

Attend the General Meeting on October 5.

Our next MPNA meeting will be held Monday, October 5th, 2015 at St. John Vianney's Parish Hall, 2415 Bagley Street at 7:00 pm. We will be hearing from Ian Thomas of McLaren Medical Center Security - please plan to attend!

"A Few Thoughts..."

by Nada Radakovich, MPNA President

"25" Such a seemingly benign number, yet such a significant number. It seems to be the number of the age at which we really feel as though, "Wow. I'm '25' years old now! I get it! I am an adult." It's also the number of pennies in a nice shiny quarter! Those are fun to have in your pocket at any given time. ("I can park downtown and run over to City Hall to pay my water bill" kind of fun!)

But, "25" is also the determined speed limit for our neighborhood. Not just on my street, but on EACH street in Mott Park. 25 miles per hour. And believe it or not, there is a reason for this, and it isn't just some arbitrarily weird reason that the civil engineers determined would provide better control of our cars on our curvy streets. The reason behind the 25 mph speed limit is to protect us!

In case we don't happen to see a pedestrian stepping out, or catch a bicyclist cutting in front of us... just in case we happen to 'touch' someone with our vehicles, that person would have a chance of surviving. That magic '25' MPH speed limit makes the city safer for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers and help meet the City's goal of bringing traffic fatalities to zero. Data shows that driving at or below 25 MPH improves drivers' ability to avoid crashes. Pedestrians struck by vehicles traveling at 25 MPH are half as likely to die as those struck at 30 MPH. Driving at or below 25 MPH decreases stopping distance, gives drivers and pedestrians more time to see each other and react, and improves drivers' ability to avoid crashes. Vehicle stopping distance

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Don't Miss This!



*Halloween Safety
Tips - Page (8)*



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“A Few Thoughts...”

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improves by 45 feet (23%) when traveling at 25 MPH versus 30 MPH. This small 5 MPH decrease in speed means that many crashes can be avoided altogether. The speed at which a vehicle is traveling directly impacts the likelihood of death for pedestrians who are struck. If crashes do occur, the severity of injuries is reduced at lower speeds. Please, please, please, I am asking everyone who reads this newsletter and who can pass word along to friends who own cars who live here in Mott Park - PLEASE SLOW DOWN! There are many unaware children who live and play here; there are elderly people who walk around their block and the neighborhood; there are folks' pets who may dart out at any time - PLEASE SLOW DOWN! I can only drive my car and observe the speed limit for myself. Please encourage friends and family you know, who drive, to please slow down. These cars racing down the street and PASSING for heaven's sake (I cannot believe I am even writing these words!) or trying to pass a car that is going 25 MPH is such a driving hazard and such a reckless driver! Please, please, please, SLOW DOWN!

Now, second on my list of things to talk about is the crime we are enduring. It is summertime, crime rates go up. Please folks, if you can, if you are able, please report any weird things that you see; write it down, snap a photo with your phone, and later report it.

Report it to 1. The Flint Police / 911, 2. Kettering University Security 810-762-9501, 3. McLaren Security 810-342-3333. If we all could and did do this, the burglars and criminals who are breaking into our homes and stealing from us might get away with it one time, but if we (the police) have documentation,

photos, etc, they can start to build a case against the criminal. Please, pay attention - lock your windows ALWAYS! Keep your doors locked! Check your basement windows to see if they are secure (and if they are not secure, please contact us 810-233-7608 or contact@mottpark.org and we will do our best to help remedy this situation). And don't forget about your garages! Lock them as well! And please, from the wise mind and heart of Marquette Street resident, Damone Harper, “GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS!” It is such an important aspect of safety, you just wouldn't believe it! It is part of the CEPTED credo, and it is true! Please get to know your neighbor on either side of your house; ask your neighbor ‘nicely’ if you could have their phone number for safety reasons (most neighbors appreciate a helpful neighbor who is willing to ‘keep an eye’ on things). Learn their name(s) and be ‘neighborly’ with one another. Mr. Harper told us at a meeting recently that he walks around Mott Park, saying “Hello” to folks he meets, wishing them a nice day, and he would like it if we could/would all extend this form of neighborly kindness. I could not agree more! Thank you, Damone, for setting a fine example on how we could all be doing a better job of getting to know one another, and becoming familiar with who each one of us who lives here!

