

## Mission

*"To connect people across boundaries and create channels of action to make Flint, MI a truly great community!"*

### Save the Date:

**April 10**  
Community Challenge Town Hall

**April 15**  
Scholarship Dinner

**April 24**  
Flint Club Member Meeting

# Flint Diaspora

**"SPREADING THE NEWS ABOUT FLINT"**

## Scholarship Dinner at the Sarvis Center

Flint Club will host a fundraising dinner at the Sarvis Center (1231 E. Kearsley St.) on April 15, 2008 to support the newly renamed Dr. Michael Cross Flint Club Service Scholarship. Doors open at 6pm. The dinner will begin at 6:30pm.

The public is invited to attend and help civically engaged Flint students attend college. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased at the Flint Club office at 134 E. Second St (next to the Capitol Theater) or online at [www.flintclub.org](http://www.flintclub.org).

## Mott Community College Bears Win National Championship--Again!

For the second year in a row the MCC men's basketball team, the Bears, has won the National Junior College Athletic Association championships.

This is the third national title that the Bears have brought back to Flint in the past five years. They clinched the championship this year with an 83-73 victory over Columbus State Community College of Ohio in Danville, IL on Saturday March 22.

Congratulations to Coach Schmidt and the entire Bears team for a job well done and thanks for keeping Flint's proud athletic tradition alive.



## You May Be a Flintstone If...

- ...You know a short cut between Robert T and Court
- ...You shopped at The Small Mall
- ...You bought a record at Rock-A-Rola, Wyatt Earp's, or Nick's Records
- ...You have ever ordered fries with gravy at 3am
- ...You know what a Boston Cooler is
- ...You refer to all paper bags as a "Hamady sack"
- ...You put vinegar on your Luigi's Pizza
- ...The only bologna and hot dogs in your house have the Koegel label on them



## Community Corner

### Community Challenge Town Hall: The Critical Years 10-15

Roundtable and Discussion on Youth

April 10th 5:30pm to 8:30pm, Genesys Conference Center



Thriving, healthy communities value their children. And children between the ages of 10 and 15 are at a critical point in their lives.

This window of time in their growth and development is widely considered a 'last chance' to positively impact their future...and their future is our future. Find out what 10 to 15 year olds feel is important, what they are getting—and what they are missing. Discuss Flint and Genesee County programs and services that help and support them—an what is still needed.

*For more information or time sign up to attend, visit:*

[www.thecommunitychallenge.org](http://www.thecommunitychallenge.org)

### Flint on the Web

Whaley Historical House Museum unveils its first online exhibit, An Inside View: Florence and Will's Home on East Street.

In December 1896, Florence Orrell, Robert and Mary Whaley's daughter, and her husband, William Crapo Orrell, took several interior snapshots of their home on East Street in Flint. The photographs from the museum's collection can be viewed under the history tab of [whaleyhouse.com](http://whaleyhouse.com).

<http://whaleyhouse.com/>

### Making the Best of What's Around

Flint Township resident Eric Hall envisions a whitewater rapids kayak park along the Flint River in downtown Flint. He recently proposed his idea to the Flint River Watershed Coalition as a cost effective and innovative way to replace the aging Hamilton Dam. His proposal has intrigued many people here in Flint. Follow the link below to learn more about this fresh vision for Flint's future.

[http://blog.mlive.com/flintjournal/newsnow/2008/03/whitewater\\_rapids\\_in\\_downtown.html](http://blog.mlive.com/flintjournal/newsnow/2008/03/whitewater_rapids_in_downtown.html)



Thanks to everyone that participated in last month's Weather Ball rhyme survey. The results are in and the more recent rendition '*When colors blink in agitation, there's going to be precipitation*' was the preferred lyric by a two to one margin. And a special thanks to the Flint Club member that wrote in to remind us of the apocryphal addition to the rhyme...*"when the weather ball is black, brace yourself for alien attack."*

## Member Profile by Hannah Meyer

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I was born and raised in Flint and attended Open Elementary, Walker Elementary, Whittier Middle School and Flint Central High School. I moved to Chicago after graduating high school and have made it my adoptive home, but I'll always miss hanging out at Kate's (now Grapevine) or the Torch with my old friends.

I earned a BA in Film from Columbia College Chicago and a MA in Sociology from the University of Texas at Austin. I have a background working in alternative high schools and am now with the City Colleges of Chicago in the Adult Education Department. While I enjoy working in education, my true passion is creative writing, and I hope some day to be able to dedicate myself to it full time. I recently completed the writing program at Second City in Chicago and write both short and feature length screenplays, sitcoms, sketch comedy, and whatever else comes to mind.

While in high school I was heavily involved in choir and theater and credit both with contributing in many ways to who I am today. I directly credit my passion, drive and commitment to my writing to Mr. Helmut Petrich and Mr. Martin Jennings, Central's Choir and Theater Directors when I was in school there. They are proof of the power of great teachers. I often feel bad for people I meet here in Chicago who grew up in some suburb going to a nice, well-funded school with perfectly adequate teachers and perfectly adequate programs doing perfectly adequate stage productions of Our Town. They have no idea what they're missing. Petrich and Jennings demanded from every kid who walked through their classroom door that they simply do their best, and every kid they touched got to experience how wonderful it is to reach their full potential. What they taught me I have applied to my writing and I am better for it.

