

Attend the General Meeting on October 6.

Our next MPNA meeting will be held Monday, October 6th, 2014 at Calvary United Methodist Church, 2111 Flushing Road at 7:00 pm.. Our single guest speaker that evening will be the dynamic and visionary current president of Kettering University, Dr. Robert MacMahan. I urge all of you to please attend! Light refreshments will be provided. Bring a neighbor!

Kettering
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Fall at a glance...

- **Kettering Service Saturdays**
Saturday, October 4
Saturday, November 15 or 22
- **MPNA General Meeting**
St. John Vianney
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Monday, December 1
- **MPNA Committee Meetings**
The Executive / Steering Committee meets the third Monday of every month.

“A Few Thoughts...”

by Nada Radakovich, MPNA President

Good day, good morrow, good everything that you encounter! It is that time of year again---let's gear up for Fall, our annual Park Clean Up and getting things ready for winter (gosh I hate saying that, as it is only the beginning of September---but, we all know what awaits us, so, folks, get your snow blowers serviced, start buying salt and make sure whom-ever you had last year clearing your drive ways is available again this winter!) Many wonderful things to share with everyone, and a few less-than-wonderful things to share. Let's start with a wonderful one. Mott Park Neighborhood Association has received a record number of grants this year---from organizations like Keep Genesee County Beautiful, The Community Foundation of Greater Flint Neighborhoods Small Grants Program and the

Genesee County Landbank Clean and Green project. This is ALL GOOD! With these grants we are able to keep the gardens looking beautiful, we are able to keep blight at bay, and we will be maintaining the tennis courts shortly and getting those nets taut! Thank you everyone who has taken the initiative to apply for and receive these grants on behalf of Mott Park. We ALL are most grateful! Also, we are so anxious and excited about launching our new website; this is a work in progress, and as soon as everyone who will be contributing to this project completes his/her part(s) of it, we will go online! So, along with the good, does, unfortunately, at times, come a little 'not-so-good'. In this day and age of electronic super-expediency, we have the luxury of

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- 3 Meet and greet review
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"This year Mott Park became part of the Adopt a Park Program through Keep Genesee County Beautiful"

This program is where a group of neighbors adopt the park in their neighborhood by helping to clean up, maintain and work on a future vision for their park. We are very fortunate that we have already had in place a lot of what the program is wanting the neighborhood to do and we will continue to do, such as park clean

up days and maintaining of the trash barrels which we got some new receptacles in some very needed areas thanks to this program. Keep Genesee County Beautiful received \$20,000 to help do small repairs and paint existing equipment for the Adopt a Park Program from Lowe's. On September 6th, a group of your neighbors came down and was given a prep and paint lesson by Lowe's representatives. They taught us how to prep the metals so that the paint would adhere and last longer and educated us on the new paint we were going to be using. Our great team of neighbors went to work and to the surprise of the Lowe's employees and others the equipment was prepped and ready to be painted!

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Have a bright idea for Mott Park?

Mott Park Neighborhood Association

facebook: Mott Park, Flint, MI • **Email:** MottPark@gmail.com

President Nada Radakovich 810-233-7608 • nadaradakovich@yahoo.com

Vice President Christine Robinson (Neighborhood Revitalization Chair) 616-550-7572 • christine.robinson8@yahoo.com

Treasurer Sandra McKellar (Neighborhood Activities Chair) 810-232-4710 • sdmckellar@sbcglobal.net

Secretary Holly Shaker • mottpark@gmail.com

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Ginny Braun (Gardening Coordinator) 810-444-7566 • ginnybraun@bhhsmi.com

Rob Jewell (Resource) 810-238-0309 • robertvjewell@comcast.net

Arther Mance (Community Outreach) 810-394-3274 • arthermance@gmail.com

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Diana Phillips 810-424-6496 • dphillip@kettering.edu

Kyle Root rootdown01@gmail.com

John Simpson (Neighborhood Watch Chair) 810-813-3335 • mottpark@gmail.com

Nena Woodall (Neighborhood Park and Playground Chair / Facebook Manager) 810-241-1869 • norma32516@sbcglobal.net

**Attend a meeting. Start a project.
We'll be glad to help!**



**Did you know?
As a resident of
Mott Park you are a
member of the Mott
Park Neighborhood
Association. Attend
a meeting, help a
neighbor, pick up
litter. We are all
neighbors building a
stronger community.
Make a difference
and volunteer today!**

“The annual Mott Park rummage sales were held on Saturday, May 31st and were the best ever.”

