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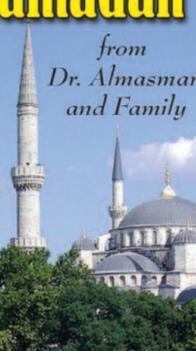
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Quick Hits

Yes, we've noticed that the traffic light at Holbrook and St. Aubin is not working. Actually, it hasn't been working for over a week. Steve Shaya, the Director of Hamtramck's Public Works Department, said he's been calling the county to take a look at the problem since the signal went out. So far, the county hasn't done anything about it. Sheesh, talk about service! Hey, isn't there someone from around here running for Wayne County Commissioner? Looks like a golden opportunity for a feather in their political hat.

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.

"It seemed like we just kept pushing the fire around in there. We weren't even always sure where it was burning."

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —



Vote Tuesday Aug. 7th

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For one day, kids got to play cops and firefighters

By Charles Sercombe

Saturday's Public Safety Day was the perfect place for a kid to be. There were police cars on display, with sirens wailing, and fire trucks that kids could climb on and even get behind the wheel of. Kids also got a chance to play tug of war, and join in with police officers and firefighters.

Continued on page 7

Firefighters get some helping hands in their tug of war against police officers at last Saturday's Public Safety Day. Better luck next year fellows.



Discussion of recreation budget is anything but child's play

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck's Recreation tax raised a little over \$918,000 for this year's budget. Salaries and benefits for the Recreation Department's employees will eat up three quarters of that to the tune of \$678,000. The budget will also continue to whittle down the department's \$1 million surplus, this year by almost \$500. The previous year the budget hit up the surplus for \$18,000. The proposed budget for this year had originally called for spending \$146,000 over budget. Hamtramck's Public School District runs the city's recreation programs. At a recent school board meeting, discussion of the budget turned into a testy exchange between Boardmember Hedy Shulgon

Continued on page 8

Financial plan will have to wait

By Charles Sercombe

Now that Hamtramck has a new acting city manager, residents may be wondering what financial changes will be coming down the pike. A few weeks ago, the city council abruptly fired Acting City Manager Erik Tungate, or it should be said, accepted his resignation. The council appointed Finance Director Nevrus Nazarko as the new acting city manager. He said he will let whoever is hired as the permanent city manager come up with a deficit reduction plan. Nazarko said that no matter what, property owners are going to be hit with extra costs because there are no other revenue sources to turn to. The city is facing a \$3.5 million projected budget deficit by this time next year. Nazarko said he expects a permanent city manager will be hired and on the job within a month. The city has posted the job, and there are over a dozen applications. A council sub-committee is in place to start screening the candidates to whittle that list down to the top-five candidates. In the meantime, Nazarko said he is negotiating contracts with the city employees' union, AFSCME 666, and will be talking with firefighters about concessions. The city is also seeking a state loan, to help with cash flow and avoid payless paydays. Nazarko said the city's official application will be submitted to state officials within a week.

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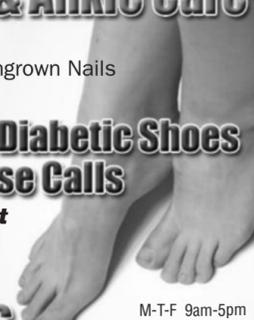
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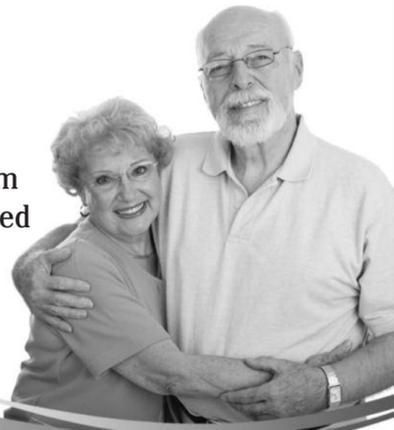


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City Hall Insider ...

What is our City Council up to these days? We have the scoop and the highlights – as well as the lowlights – of the latest council meeting.

By Charles Sercombe

The city council met on July 10, and the meeting ran for about three hours, which included a closed session to discuss the financial terms of hiring Finance Director Nevrus Nazarko to become Acting City Manager. Mayor Karen Majewski and Councilmember Tom Jankowski were absent.

From the public, Susan Dunn complained about the amount of fireworks shot off during the Fourth of July holiday period, especially by children.

"We all got by the Fourth of July by the skin of our teeth," she said.

She said there was also a lot of garbage and debris left behind from the fireworks.

In another matter, she said the city wasted thousands of dollars by patching her street, Hewitt St. She said the patch fill squeezed out soon after it was put in the potholes.

Councilmember Robert Zwolak said that the state legislator who was behind legalizing fireworks this year has heard so many complaints from communities that there might be a modification of the law to allow communities to pass stricter laws regulating them.

Zwolak also asked Steve Shaya, the head of the Public Works Department, to comment on paving Hewitt St. Shaya said it would take upwards of \$1 million to repave Hewitt and its curbs and sidewalks.

Three men complained that

their property taxes jumped up this year to the point where they can't afford to pay the bill. The matter was referred to Nazarko.

Bill Meyer talked on a wide-range of subjects. He said the city is at a "crossroads."

"We're busted, and no one is running the ship," he said.

He blamed the city's financial woes on corporations not paying their fair share of taxes.

He also blamed city-elected officials for not stepping up.

"We have a crisis of leadership," he said.

Meyer also said that, since most of the people living in the city are of the Muslim faith, the city should be "open" to Muslims.

