April, 2023

"Working for a Better Community"



President's Note

"The biggest human temptation is to settle for too little."

Anonymous

Can you believe that our end of the year banquet is next month? The committee has put together a fun evening for you. I hope to see you all there. You should be proud of all of your accomplishments to make our community a better place.

Linda Telfer, Club President & Newsletter Editor
(Contact info: LindaTelfer@ferris.edu/(231-250-2088)
Deadline for submission is last day of the month.

P.S. Think spring—can you find the tulip in this newsletter?



April 11—Club Meeting @ 6:30 p.m., Elk's Lodge

April 17—Monthly Walk @ 10:00 a.m.—meet at City Hall

April 27-30—State Convention—Bay City, MI

May 9—End of Year Club Banquet, 6:00 p.m. Social Time/6:30 dinner, Osburndale

May 11 & 12—GFWC Big Rapids Yard Sale

June 3—Guiding Harbor Tea & Tour 1:00-3:00 pm, Holiday Inn, Belleville

June 10-12—GFWC International Convention, Louisville, KY

July 18—Bay Cliff Day in the UP

October 13-15—Bay Cliff 90th Birthday Bash

October 21—Northwestern District Meeting in Big Rapids

November 4—"Michigan LEADS" in Midland

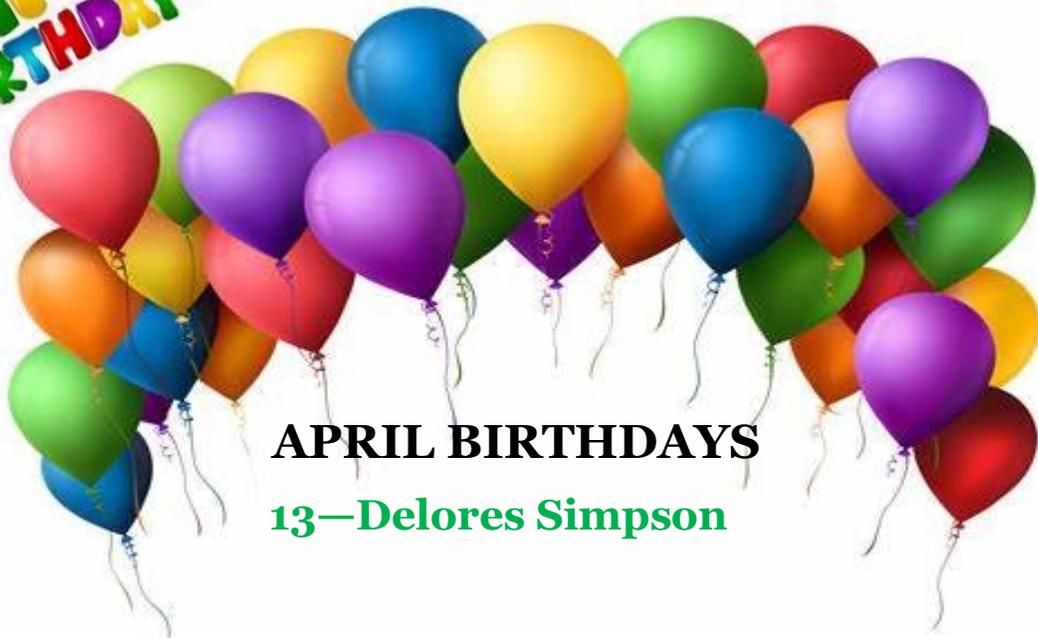
**NEXT MEETING—April 11th at 6:30 p.m.,
@ The Elk's Lodge**

Meeting Checklist

April 11, 2023

- Operation Smile Items (both sewing kits & needs list items)
- Can Pull Tabs for the Ronald McDonald House
- Batteries for recycling
- Children's book donations of nearly new books
- Quarters/checks for Heifer International
- Clean pop cans to assist the Big Rapids Scout Camp
- Greeting Cards (recycled) for all occasions for the Senior Center
- Money for Drawing
- Warm blankets for Foster Child project
- \$30 May Banquet
- Made in Michigan items

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

13—Delores Simpson

Club Members—Cares and Concerns

Melanie Henry in remission!!!

Joyce Itis—walking without a cane!

