



# **GFWC-Big Rapids, Inc. Newsletter**

## **May, 2025**

Believe it or not we are coming to the end of our club year and what a year it has been. The Great Lakes Conference hosted by Michigan, the State convention hosted by the Northwestern District, the many projects completed and last but not least our upcoming yard sale to support "Save the Pond". You have all been so busy, and the hours donated along with the dollars and in-kind items have made a great impact on our community. For that you all deserve congratulations and many thanks.

As we end our year, I want to thank you for helping to make my year as your President a great success and stay tuned for upcoming events this summer.

*Sue*

Sue Johnson, President (231)349-5137  
Linda Telfer, 1st Vice President  
Delores Simpson, 2nd VP( Membership)  
Leona Royer, Secretary  
Ann Stellard, Treasurer  
Melonie James, Parliamentarian  
Linda Telfer, Newsletter Editor

Due date for the newsletter is the 25th of each month.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**May 13—Spring Banquet 6:00 pm @ Antler's Cost \$30**

### **SAVE THOSE BATTERIES AGAIN**

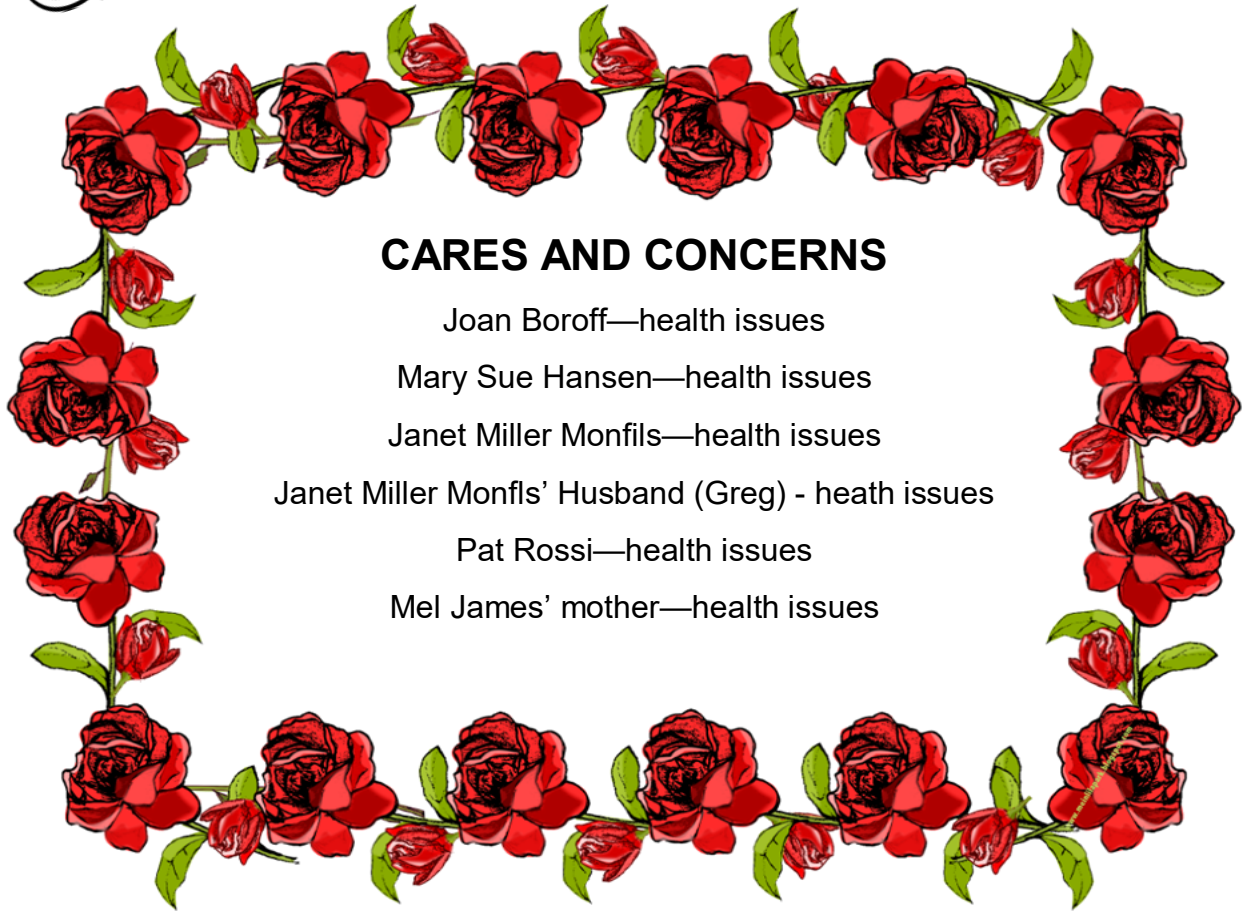
**Celeste has found a place that takes batteries so.....  
start saving those batteries again.**