A public hearing was held on transferring \$40,000 from an account set aside for city clean-ups to a fund set up for demolishing dilapidated houses. The transfer would give the demolition fund a total of \$50,000 to work with.

No one from the public spoke on the proposal. But later in the meeting, the council eventually agreed to the transfer but not without first questioning it.

Jason Friedmann, the Director of Community & Economic Development, said the money

will be used to pay for the demolition of four to six houses.

He said the addresses of the houses to be razed have not been drawn up yet. He noted that it will take about three months before Wayne County officials sign off on the transfer.

A vote on a contract proposal for city hall employees, who are members of AFSCME 666, was postponed until the next council meeting.

In a review of bills, Councilmember Cathie Gordon questioned who is paying the bills for the security cameras on Jos. Campau. Police Chief Max Garbarino said he agreed to pay the bills through the police department.

Gordon objected, saying he did not have the authority to take on that responsibility, and that it's the responsibility of the DDA to pay the bills.

As for the cameras, she said: "I didn't want those cameras to begin with."

A discussion was held on how to go about hiring a new city manager. Acting City Manager Nevrus Nazarko suggested forming a sub-committee, consisting of three councilmembers and the mayor.

The council agreed to that, and Councilmembers Gordon, Anam Miah and Zwolak volun-

teered to be on the committee.

They will screen the applicants, and come up with a list of the top five candidates for the whole council to interview.

In a vote to transfer a liquor license for Capo Lounge on Jos. Campau, only Councilmembers Abdul Algazali and Mohammed Hassan voted against it. They did not explain their objection.

Police Chief Garbarino said the new owner passed a background check "with flying colors."

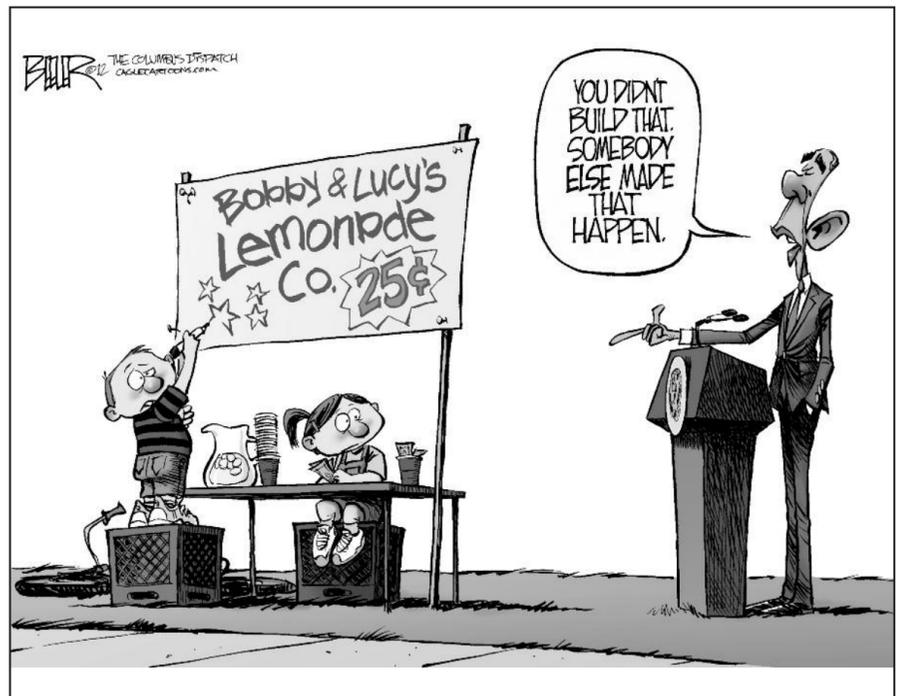
From the public, Bill Meyer noted that this meeting had a good "tone" with no "flashing of anger."

He then spoke on a variety of issues, notably that the city isn't business-friendly, especially for businesses waiting to open up.

Community & Economic Development Director Jason Friedmann took exception to that claim, saying the city allows businesses to open up temporarily while they complete their code work.

Meyer questioned why the city has refused to allow a would-be market owner to open up on Caniff. Meyer said the city won't allow a curb cut into the market owner's park-

Continued on page 9



This week at the library...

ESL Class with Latisha Edge - Monday, July 23 at 3:00 p.m. Intermediate ESL class conducted by Latisha Edge, free to the public.

ESL Conversation Class - Tuesday, July 24 at 4:30 p.m. Ms. Trisa conducts English Conversation classes each Tuesday night. Free of charge to Hamtramck residents.

Computer Classes for Beginners - Tuesday, July 24 at noon. Adults who would like to acquire basic computer skills can enroll in this free of charge course. Tom Zaworowski is the instructor.

Summer Reading Program for Adults - Tuesday, July 24 at 4 p.m. Everyone is invited to take part in book reading club. Share your book selections, discuss newly released books and find books of interest to you.

Summer Reading Program - Wednesday, July 25 at 1 p.m. Mike Brophy presents his show, featuring creepy, crawly and slimy reptiles, followed by book selections and arts and crafts. All children are invited.

Computer Classes for Beginners - Wednesday, July 25 at noon. Adults who would like to acquire basic computer skills can enroll in this free of charge course. Tom Zaworowski is the instructor.

ESL News for You - Thursday, July 26 at 3 p.m. ESL reading and discussion class with Ms. Latisha. Free to the public.

Computer Classes for Beginners - Thursday, July 26 at noon. Adults who would like to ac-

quire basic computer skills can enroll in this free of charge course. Tom Zaworowski is the instructor.