Sue Bean

Celeste Szczerowski's brother

Mary Sue Hansen

LAST CALL

OPERATION SMILE



NEEDS LIST FOR CHILD LIFE THERAPY:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Blocks – plush/wood/plastic | Bubbles (liquid) |
| Building blocks set | Card games |
| Matchbox Cars | Play-Doh |
| Puzzles | Hand fidget spinners |
| Stacking toy set | Smile Face Stress Balls |
| Yo-Yo | Any activity toys for kids |
| Dolls-Barbie style dolls-little figures | Marvel Figures |

Construction paper, Stickers, Markers Paper, art /easel (per roll)

Stuffed Toys (medium size){clean/not dirty/stained or over used

Other Needs: Travel size toothpaste with expiration dates of January 2024 and combs (wide tooth/detangling type-no pocket comb).

These items will continue to be collected through the April meeting.



Millions of children living with untreated cleft conditions have difficulties eating, breathing, speaking and being accepted by many of their peers and communities. Let's do our part and make their life a little better.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly Walk

April 17

The **Health and Wellness Community Service Program** invites you to join them on their monthly walk. They walk on the Monday following the monthly club meeting at 10:00 a.m. and begins at the City Hall parking lot.



May 11 & 12, 2023



You know what that means: Spring Cleaning! Now's the time to get ready for the warmer days ahead. Clean out your closets and drawers! Soon we will have our yard sale. And.... you will have lots of things to donate.



Made in Michigan Items

Michigan made items are being collected for the GFWC Education Foundation fundraiser to be held at the State convention in April. These can be brought to our April meeting. Suggestions: maple syrup, jams, mittens, scarves, placemats, unperishable food items, etc. Every GFWC member can apply a scholarship for funding annually from this account.

NEEDED

BANQUET INFORMATION NEEDED

To prepare for our end-of-year banquet, please e-mail **Leona Royer** (LeonaRoyer@ferris.edu) **two things that other club members might not know about you. Deadline is April 30. See flier in this newsletter for the banquet.**





END OF YEAR BANQUET

Looking for a sure bet?

Double down with GFWC-Big Rapids and celebrate the GFWC jackpot winnings and accomplishments from the 2022-2023 year.

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

6:00 p.m. Social Time/6:30 p.m. Dinner

Osburndale—1016 Lilac Avenue, Big Rapids

Get your bankroll out for a cost of \$30 per person

Payment can be made at our March or April meeting.

You are more than welcome to bring a bottle of wine to share if you like.



Let's go for a full house.

You will want to practice your poker face as you will be asked to share with Leona Royer, prior to the May banquet, two things that other members may not know about you.

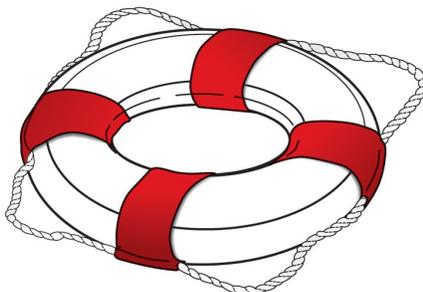


ATTENTION

GFWC State Convention Raffle



Up for raffle is a beautiful YETI cooler stuffed full of wonderfully themed items that is valued at \$900—yes, \$900. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. The item will be raffled on Saturday, April 29, at 7:00 p.m. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN.** Lots of Christmas presents right there!!! If you are not attending the convention, you can give your money to Linda and she will see that it gets to the convention.



What's Been Happening?



MS. FEDERATION LUNCHEON



A good time was had when 11 club members gathered at El Burrito restaurant for a lunch on March 13 to honor our newly elected Ms. Federation Pat Rossi. We are so proud of her involvement in the club and look forward to seeing her honored at the State Convention.

PINWHEELS ARE PLANTED

The pinwheels are planted for Child Abuse Prevention Awareness month and the Month of the Young Child. Each pinwheel has a sticker indicating what it is for and an 800 number to call to report child abuse. You will see these pinwheels all around town. Thank you to Dee Van Horn for organizing this activity and for storing hundreds of pinwheels. Also, thank you to Melanie Henry, Pat Rossi, Celeste Szczerowski and Linda Telfer for assisting with the planting.



