



91-year-old Fruitport and Nunica icon Ray Suchecki, patriarch of the Suchecki clan and in his trademark Pabst hat, pours the first ceremonial beer for bustling Hooligans Artisian Meats restaurant March 20th (top left). Here he shares with the owners, David and Melissa Gawlik. (top right) Since opening, Hooligans has entertained packed crowds, drawn by the lively atmosphere and tasty menu. Patrons enter by old-style saloon doors and enjoy their favorite sports teams on large television from all angles. (bottom photos) *photos and caption by Larry Pellet*



Mrs. Donna Pope, age 89, of Spring Lake passed away Monday, April 28, 2025. She was born November 11, 1935, in Grand Haven to Simon and Crystal (Rogers) Scheffers. In 1956, she married Quay Pope, and he preceded her in death in 2000. Donna had a passion for serving others and was actively involved in the Fruitport community throughout her life. She served on the Fruitport Village Council, the Fruitport District Library Board and was a member of the Lady Lions for many years. During their life together, Donna and her husband Quay enjoyed traveling and discovering new cultures in various countries throughout the world. After Quay's passing in 2000 she spent many years volunteering for Hospice and was honored and awarded for her years of dedication and service. In her days as a professional, she had a long-standing and successful career as a Realtor for Rennells-Pyman, Century 21, and REMAX before retirement. She greatly enjoyed gardening, bird watching, music, playing cards and spending time with her family and friends. Her legacy will live on in the local community as people continue to share their memories of Donna who lived her life as an honest, hardworking, straight-shooting, compassionate, caring and energetic person. She is survived by three sons: Ross Pope, Yale (Emelda) Pope, Heath (Lisa) Pope; seven grandchildren: Jaric (Katee) Pope, Jenna (Jason) Pope-Bergman, Ethan Pope, Chantal (Terry) VanDyke, Dalton Pope, Ian Pope, and Lexi Pope; and six great-grandchildren; brother, Gaye (Richard) Scheffers. She was preceded in death by her brother, Richard and sister, Nancy Allen. A memorial service will be held 12:00 PM Friday, May 9, 2025, at Fruitport Community Church



with Rev. Donna Rick officiating. Visitation will be held 1 hour prior to the service at church. Memorial contributions in memory of Donna may be given to Fruitport District Library. Interment will take place in Pine Hill Cemetery. Please sign the family's online guestbook at www.sytsemafh.com.

Tribute to Donna Pope

By Rose Dillon

Donna Pope was a very good friend of Fruitport. As many of you remember, those of us on the library "committee" asked on an election ballot a question to Fruitport residents if they would support us if we separated from the MADL.

Our Fruitport voters approved it. The MADL-Muskegon Area District Library thought the agreement was so rock solid that no one would EVER be able to get out of it. We were reminded of that over and over by their director.

We then went to the voters asking them for the same amount of millage (we were paying MADL) to support our own library. The voters approved it, and now we have those millage funds staying right here in Fruitport at our own library.

Donna Pope was a reckoning force behind this whole process. I worked side by side with her during this ordeal and want you to know how passionate she was about providing programs for our children and residents. She was passionate about wanting educational materials (electronic and printed) in our library for our residents.

We can't ever thank Donna enough for the work she did to help us have our own library!

Also, we want to recognize the years of service Donna gave to her church, service on the Village Council and the Fruitport Lady Lions Club. We spent many hours "working the corner" selling Cracker Jacks at Shettler and Sheridan as well as the years we all spent together working Fruitport Old Fashioned Days.

Rest in Peace our beloved Donna.

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