ESL Class with Christine Templin - Friday, July 27 at 11 a.m. Intermediate ESL class conducted by Christine Templin, free to the public.

Teen Club Meeting - Friday, July 27, at 1 p.m. Teens are invited to join us for the kick off meeting of the Teen Club.

Toddler Time at the Library - Monday, July 30 at noon. Join us for story time, arts & crafts, games and other fun activities. This week's topic is "Splash, Splash, Beach Story Time." (Children must be accompanied by an adult.)

Summer Reading Program - Wednesday, August 1 at 1 p.m. Special attraction for this week is Star Lab. Did you ever dream of traveling through space? Take a trip with your friends during the Star Lab program.

Meeting of the Library Board - Thursday, August 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, August 16 at 6 p.m. FHPL President Kathy Kristy and Treasurer George Gorday invite all members and volunteers to participate in the regular monthly meeting.

Special Thanks for Donations - Jadwiga Betleja, books; Angeline Rooks, books.

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.

Second Front Page



School Bell

By Alan Madeleine

The Bridge Academy West's athletic program

participated in only two sports this past year. And it did pretty well in both. This past winter, the

Academy fielded a 13-player boys basketball team, which then played a total of 12 games against the nine other participating schools in the United League.

Coached by Arvin Carson, the team finished that schedule in 2nd place, with an 8-4 won-lost record.

Winning team awards, at a recently-held ceremony at the school for this past season's achievements, were: Abar Haydar, Best Point Guard and Season MVP; Mohamed Ali, Best Shooting Guard; Khalil Al-

badani, Best Forward/Center; and Amjed Babaker, Most Improved Player.

Then, in the spring, the school rounded up a 14-player boys flag football squad, who then played a similar 12-game schedule against nine other teams.

This time, the results were even more impressive: Once again led by Coach Carson, and helped in this case by Assistant Coach Rita Peter, this team won it all with an 11-1 season record, and League and Tournament championships.

Taking home awards for this effort were: Abar Haydar, Best Quarterback and Co-MVP; Mohamed Ali, Best Running Back and Co-MVP; Amjed Babaker, Best Defensive Back; Ali Kaid, Best Offensive Lineman/Receiver; Ali Chowdhury, Best Defensive Rusher and Sportsmanship Award; and Ahmed Saleh, Most Improved Player.

Way to go, athletes! The Review salutes you!



Elect Mohamad 'Mike' HAMMOUD for Sheriff of Wayne County.

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To learn more about the Campaign or to contact Mike please visit www.mikeforsheriff.net electmhammoudsheriff@gmail.com

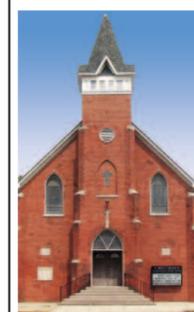


Paid for by committee to elect Mohamad Hammoud, 23169 Michigan Ave., #2462, Dearborn, MI 48123

Coming events

Every Wednesday, 5-8 p.m. – The Hamtramck Farmer's Market is open at Pope Park, located at Jos. Campau and Belmont. The market offers a wide variety of locally grown food.

Hamtramck Drug Free Community Coalition meets every second Thursday of the month (next meeting: Aug. 9), 11 a.m. at The Piast Institute, 11633 Jos. Campau.



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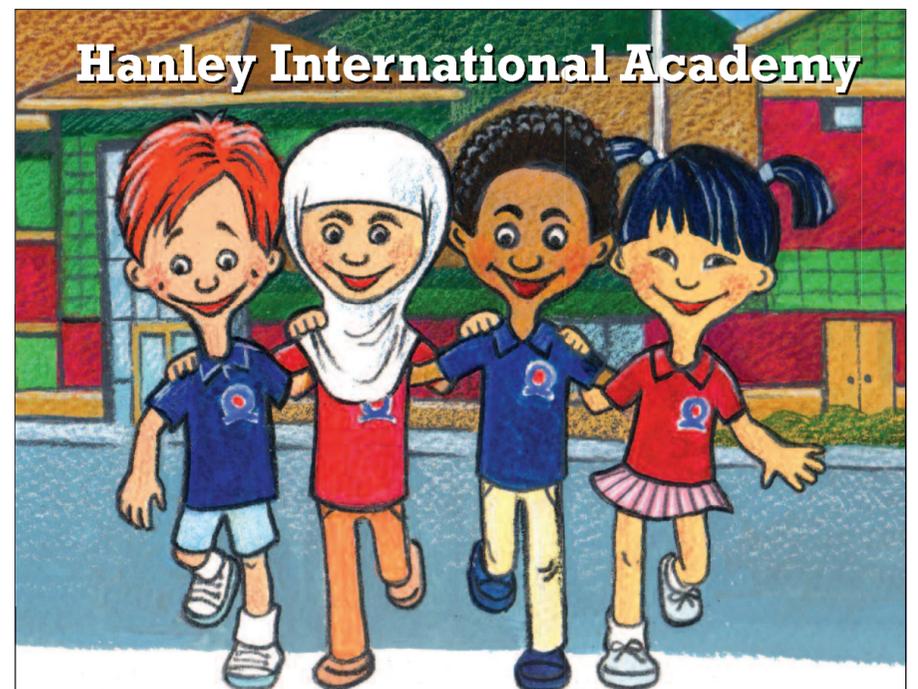
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Review: Opinion Page

Our endorsements for State Rep. and Congress

Last week, we offered our endorsement for Wayne County Commissioner, and suggested voters stick with the tried and true: Martha Scott.