Thank you, everyone who donates time and care to help make Mott Park a better place; I hope to see more of you at meetings (if you can attend, they are normally held on the first Monday of each alternating month of the year at 7:00pm - watch for signage/announcements). Do volunteer - it is going to take EACH one of us, contributing in some way to help make Mott Park the ideal place it can be to live!

- Nada



Have a bright idea for Mott Park?

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



Mott Park Neighborhood Association

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

President

Nada Radakovich
810-233-7608 • president@mottpark.org

Vice President and Community Outreach Chair

Arther Mance
810-394-3274 • vicepresident@mottpark.org

Treasurer

Julie Simmons
treasurer@mottpark.org

Secretary

secretary@mottpark.org • mottpark@gmail.com

Executive Committee Board members:

Neighborhood Park and Playground Chair, Facebook Manager

Nena Woodall
810-241-1869 • nena@mottpark.org

Neighborhood Activities Chair

mottpark@gmail.com

Gardening Coordinator

Ginny Braun
810-444-7566 • ginny@mottpark.org

Advisor

Rob Jewell
810-238-0309 • rob@mottpark.org

Consultant

Chris Del Morone
810-767-2733

Neighborhood Representative

Diana Phillips
810-424-6496 • diana@mottpark.org

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!



Mott Park's 2015 Calendar of Events

October

Saturday, 3rd - Kettering Service Saturday

Monday, 5th - General meeting, 7pm - 9pm @ St. John Vianney

November

Saturday, 14th - Kettering Service Saturday

December

Monday, 7th - General meeting, 7pm - 9pm @ St. John Vianney

TBA - Kettering Service Saturday



It's Back-to-School Time!

Check out the four **Little Free Libraries** we have throughout the neighborhood. They're a great way to share good things to read—favorite books from your childhood or books you would recommend to friends; books that teach, intrigue and engage you. All of us can help by keeping this collection stocked with good reading material. Learn more at littlefreelibrary.org.



TREASURER'S REPORT

by Julie Simmons

August was a great month - 17 residents paid 2015 dues and \$365 was donated for security patrols! We cannot thank you enough. Dues are a mere \$15 a year and are used to go towards printing the quarterly newsletter, the annual picnic in the park – including the band, annual rummage sale permit, donations and landscaping materials such as mulch and flowers for the many gardens spotted around Mott Park.

Being a dues-paying participant also grants a chance to vote on new board members during election time. This August, Mott Park donated \$150 to help fill 50 backpacks for local schoolchildren. We also sponsored the annual flotilla with a \$100 donation.

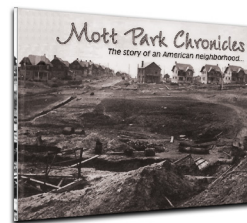
Dues and security donations can be made payable to MPNA and sent to PO Box 4187, Flint MI 48504.

We also have several copies of Mott Park Chronicles which can be purchased for \$20 (\$25 for shipped copies). If you would like to purchase a copy of the Chronicles, please contact any of the board members.

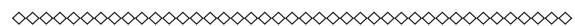
We also have the option to pay dues, donate, or purchase the Chronicles on our website – mottpark.org. Please note: anytime monies are paid through Paypal, a percentage goes to Paypal. This is the reason you will notice a 'strange' dollar amount on the dues and donations income line. Let's beat the August record and go for 18 new residents contributing to Mott Park!

Our income, expenditures and balance for the month of August:

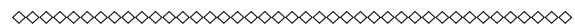
Income	
Dues	\$253.11
Security Patrol Donations	\$363.60
Mott Park Chronicles	\$40.00
Clean and Green Grant	\$700.00
Total Income	\$1,356.71
Expenses	
Clean and Green Expenses	\$1,330.00
Hawk Security Patrol	\$800.00
Donation - School Supplies	\$148.64
Total Expenses	\$2,278.64
Account Balance as of 8/31/14	\$7,449.99



Purchase your copy of Mott Park Chronicles at mottpark.org!