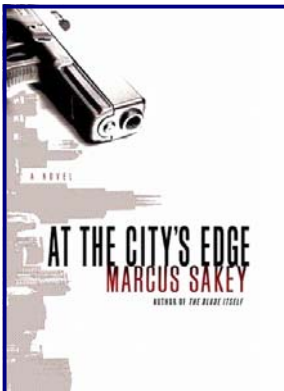
When I was a kid, Flint was a wonderful city to grow up in. I only hope that future generations can experience some of the great things I was blessed with growing up there. I truly hope that Flint can turn things around, but I know that's easier said than done. Organizations like Flint Club and community efforts like the new Friends of Flint Central are a huge part of that, but it will also require strong leadership and, most important of all: jobs. People need good, living wage jobs. But you all don't need me to tell you that.

I have to say, I do miss Flint people and the Flint vibe. I have moments where I realize that, no matter how long I've been in Chicago, I will always feel most at home with the laid back, down to earth friends I grew up with. I also like to think I have retained a bit of the Flint way about me, or at least that I remain conscious of those values. I wholly believe that coming from Flint gives me an advantage in achieving my goals. Flintstones embody the perfect mix of tenacity and humility; a combination of traits I will always respect and admire.

And then there's the food: Halo Burger, Rizzo's pizza, the chicken shwama sandwich at Bada West, and, of course, Coneys. I've actually made Coney sauce in my kitchen in Chicago using a recipe off the internet. It was an act of desperation. Unfortunately, as was to be expected, it's just not the same. Great, now I'm hungry.

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### Flint's Own Marcus Sakey Hailed As *The Reigning Prince of Crime Fiction*



Flint native, Marcus Sakey has secured his place on the bestsellers lists with the publication of his second gripping crime novel *At the City's Edge*.

Sakey now resides in Chicago, IL and the city serves as the setting for both of his crime dramas.

His first novel *The Blade Itself* earned Sakey critical acclaim, but it is his latest work that has the Chicago Tribune hailing him as "the Reigning Prince of Crime Fiction"

Fans of urban crime sagas such as HBO's *The Wire* or *The Sopranos* will find a lot to love in Sakey's work.

Follow the links below to read the Chicago Tribune's full review of *At the City's Edge* and to visit Marcus Sakey's website

[www.chicagotribune.com/features/booksmags/chi-crimebw16feb16,1,6749361.story](http://www.chicagotribune.com/features/booksmags/chi-crimebw16feb16,1,6749361.story)

[www.marcussakey.com/](http://www.marcussakey.com/)

## April Member Meeting

Please join us Thursday, April 24th at 6pm at the Flint Club office on East Second St. for our monthly membership meeting. We will be discussing upcoming Flint Club events and how you can get involved.

*We hope to see you there.*

*Contact Carol-Anne ([carolanne@flintclub.org](mailto:carolanne@flintclub.org)) for more information.*

## Who We Are

Rhoda Matthews	Executive Director	<a href="mailto:Rhoda@flintclub.org">Rhoda@flintclub.org</a>
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## April Volunteer Opportunities

Community Challenge Town Hall: The Critical Years 10-15 *Roundtable and Discussion on Youth (Specifically 10 to 15 year olds)*

April 10th 5:30pm to 8:30pm, Genesys Conference Center

*For more information contact Carol-Anne at ([carolanne@flintclub.org](mailto:carolanne@flintclub.org)) or visit <http://thecommunitychallenge.org> to sign up today.*

Dr. Michael Cross Scholarship Dinner,

April 15th , 6:00pm, Sarvis Center (1231 E. Kearsley St.)

*We need two volunteers to work the sign in table. Interested members should contact Carol-Anne ([carolanne@flintclub.org](mailto:carolanne@flintclub.org))*

MFUSE (Free Common Concert at UM-Flint)

April 16th 4pm to 8pm, UM-Flint Campus

*We need volunteers to work the Flint Club table ( set-up/clean-up/media area/vendor area/general help). Interested members should contact Carol-Anne ([carolanne@flintclub.org](mailto:carolanne@flintclub.org))*

*We have added a new volunteer sign up page to our website.*

*You can sign up to volunteer at any of these events or for future events at our website: [www.flintclub.org](http://www.flintclub.org)*

## “Be the Solution”

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Flint Club is a virtual, community-based network for Flint, Michigan. The Club is a 501(c)(3), nonprofit organization with more than 600 members that aims to link people to the life of the city no matter where they live. Contact Carol Anne Blower [carolanne@flintclub.org](mailto:carolanne@flintclub.org) for more information.

Send correspondence to Flint Club, P.O. Box 7604, Flint, MI 48507. Visit Flint Club World Headquarters, 134 E. Second St., Downtown Flint, next to the Capitol Theater building or call us at (810) 233-5468.