This week we'll take on the state Rep. race and the Congressional race.

Both races involve newly drawn districts. In the state Rep. race, there is no incumbent, leaving this election wide open. And it's a given that whoever wins the Aug. 7 primary election will likely win in November since this is a heavily Democratic district.

There are two Hamtramck City Councilmembers vying against nine others (including Hamtramckan Beverly Tran).

Councilmembers Mohammed Hassan and Robert Zwolak would like to leave Hamtramck elected office and go on to Lansing. We have traditionally endorsed locals over other candidates, but that tradition is not written in stone.

In this case, however, we do recommend either councilmember. For sure, Zwolak offers years of experience in

public office. He has a deep understanding of Hamtramck and its needs.

Hassan, a newcomer to politics and who is in his first term, represents a burgeoning voting bloc: The Bangladeshi community.

Yes, we have not seen eye-to-eye with Hassan on a number of issues, and yes, he was grossly insensitive in remarking to police officers that they should let certain bar patrons they were assisting "die" and instead heed his call for help.

But the Bangladeshi community deserves representation in Lansing. So far, Hassan is the only Bangladeshi-American seeking this seat in the state legislature.

He may not be the perfect candidate, but he does represent a community that needs its voice heard.

For that reason, we are recommending MOHAMMED HASSAN for State Rep.

As much as we prefer local candidates, voters should also consider attorney Rose Mary C. Robinson for consideration in the State Rep. race.

Robinson has Hamtramck connections, having been mentored by longtime Hamtramck Mayor Albert Zak. She was also the first woman voted in as a county commissioner.

In the newly created 14th Congressional District, it's unfortunate that two incumbents have been pitted against each other.

Congressmen Gary Peters and Hansen Clarke are, according to polls, neck and neck in this race.

Clarke is in his first term.

Peters has the edge in experience and in actually getting things done in Congress.

Clarke's heart is with "the people" – so to speak. He speaks emotionally about the downtrodden and dispossessed.

You have to ask, though: What exactly has he brought home?

In practical terms, Peters approaches his job in a business-like manner, and manages to work the system for our benefit.

Vote smart in the race. Vote for GARY PETERS.

Odds & Ends

Congratulations ... We had the honor of being invited to the wedding of Tom Koch and Kathleen Bittner on Friday inside the amazing Masonic Temple.

Kathleen is the daughter of Joan and Ray Bittner, who own the Polish Art Center here in town.

It was a beautiful night, and we wish the happy couple a long marriage.

The Pronko family said they can't run both their restaurant and salsa bottling business, so they decided to concentrate solely on the salsa side of things.

But there is good news coming down the pike. We hear that a well-known restaurateur is planning to open a new place on Jos. Campau. Trust us, this will

Dickinson West were thrilled to learn that they could pick out 10 free books.

"You should have seen their faces!

"The students had hundreds and hundreds of books to choose from, new books and gently used books. Usually, summer school students read little or nothing after summer school is over.

"This summer, they will have plenty of books to read! These books can take them on adventures. Using their imaginations, the books can take them to the future, to the past, and to magical places. Such books can help students to acquire a love of reading.

"All of the books were donated, either from Operation Kid Equip in Troy or from the Friends of the Troy Public Library. It was nice of them to donate the books. It was fun for me to give the books out. Books that were not selected will go to classroom libraries.

"Over the last year-and-a-half, I've gotten out thousands of books to classroom libraries so that students have plenty of access to books. I simply think that this is something all schools need to do. Students need to catch on to the joy of reading.

"For area students, books offer the best (and



Tom Koch and Kathleen Bittner, of Hamtramck, were married Friday night at Masonic Temple.

Yuck it up ... Kelly's Bar is taking a slight detour from the blues on Tuesdays and is hosting Open Mic Comedy Night.

Yes, that's right, open mic, so come on down all you would-be funny men and women. There's no cover and you can get \$1 Hamm's and Pabst beers to wash down \$1 sliders.

Giveaway ... The good folks at Real Church held a free book giveaway on Saturday, and talk about the mother lode.

They had a gazillion quality books for kids. The heat may have kept some kids away, but it was a great effort.

Hot air ... Yes, there is plenty of hot air in city hall, well, at least during city council meetings. But last Friday's heat wave took a toll on the building's electric grid.

The building lost power because there were so many office air conditioning units on. That made for a short day for city hall employees, but hey, who's out and about on such a hot day anyway?

Adios ... We're sad to read that Maria's Comida restaurant will be closing next

be very good.

Hang 10 ... Anyone notice the new skateboard park being created on Davison near Conant?

From what we have heard, this is going to be a major attraction for area skateboarders, which means Hamtramck will likely see some added visitors.

Check it out.



Members of Real Church on Caniff held a free book giveaway on Saturday.

More free books ... Brad Alan Neff, a media specialist for the public schools, recently e-mailed us about a book giveaway at Dickinson West Elementary School.

Here's what Brad had to say:

"Recently, students at

most accessible) option for learning to read successfully. For this reason, books and reading are more important than ever before. A fun book can take a life and change it for the better forever."

Letters • Letters

City council waited too long to act on financial crisis

In a recent article The Review, there were comments from a councilmember who said the current fiscal crisis was caused by a previous council spending money that was not there.

Nothing is further from the truth.

The current crisis was caused by reckless and greedy Wall Street practices that have threatened the services provided to cities across the nation – not just Hamtramck, not just Michigan – but nearly every city in the country has felt the effects of the financial system run amuck.