Read up on the history of the neighborhood and take in some reflections from neighbors who have lived and/or grown up here. Contact Julie Simmons to order a copy - treasurer@mottpark.org - or buy online at mottpark.org.



MPRA Update

by Ginny Braun

We are making progress slowly but surely. We were able to get a grant from Keep Genesee County Beautiful to repair some of the fencing around the clubhouse as well as to paint the window coverings. We have met with landscape architects and city planners and we are developing a plan, with their help, that uses the results of the visioning session as one of the guidelines. Also, students from MSU in East Lansing are developing a plan for the use of our green space as part of their class studies. We will use all this information as we make decisions and work towards seeking larger donations from major donors.

The mowing has gone great this year - the course looks great and comments have been positive. Unfortunately, the mower picked last week to break and now needs major surgery on it's radiator and

wheel. The mower hopefully will be repaired in about 2 weeks.

This brings me to the point that we need to raise money to pay for current and future expenses. An anonymous donation has been made to help pay for the mower repair, but we need to cover mowing expenses for the remainder of this year and for next year. Also, we still need to raise money to purchase shutters for the clubhouse, upgrade the security system and perform other repairs.

Your tax deductible donation would be a great help in continuing to keep the course mowed and continue the work that has been started. They can be made out to the Mott Park Recreation Area and sent to Diana Phillips, 510 Dougherty, Flint, MI 48504.



VEHICLE CITY TACOS

a review by Nena Woodall

It was lunch time on a Saturday afternoon. I had finished doing my morning running around and was hungry!

After watching numerous diner shows on the Food Network and always wishing these places were around the corner, I remembered I have been wanting to try the new food truck trend... and what better place than Flint's own Vehicle City Taco! I rounded up the kids and off to the Farmers' Market we went.

Vehicle City Tacos has been roaming around the city and parking at different venues and businesses to sell to the public. Their menu is pretty simple as far as choices, which is good because with



5 kids, too many choices is not pleasant. With choices like "The Clucker" (chicken), "The Oinker" (pulled pork), and "The Grazer" (flank

steak), you kind of giggle when you order. They also have a few vegetarian options available.

For this visit I chose "The Clucker." The chicken they use is free range, battered, covered with a yummy chipotle sauce, pico de gallo and cilantro. The flavor was delicious - the fresh ingredients along with a spicy kick was a great combo, and the taco itself was pretty filling.

The overall experience was good and the food was delicious. They had run out of certain choices on their menu by the time we got there, but the market was pretty packed that day so I am sure that they had a lot of customers before we arrived.



If you are wanting to try something new, don't hesitate to check them out. You can follow them on Facebook and Twitter to find out where they will be next! If we're lucky maybe we can even get them to set up closer our neighborhood!

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Thymely Tips by Ginny

Fall is a great time to plant trees because it's cooler and more moist. I'm planting one this fall to replace my poor old sugar maple that "crashed and burned" this summer. Because it's in the area between the street and sidewalk, planting a tree that will grow really big and have big sidewalk-heaving roots is not such a great idea. Also, the roots of the old tree are still around and will hamper growth until they rot out. So I'm either planting an ornamental pear, a disease-resistant flowering crab or a hairy locust. I found a hairy locust on an abandoned lot and am attempting to move it and keep it alive. When I was a kid, my dad, brother, and I would go out in the woods and dig up a sapling and bring it back home in a wheelbarrow and plant it. They lived and thrived if watered and fertilized the first season.

Fall is also a good time to cut back and divide perennials. You can replant them immediately in their new spot or I've overwintered them at the side of my garage in plastic grocery sacks. I still have some from last year that I haven't planted that I'm going to put in one of the community gardens this fall. Hostas especially are easy to do this to. Iris, blackeyed susans and others are pretty easy too. If I haven't mentioned it before, I would like to tell you to save those coffee grounds and throw them on your grass and other garden areas. Plants love it. I keep a plastic grocery sack hanging in my garage and put the used grounds in it and throw them around my garden. I haven't done the lawn yet but my friend swears by it.