MARCH MEETING



Wearing of the Green

Pat Rossi won the best Leprechaun contest at March's club meeting. She also won the drawing. Hope she bought a lottery ticket on the way home. Thank you to everyone who wore green to the meeting as it was amazing to see so much green to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and add a little fun to the meeting.



Jennifer and Molly the GFWC Reading Ambassador Service Dog

Jennifer Houttekier shared with other club members at the March club meeting the reading program that she and Molly are involved with at Brookside Elementary School. This is such a great program and we appreciate Jennifer and Molly for helping the children read.



Anna Howard Shaw Program

Joyce Iltis explained the life of Anna Howard Shaw at our March meeting and shared pictures as well. She indicated that this program is a Northwestern District program where club members visit 4th grade classes in area schools and share the life of Anna Howard Shaw. Club members were encouraged to participate as Joyce has the materials needed.

Monthly March Walk



Four GFWC sisters (Vickie Vogel, Mary Beth Vanderlist, Sue Bean and Ann Stellard) went to Myrtle Beach to take their monthly Health & Wellness walk and visit with past member Donna Schmidt.



Wine on the Rocks Events

Arts & Culture CSP Event



What a fun time learning how to Mandela paint on rocks. Thank you Vickey Rockey for your patience in teaching us. Thank you to Ann Stellard for hosting this event.



Left—Vickey Rockey and Leona Royer who was the first winner in a drawing.
Right—Janet Monfils Miller who was also a drawing winner and Leona's guest.



WORD SEARCH

GFWC-Big Rapids, Inc.

E	V	G	L	I	B	R	A	R	I	E	S	S	L
G	O	L	C	A	R	N	A	T	I	O	N	S	E
F	L	E	S	A	D	V	O	C	A	T	E	A	G
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C	N	N	S	C	D	E	P	B	Y	L	A	W	S
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L	A	N	C	O	L	N	C	S	P	O	C	E	E
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- WELLNESS
- ARTS
- SISTERHOOD
- LIBRARIES
- CSP
- PINWHEELS
- CARNATION
- OUTREACH
- BYLAWS
- VOLUNTEER
- CULTURAL
- CONVENTION
- ENVIRONMENT
- ADVOCATE
- EDUCATION
- COMMUNITY
- LEGISLATION
- HEALTH
- PROJECTS
- WHITE
- GFWC
- FUN
- TEAM
- PINK

GFWC AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT



U.S. Fund For UNICEF

For more than six decades, GFWC has supported UNICEF, the United Nations Children’s Fund, in its efforts to ensure the world’s most vulnerable children have access to health care, immunizations, clean water, nutrition, education, emergency and disaster relief, and more.

UNICEF USA is a UNICEF National Committee — an independent, nonprofit, non-governmental organization, and an integral part of UNICEF's global operation. Their mission is to relentlessly pursue an equitable world for every child.



Brought to you by Health and Wellness

Mexican Tortilla Casserole

Yield: 6 servings (Serving Size: 1/6 of casserole & 1 Tablespoon of sour cream)

- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- 1-1/2 cups chopped onions
- 1 cup chopped yellow squash or zucchini
- 1 (15 ounce) can kidney beans, drained
- 1 cup salsa
- 1/2 teaspoon chili powder (I changed it to 3/4 t.)
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 3/4 teaspoon sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 (14.5 ounce) can Mexican-style stewed tomatoes, undrained
- 6 — 6 inch corn tortillas, cut in half
- Cooking spray
- 1 (2.25 ounce) can sliced ripe olives, drained
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 cup (4 ounces) shredded Monterey Jack Cheese
- 6 tablespoons reduced-fat sour cream

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

1. Heat oil in a large non-stick skillet over medium-high heat. Add onion and squash; sauté 5 minutes or until tender. Add beans and next 6 ingredients; bring to a boil. Reduce heat, and simmer, uncovered, 5 minutes or until thoroughly heated.
2. Arrange 6 tortilla halves in bottom of an 11x7 inch baking dish coated with cooking spray; top with half of tomato mixture. Sprinkle with olives and cilantro. Top with remaining 6 tortilla halves and tomato mixture.
3. Cover and bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes. Uncover and sprinkle with cheese; bake an additional 10 minutes. Top each serving with sour cream.

Pan can be lined with non-stick foil. It freezes well.