Prior to the collapse in 2008, the council was getting the work of the city done. Streets were repaired, abandoned buildings were

boarded up, and the vacant lots were mowed. Sidewalks were replaced, and new code enforcement officials were at work along with crossing guards to keep our city clean and safe.

Not only was the work of the city getting done, but the council was able to grow a rainy day fund so the city had savings to fall back on. What the council then did not know was that the rain coming was a hurricane not a light shower.

This council, however, spent every last dime the city saved in the previous six years. Worse, despite dire warnings and projects from the administration, despite the fact that the country has suffered from a near depression, this council waited until the last

minute, after all the resources were drained, to act.

No one in Hamtramck is to blame for the fiscal calamity this country faces, a calamity that has brought so many cities to their knees.

We should look at this council and ask where was the leadership two years ago? Why wasn't the problem addressed aggressively three years ago? Why did this council wait until the last possible moment to address the fiscal crisis, and is this a case of too little, too late?

**Scott Klein
Hamtramck**

(Editor's note: Mr. Klein is a former city councilmember.)

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By Alan Madeleine

Crime Log is a compilation of the most interesting, informative or newsworthy items taken from the Hamtramck Police Department's Intelligence Reports, from between the dates of Thursday, July 12, and Wednesday, July 18, 2012.

From Thursday, July 12:

- A man living in the 11700 block of Sobieski reported damage that had been done to his vehicle.
- A man reported that, while in the alley west of Conant at Jacob at about 3 p.m., two juvenile black males attacked him, claiming

that he had taken money from one of their sisters.

- An employee of a wireless store in the 9800 block of Jos. Campau reported that, at about 4 p.m., a group of juvenile black males stole an Xbox from the store.

- A man living in the 2400 block of Burger reported that a group of seven black males stole his bicycle when he was near his home at about 5:20 p.m.

- About five minutes later, a woman reported that someone stole her son's bicycle from the front porch of their home in the 2900 block of Holmes.

From Friday, July 13:

- Officers, along with Hamtramck EMS, responded to a St. Aubin address regarding a man who was unresponsive. The scene was released to the Wayne County Medical Examiner.

- A man was arrested after attempting to cash a fraudulent check at Walter's Party Store.

- A woman living in the 12000 block of Sobieski reported that a group of black male juveniles stole her son's bicycle from behind their home.

From Saturday, July 14:

- At a little past 8:30 a.m., a man living in the 3000 block of Belmont reported that his vehicle had been burned.

From Sunday, July 15:

- At 3:30 p.m., a Ferndale resident reported that someone broke into his 2002 Saturn, taking numerous items, while the car was parked in front of a home in the 2400 block of Burger.

- A man living in the 2600 block of Holmes was arrested for assaulting his sister with a vodka bottle.

- A Denton St. man was arrested for open intoxicants after being observed having "Miller Time" outside of an auto parts store in the 8800 block of Jos. Campau.

From Monday, July 16:

- At 3:30 a.m., a man living in the 12000 block of Fleming reported that someone tried to enter his home through a window, but the homeowner fired a shot at the window. There was no evidence of anyone being struck, and no suspects were found.

- A man reported that someone broke into his home (address not given) on Saturday the 14th, stealing some prescription medication.

- Officers arrested a man after he fled from a property damage accident on Poland near Brombach. The vehicle

suspected to have been involved was impounded.

From Tuesday, July 17:

- At about 12:30 a.m., a woman was arrested after an officer observed her choking her girlfriend while in the area of Conant and Yemans.

- A woman living in the 3400 block of Doremus reported that, earlier when she was at an address in the 9000 block of Jos. Campau, a black male pushed her against a parked car and stole a gold chain from around her neck.

From Wednesday, July 18:

- The owner of a business in the 9800 block of Jos. Campau reported their Carrier brand rooftop air conditioning unit taken, sometime between last October and this date.

- A Caniff St. resident (gender not given) was arrested at Florian and Brombach for open intoxicants and an outstanding Redford felony warrant.

- A resident of Pulaski St. was arrested, after officers observed him walking around 7:40 p.m. with a bucket containing four marijuana plants.

In addition, during this time period, officers made the following arrests: seven total for outstanding Hamtramck warrants (one felony, three including charges of driving on

a suspended license, and one including possession of heroin); three others for driving on a suspended license, including one with an improperly licensed car; one for drunk driving; one for domestic violence; one for open intoxicants; and they cited one person for marijuana possession during a traffic stop.

Police also took five reports of assaults by a family member or known party; one report of the theft of some unspecified property; and reports of two bad checks being passed at a party store; one report of a dog bite suffered while at a friend's house; and one report of someone having the house they own fraudulently listed by someone on Craigslist as being for rent.

Lastly, they investigated five car crashes; secured a stray boxer dog overnight, for transfer to the Humane Society; notified the DPW of a clean-up situation required at the jail; received a Hamtramck felony warrant prisoner from Monroe Co. Sheriffs, and a misdemeanor warrant prisoner from Wayne Co. Sheriffs; took in a wallet and a set of car keys from good Samaritans in separate incidents; and recovered a vehicle near Conant and Holbrook that had been reported stolen in Ohio.

Hey Firemen!

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Police Department

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Science Corner

Bees, bees everywhere ...

By Dennis Lukas

With this warm weather, they seem to be everywhere.

And as the saying goes, they are busy as bees. When they are not protecting their queen, bees are pretty lovable. Honeybees and other pollinators are essential for the production of many of the foods we grow and eat daily.

If you are a gardener, you can promote good pollinator health by planting a diversity of flowers to serve as nectar sources. You can plant flowers throughout your yard, or have a special garden planted with flowers they love, together in one bed.