Thank you Julie Simmons for all your hard work this year. An earlier date was chosen this year and we hope this brought more business to your sale.

- More than thirty families participated in the sales.
- A map of Mott Park was printed and the addresses of those families that let us know they were participating were printed on the back.
- Each of those families was given a copy of the permit and several maps to hand out so people would know where to look.
- That list was also emailed to those people on the email contact list so they could go shopping.

If you had a sale – I hope you sold a lot of your stuff. If you went shopping – I hope you made a great buy – and maybe made a new friend. Thanks to all who participated!

“Nearly 100 friends and neighbors gathered in the park for the annual Meet & Greet picnic on June 17th”

Several tents were put up to provide shade for the food and the neighbors attending. The MPNA provided hot dogs and beverages and everyone brought a dish to share. There was a nice breeze to keep everyone comfortable in the sunshine. It was a quiet, pleasant afternoon and everyone who attended seemed to enjoy the company and the food.

There was a big box of balls and other toys to keep the little ones occupied. Thanks to all who helped with set-up and tear-down of the tents and equipment – and to all who came out.

We are looking for someone to coordinate this event next year. If you think it might be fun to help plan a picnic for a large group please contact Sandy McKellar at 232-4710 or 240-8510.

- Sandy McKellar, Neighborhood Events Chairman

Back to school time!

“If you have any questions about the neighborhood Little Free Libraries or about starting your own, visit the Mott Park FB page or just come knock on my yellow door. I can also put you in touch with the other LFLs. Happy reading everyone!” - **Krissy K. (402 Dougherty LFL)**



Have you paid your dues?

It's time to pay your annual MPNA dues. **Dues are \$15 per year** – although if you wish to send a larger amount we will certainly accept it. Please use the envelope that was attached to the front of your Spring 2014 newsletter

"Revitalization is alive and well in Mott Park!"



When I walk around our lovely neighborhood, I am amazed at the beauty in the architecture and how rich we are in history. It is a shame that so many of the properties have fallen into such

states of disrepair, but the new things coming forth from this condition are encouraging and exciting! Over the course of the spring and summer, at least twelve people, including teenagers, have stepped up to the plate to tackle this mountainous task of improving our neighborhood. Some of these efforts have been coordinated and organized and some have been spontaneous, out of sense of duty or excitement of turning things around from negative to positive. Three teenagers did huge tasks over the whole summer, remaining faithful through to the end. Several volunteers jumped in on the projects after seeing the great results and desiring to be a part of positive change. Two of the volunteers became the kind of helpers that will jump in on request at any time, even in the final hour. New people stepped in, people that had never given much thought to community service. Neighbors started to realize the importance of maintaining their own properties. A grandparent even instructed a visiting grandchild of the importance of keeping things nice as we all picked up trash on Joliet! Frustrated neighbors were encouraged that things were on a better path and thanked the volunteers profusely. That was win/win for both--the neighbors were happy that adjoining properties were getting care and the volunteer beamed with pride and soldiered on! Later residents began to maintain adjoining properties after the worst of it was dealt with by the revitalization group. After earnest pleading, city blight coordinator Raul Garcia is giving Mott Park the attention it deserves, mostly because, in his words, "the residents of Mott Park truly care about and work hard for their community." That is so true and it obviously pays off! We were able to partner with the Land Bank, winning us a \$3,000 grant to clean and mow at least 25 properties; however, with frugal use of the funds, we maintained at least 40 properties! Others volunteered time and money to keep equipment running, and yet others hired professionals to maintain properties out of their own money. This has been an amazing time period for the residents of Mott Park--what a great bunch of people!

