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The Review

Hamtramck

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— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Having a ball at the Painted Lady

By Ian Perrotta

All you need to know is how to count to four.

At least, that's all you need to know to start learning how to ballroom dance. The rest can be taught by Jessica Land Conti.

Every Thursday night, Conti teaches a free ballroom dancing class at the Painted Lady. The event is open to the public for everyone from the beginners with two left feet to those who already have a firm footing on the subject.

A student of musical theater in college who later became certified by the International Ballroom Dance Teachers Association, Conti has been teaching individual and group lessons for about eight years. She started her free Thursday night lessons about three years ago, after friends begged her to teach them to dance.

"My friends were all struggling artists and couldn't afford to pay for classes," she says, "so I made this night the one class that I do not charge for and make it just about the fun of dance."

The first class had four students in it, but as time wore

on it grew larger and eventually branched out to include strangers. And though the location has changed over the years, one thing remains the same: the price.

"I keep it free because I don't want to have business involved," says Conti. "This isn't a job – it's just for fun."

The fun begins at 8:30 p.m. (or earlier, if you need a little liquid courage) and runs until 10. The class starts somewhat like a middle school

ing gets going. Beginning with a simple tap of the foot to the beat, the moves grow progressively more complicated until the students are able to dance on their own. One fea-



On Thursday nights at the Painted Lady you can learn to ballroom dance for free. Classes start at 8:30 p.m.



dance – guys lined up on one side and girls on the other – but quickly progresses. Once Conti begins counting out the beat of the music, the teach-

ture that makes this dance class unlike others – and one that brings in new people each week – is the fact that a partner is not required. Because Conti

has her students switch partners after every new move is learned, anyone can show up and participate. It's something that adds levity to the

night and a great way to make new friends.

"My Thursday night class is a mix of kind and wonderful people from all walks of life, ages and levels of dance. Our dance family is always growing and this class is kept fun, easy and free so that anyone who attends can excel and feel confident on the dance floor and in social situations," says Conti. "Everyone is welcome in this class and guaranteed to make new friends and learn this fantastic skill in a safe and friendly atmosphere."

City Council remains firm against new tax

By Charles Sercombe

City Manager Bill Cooper gave it one more try to convince the City Council to raise taxes.

Or in the latest case, allow voters to decide whether to raise property taxes by 5 mills in order to offset the cost of running the police and fire departments.

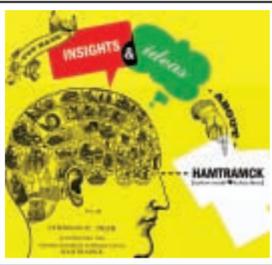
At Tuesday's council meeting, the proposal was met with silence – not even a motion to allow the council to vote on whether the public should decide on their own in the November General Election ballot.

Cooper said the tax will raise \$1 million a year – enough to at least make the projected \$2.6 million deficit manageable.

"It could have put us in what I call a reasonable deficit," Cooper said.

He added that while he expected the proposal to get voted down, he was surprised no one on council at least made a motion to allow a vote. Cooper said he wanted the city's voters to have a chance to decide.

Continued on page 7



Quick Hits

It might not be the sexiest topic in the world, but the upcoming presentation of the city's Master Plan is an important one.

On Wednesday, July 28, at 6:30 p.m., the final version of the plan will be presented at the public library. The public will get a chance to give some last-minute input before the final version is made complete.

What's a Master Plan?

It's a document that mainly outlines development objectives for the city as well as cover parks and recreation, transportation and housing. The plan gives city officials a vision to follow and allows the public to remain in the loop.

Be there and be heard.

This week in history

• While the Republican Party held its presidential convention in Detroit in 1980, then candidate Ronald Reagan visited Hamtramck. Legend is that while in a local Polish club, he and his advisors decided to select George Bush as the vice presidential running mate.

• Groundbreaking began in 1987 for the shopping plaza at Jos. Campau and Holbrook.

• Also in 1987, the single "VIP Polka" was recorded in honor of Pope John Paul II's upcoming visit in September.

Source: Hamtramck Historical Commission

Local candidates line up for state and county offices

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck is well represented in the upcoming Primary Election.

Several local candidates are vying for elected office. And as usual, the Aug. 3 Primary Election will determine who gets to serve because there is little chance Republican challengers will beat Democratic candidates in the November General Election.

The big race, judging by the number of Hamtramck candidates squaring off, is the seat for State Representative. Six candidates out of the 15 candidates are Hamtramck residents, according to the city's voter records.

City Councilmember Shahab Ahmed is taking another shot at the position. Ahmed is Hamtramck's first Bangladeshi-

American native to be elected to local office. He has since opened the floodgates for other Bangladeshi-American candidates.

Two other Bangladeshi-American candidates are on the ballot: Akm Rahman and Abu Mahfuz. Rahman ran for mayor in Hamtramck last year and Mahfuz has also appeared on a Hamtramck ballot.

