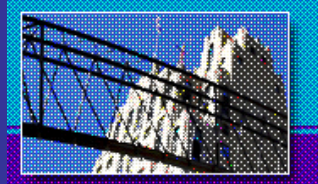


Flint Diaspora

“SPREADING THE NEWS ABOUT FLINT”



Mission

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

Save the Date:

March 25-26

Community Service Projects

March 27

Flint Club Member Meeting

April 10

Community Challenge Town Hall

April 15

Scholarship Dinner

Flint Club Service Scholarship Renamed in Honor of Dr. Michael D. Cross



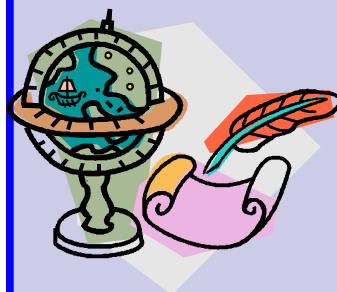
Flint Club's longest running program—the President's Service Scholarship—has been renamed to honor the memory of the late Dr. Michael D. Cross. The scholarship was started as a concrete way that Flint Club could promote an ethic of active public service to area students and reward those students that donated their time and energies towards improving life in Flint.

Each year, Flint Club offers scholarships to college-bound high school seniors that complete over 100 hours of community service and submit an essay describing the significance of their efforts in the community.

There will be a fundraising dinner April 15th, at the Sarvis Center in Flint to endow the scholarship fund and ensure that future generations of Flint students can attend college with the help of Flint Club members. Tickets for the event are \$35 and can be purchased at the Flint Club office at 134 East Second St. in downtown Flint.

For more information on Dr. Cross's life and contributions to the Flint community, please read his in memoriam member profile on page four.

Pen Pal Mentors



Flint Club is currently recruiting mentors to be involved in its Pen Pal Mentors program. We will be mentoring students across Genesee County. Mentors can participate in the program by communicating via email, fax or postal mail and are asked to commit to one letter a week.

- The program will run from March to June and will resume in September.
- All potential mentors must have a background check completed.

The Pen Pal Mentors program will be starting this month. For more information please contact Sonyita Scales Sonyita@flintclub.org, stop by Flint Club and pick up an application, or call us at (810) 233-5468.

Community Corner

Building Futures with Student Housing

The University of Michigan continues to expand and grow. Last July the university began construction of student housing that will bring over 300 students to downtown Flint. You can be a part of this historic event by participating in a commemorative tile project. You can purchase a tile to honor a student, special professor, friend or staff member. Your tile will join others on a featured wall in the new student lounge. Donations collected from this sale will be used to endow a new Student Housing Scholarship. Reserve your tile today. You only have until April 1, 2008 to participate in this worthwhile project. For questions concerning your gift please contact: **Lisa Graham at (810) 767-2154 or by e-mail at grahamlm@umflint.edu** or visit http://www.umflint.edu/development/building_futures.htm

Friends of Flint Central High School Group Starting

Last month Central High School Alumni came together to help students participating in two of the best programs in Flint history-- Model UN and Madrigals. A fundraiser held at Churchill's Pub raised the funds needed to help Model UN students travel to a conference in Mexico City and help the Madrigal singers register for competitions previously beyond the school's capacity to fund.

Building on this momentum, a group was organized called the "Friends of Flint Central", which will be dedicated to building school spirit and student pride. "Friends" will be open to current students and faculty, alumni and former faculty, and anyone else from our community (nearby and afar) interested in supporting and rebuilding FCHS. For more information or to make a donation, please contact **Becky Johns becky_johns@comcast.net**.

The Weatherball Rhyme

For more than 50 years, the Citizens Bank weatherball has been the signature landmark of the Flint skyline. Weighing in at two and a half tons, with a circumference of 47 feet, and comprised of 667 feet of lighting tubing, the weatherball predicts tomorrow's weather every night from its perch atop the Citizens Bank building.. For those in the know, it has been the only weather forecast needed for life in Flint. But you must know the weatherball rhyme.

