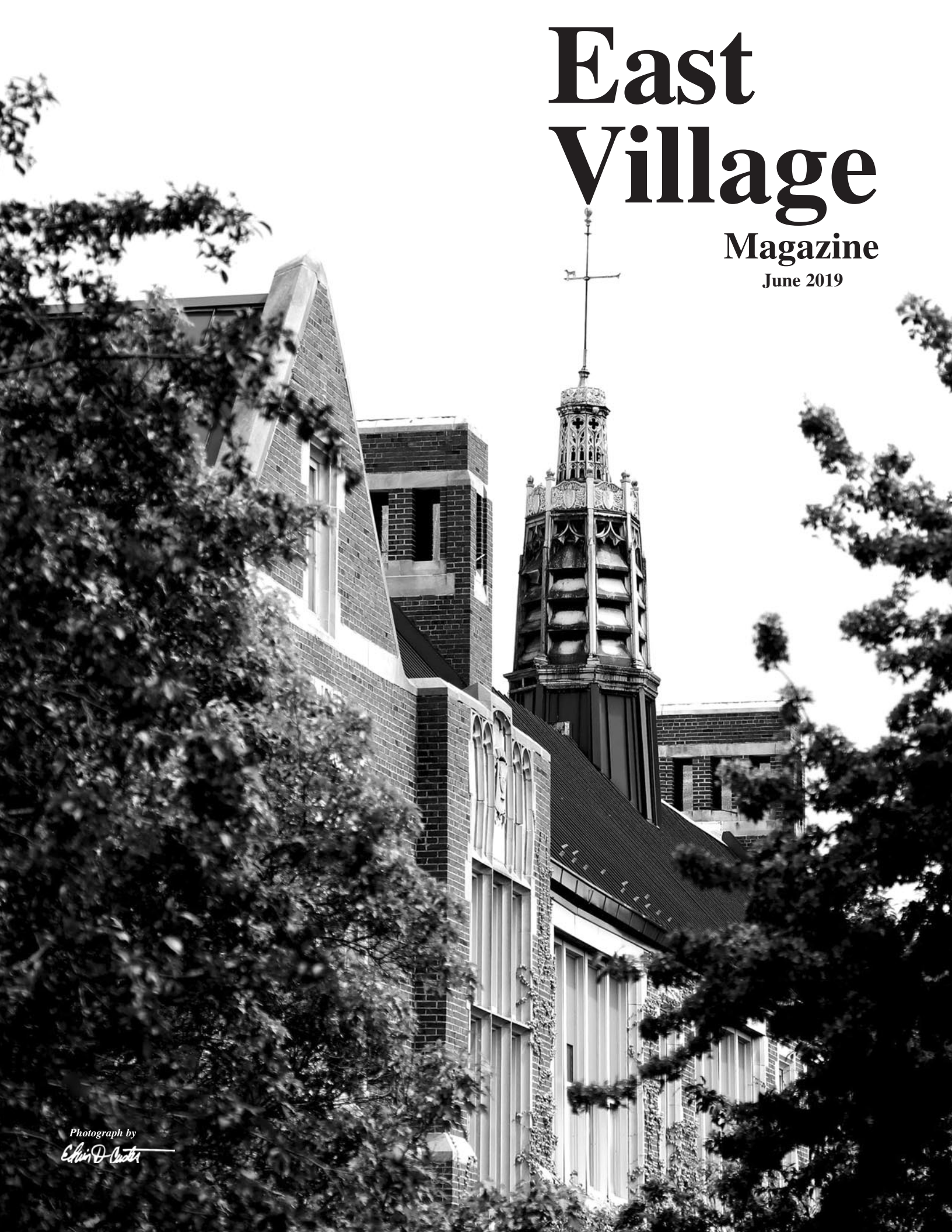


# East Village

Magazine

June 2019



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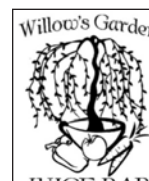


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Vol. LVII No. 6 June 2019

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720 E. Second St.  
Flint, Mich. 48503  
(810) 233-7459

**Website:**  
eastvillagemagazine.org

**E-mail:**  
eastvillagemagazineflint@gmail.com

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# Commentary Fix the roads? Who gets the money?

By Paul Rozycki

Gov. Whitmer is continuing her statewide campaign to garner support for a 45 cent gas tax increase, which would be used to “fix the damn roads.” It remains to be seen whether or not she will get what she wants. Most public opinion polls show little support for the large increase. Republicans in the legislature have already called the proposal a “non-starter,” and it seems to have little chance of success in Lansing.

Yet, the pressure is building to do something to fix the roads. Last month’s *East Village Magazine* column looked at some of the options the state might consider to raise the needed \$2.5 billion. If that happens, how that happens, and when that happens, are large and uncertain questions. But that’s only half of the problem.

Let’s say, one way or the other, the state finally finds a way to raise the money. The next question is — who gets it?

While raising the funds for the roads might be controversial and divisive, the process of spending those funds could be just as contentious.

## What is Act 51?

Conspiracy theorists and UFO aficionados have long written about Area 51, a secretive base in Nevada, said to be home to space aliens, flying saucers, and other things beyond our world. While not from outer space, Michigan’s Public Act 51 (PA 51) may prove to be as mysterious as Area 51, especially to those trying to “fix the damn roads.”

There are many policies for distributing money for the roads in Michigan, but the most important one, passed in 1951, is usually referred to simply as Act 51. Its main purpose is to distribute road funds throughout the state, and decide how much money goes to the

state, county and local roads. There are plenty of of complex details in the law, but the basics are fairly simple. Based on Act 51, 39 percent of the road funds are set aside for state roads, 39 percent for county roads, and 22 percent for local municipalities, such as cities and villages.

That seems fairly simple and straight forward. However, when the funds are distributed to Michigan’s 83 counties and more than 500 cities and villages, it gets a lot more complicated and contentious. How do you decide who gets the money? Should it be based on equality? Population? Number of cars? Miles of roads? Amount of traffic on the roads?

When giving road money to local governments Act 51 does some of all of those things. For counties, 56 percent of the funds are based on auto registration taxes collected in the county, 24 percent based on road mileage, 11 percent is given out equally, and nine percent is based on population.

For cities and villages, 60 percent of the money is given based on population, and 40 percent is based on local road mileage. Though not officially part of the state road system, townships frequently contribute to the maintenance of some county roads, and are often expected to cover the local cost portion of some roads. About a third of local governments supplement their state money with local taxes or millages, and often local governments must match state dollars to receive the road funds.

As daunting as those numbers seem, it’s even more complex than that. There are also special provisions for bridges, snow removal, roadside parks, non-motorized paths, bond issues, public transportation,

*(Continued on Page 13.)*





Photo of the Month: Gone fishing at Byram Lake

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## Arts, cultural organizations receive \$440K in first arts millage awards

By Jan Worth-Nelson

In a first wave of benefits from the arts millage approved by voters last fall, 22 Genesee County arts and cultural organizations encompassing jazz, ballet, theater, art, and architecture received grants totaling \$440,000 from the Greater Flint Arts Council (GFAC) last week.