Former councilmember Abdul Algazali – and last year's mayoral candidate – is also on the ballot. The race for representative also features perennial candidate Robert Zwolak. Outspoken government critic LaTrello Sephers is the sixth resident vying for the job.

Another prominent Hamtramck elected official, Councilmember Tom Jankowski, is seeking his old boss's seat as

Wayne County Commissioner. His former boss, Moe Blackwell is also seeking re-election. State Sen. Martha Scott, who has represented Hamtramck for many years as Representative and Senator, is being termed out. She is now seeking her old seat as County Commissioner.

Our current Representative, Bert Johnson, decided to forgo an easy re-election and instead is seeking Scott's Senate seat.

Hamtramck resident Teras Nykoriak is one of two Republican candidates seeking to unseat Wayne County Sheriff Benny Napoleon, who is a Democrat.



The taxing problem of foreclosures

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck's home foreclosure rate is bad, but it's not the worst in Wayne County.

According to recent SEMCOG statistics, which were recently published in the Detroit News, one out of every 40 homes in Hamtramck is in foreclosure. Hamtramck has an estimated housing stock of about 5,000. That comes down to about 400 foreclosed homes in the city.

While foreclosures are devastating to homeowners, the problem doesn't stop at their door. When a house goes into foreclosure, it usually remains vacant.

Continued on page 2

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2000	FORD	BLK	4D	2FAP71W4YX121098
2000	PLYMTH	GRY	4D	1P3EJ46X8YN133442
1999	NISSAN	GREEN	LL	4N2XN11T4XD811735
1998	PONT	GREEN	4D	1G2WJ52M4WF336765
1998	DODGE	PURPLE	VN	1B4GP45G2WB752526
1997	LEXUS	BROWN	4D	JT8BF22G8V0054973
1997	PONTIAC	GREEN	4D	1G2WJ52M6VF332358
1997	FORD	BLK	4D	1FALP54N1VA287948
1997	FORD	GRAY	4D	1FALP51U2VA144129
1997	PLYMTH	WHITE	LL	2P4FP2536VR401369
1996	FORD	GREEN	4D	1FALP52UXTG234976
1996	CHEVY	BLU	VN	1GNDM19W1TB115998
1995	CHEVY	WHITE	4D	2G1WL52M9S1161476
1994	PLYMTH	BLU	VN	1B4GH443XR331284
1993	DODGE	TAN	4D	1B3XC4638PD106974
1993	TOYOTA	BLK	LL	JT3VN39W9P0117090
1993	CHEVY	WHITE	2D	2G1WN14T6P9110629
1993	FORD	BLK	PK	1FMDU34X4PUB09395
1992	OLDS	WHITE	4D	1G3HN53L9NH320627
1990	OLDS	RED	4D	1G3CW54C1L4339585
1990	MAZDA	TAN	4D	JM1HC2249L0307564
1989	LINCOLN	SILVER	4D	1LNBM82F1KY770561
1989	CHEVY	RED	2D	1G1LV14W4KE228200
1987	MERCE	BLU	4D	WDBDA28D0HF276817
1961	CHRYSL	BLU	4D	9214110461

The taxing problem of foreclosures

Continued from front page

A vacant house presents a host of problems for the city. The house itself will start to deteriorate after one season, mostly from moisture getting in and causing mold to grow. If a house remains vacant for a few years, it becomes a major fix-up for any would-be buyer.

From the perspective of the city government, a foreclosed

house usually means a loss of tax payments or at the very least wrangling with the bank that owns it.

According to the city's Finance Director, Neverus Nazarko, the city has lost about \$200,000 a year in property taxes because of foreclosures.

Vacant houses are also open targets for vandals and

arson. Fortunately for the city, there is a blight grant that can be tapped into to demolish the worst of the worst.

Department of Public Works Director Martin Ladd said he's been working with the banks to make sure houses are maintained. He said the city has demolished about 40 houses so far.

This week at the library...

Computer Class for ESL Beginners - Friday, July 16 at 10 a.m. ESL students will start with one hour hands-on experience on computers followed by 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. instruction with Christine Templin.

ESL Class for Beginners - Monday, July 19 at 10 a.m. Christine Templin is the instructor for the ESL class for beginners. Free to the public.

ESL Summer Reading for Adults - Tuesday, July 20 at 3 p.m. Reading program for adults sponsored by the ALA, prepared and conducted by staff members to accommodate various levels of reading skills. Free to the public.

Math Club Meeting - Tuesday, July 20 at 4 p.m. Mr. Nuo is the new instructor for the math club and math tutoring.

Mad Science Show - Wednesday, July 21 at 1 p.m. The Summer Reading Program will start with an entertaining science projects followed by arts and crafts, paper frame making workshop and reading journal entrees.