Following are some of the tasks accomplished either directly or indirectly by the revitalization group:

- Some absent homeowners started taking an interest in their properties again, due to the urging of concerned neighbors.
- Houses were spruced up for sale, sold, and bought by owners desiring to revitalize.
- Residents took an interest in fixing their own homes.
- Clean up on Perry and Joliet.
- Copious documentation of events at "problem" homes.
- Also performed was the clean up and mowing of up to 45, properties, some of which include 2316, 1908, 1911, 1912, 1917, 2301 Joliet; 915, 911, 821, 805, 809, 801, 1057, 1054, 1058, 1062 Chevrolet; 759, 755, 1007 Dupont; 2542, 2546, 2550, 2554, 2553, 2562 Tiffin; 2556, 2510, 2511 Bagley; 722 Frank; 1925, 1929, 1933, 1937, 1905, 1909, 1913, 1917 Flushing, plus some on Perry and Marquette, and some medians.

Even with all the work going on, much more needs to be done. We need ideas. We need organizers and doers. This is fun! Contact me today to see how you can help at 616-550-7572. - **Christine Robinson, Neighborhood Revitalization**

"Adopt a park program..."

continued from page 2

It was amazing to see how much brighter the colors were as we were going along. We still have a few of the higher pieces that we were not able to get to on that day but will tackle once we get the new wood to repair the benches, the playground picnic table and the balance table! It was also mentioned that they may be able to replace some of the railroad timbers surrounding the park! Very exciting news for our kids and our park! Thank you to all the volunteers that showed up and helped to accomplish what we did that day, we have a great neighborhood with some great neighbors! If you are wanting to help please let me know, we have lots of things planned for the future that we can make come to fruition for our neighbor kids and for the our park. My email is Norma32516@gmail.com or leave me a message at 810-241-1869. Thank again for all our neighbors that do their part whether big or small, the "doing" is what makes the difference. - **Nena Woodall, Playground Coordinator**

Mark your calendars for Flint Fall fun.

Visit the venue's website or call for additional details and future events!



The Whiting
www.thewhiting.com/

Huey Lewis & the News - October 18
The Things They Carried - October 28
Black Violin - October 30
Senegal St. Joseph's Gospel Choir - November 1
Harry the Dirty Dog / Corey Holcomb - November 7
Dancing Pros Live - November 9
FSO Classical Concert - November 15

Longway Planetarium
www.sloanlongway.org/

Eerie Experiments - October 24
Spooky Science - October 25

Masonic Temple
www.masonicelegance.com/

6th Annual Vampire Ball - October 25

Flint Youth Theater
www.thefim.org/fyt-homepage

9x Nourished at the New Flints Farmers' Market
October 17 - November 2

Crossroads Village
www.geneseecountyparks.org/pages/crossroads

Ghost train departures - October 10, 17, 24, 29 - 31
Genesee Belle cruises - October 4 - 26 (Sat. & Sun.)

"A Few Thoughts..."


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doing banking online. Isn't that something? Because of this new process of doing banking electronically, the temptation does exist to some people to take things a step-too-far. Well folks, unfortunately, this did happen to us. Our treasurer, while doing her monthly checks and balances for our account, detected several discrepancies. Sandy IMMEDIATELY contacted our bank, (Security Credit Union) and had our account frozen. It seems that someone out there was attempting to take advantage of our MPNA account. PLEASE KNOW that your leadership team is on top of this situation and that funds are being restored. This cyber crime is now being investigated by the Flint Police. Your patience and understanding as we resolve this matter is greatly appreciated. We will keep you updated. Special "THANKS" go out to the Flint Police, the Michigan State Police, as well as Kettering University Security, McLaren Medical Center and Hurley Hospital Security public safety teams for their on-going patrols in our neighborhood! Crim 2014 was an overwhelming success! Thank you, everyone in Mott Park who participated, either by running, walking or offering mimosas and other beverages to the runners! I understand "the champagne corner" had a fun selfie photo spot, and that our secretary, Holly Shaker and her husband Scott, and sons all walked the 8k; past-president, Christine Monk, and former Mott Park resident, Patty McGaffigan as well. Jane McGaffigan Keeler, (formerly of Frank Street fame) did the complete 10K run as did Brian and Dorie Barkey. You guys rock! Don't think for a moment, Karla Froelich that I didn't hear about your cheering folks on from your trampoline up on the corner of Bradley and Court Streets! Ha! Way to be! Our next MPNA meeting will be held at Calvary Church, 7:00 p.m., October 6th. Our single guest speaker that evening will be the dynamic and visionary current president of Kettering University, Dr. Robert MacMahan. I urge all of you to please attend! Light refreshments will be provided. Thank you, everything, for all that you are doing for the betterment and continued success of our neighborhood! It is our place, you know--- it depends on us! **-Nada**



