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November 11, 2011 **50¢**

The Review
Hamtramck

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Many thanks to everyone who voted for me in Hamtramck.

ALAN SHULGON

Paid for by Committee to Elect Alan Shulgon




Quick Hits

Today (Friday, Nov. 11) is Veterans Day. Here in Hamtramck, vets and their families, friends and supporters will gather at PLAV Post 10 on Jos. Campau, starting at 11 a.m. The morning starts out with a toast, and is then followed with a short ceremony. Mostly, it's just about enjoying one another's company and acknowledging those who have served our country and those who paid the ultimate price. So, here's to you veterans. Thank you for your service and dedication.

Quote of the week ...

Who said this, and what is it about? You can find the quote and the story it belongs to somewhere in the pages of this issue.

"I think people are starting to understand that elections are about qualifications – not popularity."

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Has the shine of Hamtramck's elections worn off?

By Charles Sercombe

That Bengali-American voting tiger? Eh, as an emerging powerhouse voting bloc, it had more of a purr than a roar this election cycle. Looking at the bigger picture of things, overall turnout was low compared to other November elections. Only 1,835 voters participated out of about 11,000 registered voters, which is about a 16 percent turnout. Last November's election attracted 2,847 voters (25 percent of the registered voters), and that was not a particularly exciting ballot. In the council race, the two top vote-getters were Polish-Americans. The third place finisher was Anam Miah, a Bangladeshi-American. In the School Board race, the top vote-getter was Polish-American Magdalena Srodek with second place finisher, Nasr Saleh Hussain, a Yemeni-American. Not that the ethnic results mean anything, considering

this is a town full of immigrants. But in the last two years, the Bangladeshi-American community seemed poised to take over local public office. That appears to have backed off in the past two elections. Why? Oh, there is no shortage of speculation. A leading theory is that some would-be voters got scared off by letters the city's Income Tax Department is sending out to newly registered voters, informing them that there is indeed a city income tax and that they are expected to pay up. Another theory is that the Bangladeshi voting community is just like any other voting community: after a while, voters become apathetic and look at the act of voting as more of a chore than a sacred right. In other words: voter fatigue may have set in. Or, it could be just one of those off elections. Let's face it

Continued on page 2



Above: Voter participation in Tuesday's election was pretty dismal. Only about 16 percent of the registered voters participated. Below; Incumbent City Councilmember Cathie Gordon was the top vote-getter.



Councilmember takes Hawaii over Hamtramck

By Charles Sercombe

Mystery solved. Sort of. City Councilmember Kazi Miah has cleared up his whereabouts for the last several weeks. In his abrupt, but not entirely surprising, letter of resignation a day after Tuesday's election, Miah explained that he is now living in Hawaii to be with his parents. His father moved there because he was told to relocate to a warmer climate



to properly recuperate from a recent stroke, Miah said. Here is what Miah said in his

Continued on page 5

Tuesday's election: by the numbers ...

By Charles Sercombe

City Councilmember Cathie Gordon was Tuesday's top vote-getter in the council race. The other two top vote-getters were Robert Zwolak and Anam Miah. All three will go on to serve a four-year term starting this January. Zwolak is a former councilmember. Miah has not held office before. This was his second attempt to win election on council. In the race for two School Board seats, Magdalena Srodek, who has never run for office in Hamtramck, came out on top with another newcomer Nasr Saleh Hussain in second place. Here are the election results for the City Council race: Cathie Gordon, 844 Robert Zwolak, 811 Anam Miah, 733 Abdul Algazali, 662 Dilshad Chowdhury, 611 Steve Shaya, 200

Continued on page 2

There's no end to basement flooding issue

By Charles Sercombe

An attorney representing Hamtramck residents in a lawsuit against the city over flooded basements, says many of the plaintiffs will receive \$4,000 to \$5,000. That's a far higher payout than what city officials are spinning. Several weeks ago, City Attorney James Allen told the City Council that most of the plaintiffs would receive about \$250. That payment, Allen said, would cover what each plaintiff – and other homeowners – will pay in a court-ordered special tax to cover the \$1.6 million settlement. The plaintiffs' attorney, Steve Liddle, said the city is also wrong to assume that there are over 400 residents who are part of the lawsuit. Although over 400 had initially said they were interested in the lawsuit, only about 200 submitted the necessary paperwork to receive a payment, Liddle said. (Editor's note: The Review placed several phone calls to Liddle in the past several weeks. He never returned a call. He recently agreed to talk with The Review because the lawsuit is now settled.) Ginny Petzold of Poland St. said she attended one of the informational meetings that Liddle's law firm set up for the public. She said residents were told that by filing the lawsuit, it would force the city to repair the water and sewer system and ultimately prevent further flooding. Petzold said she never followed through with the lawsuit, but she is angry that the

Continued on page 2

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There's no end to basement flooding issue

Continued from front page

flood water in her basement was contaminated with feces.