Movie Wednesday - Wednesday, July 21 at 3:30 p.m. Every Wednesday is movie day at the library. Come and enjoy our feature presentation, including popcorn and snacks.

Jeopardy at the Library - Thursday July 22 at 4 p.m. Sign up and participate in Jeopardy games held on Thursdays at the library. Compete against friends, win prizes and have fun developing your knowledge skills.

Friends of the Library Meeting - Thursday, July 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 and election meeting of the FHPL.

Canoeing with Doc Fletcher - Tuesday, July 27 at 6 p.m. Doc Fletcher presents a program on canoeing and Kayaking adventures through Michigan and Wisconsin.

Star Lab - Wednesday, July 28 at 1 p.m. The Summer Reading Program will start with an entertaining presentation about the stars followed by arts and crafts, making fish out of clay workshop and reading journal entrees.

Master Plan Meeting - Wednesday, July 28 at 6:30 p.m. Presentation of the city's proposed Master Plan.

Meeting of the Library Board - Thursday, August 12 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 19 at 6 p.m. FHPL President Kathy Kristy and Treasurer George Gorday invite all members and volunteers to participate in the regular monthly meeting and election meeting of the FHPL.

Hamtramck Emergency Task Force - Registration for training to become part of the Hamtramck Emergency Task Force continues at the library. Training classes will be conducted by Ms. Margalski. For more information please call the library at (313) 365-7050.

Author, Miroslawa Wojszwillo - Saturday, September 25 at 2 p.m. The author presents her new book, "Po Sladach Historii," which is about her experiences in Eastern Europe, Lithuania, Soviet Union and USA. Everyone is invited.

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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I1D	1	CC	6	مساعدته في اللغة الإنجليزية كلغة ثانية
I&E		D	1 C	تسجيل مزدوج في المرحلة الثانوية و الالتحاق بالجامعة
I	2	A	E CC	صفوف تحضيرية لإعداد امتحان دخول الجامعة
I		E	CC	فصول دراسية عبر الإنترنت
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Second Front Page

Through the lens of a Super 8, some super scenes of NYC

By Ian Perrotta

Last Saturday (July 10), Hamtramck's art gallery Public Pool took a journey back in time. And it didn't even need a DeLorean.

Instead, the art space used reels of 8mm film that depicted New York City from 1995-98 to power the trip. The footage was shot by Hamtramck resident Michael Jackman while he was living in Manhattan's Lower East Side.

Titled "Super 8 New York," the one-time-only exhibit (which may return to other venues later this year) was comprised

of three 400-foot rolls of film that each contained about 7 or 8 different shorts. The footage was accompanied by a soundtrack mixed by Hamtramckan Jennifer Paul, who incorporated her own sounds along with the original audio to create a unique and surreal viewing experience.

Though there weren't necessarily any plots to the films, they were certainly able to tell a few stories. Some showed time-lapses of various construction scenes while others showed splices of urban life, whether it was a basketball

game at the park across the street or a getaway to Central Park.

A few scenes captured police arresting people. Jackman says he filmed the police because of their boorish behavior and that after realizing they were being filmed, they would tend to act nicer.

"I was always shooting the police because they were so mean," he said.

On the whole, much of the footage was able to capture

the grittiness of New York City before gentrification, giving the films an almost historical quality. And while Jackman says that during the period of filming he was a big fan of avant-garde filmmaker Jonas Mekas, it's clear that his own films have their own unique style - although exactly what kind is up for interpretation.

"I don't know how you classify it," he says. "Home movie, documentary... it's a clash of a lot of things."

In a season of sidewalk repairs, pedestrians struggle

By Charles Sercombe

Phil Grote of Sobieski St. walks about an hour each day to help alleviate a medical condition.

But lately, Hamtramck - which boasts to be a pedestrian-friendly town - hasn't been, well, so friendly. He said the unfinished cement work around new traffic lights installed along Caniff make walking hazardous.

The lights were installed several weeks ago.

"Why would it take so long?" Grote said about filling in the gaping holes around the base of the lights.

It turns out that the contractor who installed the new traffic lights wants to make sure the lights work properly in order to avoid having to dig up the sidewalk to make repairs.

The lights were installed

thanks to a grant given to the city. They are state-of-the-art and will allow the lights to gauge traffic flow and time the lights appropriately.

Just when the bugs will be worked out is not certain, said City Manager Bill Cooper. "Soon, we hope," he said.

Also stalled somewhat has been a citywide sidewalk repair program to make it safer for kids to walk to school. Selected school routes were chosen and numerous cracked and uprooted slabs have been replaced.

Except - however - where the contractor and DTE have had some issues. DPW Director Martin Ladd said the sidewalks that have been marked for repair will be repaired once all the issues are cleared.