We always need newsletter carriers to deliver newsletters and flyers 4 - 6 times a year. Also needed are phone callers who are willing to make phone calls to people in Mott Park about 6 - 8 times a year. They will get a list of approximately 25 people and can leave a message on the answering machine if no one is home. Contact Holly Shaker for more details!

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This was a weird year. Some things died because of the long, cold winter. Some things actually flourished.

The groundhogs (I think they were the varmints) ate the geraniums at Nolen and University. Because winter lasted an extra month, some of the gardens are not up to their usual standards. Hopefully next year will be better.

Thanks to neighbors who took care of garden sites!! Dale Radford (triangle at Marquette & Dougherty), Pat Seals (Dougherty & Weller), Dorie and Brian Barkey (3 sites on Nolen/between Weller & Dougherty) Cindy & Rod Wilson (Nolen & Marquette), Jean & Jim Whiting (Nolen between Dougherty & University), Gerry George and Beth Goss (Weller & Thomas), Bobbie Lynch (4 little sites on Dougherty), Mike and Chrissie Donegan (4 little sites on Dougherty), Annette Mayner (Joliet & Perry triangle), Denny and Tammy Donlan (Marquette & Chevrolet triangle). Josh Gallagher, Angela Swartz and I reinvented the site at Nolen & Dougherty with a grant from Keep Genesee County Beautiful. Holly Shaker reinvented the amphitheater by the playground (where the childrens' play was held).

"Let's give a hand"



Thank you to all the Kettering Campus Security Officers, who have been so diligent and helpful in keeping an eye on our neighborhood this summer. Their job is to keep

Kettering and its' students safe, and by keeping our neighborhood safe, they are accomplishing that. Thank you again Kettering officers! We very much APPRECIATE YOU!!



Again, a special thank you to The Hurley Hospital Foundation who made a donation towards the betterment and safety on the behalf of the citizens in Flint who live in Mott Park. All of us in Mott Park are most grateful! Thank you, Hurley Hospital!"

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We are proud to be a part of the Mott Park neighborhood of friends!

I sure could use some help weeding the front of the clubhouse and the triangle at Marquette & Chevrolet and the one at Nolen & University. The golf course was mowed by volunteers from both Mott Park and Glendale Hills. Cal Chase, Blaise Bradley and Bob Knox mostly and Dave Wilson and Joe Colombo have been removing dead trees & limbs. We still need donations to pay for the diesel fuel and maintenance of the mowers. You can send donations to the Mott Park Public Golf Course Association c/o Dianna Phillips, 510 Dougherty Place. Neighbors who have donated this summer are Denny and Donna Gardner, Ann and Tom Palentyne, Jeff Coe, Rod Wilson & Sue Goering.

Kettering students have been helping out too on their Service Saturdays. Also I would REALLY like ideas for some uses of the clubhouse. We are almost ready to open the clubhouse. We've had these ideas so far: Yoga classes, Zumba classes & church meetings. What other great ideas do you have? Let me know!! Post on the Mott Park blogspot or on facebook. We had a wedding also outside at the bridge a couple of Saturdays ago!!

I am going to begin posting (and hope you neighbors will too) on the Mott Park Blog site for the two \$100 prizes for the "prettiest garden" in the neighborhood and the "most improved" home. Someone will be getting those prizes! Start posting pictures and let's vote!!