The “Share Art Genesee 2019 Community Arts Program Grants” ranged from \$3,500 to \$30,000, according to Greg Fiedler, president and CEO of the Greater Flint Arts Council, which solicited applications and coordinated the review and distribution process.

Recipients received their checks at a celebration at GFAC offices last month, complete with food and music. All 22 organizations sent representatives, Fiedler said, and presented two-minute summaries of their programs.

The Share Art program was designed, Fiedler said, to help local arts organizations reach their potential in “transforming our communities in to vibrant, inclusive destinations with a unique sense of place.”

### The recipients are:

- Flint Children’s Museum, \$30,000
- African American Drum & Dance, \$20,000
- Buckham Fine Arts Project, \$30,000
- Red Ink Studios, \$6,250
- Flint Hand Made, \$5,000
- Amplifier, Inc. (Flint Public Art Project) \$30,000
- Shop Floor Theater, \$30,000
- Whaley Historical House, \$30,000
- Grand Blanc Arts Council, \$3,500
- Fenton Arts Council, \$5,000
- Clio Cast and Crew, \$30,000
- Fenton Community Orchestra, \$30,000
- El Ballet Folklorico, \$30,000
- Flint Community Players, \$30,000
- Jazz on Wheels, \$4,750
- Genesee County Historical Society, \$25,650
- Fenton Village Players, \$28,500
- Clio Center for the Arts, \$24,080 plus \$4,750 for cultural planning
- Swartz Creek Area Art Guild, \$11,200
- Fenton Arts and Cultural Commission \$14,400 plus \$4,750 for cultural planning

- Swartz Creek Fine Arts Association, \$9,000
- AIA Flint Chapter, \$3,170

“Art can be a powerful way for multiple narratives to be heard, seen and included in the knowledge and experiences of a community,” said Thomas Webber, chairperson of the Greater Flint Arts Council.

The GFAC distribution is only part of the windfall from county taxpayers, who approved the .96 “Genesee County Arts Education and Cultural Enrichment” millage last August. It will yield about \$8.7 million/year for the next ten years — and is being divided among many of the region’s institutions.

GFAC, in addition to an allocation of about \$88,000 in annual operating funds, is receiving about \$500,000/year for regranting to other arts and cultural institutions countywide. About 12 percent of that goes to administrative costs, the rest directly to successful applicants. A nine-member anonymous review panel of “people from all walks of life interested in the arts”

(Continued on Page 5.)

## ... Awards

(Continued from Page 4.)

reviewed the applications, he said.

Fiedler said of the applications received, three did not meet the criteria but of the rest, "Everyone got funded at either 95 or 100 percent." He said one applicant, the Flint Folk Music Society, declined its grant because the organization is disbanding. Those funds were then redistributed among the remaining recipients, he said.

The next distribution of Share Art Funds will be in 2020.



The millage costs about \$48/year for the average homeowner, at .96 mills, making it the third highest in the county. Initially, funds go to the Genesee County Board of Commissioners, who pass it on to the Flint Cultural Center Corporation for distribution and to GFAC.

As detailed in a November *East Village Magazine* story, according to the plan worked out between executives of the arts institutions and the Genesee County Board of Commissioners, the four largest institutions — The Flint Institute of Arts, The Flint Institute of Music (including the Flint Youth Theater, the Flint School of Performing Arts and the Flint Symphony Orchestra), The Sloan Museum/Longway Planetarium, and the Whiting Auditorium/Capitol Theater — each receive about \$1.8 million/year.

These amounts represent between 25 and 30 percent of the institutions' budgets.

And the Berston Field House and the Floyd J. McCree Theater each are receiving about \$415,000/year.

EVM Editor Jan Worth-Nelson can be reached at [janworth1118@gmail.com](mailto:janworth1118@gmail.com).

## Lead/galvanized tainted pipes replaced so far in Flint:

**8,260+**

Candice Mushatt, City of Flint public information officer, said on May 28 that while work continues, no new numbers are available from the new contractor, ROWE Engineering. Totals as of April 25, the last provided, were **21,498 pipes excavated and 8,260 replaced.**

**The city aims to have all of Flint's lead-tainted service lines replaced by 2020.**

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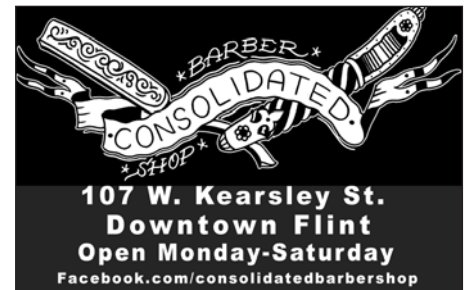
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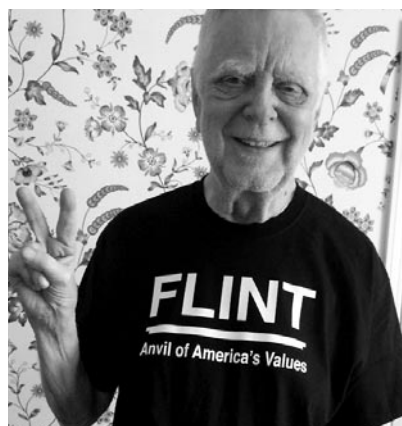
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## EVM previews new t-shirt

**Hot off the press! *East Village Magazine* announces the debut of its new t-shirt. Modeled below by *EVM's* erstwhile editor-at-large Ted Nelson, this gem of sartorial delight will be available to the general public in late June. Be one of the first to show your good taste and express your support for community journalism.**



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# Education Beat *Flint schools ending Year One of state partnership; top hires debated; middle school locale still uncertain*

By Harold C. Ford

*(Note: The following article is about two recent meetings of the Flint Board of Education on May 8 and May 15. Subsequently, a “Special Board Meeting” was held May 21 at the district’s administration building rather than the usual location at Southwestern Classical Academy. The special meeting had been scheduled for May 20, was cancelled on May 20, and then held on May 21. The only action item at the special meeting, according to the online agenda at the district’s website, was “Personnel Recommendations.” No minutes from that special meeting have been made available to the public at the time this article was written.)*

Flint Community Schools (FCS) is nearing the end of its first year of a critical three-year partnership agreement imposed by the State of Michigan. However, what dominated the two most recent regularly scheduled board of education meetings was discussion about hiring a new human resources director and school psychologist. And the destination for FCS middle schoolers has shifted once again and now appears to be the Northwestern campus.

## Controversial hires

Two potential hires by FCS consumed 40 percent of the last two regular meetings of the Flint Board of Education May 8 and May 15. Board members primarily wrangled over compensation packages for a new executive director of human resources and school psychologist.

Unresolved details about compensation postponed a final decision on the HR position until a special meeting of the board on May 20, then switched to May 21. Minutes from that special meeting have not been made available to the public at the time this article was written.

HR candidate Cassandra Wilson was a recommended hire to the board at a salary of \$125,000. She would replace Michael Hall, the district’s current HR director. Casey



Lester, the board’s assistant secretary/treasurer, estimated that a typical benefits package would increase Wilson’s compensation package to approximately \$200,000.