Allowing vegetables and herbs to bloom in your yard is also helpful. In small lots like those in Hamtramck, many gardeners have combined flowers, vegetables and herbs in one area.

Pollination is the movement of pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part. If pollination is successful and fertilization occurs, the result is the production of seed.

Other insects that serve as pollinators are moths, butterflies and wasps, as well as bees. The honey bee is the leader, and is responsible for a large percentage of the pollination necessary to produce much of our nation's food supply. The honeys they produce have been used in food recipes and as a medical remedy for thousands of years.

Annual flowers like cleome, zinnias, sunflowers and cosmos (which happens to be the HHS senior class flower) are excellent for attracting bees.

In the herb family, you have

basil, fennel, oregano, chives, mint and dill. Allowing them to bloom in the garden will bring on the bees. Keep in mind that some herbs are considered to be weeds.

Any fertilizer you use may

also do the job.

Pollinators are attracted to winter vegetables like broccoli, kale and mustard that are allowed to bloom. They are a source of nectar when other sources are not readily available.

Try to minimize pesticide use, and choose one that is less toxic to bees. Commonly used insecticides that are known to be highly toxic to bees include malathion and diazinon. Dust formulations are also dangerous to bees, because they stick to bees' bodies as they

visit plants, and then are taken back to the hive and spread among hive members.

If necessary, apply an insecticide late in the evening when bees are less active, and avoid spraying flowers

that bees visit.

If you're willing to invest a few bucks in supplies and a hive, the buzzing little wonders can produce honey and pollinate your garden. You will be one of 120,000 beekeepers practicing their craft in the United States.

Many are amateurs. While bees are small, hives aren't. Bee boxes often weigh 75 - 90 pounds. There are some companies that make lighter ones. New York and Detroit have legalized backyard beekeeping over the past few years. Even the White House has a hive on the South Lawn.

As of press time, it was not clear if it's legal in Hamtramck.

If you wish for more information, contact beeculture.com to find a local beekeeping association.

(Mr. Lukas is a retired science teacher from the Hamtramck Public District.)



damage or kill these plants. Also, if you ingest these herbs, they may be harmful to you (and to the bees). So read the directions before you use it. Perennials like purple coneflower, goldenrod, asters and black-eyed Susan will

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For one day, kids got to play cops and firefighters

Continued from front page



firefighters in a match-up (the cops won).

And if all that wasn't enough, there was an inflatable bounce house they could horse around in.

The event was part of a statewide program called "Welcoming Michigan: Building Immigrant Friendly Communities."

All in all, it was a great way to spend a Saturday morning, and to get to know your police and fire departments.



Firefighters get a workout last week

By Alan Madeleine

Hamtramck Firefighters had a busier than average week, highlighted by a long-burning Highland Park fire at the old Sanders confectionary that they assisted on over the weekend.

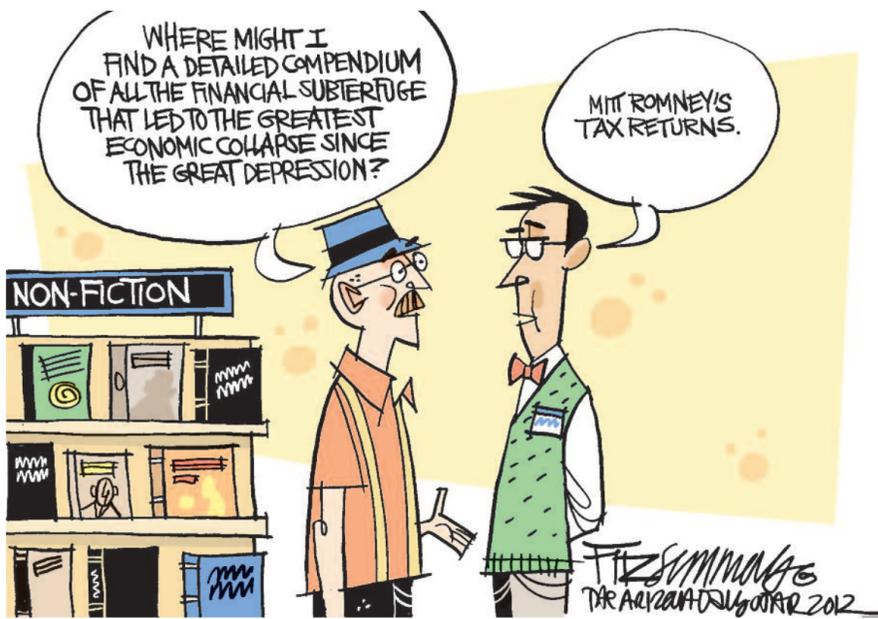
That blaze began around 5 a.m. this past Saturday morning, the 14th, in the historic building on Rhode Island St. It was fueled, at least in part, by the many wooden pallets and the rolls of old foam and carpeting being stored there, Fire Chief Paul Wilk said.

He mentioned a Forest Island Recycling Truck trailer truck that was noticed parked outside, but said he couldn't be sure whether



Hamtramck firefighters assisted Highland Park battle a stubborn blaze at the former Sanders confectionary last Saturday.

Continued on page 10



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Summer/Fall 2012

Hamtramck Recreation Department
6U, 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, 18U
We will be participating in Think Detroit PAL

Registration: Going on now

Start Date: Monday July 23, 2012
End Date: October TBA
Practice: 5:00-7:00 p.m.
5:00-6:00 p.m. for ages 6U

Games: Saturdays, times vary
Ages: 5-18
Location: Keyworth Stadium and Away Games
Fee: Residents - \$10
Non-Residents - \$20



You must register by August 31, 2012 to ensure your spot!

