

## Flint Neighborhoods United Meeting

November 4, 2023

Gloria Coles Flint Public Library

9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Flint Neighborhoods United (FNU) is a coalition of neighborhood groups and residents who come together on the first Saturday of each month to share information and leverage their resources to create positive change in the Greater Flint community.

### Announcements/Community Conversation

- North Flint Neighborhood Action Council

- Hosting free “Building Better Block Clubs” event at Sylvester Broom

Empowerment Village on Dec. 11 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. More information on this event will be available at FNU’s next meeting, as well.

- Flint Initiative for Natural and Environmental (FINE) Health

- Presented by Dr. Ann Burton

- FINE Health is studying the correlation between toxins and diabetes and offering a 12 to 16 week program to advise those with Type 2 diabetes (not on insulin) and pre-diabetes through naturopathic medicine.

- Fine-health.org for more information, or email [FINEFlintHealthCare@aol.com](mailto:FINEFlintHealthCare@aol.com) or call: 810-820-1045

- Gloria Coles Flint Library

- Hosting free holiday grief group therapy sessions every Saturday starting today through to Dec. 16

- From Nov. 4 to Dec. 2 at 11 a.m.

- And then from Dec. 2 to Dec. 16 at 3 p.m.

- Little Explorers programming (for babies, toddlers, children) happens the first Saturday of each month from 10:30 am to noon

- If you are hosting a meeting/event at the library and want it to be visible on the library’s website, make sure to let the library staff know when you book the meeting/event with that it should be listed as a public event.

- Michigan State University

- November is Men's Health Month and MSU will be hosting a special panel discussion on Nov. 15 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at MSU College of Human Medicine (200 E. First Street, Flint, MI 48502)

- RSVP to Lisa at [pasbjer4@msu.edu](mailto:pasbjer4@msu.edu)

- Hosting a Winter Clothes Drive from Nov. 1 through Dec. 15; drop-off is at MSU College of Human Medicine (200 E. First Street, Flint, MI 48502)

- For more info, email Lisa at [pasbjer4@msu.edu](mailto:pasbjer4@msu.edu) or [kenne580@msu.edu](mailto:kenne580@msu.edu)

- Rx Kids to officially launch on Feb. 14, 2024, more information:

- <https://msuhurleypphi.org/RxKids/index.html>

- Communities First, Inc.

- Step Up, Pick Up celebration on Nov. 16 at Coolidge Park Apartments at 5:30 p.m. You do not need to have participated to come to the celebration.

- 1st Place: Mott Park Neighborhood Association

- 2nd Place: Sarvis Park Neighborhood Association

- 3rd Place: Robert T Longway Boulevard Beautification Club and West Court Street Church of God (and neighbors)

- 9th Annual African American Film Series has begun, with the first film showing on Nov. 2 at the Flint Institute of Arts

- The free series' remaining dates are Dec. 14, Jan. 11 and Feb. 8. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. followed by a film screening at 6:45 p.m.

- Check CFI's social media pages for information on what films will be featured on each date.

- Hoping folks will be able to move into the Grand on University in Carriage Town neighborhood within the next two months. Also hoping to break ground on another development on Flushing Road in Mott Park (the former Medical Arts office building) by early next year to continue to help fill the gap for affordable housing needs in Flint.

- Hosting multiple events at the Community Enrichment Center on Hamilton

Avenue including fitness classes at 10 - 11 a.m. on Wednesdays through to Dec.

11 in partnership with the Greater Flint Health Coalition

○ CFI is also participating in “Complete Streets” work, which focuses on fostering street infrastructure that considers more than just vehicular traffic, but also bike and pedestrian traffic and accessibility and safety for children and people with disabilities

■ Recently Flint City Council approved narrowing Court Street and Fifth Street from 4-lane one-ways to 2-lane one-ways with things on the street like protected cycling lanes, better sidewalks, better pedestrian crossings.