FCS Superintendent Derrick Lopez told the board, “This is not even a competitive wage,” adding that Wilson’s previous salary was \$150,000.

“I don’t think her previous salary is an issue,” said Diana Wright, board president. “It doesn’t matter because this is Flint.”

“You oftentimes pay for the skill set that



**Superintendent Derrick Lopez**  
(Photo from Flint Community Schools)

you get,” Blake Strozier, board vice president, responded. “You’re paying for the experience and the workmanship. This person is going across the country to find good teachers to come into this district.”

“We don’t know if she can perform or not,” said board trustee Carol

McIntosh. “I don’t see why we would bring somebody into a (financially) troubled district ... and we don’t know if they are capable of performing.”

Lester suggested that the wage offer might be “fiscally irresponsible.” He proposed a starting salary “in the middle,” at \$115,000.

“We can always give her a raise,” McIntosh said.

The decision to hire Wilson failed on a tie vote. Anita Steward, assistant superintendent, pledged further vetting of the candidate and negotiating an acceptable compensation package.

## School psychologist:

FCS board members also wrestled with a compensation package for an additional school psychologist. The hire of Maxwell Taylor, Ph.D.-psychologist at Taylor Psychological Clinic in Flint, would be “off schedule,” meaning outside the district’s bargained contract with the United Teachers of Flint.

Lopez proposed that Taylor would be part-time and paid an hourly rate of \$120.

“I think the price is a little steep,” responded Betty Ramsdell, board secretary. “It’s very steep,” Lopez agreed. “It’s a huge amount of money.”

“I’m concerned that the price is quite a bit for a part-time employee,” Wright concurred.

Lopez claimed current FCS staff cannot handle the number of special education students who need Individualized Education Program Conferences (IEPCs) as required by law. “We have an increased number of special education referrals as a result of the water situation,” Wright observed.

“We’re out of compliance with respect to the state,” Lopez warned. “This is a service that we have to do in order for us to be in compliance with the law.”

Lopez cautioned the district would be in danger of losing “thousands of dollars” and face the possibility of liti-

*(Continued on Page 7.)*

## ... Education

(Continued from Page 6)

gation. “I am concerned about the long-range consequences.”

### Other possible consequences

FCS is nearing the end of its first full year of a three-year partnership imposed by the State of Michigan. FCS must make significant improvements in three areas:

- increase attendance to 90 percent;
- reduce suspensions by 10 percent; and
- improve test scores by 10 percent.

If the efforts fail, the district could face three possible consequences: being absorbed by another district; being reconstituted; or being shut down.

### Paucity of information

The average citizen would be hard-pressed to find information about progress toward improved FCS attendance, test scores, and reduced suspension rates. Little information is provided at board of education meetings or on the district’s woefully outdated website.

The board’s action items are often vaguely worded and recorded. At its meeting on May 15, for example, the board approved by a 5-0 vote the purchase of “all items” from the Competitive School Safety Grant Program in the amount of \$302,748. Not a single item was described by board members or found in the information made available to the public.

The district’s website is either absent information altogether or usually rooted in yesteryear. The “Superintendent’s Message” is from former Interim Superintendent Gregory Weatherspoon dated July, 2018. The message from the “Principal’s Corner” at Southwestern Classical Academy is dated October 3, 2016.

Access to FCS board members, administration, and staff is challenging. Inquiries are routed through a high profile public relations firm, Detroit-based Lambert.

And little information is available about area schools from the area’s major newspaper, MLIVE/The Flint Journal. An examination of its website on the morning of May 27 found the following: five slideshows about area proms and nine pieces about high school athletics.

### Paucity of interest

Citizens are afforded the opportunity to speak at every public meeting of the Flint Board of Education. During the last 10 meetings for which minutes have been posted at the FCS website, March 4 to May 8, not one person has addressed the board.

At its last regular meeting, the audience — including me, two persons representing public interest groups, a representative of the PR firm Lambert, and five unidentified others — numbered nine. They were outnum-



**FCS Administration Building**  
(Photo by Jan Worth-Nelson)

bered by the 15 staff of the district, including board members and employees.

Flint’s citizens rallied gloriously in response to a government and its water system that failed them. One would expect a similar response to a school system that, by many accounts, is failing children.

### Nearly 200 15-year-olds not ready for high school

One measure of a successful, or failing, school system would be the rate at which it successfully graduates students from one grade level to the next. At the May 8 board meeting, Superintendent Lopez expressed concern about 188 students who will reach the age of 15 years but, at present, are academically ineligible to advance to the 9th grade.

“They need to be in a bridge program for 9th grade,” he declared. “They are so far

behind now that we’re just going to be marking time until they walk out the door. And we cannot allow that to continue to happen.”

### Middle school destination still uncertain

The “bridge program” proposed for 15-year-old 8th graders would likely unfold on a middle school campus. FCS is now targeting the old Flint Northwestern High School campus as the next destination for its middle schoolers.

FCS officials have contemplated five different destination plans for middle school students in the past 15 months. They have included: a new campus at the site of the closed Central High School; reopening the closed Northern High School; moving to the Baker College campus in Flint Township; and reopening an upgraded Northwestern High School. Middle school students are currently attending Holmes STEM Academy, Potter Elementary, Scott Middle School, and Southwestern Classical Academy.

Flint’s board of education took a necessary step in the direction of consolidating its middle school students next school year with the passage of a “boundary changes” resolution at its May 15 meeting. According to the language, all of the district’s 7th and 8th grade students “will be assigned to the citywide 7th and 8th grade program; site to be determined.”

Flint board members appear to be frustrated by the ongoing uncertainty of a home for the district’s middle school students. “That’s too much to think about,” Perry said. “I’m going to drop my 7th grader off here, my 8th grader off there, and next year my 8th grader is going somewhere else in the 9th grade.”

“If we decide that we’re going to create a middle school at Northwestern, then we need to go all in, seek funds to do the upgrades, make that a strong program,” Wright said.

The new school year for Flint students begins Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2019.

*EVM education reporter Harold C. Ford, retired from more than 40 years as an educator, can be reached at [hcford1185@gmail.com](mailto:hcford1185@gmail.com).*

# Review: “Poisoned democracy, poisoned water,” activists’ impact — themes of new Flint book

By Harold C. Ford

“The lesson learned from the battle over the river was that the hardheaded resolve of even a small group of people could move mountains.” ... from *Flint Fights Back: Environmental Justice and Democracy in the Flint Water Crisis*, by Benjamin J. Pauli, The MIT Press, 2019.

A wonderful photo is conspicuously positioned at the front of Benjamin Pauli’s new book on Flint’s water crisis, in which a water justice activist is holding a sign that reads “Poisoned Democracy, Poisoned Water, Justice 4 Flint.”

That sign could very well have been the title of Pauli’s new book *Flint Fights Back: Environmental Justice and Democracy in the Flint Water Crisis*.

In the 400-plus pages of *Flint Fights Back*, Pauli endeavors to draw a direct connection between Flint’s loss of self-rule with the imposition of democracy-sucking emergency managers (EMs) and the tragic contamination of its municipal water sup-



**Author Ben Pauli**  
(Photo by Paul Rozycki)

ply, certainly one of the most notorious man-made health crises in U.S. history.