"I don't want my neighbors' poop in my basement," Petzold said.

Liddle said that without the lawsuit, he doubts the city would be taking the initial steps toward fixing the system.

The city does not deny that there is a problem – a \$60 million problem. According to an engineer hired by the city to look into the scope of repairs needed, Hamtramck sewer lines are not correctly tied into the main lines owned by Detroit.

Hamtramck's hookup with Detroit's lines occurred in the 1950s. It's not clear why the lines were incorrectly connected.

As a result of this flooding lawsuit, Hamtramck is now suing Detroit for the improper

sewer line hookup.

The city has applied for a \$1 million grant to come up with an engineering plan to fix the system. If the city is awarded the grant, it will then have to begin repairs within five years or pay back the \$1 million.

Liddle said the city could have avoided trouble by simply doing regular maintenance over the years, such as a power washout from manhole to manhole, and dumping in chemicals to kill tree roots.

Although there is no inexpensive fix now, and the city is hardly in a position to fund the repairs, Liddle said he will continue to file lawsuits until the problem is resolved.

"You got to fix the problem," Liddle said. "You can't have poop in your basement. This is the 21st century."

New City Council will usher in new era

By Charles Sercombe

There's no question about it, the next City Council to sit down come this January will be unlike any other.

And for Mayor Karen Majewski, it means she will not have one person on board who is an "ally" or someone who thinks along her lines. Any traces of what some insisted were evidence of an alignment with the "Solidarity" slate will soon be gone.

That will leave Majewski as the last standing member, no matter how remotely connected, with that slate, which began with former Mayor Gary Zych.

Majewski bristled over the idea that the Solidarity slate still existed. At least it didn't in her mind. Her connection to it is

tenuous at best.

With this current council, she could count on Councilmembers Catrina Stackpoole and Shahab Ahmed with voting with her – at least most of the time.

The new council coming up doesn't appear to have any kind of alignment – at least not yet.

Mayor Majewski said she's optimistic that the new council can get along.

"I'm not concerned about traditional ideas of alliance," she said. "It's more important that we have mutual respect, not necessarily agreement."

And even if there is some sort of alignment in voting, that is no guarantee that discussions will go smoothly, Majewski said.

"It's never been easy," she said. "I don't think it will be any more difficult than it is now."

Tuesday's election: by the numbers

Cont. from front page

In the School Board election, the results are as follows: Magdalena Srodek, 597 Nasr Hussain, 570

Ripon Lasker, 523 Alan Shulgon, 512 Dennis Lukas, 378 Darla Swint, 229 Eric Burkman, 170 The total number of votes cast was 1,835 – almost 400 more than the August Primary Election.

This was one of the warmest November election dates. Temperatures were around 70 degrees with plenty of sun.

Has the shine of Hamtramck's elections worn off?

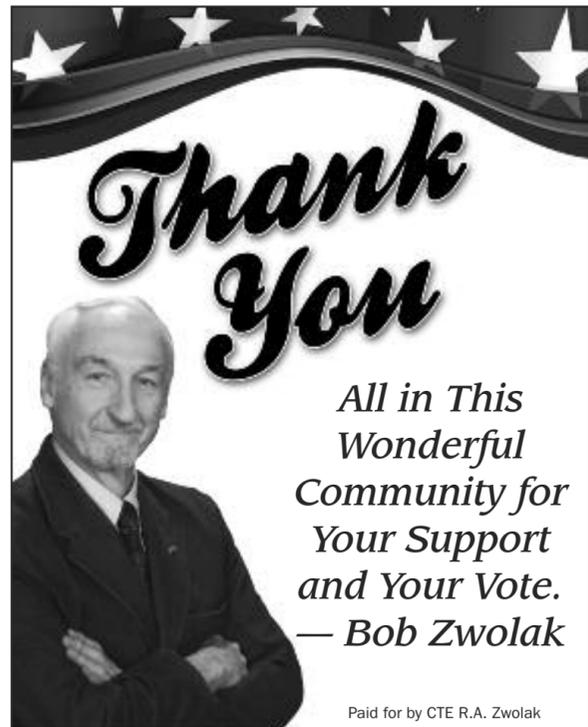
Cont. from front page

it, there wasn't much to get excited about with this ballot. There were only two races on the entire ballot: the council and the school board.