Of course fall is the time to plant tulips, daffodills, crocuses and grape hyacinths. All but the tulips will come back year after year. Some tulips like Darwins, will return for years.

The community gardens we planted looked pretty good this year. They liked the rain and even endured



the hot, dry part of the summer. The real problem is the weeds were pretty happy too! I love the pop of the red geraniums we got from Ken's greenhouse. We were able to get some milkweed stands going for the Monarch butterflies. One of the mower guys said he saw a group of about 25 of them on the old golf course once when he was mowing the path by the river. We've left a portion of the course on the Mott Park side of the river to grow wild.

Thanks again to those who tended the neighborhood gardens and boulevards - Pat Seals, Marta Tavakoli, James Owensby, Dorie and Brian Barkey, Denny and Tammy Donlan, Judy Alexander, Angela Schwartz and the many Kettering students who helped out on their service Saturdays. Alan Griggs even created a couple of new ones on Dougherty! Also some volunteers from St. John Vianny worked on the Bagley/ Marquette/Chevrolet triangle. If someone else wants to help out, there are several small ones on Dougherty that could use some help. Give me a call 810-444-7566 or email me at ginnybraun@bhhsmi.com.

Also don't forget to vote for the "most improved" home and prettiest garden on the Mott Park Facebook page. We have 3 postings already for most improved - Christine Kaye, Cynthia Lintz, and Betty Stewart. Anyone else? No one has submitted a "prettiest garden" picture nominee as of yet.

Thanks to those Mott Park walkers who pick up litter as they go. It really helps keep the neighborhood looking nice. For those who walk and don't pick up litter, it would be good exercise to bend over every once in a while and pick up something and just put it in a plastic sack. That would be so great!

I ♥ Mott Park!

Ginny Braun, Gardening Coordinator



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Halloween Safety Tips

from SafeKids.org

Halloween might be scary for different reasons than you think. On average, twice as many kids are injured while walking on Halloween than on any other day of the year. With a few tips and tricks, kids can stay safe while out walking.

Walk Safely

- 🚶 Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks.
- 🚶 Look left, right and left again when crossing and keep looking as you cross.
- 🚶 Put electronic devices down and keep heads up and walk, don't run, across the street.
- 🚶 Teach children to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.
- 🚶 Always walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to
- 🚶 the left as possible. Children should walk on direct routes with the fewest street crossings.
- 🚶 Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. Teach children to never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.

Drive Extra Safely on Halloween

- 🚗 Slow down and be especially alert in residential neighborhoods. Children are excited on Halloween and may move in unpredictable ways.
- 🚗 Take extra time to look for kids at intersections, on medians and on curbs.

- 🚗 Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly and carefully.
- 🚗 Eliminate any distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings.
- 🚗 Drive slowly, anticipate heavy pedestrian traffic and turn your headlights on earlier in the day to spot children from greater distances.
- 🚗 Popular trick-or-treating hours are 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. so be especially alert for kids during those hours.

Keep Costumes Both Creative and Safe

- 👤 Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors.
- 👤 Choose face paint and makeup whenever possible instead of masks, which can obstruct a child's vision.
- 👤 Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
- 👤 When selecting a costume, make sure it is the right size to prevent trips and falls.

Trick or Treat With an Adult

- 👤 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.

Fall Guide 2015

Mark your calendars for
fall fun in Flint!