Pauli, a social science professor at Kettering University who arrived in Flint in 2015 with his wife, a three-year-old son, and a new Rutgers Ph.D., investigates the politics and sociology of what happened with a compelling combination of personal and scholarly urgency.

The notoriety of Flint’s crisis likely had more to do with the trammeling of democratic norms than the befouling of water, the latter a consequence of the former, Pauli contends.

He writes, “Reuters, which carried out the most extensive analysis, concluded not only that Flint was ‘no aberration,’ but that ‘it doesn’t even rank among the most dangerous lead hotspots in America’ ... Reuters found nearly three thousand areas with lead poisoning rates ‘at least double’ those in Flint during the peak of the water crisis.”

However, Pauli continues, “Nowhere — in the United States, at least — was the abrogation of democracy more literal or glaring. PA 4’s (Michigan’s EM law) affront to fundamental democratic values was so egregious ... that it (was) used to catalyze popular resistance across lines of class, race, and geography.”

## Poisoned by policy

The reason the Flint water crisis was different from other crises, Pauli, writes, “was that Flint was not just poisoned, but poisoned by policy.” Pauli credits Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha for promulgating that concept when she testified before a panel of state legislators on March 29, 2016.

During the period of emergency managers imposed by the State of Michigan from 2002 to 2015, Flint’s water source was switched to the Flint River from Lake Huron, which had previously been provided from Detroit by the Great Lakes Water Authority.

As Pauli summarizes the debacle now so familiar to most Flint residents, “The switch introduced chaos into the water system” as Flint’s water infrastructure was ill-equipped to handle the more corrosive water from the Flint River. A host of illnesses and ailments that followed was believed to have been caused by the witches’ brew of contaminants in the water, especially lead.

“As old as Flint’s pipes were,” Pauli

observes, “they were not so old that they would have crumbled in the presence of properly treated water ... the crux of the technical narrative was a singular decision: the decision not to use optimized corrosion control during the water treatment process.”

## “Most perplexingly opaque question”

“Just who ‘actively pursued’ interim use of the river ... is perhaps the most perplexingly opaque question in the entire water crisis saga,” Pauli writes. Though never definitive, the author points clearly to “the EM system.”

“The cost-averse logic on display in EM decisions about Flint’s water,” Pauli charges, “gave rise to the accusation that public health had been sacrificed on the altar of austerity, recklessly entrusted to glorified accountants whose powers were broad but whose expertise was thin or nonexistent on subjects central to residents’ well-being.”

Pauli observes that local water activists were less uncertain about where the blame lay: “Flint activists argued that regardless of whatever complicity EMs were able to elicit from local elites, it was the state — not the people of Flint or their elected representatives — that supplied the main political motive force during the period when the critical decisions were made about the city’s water.”

## Canary in national infrastructure coal mine

What also sets Flint’s story apart from other similar health crises, is that its citizens helped to elevate the nation’s conversation about crumbling infrastructure. “After Flint,” Pauli writes, “some things changed ... the pitiable condition of Flint’s water system offered an opportunity to talk about infrastructure on a national scale ...”

Thus, it’s hardly a surprise that the \$1 trillion infrastructure plan recently offered up by Senate Democrats, though stalled by Donald Trump, included \$110 billion for aging water and sewer systems, the third most expensive item in the package.

(Continued on Page 9.)



(Continued from Page 8.)

### Technical, historical, political

The first half of Pauli's book features three narratives of Flint's water crisis: technical, historical, and political. The narratives are effectively augmented by 11 pages of timeline divided into two columns, one focused on "water" events, the other on "democracy."

He reaches one of several analytic high points during "The Historical Narrative of the Crisis." His wisdom as an author is revealed when he drew from Andrew Highsmith's 2015 book *Demolition Means Progress* for historical understanding.

"Flint's toxic water crisis was fifty years in the making," Highsmith wrote in an op-ed responding to the crisis. "As (Flint's) population plateaued and then began to shrink ... the city was left with an oversized infrastructure it could not afford to maintain," Pauli recounts.

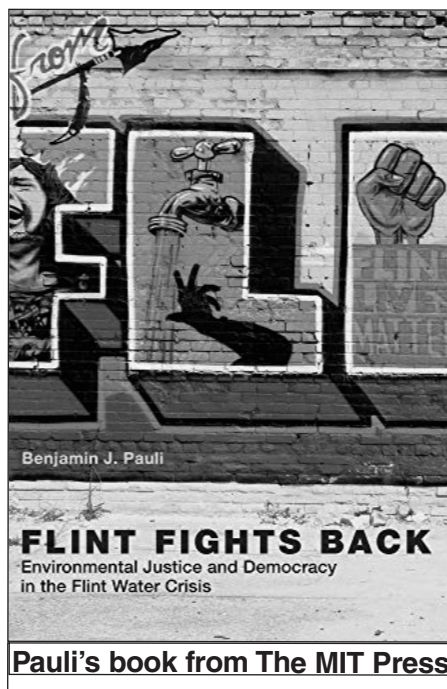
"Pulling all of these various threads together — industrialization and deindustrialization, suburbanization, segregation, the decline of government services, and ill-fated urban renewal — into a schematic of the prehistory of the water crisis yields a complex causal chain that extends all the way back to the early twentieth century and implicates a wide range of actors."

### Crisis in the context of democracy

Pauli is not the first author to tackle the subject of Flint's water crisis. Anna Clark's *The Poisoned City: Flint's Water and the American Urban Tragedy* and Hanna-Attisha's memoir *What the Eyes Don't See: A Story of Crisis, Resistance and Hope in an American City* both have garnered waves of national attention, which Pauli acknowledges.

But in the second half of his book, as Pauli endeavors to examine Flint's water crisis in the context of democratic struggles far and near, he distinguishes this analysis of the crisis from others.

Michigan's PA 4 took effect in March 2011 on the eve of the so-called Arab Spring, "a cascade of political rebellions that swept through the Arab world and beyond." It was a time when Occupy



Wall Street inspired a chain reaction of similar events throughout the U.S., including Flint. Wisconsin witnessed massive pro-labor rallies in response to anti-worker initiatives by that state's governor.

In Flint, Pauli notes, "everyone, it seemed, was talking not just about water, but about democracy."

### Environmental justice, capitalism

What also distinguishes Pauli's book is his analysis of environmental justice issues in the context of capitalism. Pauli notes "the processes by which nature is 'metabolized' for human use under capitalism not only tolerate, but actually depend upon disparities of various kinds."

He echoes David Pellow when he warned against "reducing the complex social interactions that generate environmental injustices to dichotomous 'perpetrator-victim' narratives."

### Militant ethnography

Pauli's treatment of the water crisis was informed by his position within the water justice movement — another aspect of the book that sets it apart from the others. When he became a Flint resident in June 2015, with a three-year-old son, the water crisis became "first and foremost a deeply personal affair ... we will never know if, during our use of unfiltered tap water ... our son was lead poisoned."

"I could no longer watch from the sidelines," Pauli writes, as he evolved from a

"fly on the wall into a full-fledged participant-observer." Eventually, he assumed a paid role funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. Such a perch carried with it potential advantages and disadvantages for a future reporter.