As for why Gordon garnered the most votes, she said voters have turned a new corner.

"I think people are starting to understand that elections are about qualifications – not popularity," she said.

Gordon also added she got the most votes because, "I've not been shy at all. I make my presence known."



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— Bob Zwolak

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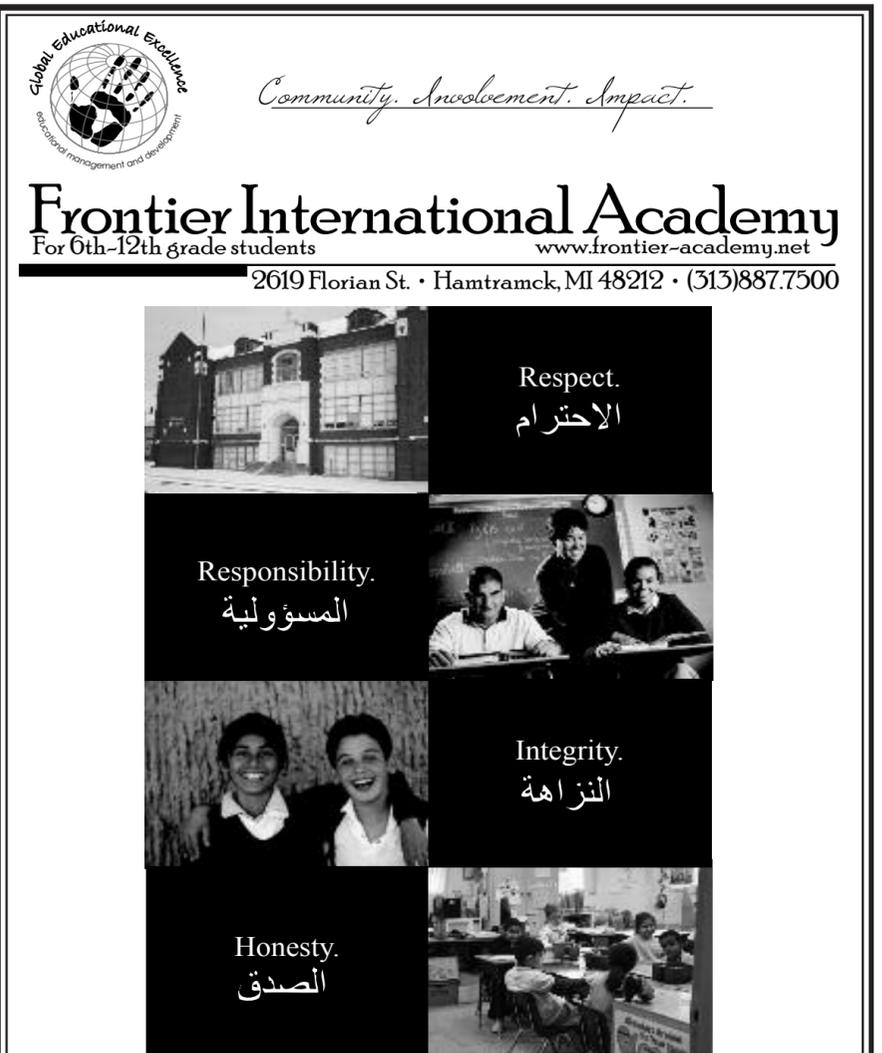
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This week at the library...

Annual Library Dinner - Thursday, November 17 at 6 p.m. Join us in our celebration of 93 years of Library Services in Hamtramck. Family style dinner will be served, a short program and induction to the Library Hall of Honor will follow.

ESL Class with Christine Templing - Saturday, November 12 at noon. Intermediate ESL class conducted by Christine Templing, free to the public.

Toddler Time - Monday, November 14 at noon. Children ages 2 to 5 are invited to join us in a celebration of the fall season, with short stories, songs and arts and crafts activities. (Must be accompanied by an adult.)

Computer Classes for Advanced Users - Tuesday, November 15 at noon. Adults with basic computer skills can enhance their computer literacy each Tuesday at the library. Number of participants is limited to available computers.