As far as Thymely Tips - Fall is a great time to plant perennials & trees and you can often get them on sale! Arborvitae are great evergreens to plant as a privacy fence. They grow pretty fast and are green year round and they don't need constant care. Any questions, feel free to call me at 810-444-7566. - **Ginny Braun, Gardening Coordinator**



Let the voting begin. The "Most Improved Exterior" and the "Prettiest Garden" are the two categories.

If you see a worthy home take a picture and post it on Facebook. "Like" your

favorite photo on Facebook or by calling Ginny at 444-7566.

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certificate (to a store of your choice) to the winners.

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The Mott Park Golf Course Association was formed two years ago to manage and operate the grounds and facilities formally known at Mott

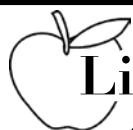
Park Golf Course. We have recently renewed our formal agreement with the City of Flint and now the Association has control over the club house and grounds. We are now working on plans for the future of the land and building.

After much study and hand wringing analysis, the Association has concluded that the restoration and operation of the area as the traditional golf course facility is not financially possible. We are very concerned, however, to allow the area to revert into a "wilderness area" as described in the City's master plan. We are, therefore, working on plans to develop the land as a diverse recreational public area.

There are many possible uses to be considered for the area, among them:

- Frisbee golf area
- Dog park
- Splash pad area
- Walking paths
- Picnic area
- Boat dock, canoe and kayak livery
- Golf driving range
- Golf putting green

The Association is currently studying the feasibility and maintainability of these possible uses and the compatibility of these uses with the surrounding neighborhoods. Ultimately any plan for development has to be something acceptable to our neighbors and approved by the City of



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Flint. If you would like a potential use considered as part of this study, the Association would love to hear from you. Please feel free to send your suggestions and your contact information to Ginny Braun at ginnybraun@bhhsmi.com

A cornerstone of any development plan is the restoration of the club house. We are exploring the manner and cost of ways to protect the building from vandalism as well as turning it into an area that people can rent for events such as meetings, weddings and other activities. This work has just begun and will be ongoing. We plan to keep the surrounding neighborhood associations apprised as we work on these things.



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5 Top Tips

1. When selecting a costume make sure it is the right size to prevent trips and falls.
2. Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors. Since masks can sometimes obstruct a child's vision, try non-toxic face paint and makeup whenever possible.
3. Have kids use glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
4. Children under the age of 12 should not be alone at night without adult supervision. If kids are mature enough to be out without supervision, they should stick to familiar areas that are well lit and trick-or-treat in groups.

5. Popular trick-or-treating hours are 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. so be especially alert for kids during those hours.

Source: <http://www.safekids.org/halloween>

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Service Guide

Mott Park residents who have paid the annual MPNA dues are eligible to place an ad in the service guide. Please limit your posting to about 20 words. If you have any feedback regarding any of the services offered in the service guide, please forward to mottpark@gmail.com. We would love to make the service guide more useful by including a rating system. Please note that the MPNA does not endorse any service/vendor listed.

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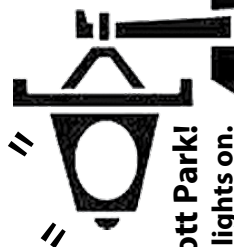
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Drug Hotline 237-6957

Flint Fire Department 762-7336

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Consumers Energy 1-800-477-5050

City of Flint 766-7346

**Genesee Regional
Chamber of Commerce** 600-1404

Genesee County Land Bank 257-3088

Dumping Hotline 237-2432

Street Maintenance 766-7450

Demolitions 766-7284

City Council 766-7418

Parks & Recreation 766-7463

**State Representative
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County Commissioner John Northrup
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Council Sheldon Neeley
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**City of Flint Blight Coordinator
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Until next time...

Fall is upon us! While your focus turns to back-to-school and the cooler weather don't forget to tend to your flowers and prune those trees. As always, keep a look out for your neighbors and have a happy and safe Halloween! The next issue of the Mott Park Neighborhood News will be out in November 2014. Happy Fall!