A potential disadvantage, of course, is bias. Pauli admits that "... any narrative of the water crisis is an act of interpretation rather than neutral reportage." One example, he states, "There was an aura around the activists ... that I found alluring on both a personal and scholarly level."

Conversely, at times it was an advantage to have a closer view.

Nowhere did I find Pauli's inside perch more useful than his detailed explanation of the sad falling out between water scientist Marc Edwards and other water justice activists. Time, energy, and resources were lost. Relationships were damaged beyond apparent repair. And it's arguable that justice was delayed.

"While outsiders celebrated and even romanticized the water movement," Pauli writes, "the view of the movement from the inside was far messier and more complex."

Pauli's scholarly training as a social scientist enriches an understanding of the crisis but may challenge some readers, in sentences like, "But counterhegemonic narratives, too, incorporate strategic elisions and calculated points of emphasis." The reader will have to become familiar with three of Pauli's favorite e-words: ethnography; epistemic; epigenetic. But rewards are there in a deeper analysis of the activists' movement than has been offered elsewhere.

### Ambiguous ending

"Four years after the first inklings of a water movement began to appear," Pauli observes, "activists felt both that they had won extraordinary victories, and that, somehow, 'nothing' had changed and no solution to the city's problems was in sight."

Nonetheless, Pauli concludes that Flint's water story is "what the democratic spirit looks like when imbued with the urgency of life itself."

EVM Staff Writer Harold C. Ford can be reached at [hcford1185@gmail.com](mailto:hcford1185@gmail.com).

# Loving Gilkey Creek one neighbor at a time: residents plead “Please don’t dump”

By Jan Worth-Nelson

Gilkey Creek has been part of Joe Burroughs’ life ever since childhood. He used to play along it, and his father, George, used to fish in it, bringing home pan fish like crappies and bluegill.

Now Burroughs and his wife Kathryn, both retired school teachers, along with their Kensington Street neighbor Reba Walling, are trying to keep the winding little waterway near their homes open and healthy and as beautiful as it can be.

“There are still fish in it,” Joe Burroughs said. “I was down there in my waders the other day and I saw some minnows — those are some pretty tough little guys if they can live in there.”

The Burroughs and Walling keep track of the mallard ducks who nest in the creek banks every spring. They’ve seen minks and there have been several sightings of herons. On the creek banks in early spring, wild cherries, raspberry bushes, myrtle, various ivies, daffodils and grape hyacinths thrive.

But there’s also ceaseless dumping: liquor bottles and beer cans and yard waste and styrofoam and all manner of other junk in the stream, they say. Recently they’ve removed batteries, a leaf blower motor, garbage cans, and a yellow street blinker sign.

The garbage, along with many fallen dead trees — some from the ash borer blight of years ago — creates logjams that are not just unsightly but interrupt the creek’s flow.

So they’re issuing a call to their neighbors and others: please don’t dump in Gilkey Creek.

“It feels like it’s an abuse of nature,” Walling says. “We plead with people to stop the abuse, and we are advocating for more progress and involvement” in get-



**Gilkey Creek near Kensington and Sunnyside**  
(Photo by Jan Worth-Nelson)

ting and keeping the creek cleaned up.

The Burroughs, longtime Flint residents, bought their home in 1977. Next door is Walling, mother of former Flint Mayor Dayne Walling, and across the street are Dick and Betty Ramsdell, she a Flint school board member and he a longtime educator and retired manager of the Flint Farmers’ Market.

They’ve all taken years-long loving interest in the creek, part of the Flint River watershed. It extends about 10 miles from the intersection of Grand Blanc, Atlas and Davison townships—its own watershed draining about 15 square miles. It courses under Dort Highway, through the College Cultural neighborhood, Mott Community College and ultimately to Kearsley Park, where it feeds into the Flint River.

At the foot of Kensington is a cast-iron pedestrian bridge across the creek, one of three in the College Cultural neighborhood. The bridge, which somebody adorned with cheerful holiday lights until the battery pack was stolen, is still walkable but in need of repair, the concrete anchors on one side cracking apart and the bridge rusty and bent.

Several neighbors along the creek have portioned out five-to-ten-foot sections and attempt to keep them cleaned up. Walling and Kathryn Burroughs work together on their little patch near the pedestrian bridge.

In one hour recently, they “jam-packed” six bags of trash in less than an hour. They cut and bundle fallen branches, if they’re less than 4” in diameter, for pickup by Republic Services, the city’s trash hauling contractor.

Local governments with jurisdiction over the creek are the City of Burton, the City of Flint and the Genesee County Drain Commission. In Flint

specifically, the Water Department is in charge. Despite that the department obviously has been flooded with other priorities in the past five years, Joe Burroughs said the city has been responsive.



**Trash at Gilkey near Kensington**  
(Photo by Jan Worth-Nelson)

For the larger logs and fallen trees, the Kensington Street neighbors contacted Heather Griffin, waste services coordinator at the City of Flint. She recently walked the creek with Joe Burroughs and was very helpful, he said. She took pictures to document the most troublesome areas and also contacted Consumers Energy to remove trees threatening power lines. Matthew Potter, the city’s sewer construction foreman, appeared on the scene several days after *East Village Magazine* was there, coordinating the tree removal effort.

(Continued on Page 11.)



## ... Gilkey

(Continued from Page 10.)

Efforts to vitalize and protect the creek also have regularly come from the Flint River Watershed Coalition, which included it in their annual “Stewardship Day” cleanup in April that attracted more than 300 volunteers, several dozen to the Kearsley Park section of the creek.

A 2009 report produced by the University of Michigan-Flint’s Office of University Outreach, with support from the Ruth Mott Foundation, examined the creek’s water quality and pollutants and called for many measures to preserve and protect the creek’s natural features and cultural resources.

Since then, dramatic naturalization and “daylighting” of the creek through Mott Community College has changed the character of the waterway and helped stem periodic flooding.

The challenge of keeping the creek healthy was clear in the 2009 report, since 92 percent of the creek’s watershed is

developed land — requiring, the report stated, “an intensive education/outreach effort geared towards homeowners.”

At the time, identified pollution concerns were flooding and stormwater, sediment, nutrients from phosphorus and concentrations of algae, fertilizers, detergents, leaking



**Joe Burroughs (r) with Tom Allen at Kensington Bridge over the Gilkey**  
(Photo Jan Worth-Nelson)

sewers and failing septic systems.

Researchers also identified oil and grease, bacteria and toxins — along with the trash and debris the Burroughs and Walling bemoan every day.

The creek also recently has been iden-

tified as a site of PFAS, polyfluoroalkyl substances, contamination. PFAS chemicals leach from many manmade products, including household products like polishes, waxes and paints.

A town hall on the PFAS issue drew a capacity crowd last month, and dumping into the creek was identified as one of the sources of trouble.

Mike Herriman, a College Cultural neighborhood activist and advocate for the creek for decades, noted that despite one county official notoriously dismissing the creek as “a drainage ditch,” its history as a known part of the Flint River watershed goes back 300 years.