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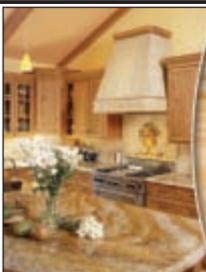
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Capo Lounge: No Cover Charge. Tuesdays – Karaoke, Thursdays are Thirsty Thursdays Ladies Night live DJ; Dress to Impress. Fridays and Saturdays – Live DJs. Sunday is SEXY SUNDAY live DJ 11625 Jos. Campau (313) 365-CAPO (2276).

Motor City Sports Bar: Great burgers and beer – \$1 domestic beers every Tuesday, draft beer \$1 every day, \$2 well mixed drinks every day, best char-grilled burgers, hands-down put us to the test, karaoke every Thursday, 9122 Jos. Campau (313) 875-4710.

Painted Lady: Mondays – \$1 beer night w/ Todd. Tuesdays – B-movie Night. Wednesdays – Opium Den; Thursdays – Honky Tonk/Ladies Night, \$2 wells; 2930 Jacob; (313) 874-2991

Shadow Bar: Thursdays: doors open at 10 p.m., Ladies free till 10:30 pm 21 and over only. FM 98 WJLB with DJ Fingers; Business Man dress Code In affect; Friday: Back Door Jam. Doors open at 8:00 pm. Free Cover before 9pm. 21 and OVER welcome. Dress to Impress, Cover after 9 is \$10!! Valet parking available; Live broadcast on Mix 92.3 from 7pm- Midnight. Saturday: Ladies free till 10:30 pm; Wear what ever you want. Hot 102.7 Live Broadcast with BIG GREG and DJ Chandler. Valet Parking available;

Small's: Sundays - Nurse your weekend hangover with Dave and Melody, \$1 off everything. Acoustic performances on select nights. Mondays - Karaoke with Squid and Jared! Tuesday - Trivia Night! Game starts at 9 p.m. with tons of great prizes and cheap drinks; 10339 Conant, (313) 873-1117. Free WIFI.

7 Brothers Bar: Hamtramck's hippest hangout for actors, 11831 Jos. Campau; (313) 365-6576.

Atlas Bar: One of the last neighborhood bars, come shoot pool. \$1 domestic beer specials until 7 p.m. and \$1 Black Label & Schlitz until 8 p.m., 2363 Yemans.

Carbon Lounge: 11474 Joseph Campau.

Celina's Sports Bar: Lots of TV's, sports and hot women, 11667 Jos. Campau; (313) 365-4194.

Head Coach: A Hamtramck tradition; 12001 Conant; (313) 366-6317.

Hippo's: Friendly service and plenty of smiles; Beer \$2.25, Jagar Bombs \$3.00, Jello Shots always; Open Wednesday - Saturday 3 p.m. till close; 11641 Conant; (313) 893-5633.

Jean's: As they say, characters are welcomed. 12002 Jos. Campau; (313) 892-9689.

Skipper's Hamtown: Hamtramck's newest neighborhood "almost dive" bar. Skipper's offers a wide selection

of bottled beer as well as six non-alcoholic beverages. Stop by for a good drink and a great time, drink specials: Monday: \$1 Cans, \$2 Jameson shots; Tuesday: \$1.50 all Bud and Miller bottles; Wednesday: 50 cents off Motor City, Bell's, and Founders; Thursday: 50 cents off wine by the glass. Merlot, Cabernet, Chardonnay, Pinot Grigio; Open to 2 a.m. Monday-Saturday; 9735 Conant at Evaline.

Suzy's Bar: Chat with owner Suzy – one of the best local bar owners; 2942 Evaline; (313) 872-9016; Free WIFI.

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Block Club Corner ...

First Thursdays, 4 Cs Neighborhood Watch (if you live or have a business between Carpenter, Conant, Caniff, and Campau), 7 p.m. Hamtramck Recreation Center, 1135 Charest, lower level

Second Mondays, Eastside Block Club (if you live or have a business East of Conant) 7 p.m. Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church, Activity Center, entrance on Harold Street

Second Wednesdays, 3 C7 Neighborhood Watch (if you live or have a business between Carpenter, Campau, Caniff, and I-75) People's community Services Senior Center on Caniff, across from the Public Library

Third Wednesdays, Midtown Neighborhood Watch (if you live or have a business between Caniff, Campau, Holbrook and I-75) 6:30 p.m. in the Convent of St. Florian's Church, on Florian Street

Fourth Thursdays, Southend Neighborhood Watch 6:30 p.m. in the People's Community Center on Joseph Campau and Danforth, for all residents and businesses south of Holbrook.