Math Club Meeting - Tuesday, November 15 at 3:30 p.m. Mr. Nuo is the instructor for the math club and math tutoring

ESL Conversation Group - Tuesday, November 15 at 4:30 p.m. Conversation sessions with Ms. Trisa for advanced ESL students are free of charge to Hamtramck residents.

ESL Class with Ms. Templin - Wednesday, November 16 at noon. Christine Templin is the instructor for the ESL class for beginners. Everyone is invited. Free to the public.

Computer Classes for Beginners - Thursday, November 17 at noon and 1 p.m. Basic instructions on computer use for beginners will be held on Thursdays. Number of participants is limited to available computers.

Family Game Night - Thursday, November 17, at 5 p.m. Join your friends and family members in friendly skill and knowledge games. This month the featured game is BINGO.

ESL News for You - Friday, November 18 at 3:30 p.m. ESL reading and discussion class with Latisha Edge. Free to the public.

Financial Activists Club - Friday, November 18 at 3:30 p.m. If you want to expand your knowledge of budgeting and investing, play financial literacy games and learn how to grow your money, join the club. It is free of charge.

Story Time for Children - Saturday, November 19, at noon. All children are invited to the library where we will read a story about Thanksgiving from the book "Gus, the Thanksgiving Turkey" by Teresa Bateman

Annual Dekaban Lecture - Tuesday, November 22 at 6:30 p.m. The Piast Institute and the Hamtramck Library will host guest speaker, Dr. Ewa Kurek, from Poland, presenting a lecture: "Solidarity: Across the Boundaries of Faith and Culture" during the 9th Annual Dekaban Lecture Series. Everyone is invited, refreshments will be served.

Story Time for Children - Saturday, November 26, at noon. Join us in the reading of, "Flora's Very Windy Day," by Jeanne Birdsall.

Meeting of the Library Board - Thursday, December 8 at 6 p.m. Regular meeting of the Library Board will be held in the auditorium. Open to the public.

Friends of the Library Meeting - Thursday, December 15 at 6 p.m. FHPL President Kathy Kristy and Treasurer George Gorday invite all members and volunteers to participate in the regular monthly meeting.

For more information about events at the library call (313) 365-7050, or visit our website at http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us where you can also access our online catalog.

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Second Front Page

At New Deluxe Bakery, time doesn't stand still

By Alan R. Madeleine

It seems, these days, that they're dropping like flies.

Another Hamtramck-area business will shut its doors for good this Saturday. The venerable New Deluxe Bakery will treat its loyal customers to free donuts and coffee, and then, it will be no more.

Owner Rose Gjorgjeski smiled as she gazed around the building, itself over 100 years old. She and her husband Steve have run the place for the past 25 years, since 1986. His serious health concerns have necessitated a move that, clearly, comes with mixed feelings.

Daughter Michelle, along with sons Mise and Kris, have increasingly had to help out, despite holding other jobs. Cut to this past Wednesday: Michelle works the counter,

while mom Rose prepares cherry nut coffee cake in the back.

One person strays in behind me, but then, in a flash, there are half a dozen more. As is often the case with any good neighborhood business, they all seem to know the proprietors pretty well.

One man buys some bread, then mentions to Rose that he's stockpiling it in his freezer, trying to stave off the inevitable. Another person orders two onion rye loaves, plus a loaf of rye with seeds.

"Sliced medium," he throws in. But he's not done yet. As an afterthought, he gets four "black and whites" – large cookies, half dipped in chocolate, it appears – thrown in to the bag as well. Rose works out the price for all of it on a small calculator: \$8.85.

"I've been seeing you here since 1977," he adds, heading for the door. He's almost right. Rose later mentions that she's worked there since "(her) husband's cousin had it," around late 1978 or early 79.

Last Saturday night, a customer set up a chair in the corner, pulled out an accordion, and started an impromptu serenade. Rose seems amazed by the gesture.

She says she'll take care of her husband, and also her elderly parents, who need care as well.

And she'll bake at home. Maybe. Maybe see about help-

ing make angel wings for the holidays.

The city's been very good to her, she says.

"Especially the men in blue. And the firemen! They saved my husband. (Steve) Paruk. DPW. They've done a great job."

She grows wistful again, briefly, but her smile returns just as fast.

Nor is she sure whether they'll sell the building off right away: "It's all a bit much to deal with at once." She's very sad to leave. The customers are like family, she adds.

But, one thing remains true: Time waits for no one.