Long known to the native population, it was given its white man’s name from Levi Gilkey, who arrived in 1831 from Genesee County, New York state, and settled near the mouth of the small stream in Burton. According to a history provided in a Gilkey Creek watershed management plan, Gilkey “left in disgust” after a series of legal disputes.

(Continued on Page 13.)



# Isabelle

## DE BORCHGRAVE

### FASHIONING ART FROM PAPER

## 6.15.19 – 9.8.19

Experience the intricate beauty of life-sized garments, made entirely of paper, exclusively at the Flint Institute of Arts.

Flint Institute of Arts

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 **Huntington** | FREE SATURDAYS

The exhibition has been organized by Dixon Gallery and Gardens, Society of the Four Arts, Oklahoma City Museum of Art, Frick Art and Historical Center, Baker Museum, Flint Institute of Arts, and SCAD FASH Museum of Fashion and Film.

Isabelle de Borchgrave, Belgian, born 1946, *Maria-Maddalena d’Austria*, 2007, Mixed media, 74 x 47½ x 48 inches. Collection of the artist.

# THIS MONTH IN THE VILLAGE

*"This Month" highlights a selection of events available to our readers—beginning after our publication date of June 6. It is not an exhaustive list, rather a sampling of opportunities in the city. To submit events for our July issue, email your event to us by June 28 to [eastvillagemagazine@gmail.com](mailto:eastvillagemagazine@gmail.com).*

## Songs About Stuff:

### The Music of Wally Pleasant

JUNE 7

8 p.m. Friday

JUNE 8

2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday

JUNE 9

2 p.m. Sunday

The Rep

1241 E. Kearsley St., Flint

[www.FlintRep.org](http://www.FlintRep.org) or 810-237-7333

Admission \$20 adults, \$18 teens and seniors, \$8 college students (Rush Rate with valid I.D., one hour before performance  
Genesee County residents 30% discount)

### Flint Art Fair

JUNE 8

10 a.m. -6 p.m. Saturday

JUNE 9

11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday

Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint 48503

[info@flintarts.org](mailto:info@flintarts.org) or 810-234-1695

Admission \$5, children 12 and under free

### Flint Cycle Fest

JUNE 9

2 p.m.-4 p.m. Sunday

Starts Factory One, at 303 W. Water St., Flint

Registration closes at 11:59 p.m. June 8

[flinttown.info/event/flint-cycle-fest](http://flinttown.info/event/flint-cycle-fest)

Admission \$15

Offers 2-3, 10- and 20-mile routes featuring interesting parts of Flint. All routes escorted by guides. Ends with a party.

### Flint City Bucks USL League Two

JUNE 12

7 p.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday

JUNE 27

7 p.m.-9 p.m. Thursday

Atwood Stadium at Kettering University  
701 University Avenue, Flint 48503

### Flint Second Friday ARTWALK

JUNE 14

6-9 p.m. Friday

Downtown Flint

Various locations on and around Saginaw Street  
Visit Greater Flint Arts Council at 816 S. Saginaw Street for the walking tour.

For more info visit [geneseefun.com](http://geneseefun.com)

Free Admission

### 2019 Flint River Water Coalition Paddles

JUNE 15

9 a.m. Saturday

Holloway to Irish Road

See wildlife along a stretch of the Flint River.

Bald eagles, osprey, beaver and more often seen.

Launch at the base of the Holloway Dam.

Pre-registration required by June 12.

JUNE 17

8 p.m. Monday

Full Moon Float

Two hour float, including glow sticks. Head

lamps recommended. Skies must be 85 percent

clear. Space limited. Location TBD.

Pre-registration required by June 13.

JUNE 19

5 p.m. Wednesday

Mitson Boulevard to River Road

Paddle from Mitson Blvd (Riverview Landing) to Riverview Park in Flushing.

Pre-registration required by June 14.

Cost: \$20 per person with kayak rental or \$10

per person without. Includes experienced

guides, shuttling, water and snacks, sunscreen, and bug spray.

Contact Jaime Welch at [jwelch@flintriver.org](mailto:jwelch@flintriver.org) or 810-767-7140.

Most trips suitable for all experience levels and ages 10 and up or younger with adult. Dates, times and locations subject to change due to water levels, inclement weather or other issues.

### Juneteenth Celebration

JUNE 16-19

Sunday-Wednesday

Downtown Flint

Riverbank Park, One Riverfront Center West, Flint

For more info visit [geneseefun.com](http://geneseefun.com) or

[facebook.com/JuneteenthFlint](https://facebook.com/JuneteenthFlint)

Celebrates the Emancipation Proclamation

and Afrikan-American independence. Music,

vendors, movie and more.

### My Cub and Me: Nature Toddler Time

JUNE 18

10:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m. Tuesday

For-Mar Nature Preserve, meet at Visitors' Center.

2142 N. Genesee Rd., Burton

Visit [geneseecountyparks.org](http://geneseecountyparks.org) for more info.

Admission \$4 per child

Designed for parents with small children to encourage a love for the outdoors. Dress for the weather. Pre-registration by 6/17.

### Flint LGBT Pride Festival

JUNE 22

2 p.m.-8 p.m. Saturday

Downtown Flint Riverbank Park, One Riverfront Center West, Flint

More info at [geneseefun.com](http://geneseefun.com)

Providing a positive stance against discrimination and violence toward lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgenders (LGBT).

### Honeybee Kids-Beekeeper Basics

JUNE 26

1 p.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday

For-Mar Nature Preserve, 2142 N. Genesee Rd., Burton

Visit [geneseecountyparks.org](http://geneseecountyparks.org) for more info.

Admission: Free

Interactive kid-friendly honeybee program at For-Mar's observation hive. Bee Keeper friends on hand to answer questions. No pre-registration required; organized groups call ahead.

### 80s in the Hole and Car Festival

JUNE 28

5:30 p.m.-11 p.m. Friday

Atwood Stadium, 701 University Ave., Flint 810-767-6490

Admission: \$10

A celebration of 80s styles, cars and music, with performance by the group RockStar and a chance to win tickets to Hootie and the Blowfish and Barenaked Ladies concert.

### International Mud Day

JUNE 29

1 p.m.-3 p.m. Saturday

For-Mar Nature Preserve, 2142 N. Genesee Rd., Burton

Visit [geneseecountyparks.org](http://geneseecountyparks.org) for more info.

Admission: Free

Mud created from 30 yards of dirt and 7,000 gallons of water will be there for families of all ages "to slip, slide and wallow in." Pre-registration by 6/28.

### Napoleon Demps In Concert

JUNE 29

7 p.m. Saturday

The New McCree Theatre, 2040 W. Carpenter Rd., Flint

[info@thenewmccreetheatre.com](mailto:info@thenewmccreetheatre.com) or call 810-787-2200

Admission: \$20

Flint native Demps sings R&B/soul.



## ... Roads

(Continued from Page 3.)

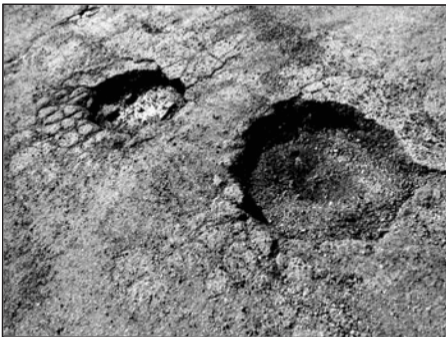
and many other parts of the highway system.