The Central Neighborhood Watch (Caniff, Conant, Holbrook, Campau) will soon set up regular meeting dates. For more information, go online to hamtramckCBC@gmail.com hamtramckCBC@gmail.com. Also, The Central Block Club will hold a general meeting at 11a.m. on July 24 at Zussman Park. Following the meeting, we will be heading to the streets of the neighborhood to clean up graffiti around the neighborhood. The clean-up will run until 5 p.m. and any amount of participation is appreciated. Volunteers are asked to bring drinking water and to wear appropriate attire to get their hands dirty. If able to bring or donate supplies such as additional power washers, metal scrub brushes, metal scouring pads, garbage bags, etc., please contact us. If you have a site to suggest for clean up, please contact us! Email: HamtramckCBC@gmail.com Facebook: Hamtramck Central Block Club group page.

The Hamtramck Housing Commission Neighborhood Watch is not meeting at this time. If you would like to help start these groups, call the Weed and Seed office at (313) 281-8150.

Neighborhood Watch meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend. If additional information is needed contact the Weed and Seed office at (313) 281-8150.

Review: Opinion Page

Time to re-evaluate the management of the Rec Dept.

Last week we reported that the Hamtramck Recreation Department's summer park program attracted only 4 percent of the city's kids who are eligible to join. Four percent.

As outrageous as that figure is, a more important one was noted in the story. The department collects about \$1 million a year from a special property tax levy that voters have supported twice since 1997.

That's great. Every city should have a recreation program. But the thing is, Hamtramck is not a wealthy town. The de-

partment costs way too much. It can be broken down to costing every resident \$454 each year. That's a whopping amount of money.

We bet if you simply gave everyone \$454 a year they could come up with their own recreation.

But seriously, that's an insane amount of money and worse, the department ends up spending half of it on salaries and benefits. Yes, it's nice that jobs are provided, but not at this price tag.

There is no plan to start an endowment— as first

promised when the tax was proposed – to keep the department up and running after the tax runs out. Instead, the public is offered a series of lame programs and events that rarely draw many people.

There seems to be a disconnect between the department and the public. It's time we re-evaluate the department, its funding and who should manage it. We need to have a public debate about the department's future.

This is our money and we have every right to make the necessary changes.

Letters • Letters

High school lifeguards are on duty

I don't hail from Hamtramck. However, have lived here for quite some time, and been a part of the community for at least 15 years or better.

Never have I seen praise for the lifeguards at the high school – each of them. I do water aerobics and swim laps almost every evening and

have been for close to five years. Each lifeguard has compassion, respect and vibrant youth.

Even though I may be a decent swimmer, I'm secure in the water because of their protection. When they are gathered together with their Supervisor I say, "Look at all this power!"

So I thank you for your time, skill and effort. Without your talent the children wouldn't learn proper swimming. All who enter the pool wouldn't be safely guarded by your always watching eyes and ever so sharp instincts.

Momena V. Settapani
Hamtramck

Obituaries

ANDRES

John P. Andres, 52, died June 29, 2010.

Mr. Andres was a Detroit resident.

He is survived by his daughter, Jennifer (Craig) Trombly; sons, Robert and John; mother, Marie Andres; sisters, Josephine Haseli, Marie Cierhnowski and Anna Frank; brothers, James and Dan; and three grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements were made by John J. Skupny Funeral Home, and funeral services were held on July 6 at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church with Fr. Bogdan Milosz

officiating. Cremation was at Meadowcrest Cemetery.

KANTOR

Lillian Kantor, 79, died July 15, 2010.

Mrs. Kantor was a Hamtramck resident. She was preceded in death by her husband, John and sister, Helen.

She is survived by her daughter, Donna (Scott) Loepp-Lavery; son, David (Debby); sister, Virginia Lesniak; grandsons, Tom, Jason (Heather), Justin and Joel; great-grandson, Owen; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral arrangements were made by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, and funeral services will be held on July 19, 10 a.m., at St. Ladislaus Church. Prayers will be July 18 at 6 p.m.



Odds & Ends

Bike tour ... Most Hamtramckans are probably familiar with local sites, but for those reading this outside of the city, you might want to check it out. This Saturday, July 17, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wheelhouse of Detroit will conduct a bike tour of Hamtramck.

The tour will explore the city's many angles: artsy, historic and multi-cultural, including the burgeoning Bangladeshi Avenue, the Polish Art Center, the must-see-to-believe Hamtramck Disneyland, the Power House that is getting national media attention and a Buddhist Zen Center.

Riders will also get a chance to grab a treat at the charming Cafe 1923! Expert insider information will be provided by Jason Friedmann, Hamtramck's Community and Economic Development Director. Ride Distance: 15 miles.

The tour starts at the Wheelhouse location in downtown Detroit. For those with their own bike, the tour is \$25 and to rent a bike from Wheelhouse, it's \$35. For more information, call (313) 656-2453.

Donation ... Our friends over at PLAV Post 6 have been busy and very generous lately. Here's an email from the Post:

"PLAV Post 6 Veterans are continuing to help the less

Murawski presented two checks totaling \$1,200 to the Dingell Veterans Hospital Volunteer Services Director Bill Browning.

