



GFWC-Big Rapids, Inc. Newsletter

November, 2025

As they say, “the frost is on the pumpkin” and I say, finally! Those of you like me that have suffered with fall allergies understand. We may not look forward to snow, but the frost kills the pollen in the air that drives us all crazy!

October ended with our fantastic annual 4Bs event, and it was a great success. A big thank you to all involved and a special thank you to Melanie Henry for her leadership, so organized and dedicated as always. Melanie, it would not be the event that it is without you.

November brings another special time as we honor our veterans and current military. Our meeting will be dedicated to those who have served and those who serve today, especially the women. In their honor, please come dressed in red, white and blue and if you know of a woman veteran, please ask her to join us.

Sue

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

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

November 8—Guiding Harbor Fundraiser in Belleville

November 8—”Goodbye, Mr. Chips” Classic Film “Goodbye Mr. Chips,” 2:00 p.m.—Immanuel Lutheran Church—726 Fuller Avenue—Big Rapids

November 11—Club Meeting— 6:00 social/6:30 meeting at the Elks—(WEAR RED, WHITE & BLUE)

November 17—December 15—Mitten Tree—Artworks’ Lobby

November 24—Charcuterie Board Lesson—Two Cheesy Guys—5:15 pm

December 9—Club Christmas Party—Linda Telfer’s Home—6:00 p.m.

MEETING CHECKLIST

A FRIEND

\$30 Christmas Party/ \$15 Holiday Family

\$30 for Charcuterie Board Lesson

Can Tabs (Ronald McDonald House)

Used Sneakers (name brand) (Reuse)

\$ Heifer Intl. (GFWC Affiliate)

Used Greeting Cards (Senior Center)

Used Batteries (Recycle)

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**



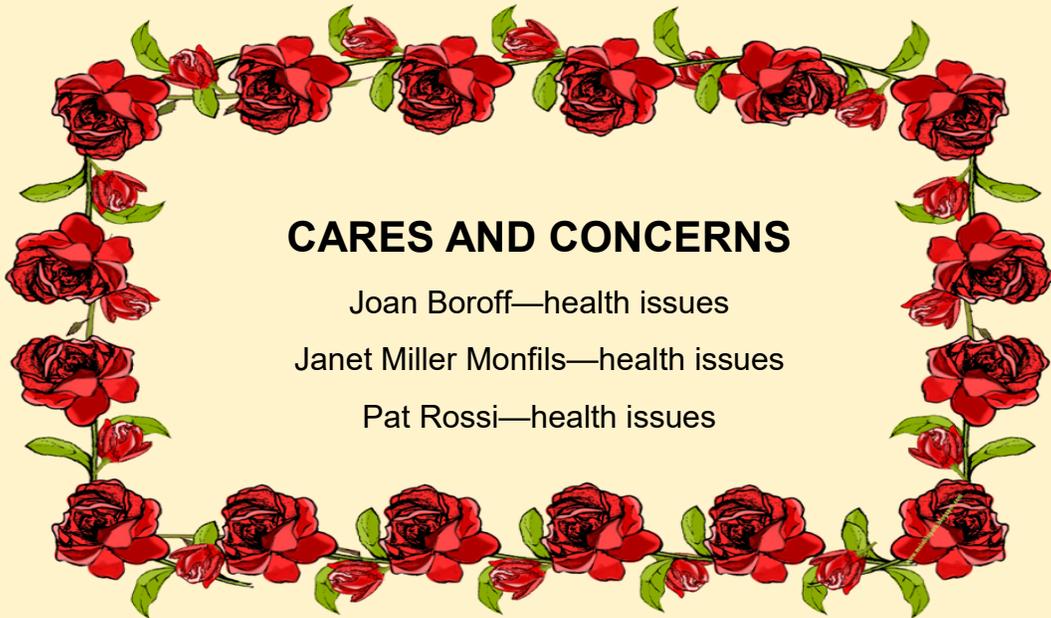
NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2—Therese Allen

5—Linda Telfer

18—Pam Muccio

20—Mary Bechaz



CARES AND CONCERNS

Joan Boroff—health issues

Janet Miller Monfils—health issues

Pat Rossi—health issues



GFWC Tidbits . . .