November 9, 2011



Dear friends,

As some of you might have known, my father had a major stroke last year. He suffered memory loss and is still recovering. The doctor recommended that he resides in a warmer climate. As a result, and with careful consideration we have decided to move to the state of Hawaii. Therefore, I am resigning from my position as a city council member effective as of November 9th, 2011.

From the bottom of my heart I would like to thank the citizens of Hamtramck for giving me the honor of serving you for the past two years. I hope you will understand my decision was in benefit to my family. I am looking forward to spending quality time with my baba.

With much love and respect,
Kazi M. Miah

DDA invites the public to a meet and greet

By Charles Sercombe

It's time to network, Hamtramck business and property owners.

And heck, everyone else as well is welcome to connect with one another at the Hamtramck Downtown Development Authority's "Merchant's Meeting" on Monday, Nov. 21, 6-8 p.m. at Aladdin Sweets & Café (11945 Conant).

DDA Executive director Darren Grow said the get-together is "a great opportunity for Hamtramck business and property owners to meet and network."

There's more than just a

meet and greet, though.

Several speakers will talk about their Hamtramck experience, as well as provide valuable information.

So far, the following will be speaking: Monzur Shafi (Eleem), owner of Aladdin Cafe; Barbara Stachowski, Ron Orr and Wally Tripp, from Hamtramck Weed & Seed, who will discuss community policing and business watch; and Korey Scheiber, Business Development Representative from the Detroit Metro Enterprise Fund.

For more information or to confirm your attendance, call (313) 870-0346, or fax Grow at (313) 876-7771.

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Henry Ford HEALTH SYSTEM

Cold versus Flu

By Dwight Encinas, M.D.

Cold and flu season is back. Each year about 36,000 Americans ages 50 and older die from the flu and its complications, such as pneumonia. Another 226,000 older adults end up in the hospital.

So how can you tell which bug is which?

The common cold usually causes these symptoms:

- A runny or stuffy nose
- Sneezing
- Coughing
- Fatigue
- Sore throat

Signs of the flu include:

- Fatigue and weakness
- High fever
- Severe aches and pains
- Headache
- Cough

The best way to stay healthy is to wash hands often. When water is unavailable, use alcohol-based disinfectant hand cleaners.

To ward off the flu, everyone older than 6 months of age should get an annual flu shot. It's not too late to get your flu shot. Henry Ford Medical Center – Hamtramck is currently scheduling flu shot appointments on Tuesdays and Fridays 8:00am – 4:00pm.

Call the doctor!
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To make an appointment with a family medicine physician at Henry Ford Medical Center – Hamtramck, please call 313-982-8100.

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Murder investigation is now over one month old

By Charles Sercombe

The investigation of the death of Joseph King is continuing.

"I'm still collecting evidence," said Detective John Aiello, who is in charge of the investigation.

It's now been over a month since 24-year-old King, of Detroit, bled to death from a deep slash to his throat after getting into a fight with four men.

Police initially investigated

the matter as a possible hate crime because King is an African-American and the four suspects are white.

But investigators backed off from that angle early in the investigation.

Instead, based on what little has emerged publicly, the incident is the result of a drunken encounter between the men. The suspects, who were held for 72 hours before being released without charges being filed, insist it

was a case of self-defense.

The suspects, whose names have not been released, also suffered injuries in the incident.

King apparently encountered the men after they left Small's Bar at about 2:30 a.m. on Oct. 8. Police say words were exchanged, and that escalated into a knife fight that extended two blocks down Conant.

Aiello says he can't say what evidence is being col-

lected because it's an ongoing investigation. Just when this case will – if ever – result in charges "is going to take awhile," Aiello said.

As for the suspects, Aiello said "they are still maintaining their innocence."

And as for the family of King, he said they are "OK with how the case is proceeding."

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Request For Proposal – The Board of Education of the Hamtramck Public Schools will accept sealed bids for copy machines. Copies of the RFP are available on-line at the Hamtramck Public Schools website www.hamtramckschool.org or www.hamtramck.k12.mi.us under Departments / Building and Grounds / Current Bid Information. Sealed Bids will be accepted until 3:00 PM. Monday, November 21, 2011 at the office of the Superintendent of School located at 3201 Roosevelt, Hamtramck, MI 48212.

The Hamtramck Public Schools Board of Education reserves the right to reject or decline any / all bids received. Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Federal Law It is the policy of the Hamtramck Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, height, weight, disability, religion or marital status in any of its programs, activities or employment.