### What's wrong with Act 51?

So, even with all the complexity, what's the problem with Act 51?

In the eyes of many, there are two major issues. It doesn't allocate money where it is most needed, and politically it pits one part of the state against another.

A number of groups, most significantly the Citizens Research Council of Michigan, have argued that Act 51 doesn't allocate funds where they are needed most, and that some of the state's most



**Potholes in Flint**  
(Photo by Paul Rozycki)

heavily traveled roads get shortchanged, while other areas, with more road mileage and less traffic, get more than they need. They point out that a two-lane road receives the same funds as a four- or six-lane road, and that the roads with the greatest use, and those in the worst shape often don't receive priority.

Some roads are clearly more heavily traveled than others. Michigan's major highways, what are called the trunkline roads, (the interstates, and highways with a U.S. or M designation) include

only about 8 percent of the road miles, but have 51 percent of the traffic. County roads include 74 percent of the road miles, but only handle about 31 percent of the traffic.

While measures such as population, road mileage, and vehicle registrations aren't a bad measure when roads are in decent shape, they are a poor way of allocating funds when the roads are in a "crisis" mode, as many of Michigan's roads are.

Though there is fairly widespread agreement that the nearly 70-year-old law needs changing, in light of current population and transportation needs, there has been little movement in the legislature to update Act 51. Why? Because any change in the law will shift resources from one part of the state to another, and will create winners and losers in state funding.

In general, a revision of the law would probably cost the rural areas of the state, and aid the urban and suburban areas. But, within each of those areas, there will also be winners and losers. Any change will shift money from one county to another, from one city to another, or one village to another. The politics are difficult. Because of the potential conflict, the law has often been called "the third rail" of Michigan highway funding, where no lawmaker wants to touch it. Several attempts to modify Act 51 fell by the wayside in recent years.

### Future challenges and solutions

Even if the governor is able to raise the \$2.5 billion for the roads, if that money is pumped through the current Act 51 system, it will be less effective than it might be on the roads most need-

ing repair. Those roads with the most need of repair may receive less than they need, and others will receive more than needed.

John Daly, who served as manager-director of the Genesee County Road Commission for 18 years, argued that there is no provision for local governments to develop economies of scale in repairing the roads, and that all too often, local governments are forced to do quick repairs rather than long-term fixes. In the long run, those short-term fixes are both inefficient and costly. He suggested that the governor create a task force (The New Strategies Task Force for the Governance and Financing of Michigan's Roads and Bridges) to review current policies for road and bridge repair and make appropriate recommendations.

Michigan has ranked near the bottom of the 50 states in terms of its per capita road funding for many years, and that has given us the "road crisis" we now face. Almost half the roads in the state are in "poor" condition, and getting worse by the day, according to one recent survey.

Raising the money will be no easy task, and any attempt to raise the needed funds will face stiff opposition from one group or another. But, given the anger over the condition of the roads, it's possible that funds will be found. In addition to finding the money to "fix the damn roads," fixing the way we spend the money, with Act 51, will almost certainly be more challenging, but might be just as important, if we are going to fix the roads effectively.

*EVM staff writer Paul Rozycki can be reached at paul.rozycki@mcc.edu.*

## ... Gilkey

(Continued from Page 11.)

Nonetheless, he left his name behind on a humble little stream that many residents of the College Cultural neighborhood have come to cherish and wish to protect.

But no matter how much the Burroughs and Walling and their "eco-altruist" neighbors clean up, the trash keeps coming. So Gilkey Creek's advocates want more help,

and are operating from the "micro-philosophy" that one by one, individual citizens can contribute to the creek's prospects for good health.

"If each neighbor would take a section, like five feet, it would make so much difference," Walling said. "How do you get people to understand that this is part of our city? Besides maintaining your own space, what can you do to contribute to the whole piece of nature that we have here?"

"And if you're not going to contribute," she says, staring woefully at a pile of creek debris, "At least please don't add to the abuse."

*Note: This piece originally appeared in EVM online, eastvillagemagazine.org, May 12.*

*EVM Editor Jan Worth-Nelson can be reached at janworth1118@gmail.com*



The former Woolworth's, built in 1920, transformed into a 21st Century hub for learning and dining  
 (Photo by Darlene Carey)

# *MCC Culinary Arts Institute ready to teach, feed Flint in renovated downtown space*

*By Darlene Carey*

Opportunities for culinary arts students and downtown dining are taking a leap forward with the grand opening this month of the Mott Community College Culinary Arts Institute, in a renovated historic building at the corner of Saginaw and Second streets downtown.

After a public ribbon cutting ceremony at noon June 7, the doors are officially open, the public invited to tour the historic F.W. Woolworth building at 550 S. Saginaw St., and meet celebrity chef Carla Hall of the television show "The Chew."

Hall was scheduled to participate in the ribbon cutting and then be available to meet visitors touring the culinary institute.

Postponed by several construction delays, Dawn Hibbard, MCC communications specialist, said building now is complete and equipment and utensils have been moved from the former campus facility to the new site.

The 36,000-square-foot building, a former Woolworth's built in 1920, includes state-of-the-art culinary

kitchens, baking and pastry kitchens, a meat fabrication laboratory, a confections laboratory, and a garde manger (a specially ventilated cool area for preparing cold dishes), according to the MCC website.

It also eventually will incorporate a relocated Applewood Cafe, renamed Applewood at Second and Saginaw, the restaurant run by students in the culinary arts program.

Asked how the celebrity guest chef knew about the MCC event, Hibbard said Lennetta Coney, president of the Foundation for Mott Community College, had met Hall at an event and exchanged contact information.

"As we were preparing for the grand opening, Ms. Coney reached out to Carla Hall and invited her to come for the event," Hibbard said.

Other guests scheduled to join the celebration were Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Flint Mayor Karen Weaver, State Senator James Ananich, representatives from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC),

representatives from the Mott Foundation, retired culinary faculty and current faculty," Hibbard said.

A few summer classes already have begun in the facility, Hibbard said, adding it will begin full operation — including the opening of Applewood at Second and Saginaw in the fall semester. More information is available at the Mott Community College Culinary Institute website at <https://www.mcc.edu/business/bus-culinary.shtml>.

*EVM Staff Writer Darlene Carey can be reached at [darcar7@hotmail.com](mailto:darcar7@hotmail.com).*

## **Volunteer Distributors Wanted**

The East Village Magazine is looking for volunteer distributors in some of the residential blocks bounded by E. Court, Franklin, Tuscola and Meade streets. Spend less than one hour a month getting exercise and insuring your neighbors get the magazine. Contact [ecuster@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ecuster@sbcglobal.net) or write to 720 E. Second St. Flint, MI 48503.



## ... Cat lady

(Continued from Page 16.)

defending public health recognize that feral cats do not spread disease to people. Policies based on fear, hype, and hysteria serve neither the public nor the cats, and will only end in more cats being killed.”