All forms must be filled out completely for Hamtramck and Think Detroit Pal. New sign-ups need to bring in a birth certificate or something that verifies age.



Register Now!
Games begin in September

Any age group that doesn't get enough participants will still have practices to improve their soccer skills. Practice days and times may vary. The coach will inform you of when practices will be.

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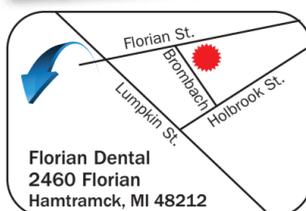
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City officials vow to find funding for Labor Day Festival



This year's Hamtramck Labor Day Festival will likely be shrunk way down in size as city officials scramble to find funding.

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck's Labor Day Festival is now a go.

Well, sort of.

There are a lot of financial details to work out, but City Councilmembers Cathie Gordon and Robert Zwolak say the city will take over finding money to hold the yearly festival.

That means the city's Downtown Development Authority is no longer in charge of the event, said DDA Director Daren Grow.

Until now, the DDA was counting on an online Kickstarter fundraising campaign to cover festival costs.

As of Thursday, that fundraiser campaign raised only \$2,366 toward its goal of at least \$20,000. Because the campaign fell short of its goal, no money will be collected from the Kickstarter collection.

In order for Kickstarter to collect donations, the financial goal has to be reached, meaning no one who pledged to donate was charged.

That hasn't concerned Councilmember Zwolak, who said there are a few city funding sources that could be tapped into, such as the Police Department's Drug Forfeiture Fund, which could be used to help offset overtime patrol during the festival.

"Certainly in any large gath-

ering there is likely some drug usage," Zwolak said.

Another fund that he would look into is the city's clean-up fund, which has \$10,000 in it. That would help with garbage disposal during the festival, Zwolak said.

In all, Zwolak said it costs about \$70,000 to host the festival.

Grow said one cost-cutting step is to reduce the number of music stages to just one.

Zwolak said the festival is too important for many local businesses, mostly bars, party stores and restaurants, that rely on it for extra revenue.

"We don't want to leave these people," he said.

But, those businesses will also be asked to kick in money to help with costs.

"We have a lot of businesses that get a perk from the festival," Zwolak said.

Councilmember Gordon said saving this year's festival is more about "restructuring." She said the festival needs to be shrunk down, and suggested setting up a smaller drinking area to cut down on the number of police officers needed.

This will be the 32nd year of the festival. It was canceled once, several years ago, when the city was under the control of a state-appointed emergency financial manager.

Discussion of recreation budget is anything but child's play

Continued from front page

and fellow Boardmembers Yvonne Myrick, who is the Board President, and chairs the meeting, and Titus Walters, who accused Shulgon of having an ulterior motive.

That motive, they said, had more to do with Shulgon's ongoing criticism of Recreation Director Craig Daniels.

"I have never seen anyone be treated like Mr. Daniels," Myrick said at one point. "It's Mr. Daniels who you don't like. It has to be stopped."

And with that she gaveled Shulgon down and demanded she stop talking.

Shulgon was questioning why Daniels would want to pay a new Recreation Coordinator at the same rate that the former Coordinator was earning. Shulgon said that the new Coordinator should come in at a lower rate and then work his or her way up the pay scale like everyone else.

Superintended Tom Niczay was also in agreement.

Shulgon chastised her critics saying: "Does anyone



A recent school board meeting turned testy when discussion focused on a new budget for the Recreation Department. The department is running a small deficit this year.

know this district is in the hole?"

Indeed, the district is facing a \$5 million budget deficit, but the recreation budget is independent of the district's general budget. The program

is funded by a temporary special tax, which had been collecting about \$1 million a year.

But in recent years, with property values down, the tax collection has yielded less.

The tax is due to expire on Dec. 1, 2016.

Superintendent Niczay said he will continue to fine-tune the budget.

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Hamtramck, 3 br. apt. and 2 br. house for rent, \$525/\$550 per month, plus security deposit. 248-805-1090. 8/3

Hamtramck, 2758 Evaline, corner of Jos. Campau. Looking for a really nice furnished apt. in a well-maintained, quiet and clean building that has all the bells and whistles? Rent includes all appliances and all utilities, check out Apt. 9, a one br., @ \$695. Sorry no pets, call 248-931-9731 for apt. Ask for Jack. 7/27

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2646 Holmes St., 3 br., second floor, good condition, 313-365-9005, 313-365-8002 or 313-287-4725. 7/27

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Obituaries

SZOSTAK

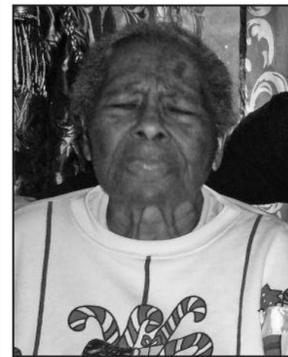
Helen Szostak, 93, died on July 11, 2012.

Mrs. Helen Szostak was very active in the St. Theresa Guild of St. Florian Church, where she served as past president and held other offices. Along with her friends from the guild, she enjoyed quilting, making pierogi, helping at ice cream socials and at the food pantry.

Mrs. Szostak is predeceased by her husband, Stanley and her son, Stanley Jr. She is survived by her children, Arlene (Raymond) Szczesniak, Peggy Shapiro, Gerald (Leslie); daughter-in-law, Trudy Szostak; ten grandchildren; thirteen great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild.