COMBINED NOTICE NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

November 11, 2011

Notice of Intent to Request a Release of Funds

Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA)
735 East Michigan Avenue
Lansing, Michigan 48912
Phone: (517) 241-7207
TTY No.: (800) 382-4568

On or about **November 29, 2011** the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) will request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to release Federal funds under Title III of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, as amended, for the following development:

Shopper's World – Hamtramck/Wayne County
15 – 26 Units Acquisition/Redevelopment

\$3,600,000 MSHDA Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) Funds
\$6,000,000 Approximate Total Development Cost

The proposal is to re-purpose and redevelop the building (the "Property") at 9808 - 9842 Joseph Campau Street (Figure 1, Site Location Map). The building, known as former Shopper's World, was designed for retail sales at the time it was built in 1930, and it was occupied by a succession of companies engaged in retail businesses until vacated in 2007 by the last occupant, Shopper's World. The re-purposing and redevelopment of the building is identified as the "Project" in this EA.

The Project will redevelop the building, which is known as the former Shopper's World building. The Project's plan is to redevelop the building as a mixture of retail/commercial and residential uses. The configuration and architecture of these uses has not been finalized by the City/Developer because final selection of a team has not been made. However, it is expected that the Project will contain a range of 15 to 26 units having one or two bedrooms.

The Project is expected to increase commercial and retail activity in the heart of Hamtramck's commercial and retail district centered on Joseph Campau Street. It will also increase housing opportunities due to the planned residential use. The occupation of the upper level of the building by residents will increase the number of residents on Joseph Campau Street, thereby increasing informal surveillance of the neighborhood, which, in turn, will increase security for persons and Property. Finally, it is expected to increase fundamental Property values on nearby parcels on Joseph Campau Street such that landowners will have incentives to maintain and improve their properties.

Notice of FONSI

MSHDA also gives notice that it has been determined that the release of funds for the above development will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and accordingly MSHDA has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, 42 USC 4321). The reasons for the decision not to prepare such a Statement are as follows:

No significant environmental adverse impacts or hazards were identified in the course of the environmental review.

An Environmental Review Record respecting the proposed development has been made by MSHDA, which documents the environmental review of the proposed development and more fully sets forth the reasons why such a Statement is not required. This Environmental Review Record is on file at MSHDA, 735 E. Michigan, Lansing, Michigan 48912. The records are available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please contact Michael Vollick of MSHDA at (517) 335-0183 or TTY no. (800) 382-4568 for further information.

No further environmental review of such development is proposed to be conducted prior to the request for release of Federal funds.

Public Comments on Finding

All interested agencies, groups, and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration. Such written comments should be received at MSHDA's address listed above on or before **November 28, 2011**. All such comments so received will be considered and MSHDA will not request the release of Federal funds or take any administrative action on the proposed project prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

Release of Funds

The City of Hamtramck will undertake the development described above with NSP funds allocated under Title III of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008. MSHDA is certifying to HUD that MSHDA and Bruce Jeffries, MSHDA's Certifying Officer, are consenting to accept the jurisdiction of Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision-making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval The City of Hamtramck may use the NSP funds and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Objections To Release of Funds

HUD will consider objections to its release of funds and MSHDA certification received by **December 14, 2011** or a period of fifteen days following its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of MSHDA; (b) MSHDA had omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) a grant recipient or other participants in the project have committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and shall be addressed to: **Keith E. Hernandez, HUD Detroit Area Office, 477 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226**. Potential objectors should contact MSHDA to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Michael Vollick
Environmental Review Officer
Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA)
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Lansing, MI 48912



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Review: Opinion Page

Election brings a shake up at City Council and School Board

What are we to make of this week's election for the city council and school board?

This is one of those elections that certainly raises more questions than it answers.

Let's take a look at the city council race. The two top vote-getters, incumbent Cathie Gordon and former councilmember Robert Zwolak, are sort of from Hamtramck's old-school era of politics. That can be a good and bad thing.

The third place finisher, Anam Miah, is a total newcomer to the world of Hamtramck politics, and represents the surging Bengali-American community.

Strangely, that community didn't come out in the numbers we've seen in previous elections during the last two years.

And throwing a twist to the council election is the sud-

den resignation of Councilmember Kazi Miah. His departure, because of family obligations he says, will either mean former councilmembers Alan Shulgon or Abdul Algazali will fill out the rest of his term for the next two years.

What we have here is a total mish-mash of a council. There is no cohesive voice coming from this configuration. Some will applaud this as an independent-thinking council, while we wonder if any of them will agree on anything.