## MAY BIRTHDAYS

10—Cheryl Tessier



### CARES AND CONCERNS

Joan Boroff—health issues

Mary Sue Hansen—health issues

Janet Miller Monfils—health issues

Janet Miller Monfils' Husband (Greg) - health issues

Pat Rossi—health issues

Mel James' mother—health issues



### GFWC Tidbits . . .

There are no "Tidbits" this month, but they will be back next month.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**Come join a fun evening at our  
GFWC  
GARDEN PARTY BANQUET**

**Tuesday, May 13 6:00pm**  
**We will start right at 6:00pm**  
**Antlers Fireside Grill, Canadian Lakes**  
**Cost: \$30**  
**Deadline for your reservation is May 5**

**Another Woman's Treasures**



**YARD SALE**



**Thur. May 8 — Fri. May 9**  
**Big Rapids Township Hall**  
**4212 Northland Dr., Big Rapids**  
**Open: 9:00am - 6:00pm**

Proceeds will be donated to  
**SAVE THE PONDS at The Paris State Fish Hatchery**



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING...

### CRYSTAL TRAVELS . . .



Looks like Crystal is going on a vacation. You will see her at other activities throughout this newsletter.



### LAST MEETING OF THE CLUB YEAR 2024-2025



GFWC-Big Rapids hopped right out of the club year with the last meeting in April. Speaker Cliff Franklund shared his expertise on water quality in Big Rapids and Michigan, a very insightful presentation. The Environment CSP kept with the Easter and spring theme for refreshments.



# THE PINWHEELS ARE PLANTED!!



Thank you to everyone who assisted with planting the pinwheels around town for National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Also thank you to De-lores Simpson's grandson's who put the tags on the pinwheels during their spring break.





## NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK



In recognition of National Library Week, the Education and Libraries CSP delivered cupcakes to the Big Rapids Public Library as a way to say thank you. Pictured above is Library staff and the famous Mr. Howard.

## CITY PROCLAMATION



City Manager, Mark Gifford, is shown reading the City Proclamation in recognition of Federation Day. Pictured is L-R Linda Telfer, Pam Muccio, Mel James, President Sue Johnson, Delores Simpson and City Manager Mark Gifford.



# 2025 GFWC STATE CONVENTION

April 24-27, 2025

Park Place in Traverse City



Club members with  
State President Rae  
Lynn Hicks.



Club members with  
Northwestern Presi-  
dent Melissa Povilai-  
tis.



Mr. Federation Mary  
Bechaz with her hus-  
band Joe at the Ms.  
Federation Banquet.



Ms. Federation celebration  
after Ms. Federation banquet.



Ms. Federation  
Mary Bechaz  
showing mem-  
bers her ribbon  
dance.



Crystal taking a  
break.



# 2025 GFWC STATE CONVENTION

## CRAFT ENTRIES



DELORES SIMPSON'S  
ENTRIES

CONGRATULATIONS



VICKIE VOGEL'S  
ENTRIES

CONGRATULATIONS



Cathy Chapman's Entry





## GFWC STATE CONVENTION continued.



Joe meets Crystal.



First timers at the state convention—  
L-R Deb Hill, Cheryl Tessier and Cathy  
Chapman.



Pat Rossi (right) was one  
of the runners up in the  
costume contest.

## OPERATION SMILE

Thank you to the seven members who assisted with Operation Smile. A total of 17 smile bags, 3 gowns, 2 crocheted blankets, and an array of items for the bags were donated. A big THANK YOU to Dee Van Horn for organizing this and mailing the boxes.

## FLOWER OF THE MONTH

(Sponsored by Environment CSP)



Alliums, also known as [ornamental onions](#), are some of the most beautiful flowering bulbs for the spring and summer garden. Plant some of these popular varieties and they'll reward you with stunning blooms that resemble fireworks frozen in time.

One of the most common species of ornamental onion, Persian blue (*Allium aflatunense*) produces a four- to five-inch ball of vivid purple-blue flowers. Plant the bulbs in the fall, six to eight inches deep and about eight inches apart. This long-lasting variety [attracts pollinators](#) and is [deer- and rodent-resistant](#).

**Bloom Season:** Late spring to early summer

**Growing Conditions:** Full sun and well-drained soil

**Size:** To 3 feet tall

**Zones:** 4-8

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