GFWC International - In 1977, WASPs were granted veterans' status. However, a policy change made by the Army prevented WASPs from being buried at Arlington National Cemetery. GFWC supported legislation to honor these female veterans and reinstate WASP inurnment rights. Congress passed this legislation and thanks to the efforts of GFWC clubwomen who wrote letters urging Congress to support this legislation, female veterans like Elaine Harmon were honored with a burial at Arlington National Cemetery.

GFWC Michigan—The “Flying Fortress” was purchased by Michigan State Federation of Women’s Clubs and was in overseas action during World War II.



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GFWC Big Rapids—For several years in the past, GFWC Big Rapids hosted a “Veteran’s Luminary Drive” through Highland View Cemetery honoring the veterans buried there.

News from Health & Wellness Community Service Project. . .

This month Health & Wellness would like to draw attention to Epilepsy Awareness by sharing a purple ribbon with the club.

Epilepsy shares a purple ribbon with domestic violence, Alzheimer, pancreatic cancer, lupus and Parkinson’s disease, so save your ribbon for other special months to show our support.

Below are eight surprising facts about epilepsy.

1. More than 1% of people in the United States have epilepsy.
2. Epilepsy is most often diagnosed in children and older adults.
3. Often there is no clear cause.
4. Women with epilepsy have more seizures during their periods.
5. Seizures are not a medical emergency.
6. Exercise is good for people with epilepsy.
7. Keto genic diet may help control the disease.
8. Removing part of the brain can be an effective treatment.



UPCOMING EVENTS



CLASSIC FILM — “GOODBYE, MR. CHIPS”

November 8—2:00 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Free Admission

See Delores Simpson for more details.



MITTEN TREE TIME.....

The annual Mitten Tree display will be up from **November 17—December 15** in the front lobby of Artworks. Donations of mittens, gloves, scarves and hats can be dropped off at the display during those dates.

CHARCUTERIE BOARD LESSON

November 24

Two Cheesy Guys—110 N. Michigan— BR

5:15 p.m.

Cost \$30



(Make check payable to Two Cheesy Guys and give to Delores Simpson at November meeting to reserve your seat)

Come Experience a Sparkly Winter Wonderland



CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tuesday, December 7



**Linda Telfer's Home
15620 Colfax Cove—Big Rapids**



6:00 cocktails/6:30 hors d'oeuvres

Cost is \$30

WISE Christmas Family Donation \$15

(both payable at the November meeting)



Bring a \$10 gift wrapped in aluminum foil and wear your sparkly Christmas outfit for a fun evening.

Carpooling is encouraged.



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING.....

FALL BOWS FOR DOWNTOWN



Six members decorated the corn stalks in downtown Big Rapids with colorful bows. The weather couldn't have been more perfect. We will see what the weather is like when we take them down.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



We are so happy that Therese Allen, Pam Hughes and Deb lafrate joined our club at the October meeting. Welcome Ladies!

CONGRATULATIONS PAM MUCCIO!!!!



Pam Muccio has been in GFWC for 45 years and received her pin at the October club meeting. What a commitment to service; thank you Pam.

4B's Fundraiser was a Success!!



Thank you to everyone who participated in anyway to make the 4B's Fundraiser at success. A special thank you to Melanie Henry for chairing the committee whose leadership is greatly appreciated. The Children's Programs at Artworks is grateful.

FLOWER OF THE MONTH

From the Environment CSP

What to do with Hydrangeas Now?

Why not continue to enjoy those beautiful blooms throughout the winter. How? Let's try drying them.

How to Dry Hydrangeas in a Vase

Drying hydrangeas in a vase is a great option for hydrangeas with thick, sturdy stems.

1. Cut the hydrangeas off the bush with clean, sharp shears, leaving stems of about 12 to 18 inches in length.
2. Remove the leaves from the stems.
3. Arrange the flowers in a vase, with or without water. After the water evaporates, the hydrangeas will dry naturally.

How to Hang Dry Hydrangeas

Hang drying hydrangea blooms upside-down allows for the fastest drying time and a minimum of flattened petals.

1. Cut the hydrangea with clean, sharp shears, leaving a stem of 12 to 18 inches.
2. Use a clothespin to attach the stem to a clothesline, allowing the bloom to hang upside down.
3. Hang the flowers in a dry, dim space. Humidity and cool weather increase the drying time, while too much direct light can cause the colors to wash out.

Information from MarthaStewart.com

Why not try spray painting your dried hydrangeas and use in your flower arrangements both inside and outside this year?