At one time, when Rabanal noticed some of the cats had unusual drainage around their eyes, she consulted Flowery, and they obtained some antibiotics to mix in with the wet food.

Rabanal and her sister also got bales of straw last year before the cold weather set in and placed it under the porches of some of the vacant houses.

Two of the three houses where the cats gather are owned by the Genesee County Land Bank and the third one is



**Straw placed under porch where cats shelter**  
(Photo by Patsy Isenberg)

owned by someone else, but all three are in poor condition and have had no improvements or tenants since her feeding venture began.

But someone keeps interfering with the straw areas and has even made weak and slipshod attempts at nailing boards up and messing up the straw to prevent the cats from going under the porches. She is frustrated over the tearing down of the shelters she tries to maintain for her “innocent animals.”

Rabanal placed signs on the properties asking for cooperation, but the signs were even torn down.

“If they don’t want to help, then don’t hinder those willing to do the humane thing,” she says. She got yelled at by a neighbor when returning some neutered cats to their original location. She sent the neighbor a letter explaining what she was doing and



**Two Lyon Street cats**  
(Photo by Patsy Isenberg)

hope they now understand she was just returning animals that had been neutered.

Neutering is the best deterrent to the cat overpopulation, but it takes a while to start making a difference, Rabanal says.

All About Animals has launched a program to help anyone who wants to create a TNR program for the cats in their neighborhoods. EVM wrote about the organization during coverage of a CCNA meeting earlier this year. At that meeting, Angela Roth, from All About Animals, explained the whole process, the cost, and where the organization opened their Flint clinic last October.

Flowery mentioned another way that can help a little. Farmers sometimes express interest in obtaining cats to live in their barns as mousers. But she said they usually only want two or three and someone has to get them into cages and deliver them to the farms, which can sometimes be quite a distance.

A few cat sanctuaries have sprung up around the country, but feral cats actually just want to be left alone. The TNR program and a little kindness and tolerance are the best solutions, Rabanal says.

Meanwhile, the cats have to live somewhere. Sometimes people just drop off cats — or whole litters of kittens they don’t want to deal with — in the neighborhoods, Rabanal says. They fool themselves into thinking the cats will be taken in or taken care of, and the problem grows, especially if they aren’t neutered.

Luckily, the Lyon Street cats — Stripe, Butterfly, Lucy, Castiel, Tracker, Panther, Midnight, Spot, Kally, Dean, Scrappy, Shadow, Lacey, Snowflake, Watermelon, Princess, Grey Ghost, Chloe, and Friendly — count on Rabanal to feed them daily.

Many more count on Flowery and others to implement successful TNR programs. But more help is needed. It costs a minimum of \$25 a week for Rabanal to feed the Lyon Street cats. There’s also the cost of the filtered water and the straw she provides.

She does get donations of food or money occasionally and her sister provided the straw last year, but so far she can’t rely on it. Rabanal says she also could use some back-up help once in a while. It’s a big responsibility.

Flowery has a non-profit organization of her own called WAG Animal Outreach, in Fenton. To find out about WAG Animal Outreach, email Bonita Flowery at [saveananimal@yahoo.com](mailto:saveananimal@yahoo.com).

Sonny Rabanal can be reached at [ultraviolettt@aol.com](mailto:ultraviolettt@aol.com) for questions, donations or offers to help, or call All About Animals at 586-879-1745 or visit their website at <http://www.allaboutanimalsrescue.org>.

EVM Staff Writer Patsy Isenberg, herself a Carriage Town resident, can be reached at [pisenber@gmail.com](mailto:pisenber@gmail.com).

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# Village Life

## Carriage Town cat lady watches over feline squatters

By Patsy Isenberg

A group of 20 or more feline squatters in Carriage Town — including Snowflake, Princess, Butterfly, Stripe, Watermelon and Friendly — are luckier than most feral cats.

That's because of a kind-hearted woman who lives nearby. Sonny Rabanal has taken on the task of feeding what she calls the Lyon Street cats. She started feeding strays sheltering in abandoned buildings several years ago, and has hardly missed a day since.

When the cats see Rabanal coming, they quietly slink out from wherever they're hiding and patiently wait as she loads food onto several makeshift feeding dishes she leaves around for them.

She loads up dishes with dry food every day and spoons out wet food every other day. She also supplies bowls of filtered water.

"They need to eat every day and must have water every 48 hours or they will have organ failure," she said.

By now, Rabanal has named most of the cats and gets worried when any she expects to see on her rounds don't show up. Eventually, Stripe, Butterfly, Lucy, and Castiel let her touch and pet them a little.

Rabanal says she is pretty sure most of the Lyon Street cats have been neutered through the TNR (Trap Neuter Return) program, run by Bonita Flowery.

Flowery has been using a local non-profit animal clinic, All About Animals, for neutering, and has accumulated several cages and become quite skilled at catching the critters.

Rabanal first met Flowery when she saw her in the neighborhood with cages. They teamed up to neuter as many Lyon Street cats as they could. Rabanal said they have neutered about 22.

While the clinic has the cats, they also perform wellness exams and administer vaccinations.



**Rabanal's charges gather round for feeding time**  
(photo by Patsy Isenberg)

Rabanal, originally from Flint, lived in Miami for many years with her former husband.

She moved back in 2011, and lives with her own cat, Bella, in an apartment in her sister's house. Rabanal's family owns several of the houses in her neighborhood, properties inherited from a relative who died several years ago. She worked at South Miami Hospital as a patient financial representative. Like many Flint residents, she hasn't found a job here so far.

The funny thing is that Rabanal claims to be more of a "dog person" than a "cat person." But several years



**Sonny Rabanal**  
(Photo by Patsy Isenberg)

ago, she rescued her cat, Bella, who is allowed to go outside but doesn't go on the rounds with her.

One Lyon Street cat, Watermelon, comes into her yard and plays with Bella now and then. None of the ones she feeds come into her home — Rabanal says feral cats would never want that, anyway.

The way Rabanal sees it, the cats are there in the neighborhood and she "can't stand the thought of an animal starving or freezing to death."

"Feral cats live a difficult life on the streets, a harder, shorter life than their counterparts with homes," she says. She has a soft heart for other city creatures, too. On the cart that holds the cat food and water, she also carries seeds for squirrels and crackers for the birds, which she scatters on the sidewalk.

Some of the Lyon Street cats are strays, abandoned, or lost pets. Most, however, are feral, she explained. Feral cats are not dangerous and don't approach people. If a feral kitten is rescued, it's possible to domesticate it for a pet, but the window of time for doing that is very short.

The best way to handle the growing number of stray and feral cats is through a TNR program, Rabanal says. People like Rabanal, Flowery and the organizations that provide TNR programs are much needed.

A female cat can become pregnant as young as five months old and can reproduce two to three times a year, resulting in 15 or so kittens a year per cat and up to 180 offspring in her lifetime.

Many people hold on to the belief that colonies of cats are dangerous or destructive. She vigorously contends they aren't — they are just trying to exist.

According to alleycat.org, "While catch-and-kill advocates cling to outdated thinking and hyped-up stories, the people studying, teaching, and

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