"The first check for \$1100 was made out to the VA and given to Post 6 member Jerry Balcerzak by his associate John Stapleton in memory of his father John Stapleton Sr., who was a member of the 45th. Infantry Div. during WWII. The second check for \$100 was donated by Post 6 Life Member "Fritz" Frederick.

"The \$1,200 was earmarked for the VA recreation fund and some of the money will be used to fund a trip to a Tiger Ballgame for the hospitalized Veterans of the Dingell VAMC and the residents of the VA Domiciliary Residential Rehabilitation Center in Detroit."

Sounds "fishy" ... File this one under "the one that didn't get away." Former Hamtramckan Kathleen Newberry is one proud mom. Her son, 10-year-old Nathaniel J. Webb, caught a 34-1/2 pound catfish recently at the Walter and Mary Burke Park in New Baltimore.

This monster catch measured 32-1/2 inches long, and qualifies Nate to win a Michigan DNRE Master Angler patch.

Whew, what a catch and story. Nate's grandmother, Lorraine Newberry, still lives

in Hamtramck resident Bill Meyer. The film will be shown in Hamtramck on Friday, July 30, 7 p.m. at the Gates of Columbus hall, 9632 Conant.

It's free to Hamtramck residents but you must show ID. Meyer will also be playing keyboards with the Hamtramck World Music Ensemble, which will be playing during parts of the film.

The following 18 Hamtramck immigrants were interviewed:

- Adjoko Wilson, Lome, Togo
- Andre Pietrucha, Warsaw, Poland
- Anees Sous, Anabta, Palestine
- Babajide Aje, Lagos, Nigeria
- Delawar Hussain, Sylhet, Bangladesh
- Dilruba Islam, Sylhet, Bangladesh



- Dino Mahmutovic, Dobo, Bosnia
- Saima Mahmutovic, Tesanj, Bosnia
- Greg Kirchner, Poznan, Poland
- Karolina Husar, Gdynia, Poland
- Lorraine Robinson, Birmingham, UK
- Mohamed Zokari, Ibb, Yemen
- Nashwan Zokari, Ibb, Yemen
- Nevrus Nazarko, Erseke, Albania
- Norman Ferizovic, Celic, Bosnia
- Azra Ferizovic, Brcko, Bosnia
- Salah Hadwan, Manzal Ali, Yemen
- Steve Shaya, Baghdad, Iraq



fortunate Veterans of SE Michigan. On 1 July Post 6 Commander, and Department of Michigan 1st. Vice Commander, Richard Walczyk along with Post 6 and Department of Michigan Volunteer Service Officer Gerald

in Hamtramck.

Home, suite, home ... Here's a reminder about an upcoming documentary on Hamtramck's immigrant experience, called "The Home Suite," put together by Ham-

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Street Life

Redefining empty space as a concept of art

(Editor-at-Large Walter Wasacz writes a weekly column on life in Hamtramck.)

By Walter Wasacz

From the roof of their building, looking past a yard below filled with curious made and found objects, multicolored flower and vegetable gardens, Faina Lerman and Graem Whyte have a rather spectacular view – of the future.

Whyte is atop Popp's Packing, a large former commercial/light industrial space on the northwest parameter of Hamtramck, looking across Carpenter Street and pointing at eight empty wooded lots. The space looks lush and vibrantly green on a cloudy June afternoon. Peaceful. Pastoral, even.

"I see an orchard there, and a sculpture garden," Whyte says. "I want to do it. I'm looking into it. Mitch and I have talked about it."

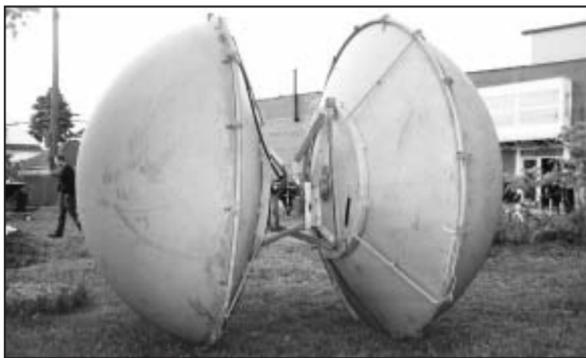
When Whyte says "Mitch" he's talking about Mitch Cope, who, along with Gina Reichert – his art, design and marital partner – have stimulated a rethink of what neighborhood and community is, and what it can be.

One of the curious objects below, a modified boat renamed the Heartland Machine and exhibited at museums and galleries across the country, was created by Cope. He and Reichert live about 10 blocks east and a couple blocks north of where we're standing. The famed Power House Project and the "\$100 House" is within easy walking or biking range. That's how we're measuring distances.