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

The Whiting

(810) 237-7337 • thewhiting.com

FSO Romantic Rachmantinoff - October 3

The Illusionists - October 9

Romeo and Juliet - October 14

The Glass Castle - November 3

FSO Mysterious Mahler - November 14

Sloan & Longway

(810) 237-3451 • (810) 237-3440 • sloanlongway.com

A Night at the Museum - November 14

"A Really Strange and Mysterious Star" - October 2

Space Lecture - November 6

Flint Institute of Arts

(810) 234-1695 • flintarts.org

Halloween Happenings - October 31

First Frost Arts & Fine Crafts Fair - November 7 & 8

Crossroads Village

(810) 736-7100 • geneseecountyparks.org/pages/crossroads

Ghost Train - October 3-4, 9-11, 16-18, 23-25 & 28-31

Genesee Belle cruises - TBD

For Mar

(810) 736-7100 • geneseecountyparks.org/pages/formar

8th Annual Harvest Festival - October 10

Pumpkin Carving 101 - October 17

Enchanted Forest - October 23 & 24

Wild Turkey Run/Walk & Kids Turkey Trot - November 28

Flint Youth Theater

(810) 238-1350 • thefyt.org

Little Women - October 10 through October 25

Masquerade Ball - October 30

Shipwrecked! An Entertainment - November 8

Flint Institute of Music

(810) 238-1350 • thefim.org

Mahler Dinner - November 12

FIM Wine Dinner - November 20



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Security and Safety in Mott Park

by Nada Radakovich

On Monday, August 17th, the indefatigable Julie Simmons and the equally incredibly hard working Ginny Braun gave up their entire day to plant themselves at the clubhouse and make it possible for residents to cast their vote on the topic of whether or not we as a neighborhood would like to hire a security service on a limited basis. MPNA Vice President, Arther Mance put together a method for online voting, and this process in combination with all of the people who stopped by to vote in person, rendered this outcome:

102 'YES' votes for security. 4 'NO' votes for security.

As this is an overwhelming 'yes' count, we as your steering committee are now going to begin the process of asking residents and businesses in our neighborhood to donate monies towards our having a professional security company patrol our neighborhood during the off-hours of our already steady patrolling from Kettering University and McLaren Medical Center and Hurley Hospital security divisions.

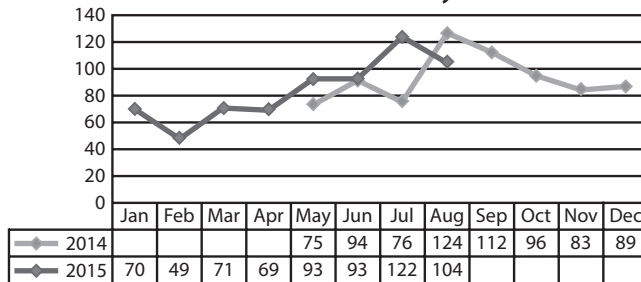
We are all aware that a number of neighborhoods in Flint already do have security companies patrolling - the Downtown Area, UM-Flint Campus, the Cultural Center, Woodcroft Estates, Kettering University, Hurley Hospital, McLaren Medical Center, as well as numerous other professional office areas, churches, gated communities and businesses to name a few. The topic of security is something that we (steering committee) have been talking about for almost two years now - the prime objective is for us to try and maintain a steady level of safety in Mott Park and this is a challenging thing to maintain. We are hoping that, with time, and as things improve in our city, security patrols will not be as necessary as they seemingly are now.

Monetarily, to hire HAWK security for us, it will cost somewhere in the area of \$25.00 per hour. If we use them, say, for 8-10 hours per week for the remainder of this year (2015), that would cost us somewhere around three thousand dollars. If ten families/homes in Mott Park donated \$300.00 each, we could cover the cost without any outside help. If fifteen families/homes donated \$200.00 each, we could cover the cost without outside help, and so forth (20 families/homes donated \$150.00, etc). I believe that this is a do-able solution for us. Thank you for listening, and thank you for voting!