Visitation is Sunday, July 22, 2-8 p.m. with Parish and Guild Rosary at 3 p.m. at Krot Funeral Home. In state Monday, July 23, 10:30 a.m. at St. Florian Church with Mass of Christian Burial at 11 a.m. Private interment at Resurrection Cemetery.

HUGHES



Odell Huges, 80, died on July 10, 2012.

Odell Hughes was born October 13, 1931 to the late union of Douglas Brown and Willie Bell Perry-Brown in Romulus, Michigan. While there, she accepted Christ at Mt. Olive Baptist Church and her light began to shine.

She was educated in the Romulus Public Schools system and furthered her education by receiving a nursing degree. As her profession developed she worked at multiple nursing homes in Detroit aiding the elderly, eventually retiring from New Detroit Nursing Home on East Grand Blvd.

In 1947, her heart was united in holy matrimony to Arsola James Hughes. As a loving wife and mother, she

became "Aunt Finkey" as she welcomed and entertained family and friends.

Whether card playing, clubbing, organizing family reunions and social gatherings or simply relaxing to hobbies such as crocheting and floral design, her love, joy and dedication was felt from the heart by all who came in contact with her.

In 1971, she changed her membership to New Testament Missionary Baptist Church under the late leadership of Rev. Herman Griffin, Jr. and upon his passing continued to serve at New Testament under the leadership of his son, Rev. Herman Griffin, III. It was here her brightest light and her heart was shone.

She was a faithful member that loved her church and all the people who came as guests. Her glow through Christ enabled her to become the pastor's personal nurse and president of the Nurse's Ministry. She served on the Mother's Ministry, as a member of the choir, a member of the kitchen committee, a decorator and a hand crafter. Despite her arthritis she was always willing to serve the Body of Christ.

The beauty of her sunlight was suddenly dimmed on Tuesday, July 10, 2012 while in Harper Rehabilitation Institute of Detroit, MI. As a woman of strength, courage and integrity Odell Hughes will be forever missed, but not forgotten. Upon hearing to the "Voice of her Master" she leaves to cherish her memories, her children: Phyllis Bruce, Theresa Hughes, James (Cheryl) Hughes, Valerie (Willie) Braye, Victor (Karen) Hughes, and Margaret (Bobby) Perkins; 15 Grandchildren: James (Jimmie), Tonya (Gregory) Paige, Yolanda (Floyd) Kroger, Eric Bruce, Debria Manning, Christopher, David, Stephanie, Tiffany, Demetrius, Omesha, Victor, Alexander Hughes, Victoria (Derick) Elbeck; 11 Great Grandchildren, 3 Great-Great Grandchildren; 2 Sisters: Carmen and Antoinette; 3 Brothers: Herbert, Reginald, Michael (Pearl) Humphry; 1 Aunt: Odell Beverly; a dear lifelong friend, Sister Hattie Kirk; her church family, and many other relatives and friends.

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City Hall Insider ...

Continued from page 2

ing lot.

Friedmann said allowing a curb cut for an entrance at that location would endanger pedestrians.

Hillary Cherry said that there is an added hazard in allowing a curb cut because students from Hamtramck High School walk by there.

Mickey Pokoj complained about an increase in rats in the southend, where he lives. He said rats are "playing hop scotch" on his street.

He also complained about the amount of litter in the parking lot in front of Glory Market.

"It's a disaster," he said. "I wouldn't even shop over there."

Nusleh Yazan said he was in the process of opening a major medical clinic on Conant at Dorothy, but his plans were turned down by former Acting City Manager Erik Tungate. He also said that the mayor was aware of the project.

(Editor's note: Neither Mayor Karen Majewski nor Erik Tungate were at the meeting, but later said that they were unaware of the project.)

Yazan also complained that he was turned down on a plan to open a live poultry shop on Jos. Campau. Community & Economic Development Director Friedmann said the city's Zoning Board of Appeals rejected the proposal three times.

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Firefighters get a workout last week

Continued from page 9

that company was actually occupying part, or any, of the facility anymore, if they ever had.

"We sent our new aerial truck over, to help (Highland Park) out," Wilk said. Detroit Firefighters also came in to assist, but Wilk said that the building, being so large and so well constructed, presented unusual difficulties.

"It seemed like we just kept pushing the fire around in there. We weren't even always sure where it was burning," he stated. "The building was built so long ago, and it was all concrete. Nowadays it would be steel. And it's big — about 500 feet by 500 feet. It kept collapsing, so we couldn't go in.

"And then, there were water issues. Just not enough water."

Wilk said that, by the time the fire had come under control and/or burned itself down many hours later, the building had become a loss. The roof had completely collapsed, as well as some of the walls.

The week held an unusual occurrence for firefighters here a couple days later, as well. They were called to the same address — a party store on Carpenter, on the city's north end — two consecutive nights, on Monday and then again Tuesday.

Asked if that seemed, well, a tad strange, Wilk agreed.

"We've filed a police report, and we're waiting for some lab results from the Michigan State Police," he said. "It's suspicious, to say the least."

It wasn't all work for the crew, though. Wilk and Police Chief Max Garbarino

had their respective crews over to Zussman Park last Saturday, from 10 a.m. til 1 p.m., as part of a day organized by the group Welcoming

Michigan (www.welcoming-michigan.org). One of the highlights of that event was a tug-of-war between the cops and the firemen, won

this time by the men in blue. Not fair, after fighting that big fire all day? We didn't say it!

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