How far is this location on foot from Hamtramck's commercial center, Jos. Campau; its newest

ethnic retail strip, Conant (aka Bangladeshi Avenue); or two other nearby high quality, experimental art spaces, 2739 Edwin and Public Pool? How long will it take on bicycle to get to the Cultural Center, downtown, Corktown or Southwest Detroit from here?

"I see us all being linked in these simple ways," Whyte says.



"There's creative energy and activity in all these places. We just need to make those connections happen."

This story was to be about an art gallery, which Popp's Packing surely is. But only four times a year. And its shows are hardly typical of what conventional art galleries are supposed to be. The spring show in May, called The Golden Casket of Earthly Marvels, featured a hot air balloonist who worked with degradable materials that would not trash the environment once it was set into flight. When it was, it hung anxiously for a bit behind some trees on McPherson St., on the Detroit side of Carpenter, before disappearing from sight.

There were dancers who used spidery miniature LED lighting in their otherwise pitch black per-

formance. It was an interactive show, with one of the costumed dancers pulling me, and dozens of other adults and children, into a rectangular structure made of see-through fabric of some kind. We all glowed in the dark, changing the texture of the living installation before the eyes of dozens of people watching the show.

If this were California, Colorado

or Oregon, this all might have had a dedicated raver or techno-hippie vibe attached. But it didn't. It felt like Detroit, which tosses off cultural stereotypes as banal and extraneous, where people are just people doing their thing, oddly but unselfconsciously.

"The word I'd use is 'genuine,' Lerman says. "The art scene here is not out to impress anyone. It's rough around the edges, but it's a breeding ground for creativity."

Couples with young children, fledgling and experienced artists and writers (Cope, Jim Boyle, Mary Trybus, Scott Hocking, Meghan McEwen, Steve Hughes, Gretchen Kramp, Mike McGillis, Martin Anand, Jennifer Paull, Michael Jackman among them) mingled or paired off around the

Heartland Machine; a sculptural blue cow with a map of the world painted on it (a collaborative effort between Whyte and Hocking); an inverted pyramid sided with aluminum about 10 feet underground (another Whyte-Hocking collab); and two giant microwave emitters that were found in Ann Arbor and brought back in a truck one long haul at a time. The objects, which look like if they were properly launched they could orbit the Earth, appear unwieldy and hard to manage. Though Whyte says: "not really. They're only about 150 pounds each. It wasn't that difficult to get them here."

So, yes, definitely, maybe, Popp's Packing is an exhibition and performance space. But it is much more than that. It is a home and work space for Lerman and Whyte, who use the 4,700 square foot building to full advantage.

The artists have independent



studios on either side of the building, which faces St. Aubin and once was, in fact, a meat packing plant and later a cookie factory. There is a kitchen and adjacent raw living room with ta-

bles and couches in between, with a bedroom loft above. The second floor is currently empty, but ideal for use as another live/work space. They bought the property in February 2007.

"We didn't know exactly what we wanted to do with it," Whyte says. "It has been evolving organically ever since."

Whyte, 39, is a sculptor and fabricator whose credits stretch back to the 1990s, when he began working as a draughtsman for local firms, then began designing and building large-scale indoor and outdoor pieces in Detroit and Los Angeles. He's shown his metal and woodworks – including furniture – at area galleries since 1999. In December 2004, Whyte started This Week in Art at Motor City Brewing Works. He did it every Wednesday for four years, building a waiting list that was a year-and-a-half long, making it arguably the most successful revolving art resi-



Lerman, 35, who was born in Latvia and moved to the U.S. in 1980, got her BFA from the College for Creative Studies in 2004. Along with Bridget Michael she's part of the performance art duo Tzarinas of the Plain. She had work in the recent Nocturnal Translations show at Public Pool and at Popp's Packing first show in 2009. That show also included work by Nina Bianchi, Ben Hernandez, George Rahme, Sioux Trujillo and a garden installation by Hocking and Whyte.

In the three years since they launched Popp's Packing, Lerman and Whyte have witnessed changes, on the ground and in the air, in Detroit's cultural trajectory.

"People are staying here to work and live for the right reasons. They are doing it for family, for love, for community," Lerman says. "And we're meeting more people from all over the world who come here and just get it."

Whyte says that Detroit space – both physical and ambient – might be its greatest resource.

"We have so much space in the city, I think a lot of artists are now helping to define that space differently, and create something that didn't exist before," he says. "We set up Popp's Packing on a laboratory model. But that's the way we see the whole city, really."

(This story was originally featured in online Detroit magazine Model D. Find it on the web here: www.modeldmedia.com.)

NOTICE OF STATE OF MICHIGAN PRIMARY ELECTION Tuesday, August 3, 2010

To the Qualified Electors of the CITY OF HAMTRAMCK - WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a STATE OF MICHIGAN PRIMARY ELECTION will be held in the City of Hamtramck, County of Wayne, State of Michigan on Tuesday, August 3, 2010, from seven (7) o'clock in the morning until eight (8) o'clock at night (local time) at which time candidates for the following offices and the proposal listed below will be voted upon.