Maybe we are being too over-concerned, and this will work out for the best. We are certainly crossing our fingers for the best outcome.

Over at the school board, there is now an infusion of new blood, so to speak, and this could be the prompting this board needs to start thinking a little more cre-

atively about the future of the district.

The two new board members have never served in public office, but from what we can tell from the candidate surveys we asked them to fill out, they have some fresh ideas on how to make this district survive.

Magdalena Srodek and Nasr Saleh Hussain both bring in diverse backgrounds. It will be refreshing to hear their input.

All in all, we wish everyone the best of luck. Obviously the next several years will be a huge challenge for the city and the schools.

No matter who you voted for, elections are about community. We all have plenty at stake to make sure our community survives these troubling times.

To our newly elected officials: Don't lose sight of that.

City officials may be closer to passing a medical marijuana law

By Charles Sercombe

It's been almost two years since Hamtramck city officials started dithering over a proposed law regulating where medical marijuana can be grown.

And if Hamtramck city officials wait any longer, the state's courts and conservative lawmakers will have already neutered the law to make it virtually illegal to grow.

But our city officials soldier on.

The latest round of discussion on the topic took up a good chunk at a recent City Council meeting.

And – surprise! – the council is not an inch closer to putting this ordinance to bed.

Talk about a buzz killer.

But, the council rolled up its sleeves (and possibly something else?) at a recent Saturday work session, and lo and behold, there is a good chance that at last night's

council meeting, an actual zoning law regulating where medical marijuana can be grown had been passed.

The council rescheduled its regular Tuesday meeting to Thursday because Tuesday was Election Day.

The Review went to press Thursday afternoon

What the council has been stymied by is a city attorney who is holding off on passing a law because of recent court decisions whittling down the legality of the voter-passed law. The attorney also warned that upcoming court rulings will likely further erode the law.

State officials, City Attorney James Allen said, are trying to "read the law out of existence."

Not to mention a federal government that still views medical marijuana illegal no matter what voters say.

Allen said one of the key points of the voter-approved

law that prosecutors and courts have focused on is growing collectives and whether patients can sell medical marijuana to other patients.

The courts have ruled that growing facilities must separate each grower from one another with their own walled-in and locked growing spaces.

Courts have also ruled that patients can only be supplied by their designated caregivers. Caregivers also are limited to caring for no more than five patients.

Councilmember Catrina Stackpoole said the city's proposed zoning ordinance still fits in with state law, and that any growing facility operator is on his own with keeping up to date with changes to the law.

But, Stackpoole conceded that the council needs to tweak the language of the city's law.

And so the council tweaked.

Councilmember takes Hawaii over Hamtramck

Continued from front page

official resignation letter to his council colleagues:

"As some of you might know, my father had a major stroke last year. He suffered memory loss and is still recovering. The doctor recommended that he resides in a warmer climate. As a result, and with careful consideration we have decided to move to the state of Hawaii. Therefore, I am resigning from my position as a city council member effective as of November 9th 2011.

"From the bottom of my heart I would like to thank the citizens of Hamtramck for giving me the honor of serving you for the past two years. I hope you will understand my decision was in benefit to my family. I am looking forward to spending quality time with my baba."

Not everyone is buying it. Mayor Karen Majewski questioned the timing of Miah's resignation, which was first announced on Facebook just hours after Tuesday's election

results were in.

"Kazi knew exactly what he was doing by waiting for this election," Majewski said.

A few months ago, Miah contacted City Manager Bill Cooper to ask the council to officially excuse his absence from the council meetings for four meetings.

Miah did not offer an explanation for his absence, nor did he say where he was.

The council reluctantly granted him the excused absences.

Miah was expected to return to this week's council meeting, but others thought he was never coming back.

The upshot of Majewski's criticism is that the timing of Miah's resignation has caused a needless legal inquiry over who will take his seat for the remainder of his term, which has another two years to go.

According to the charter, it's the next highest vote-getter from the "last" General Election. But what's not clear is

whether this past Tuesday's General Election is the one – because it's not yet been officially certified – or whether it's the General Election from two years ago.

It's a case of whether Abdul Algazali – who is the next highest vote-getter from Tuesday's election – takes his place, or whether it's Alan Shulgon from two years ago.

City Attorney James Allen was still looking into the matter when The Review went to press on Thursday.

At the time of Miah's election, he was the highest vote-getter, a fact that he frequently pointed out. He also had begun to buddy up with veteran Congressman John Conyers as a sort of wannabe protégé.