When the weatherball is red, higher temperatures ahead

When the weatherball is blue, lower temperatures are due

Yellow light in weatherball means there'll be not a change at all

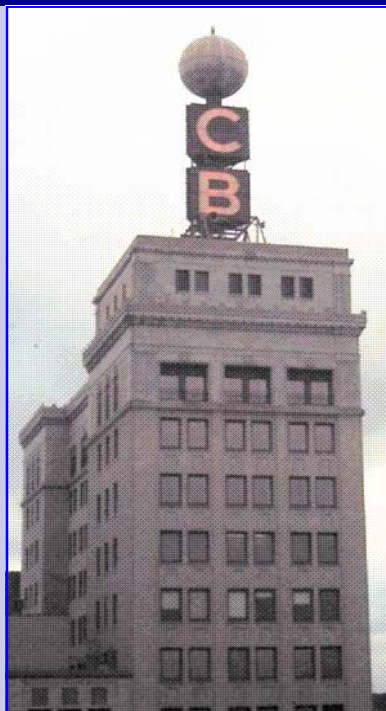
When the colors come and go, means there's rain or snow.

(There is also a popular alternate last line that goes...)

When colors blink in agitation, there's going to be precipitation.

Which version of the last line do you prefer? Let us know by visiting the link below and we will share the results in next month's Diaspora.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=EpbNzrIVzmVIF5WckoYx4A_3d_3d



Who We Are

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“Be the Solution”

70's Slammin' Disco Bash Recap



Flint Club's Slammin' 70's Disco Bash fundraiser was a far-out good time and a rousing success! The evening began with a group of over 30 Flint Club members convening at Trillium Theaters for an opening-night screening of Semi-Pro. The party then moved to Red Ink Studios where nearly 100 disco dudes and groovy chicks boogied the night away. Party-goers played twister, painted their very own pet rocks, and competed in a Semi-Pro basketball shootout.

Antwan Edson was the night's big winner. He won the shootout despite tough competition from Sherrod Schuler, and he took first place in the best 70's costume contest.. Ryan McNew won the Flint trivia contest.



Special thanks go out to Red Ink (esp. Erin, Anna, and Franklin), Michael Absher (Albadore DJs) Rita, Anne-Dee and Kirk Blower (Food) and Cory Matthews (Bartending). Flint Club would also like to thank: Cathy Lancaster, Antwan Edson, Dan Osika, Karianne Martus, Cathy Jaruzel, Andrew Weakley, Ryan McNew, Lee Bell, and Jen Farrington.

Chicago Semi-Pro Event

Flint Club members in the Chicago area have a "Semi-Pro" viewing and night-out planned for March 13th.

Anyone in the Chicago area interested in attending should contact Melissa Arthur (arthur.melissa@gmail.com).



In Memoriam Michael D. Cross

In late September of last year, the Flint community mourned the loss of Dr. Michael D. Cross. Dr. Cross had recently been elected to the Flint Board of Education. He was a member of Flint Club and an active volunteer in the Flint area for many causes including children, the arts, and animal protection.

Dr. Cross graduated from Flint's Southwestern High School in 1986, and went on to earn his Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Michigan State University, and a Master's of Business Administration degree from Baker College.

Michael owned Cross Veterinary Clinic in Grand Blanc and was the associate dean of the veterinary technology program at Baker College. He served on the board of directors of the Humane Society of Genesee County and was board chairman of the shelter operations committee. Michael also served as a mentor to children in the Grand Blanc and Flint school districts, especially at Carpenter Road Elementary where his wife Kimberly is the principal.

As part of his commitment to Flint Club, Dr. Cross and his wife Kimberly and two daughters Olivia and Emilia opened up their summer house party to all Flint Club members in 2006. Members enjoyed the opportunity to view the historic Pierce Estate and to meet new friends and colleagues.

Because of the sustained commitment of Michael and Kimberly Cross to education in the Flint community the Flint Club Service Scholarship has been renamed in his honor and a fundraising dinner has been planned for April 15th at the Sarvis Center in Flint.

Donations to the Dr. Michael D. Cross Flint Club Service Scholarship can be made online at www.flintclub.org or by contacting Rhoda Matthews at (810) 233-5468.

Volunteer Opportunities

March

A group of 30 high school students are coming to Flint from Petoskey, MI for their spring break to do community service in our area. For this month's volunteer opportunity we will be joining them on two days—Thursday, March 25th and Friday, March 26th. They will be doing cleanups and activities at several Flint community elementary schools and are looking for Flint Club members to join them. For more information contact Carol-Anne at carolanne@flintclub.org.

April

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

Flint Club is looking for table recorders to take notes on small table discussions and to participate in this important community dialogue on April 10th from 5:30pm to 8:30pm. There are also training sessions on March 27th 3-pm or April 2 5:30-7:30. For more information contact Carol-Anne at Carolanne@flintclub.org or visit <http://thecommunitychallenge.org> to sign up today.

March Member Meeting

Please join us Thursday, March 27 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) for more information.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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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 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.