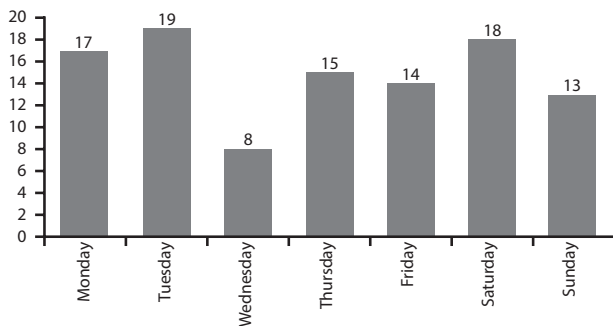
Flint Crime Stats for August 2015

Compiled by the Michigan Intelligence
Operations Center

Flint CORE Crime by Month

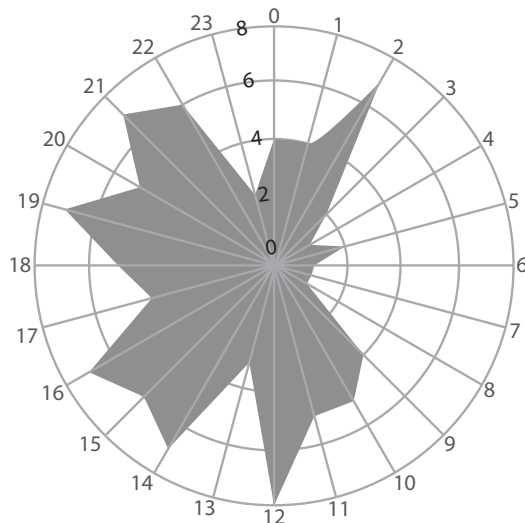


CORE Crime by Day of Week



In August, 52% of crime took place on Saturdays,
Mondays, and Tuesdays.

CORE Crime 24 Hour Radar



In August, 39% of crime took place between
10:00am and 4:59pm, while 29% of crime took
place between 6:00pm and 10:59pm.



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riers 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 ap-
proximately 25 people and can leave a message on
the answering machine if no one is home. Contact
Chris Monk for more details!

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.

McKellar's Tree Cutting

Tree removal / trimming. Free estimates, insured. Will remove brush & wood or you keep the split firewood. Rough mulch delivered. Special prices in Mott Park. Call Dave at 810-348-6041

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Realtors

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Scott D. Shaker of RE/MAX Grande Realty at 810-691-5659 or www.isell-homesfast.com specializing in land contracts, foreclosures and difficult to sell properties.

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Call Julie Simmons at 810-820-5731 or email jsimmons@kettering.edu

Little Orchard Child Care

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Quality Window Cleaning, 30 years experience, Mott Park resident for 25 years. Call Frank at 810-234-2897

Computer Repair and Service

PC cleanups, virus removal, new system installs with data transfer from old system if needed. Device purchase recommendations! Call Vinnie at 810-309-2504 or email vsanch24@gmail.com

Bed and Breakfast

Knob Hill Bed and Breakfast is a beautiful 1920s home located at 1105 South Drive in Flint. Call Diana Phillips at 810-424-3888, email knobhillbnb@gmail.com, or visit knobhillbedandbreakfast.com

Helpful Numbers

Emergencies 911

Flint Police Department 237-6801

Community Policing 237-6853

Anonymous Tip Line 237-6812

Drug Hotline 237-6957

Flint Fire Department 762-7336

Poison Control 1-800-222-1222

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

Republic (Refuse/Recycling)
1-888-872-7455

State Representative Sheldon Neeley
517-373-8808
SheldonNeeley@house.michigan.gov

Mayor Dayne Walling
810-766-7346
mayor@cityofflint.com
Open door hours: Weds. 10am - 12pm

County Commissioner John Northrup
810-257-3020
jnorthrup@co.genesee.mi.us

Council Herbert Winfrey
810-766-7418 ext. 3165
hwinfrey@cityofflint.com

City of Flint Blight Coordinator Raul Garcia
810-237-2090
rgarcia@cityofflint.com

Until next time...

Fall is falling! The weather is getting steadily cooler and the days shorter. Now's the time to check those furnaces and get them cleaned if needed. You might also want to store your window air conditioning units, too - winter will be upon us in no time. The next issue of the Mott Park Neighborhood News will be out in November; in the meantime, enjoy the fall colors and have a safe and delicious Halloween!



Contact us:

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