Is Miah's hope of becoming the next rising political star on hold?

Well, he's still in his early 30s (or so we think), and there's plenty of time for him to jump back into politics.

Obituaries

EHRlich

Dennis Michael Ehrlich, 65, died November 5, 2011

Survived by sons Daniel and Douglas (Kristi), sister Lillian Hunt, and his brother Joseph (Clara). Predeceased by step-brother Larry Ziembra. Retired, former employee of Housing Dept., City of Hamtramck. Served in U.S. Army and was a member of PLAV Post 6 and VFW 4162. Funeral was November 9, at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home. Cremation with inurnment at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly MI.

MARZICOLA

Larry P. Marzicola, 48, died November 4, 2011.

Survived by his wife Pamela and children Anthony, Julia, and Contessa. Son of Dominic and Joan, brother of Do-

minic (Sherry) and Denise (Mike) Jones, and grandfather of Caden and Kaylie. A memorial service was held November 9th, at the Sterling Heights Chapel of Bagnasco & Calcaterra Funeral Home. Memories can be shared at www.bcfh.com.

PENKALA

Stephen Penkala, died November 7, 2011

Survived by his son Steven Penkala Jr., and family members, Donna Kozlowski, John Hondzinski, cousin Tom Chmielewski, and Michael Wojcik. Served in U.S. Navy. Visitation at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, November 12, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. with prayers at 5:00 p.m. Cremation at Meadowcrest Cemetery.

ZENTARSKI

Barbara Zentarski, 73, died October 25, 2011

Survived by brothers Richard, Philip and Tony (Angie). Preceded in death by her parents Leonard and Dorothy. Funeral was October 28th, St. Ladislaus Church with burial at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Detroit. Arrangements were made by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home.



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Odds & Ends

A date to remember ... You might hear some talk today (Friday) about the significance of today's date, which is 11/11/11.

We're not much into numerology, but some predict the numbers add up to something ominous while others take the exact opposite viewpoint.

To put things into perspective, we found this piece written by science writer Natalie Wolchover in livescience.com.

Here's what she had to say in a talk with Alan Lenzi, professor of religious studies at University of the Pacific who studies biblical numerology:

There is nothing unusual about the time 11:11 or the date 11/11/11, but our brains can't help noticing the repeating digits, and seeing them as meaningful.

"Numbers that are already significant to us, such as calendar dates that also coincide

Continued on page 8



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PLAV POST 10

Support Your Local Veterans!

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

Friday, Nov. 11th
11:00 a.m.

3rd Annual Toys for Tots Drive is underway

Karaoke with Chuck 'E' every Fri & Sat Night 9 p.m. til 1:45 a.m.

Look up PLAV Post 10 on Facebook for Upcoming Events

Sun 12pm-12am • Mon 1pm-12am T-F 1pm-2am • S 12pm-2am

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Thursday
Friday
Saturday

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Odds & Ends Cont. from page 6

dentially fall into an obvious pattern, become doubly significant," said Lenzi. "11/11/11 is another example of people doing what people are cognitively prone to do: find significance."

Saturday night is all right ... Be sure to head over to Hamtramck's most happening art gallery this Saturday

for the opening of a new exhibit that addresses why we dress the way we do.

Public Pool is located on Caniff just east of Gallagher. And then be sure to stop by the Polish Sea League for a fundraiser for Friendship House. Thanks to our governor, the state has eliminated payments to food pantries, like Friendship House, in order to save some money.

Friendship House was receiving a mere \$12,000 a year to help out about 1,000 individuals and families.

The folks at Polish Sea League are asking a minimum of \$5 per person, and will offer up a bunch of fun activities and plenty of cheap drinks. The club is located on Edwin at Brombach.

Thank You

To all that voted and supported me for Hamtramck School Trustee

DENNIS LUKAS

Paid for by The Committee to Elect Dennis Lukas



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- TAYLOR 22615 Ecorse (east of Telegraph in Sunrise Ctr.) • CLINTON TWP. 33955 Gratiot (between 14 & 15 Mile)
- YPSILANTI 1410 E. Michigan (at Michigan & Harris) • WARREN 2001 11 Mile (corner of Dequindre) • ANN ARBOR 345 N. Maple (in Maple Village)
- WESTLAND 35300 Central City Parkway (across from Westland Mall) • EAST POINTE 24900 Kelly (at 10 Mile) • OAK PARK 22130 Coolidge (at 9 Mile)

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