



# GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMAN'S CLUB

## Big Rapids Newsletter

WEBSITE: GFWC-BIGRAPIDS.ORG

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



*"Working for a Better Community"*

May, 2024



### President's Note

*"It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference" — Tom Brokaw*

Many of us are getting excited for the State Convention. We will have a good time despite Sue Bean not being able to attend to be honored due to her mom passing away. Also, I'm looking forward to our banquet on May 14 and wrapping up the club year with this celebration.

Linda Telfer, Club President & Newsletter Editor  
(Contact info: LindaTelfer@ferris.edu (231-250-2088)  
Deadline for submission is the 25th of the month.

P.S. How many violets can you find?



(not including this one)



**May 2-5, 2024**—GFWC Michigan State Convention—Menominee, MI

**May 9-10**—GFWC-BR Yard Sale, 9:00-6:00, BR Township Hall

**May 9**—Jerena Keys Reception @ City Hall 5:00 p.m.

**May 14**—Annual Spring Banquet, Antler's in Canadian Lakes at 6:00 p.m social time/6:30 p.m. dinner

**June 29-July 1**—GFWC National Convention—Chicago, IL

**September 28**—GFWC National Day of Service

**October 12**—NWD Meeting, Ewart, MI

**October 17-20**—Midwest Regional Meeting, Mundy Twp. (Flint)

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**



**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

**10—CHERYL TESSIER**

**Club Members—Cares and Concerns**

**Sue Bean** (passing of her mother)

**Joan Boroff** (passing of her husband)

**Mary Sue Hansen** (health issues)

**BJ Johnson** (Sue's son-continued treatments)

**Dale Cramer** (Joyce Iltis' brother)

**Ruth York** (health issues)



**Don't forget your secret sister!**  
**Last gift will be given at the May Ban-**  
**quet and the BIG REVEAL will take**  
**place.**



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## GFWC STATE CONVENTION



**May 2-5, 2024**

Are your arts and crafts ready for the State Convention in Menominee? You do not need to attend to enter a project, even though the State Convention is a lot of fun. What awards will you receive this year?



## ANNUAL SPRING BANQUET

**Tuesday, May 14, 2023**

**The Antler's Restaurant**

**Canadian Lakes**

**6:00 p.m. Social Time**

**6:30 p.m. Dinner (Tour of Italy)**



## GFWC-BIG RAPIDS

### ANNUAL YARD SALE

***Friendly Reminder*** –When doing your spring cleaning, please set aside the “good stuff” for the GFWC yard sale. You can drop your items off at the Big Rapids township hall on Wednesday, May 8, between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. Yard sale will be held May 9 and 10 from 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.



## Bear Project

In conjunction with the Artworks “Bear Exhibit”, the community is asked to donate a stuffed bear of no more than 12 inches in height. The bears can be placed in special containers at Artworks. These bears will be used in our Foster Child Suitcase Project.



General Federation of Woman's Club Big Rapids presents:

# Another Woman's Treasures

Can be yours when  
you shop with us



Thur. May 9 — Fri. May 10

**Big Rapids Township Hall**

4212 Northland Dr., Big Rapids

Open: 9:00am - 6:00pm

We welcome Donations (*excluding clothing and electronics*).



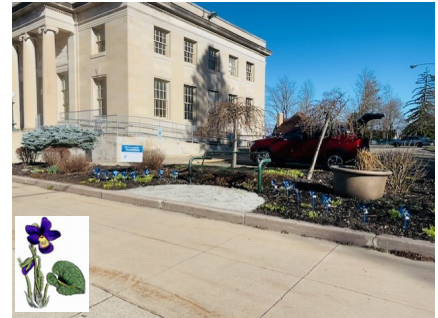
Proceeds will be donated to our local

W.I.S.E. (Women's Shelter)  
playground equipment



# WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

**Blue Pinwheels** were planted around town for Child Abuse Prevention Awareness. Can you guess where the pinwheels were planted?





## Welcome Cheryl Tessier



Cheryl was initiated into GFWC-Big Rapids at the April 9th club meeting. We are so glad that she has moved back to Big Rapids and has joined our organization.



## Federation Day Proclamation

Three members were able to attend the City of Big Rapids Commissioner's meeting on April 15 when GFWC-Big Rapids received a proclamation declaring April 24, 2024 as GFWC Federation Day. (Pictured is Linda Telfer, President, accepting the proclamation from Mark Gifford, City Manager.)



## Operation Smile



Thank you to seven members who assisted with the Operation Smile Project. Three members made 18 smile bags and all seven members provided an array of items for the bags including tooth brushes, tooth paste, crayons, coloring books, shampoos, combs, washcloths, small bars of soap and stuffed animals. A big **THANK YOU** to **Dee Van Horn** in organizing this project and mailing in the items that we made and collected.

## Mystery Dinner

What a great time!! Nine members were able to attend the Mystery Dinner located at Hess Lake. What a great place. Pictured L-R Cheryl Tessier, Ann Stellard, Linda Telfer, Cathy Chapman, Sue Johnson, Melanie Henry, Delores Simpson, Mel James, Pat Rossi and taking picture is Dee Van Horn. Thank you to Melanie Henry for organizing this.



# Earth Day for Kids



The Education & Libraries CSP put together 70 Earth Day Bracelet kits and delivered them to the 4th, 5th/6th and 7th/8th grade classes at St. Mary's School on Earth Day. Inserted was a "We Are Water Quality Stewards" sheet asking the children ways that they use water, where water comes from and how they can save water.



# Environment CSP at Work

## Highway Clean Up April 2024



The April 2024 Highway Clean Up is Done!!! Despite the forecast for rain, the work was completed. Yes it thundered and sprinkled a little but it didn't stop the worker bees with nine bags being collected. Thank you to Janet Miller Monfils, Leona Royer, Ann Stellard, Melonie James, Cheryl Tessier and Linda Telfer.

## Post Office Garden Work



Three Environment CSP members were able to get started on the Post Office Garden on April 30th. Who is that person hiding behind the bush? (Clue: It's not Mary Beth.)





# The Puzzle



O E H I G E M X G E E T I  
F Y B W W C E K P O B R I  
F U A K Y P N A W W T A O  
I O N G B A O R M C I V P  
C O Q W R N M S F I V E A  
E S U W I K I I Y V Y R R  
R A E L Y N N H I C K S K  
S E T Y K W E E O O U E P  
B B T F O L E C W F O C L  
W W Y R Y R W D C N E I A  
T C O N V E N T I O N T C  
I S R A W A R D S S R Y E  
U C E L E B R A T I O N B

AWARDS BANQUET CELEBRATION CONVENTION FUN MENOMINEE  
OFFICERS PARKPLACE RAELYNNHICKS TRAVERSE CITY WOA WINE

**ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!!**

Answer: 8 violets