■ However, MDOT has also seemed to be walking back on early promises around the redesign of I-475, with the segment of roadway on the north side of Flint already nearly-finalized. If folks do want to participate in greater advocacy, email Joel Arnold at: [jarnold@communitiesfirstinc.org](mailto:jarnold@communitiesfirstinc.org)

○ CFI is hiring. Info on programming or job opportunities: [communitiesfirstinc.org](https://communitiesfirstinc.org)

● League of Women Voters

○ Hosting two town halls in November to explain new rules for voting in 2024

■ Sat. Nov. 18 at 2 p.m. at McFarland Library in Grand Blanc

■ Wed. Nov. 29 at 6 p.m. at Gloria Coles Flint Public Library

■ For more details/questions, email [lwwflintarea@gmail.com](mailto:lwwflintarea@gmail.com)

● West Flint Community Watch

○ Next meeting is Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church (2526 Corunna Road at Farnum Ave.)

○ More info: 810-239-9259

● Keep Genesee County Beautiful

○ Nancy Edwards now director at Flint River Watershed Coalition; KGCB to move into the coalition’s new building over by My Brother’s Keeper

○ Hoping this may mean more water work through KGCB, as well; Brandon (who gave KGCB update) is taking special courses to support work on waterways

○ The 2024-2029 Genesee County Park Plan is open for public comment until Nov.

- Can be viewed here:

[https://geneseecountyparks.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/DRAFT-5-YEAR-PLAN\\_2024\\_FOR-REVIEWfor-web.pdf](https://geneseecountyparks.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/DRAFT-5-YEAR-PLAN_2024_FOR-REVIEWfor-web.pdf)

- Comments can be sent to [rapkswbteam@gcparks.org](mailto:rapkswbteam@gcparks.org)

- Received a \$50k grant to replace the playground at River Park Apartments, and KGCB has already met with residents of the complex to discuss what they would like from the new playground

- Environmental Transformation Movement of Flint

- Cool Lots program has started, and ETM (and the program's other partners) are now working with 6 neighborhood groups on creating small-scale climate change solutions

- ETM continues to work on air quality concerns for residents around industrial areas, including those affected by the new Ajax asphalt plant on Flint's north side

- City of Flint to receive \$1m grant to support the creation of a climate resiliency plan; will be seeking public input in the near future

- For more information, reach out to Mona Monroe-Younis:

[etmflint@gmail.com](mailto:etmflint@gmail.com) or 810-845-4633

- Genesee County Land Bank Authority

- Hosting an open house at 3207 Mackin Road on Nov. 8 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

GCLBA rehabbed the home, so it is move-in ready.

- If interested in purchasing the property, contact: [sales@thelandbank.org](mailto:sales@thelandbank.org)

- Flint Our Community Our Voice

- Holiday greetings can be put in the paper for the December edition; greeting space is roughly business card sized and costs \$10. Deadline is Nov. 17

- Contact Chris Frye if you are interested: [cfrye31@comcast.net](mailto:cfrye31@comcast.net)

- Paper can also be viewed at [focov.org](http://focov.org) also [flintneighborhoodsunited.org](http://flintneighborhoodsunited.org)

City of Flint Police Department

- Update given by Flint Detective and Spokesperson Tyrone Booth

- Up 6% in property crimes

- College Cultural area has experienced an increase in car “smash-and-grabs” and petty property crimes; according to reports and videos from the area, it seems to be 3 teenagers in a Black Chevrolet Blazer, but Flint PD has not been able to get a clear plate on the vehicle yet
- Flint PD has stepped up patrols in the area and is working with Mott Community College PD to help apprehend the individuals
- Flint PD suggests reporting any suspicious activities to them, keeping porch lights on to limit opportunities for such crimes, and not leaving your vehicle on while unattended (even if it’s cold out!)

- FNU Questions

- Booth suggested calling Flint PD’s non-emergency number regarding unwanted noise/dogs barking in neighborhoods: 810-237-6800
- Carma asked about Midway Apartments (formerly Evergreen Regency) based on the calls she’d been getting from the area. Booth noted Flint PD met with Midway Apartments’ manager and property owner and put in place specialty assignments, a special investigative unit and a special patrol over the past few months. Booth said the PD has seen a decrease in criminal activity in response to these measures.
- Devil’s Night: 5 abandoned structures burned this year, a decrease from 2022