GOVERNOR
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
STATE SENATOR
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
SHERIFF
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
DELEGATE TO COUNTY CONVENTION
JUDGE OF THE 3RD CIRCUIT COURT (NON-INCUMBENT – VOTE 1)
JUDGE OF THE 33RD DISTRICT COURT (INCUMBENT – VOTE 1)

WAYNE COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY MILLAGE RENEWAL

If approved, this proposal shall renew in 2010 the 0.59 mill levied by the Wayne County Transit Authority and allow continued support to the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation, serving the elderly, handicapped and general public of Wayne County.

Shall the tax imposed on taxable property in the Wayne County Transit Authority area which expired with the 2009 tax, be levied for four (4) years, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, inclusive, at 0.59 mill (59 cents per \$1,000 taxable value), for the purpose of making contributions in aid of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) and its purpose of serving the elderly, handicapped and general public in the County if Wayne? It is estimated that 0.59 mil would raise approximately \$12,158,000 when levied in 2010.

YES _____ NO _____

The City Clerk's office, 3401 Evaline, Hamtramck, Michigan 48212, will be open on Saturday, JULY 31, 2010 from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. for the return of Absentee Applications and Absentee Ballots.

HAMTRAMCK PRECINCT LOCATIONS:

PCT #1	Housing Admin. Building	12025 Dequindre
PCT #2	St. Lads	Brombach & Caniff
PCT #3	Community Center	11410 Charest
PCT #4	City Hall	3401 Evaline
PCT #5	Senior Plaza	2620 Holbrook
PCT #6	Peoples Community Center	8625 Jos Campau
PCT #7	Senior Plaza	2620 Holbrook

All polling place locations are handicap accessible. To obtain election instructions in an alternative format (audio or Braille), contact the Clerk's Office prior to Election Day

Date: July, 2010 T. Edwin Norris, City Clerk

City Council remains firm against new tax

Continued from front page

There are two more regularly scheduled council meetings to reconsider the proposal before the ballot deadline.

Cooper said he won't bring it back up and doesn't expect any of the councilmembers – some of whom campaigned against new taxes – to reintroduce it.

Councilmembers Catrina Stackpoole and Shahab Ahmed have been supportive of raising the city's tax rate to the legal limit, an additional 2.3 mills, but they didn't show support for this proposal.

In an interview after the meeting, Stackpoole said she thinks both the police and fire departments cost too much.

"I would rather trim police and fire budgets," Stackpoole said.

The police and fire departments are the most costly items in the budget – eating up about \$8 million a year.

Hamtramck's general budget took a serious hit in

the last year because of a dispute with the City of Detroit – or more specifically, Mayor Bing's administration over how much tax revenue both cities share from GM's Poletown Plant.

Hamtramck usually gets about \$2 million a year, but Detroit is insisting that part of the tax revenue sharing agreement has expired and now Hamtramck is owed only \$1 million a year.

While both cities dispute the issue, Detroit has been withholding the \$1 million it says Hamtramck is owed.

Cooper said that cut is too deep for Hamtramck to absorb. He said unless Detroit reverses its position, Hamtramck "will be broke by next January-February."

And if Detroit remains firm, Cooper said he will have to alert Lansing Treasury officials that Hamtramck is about to go into deficit spending.

"Receivership is a reality," Cooper said.

That would mean the state once again would appoint an emergency financial manager to run the city, which it did before in 2000. Cooper said he doesn't expect to be appointed to that role.

Cooper has warned the City Council what will happen if taxes aren't raised and Detroit continues to withhold tax revenue. The council has been steadfast in refusing to raise taxes in any form or shape.

If an emergency financial manager is appointed, Cooper said he won't be surprised if the city's tax rate is raised to the legal limit. He also said merging all or some of the city's services – including police and fire – could be an option.

During the past few years, there has been talk on the state level for struggling cities – which includes just about every city in the region – to merge services in order to cut costs.

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City of Hamtramck Lawsuit Plaintiffs - Ask about additional \$35K toward down payment (if eligible). Also, "NEZ Zoning" - huge discount on property taxes, ask for more information.

Commercial:

21433 Mound - \$550,000

21471 Mound - \$300,000

11831 Conant - \$52,800 bank owned SOLD!

15116 Telegraph - \$249,900 Commercial retail building in Redford with large warehouses and several offices.

Warren:

4340 Frazho - \$44,800 - Bank Owned

27035 Lorraine - Bank Owned SOLD!

Rochester Hills:

2759 Hickory Lawn - \$159,900

380 W. Tienken - \$149,900 NEW PRICE! Also could be offices, near other businesses.

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Please visit my website to view pictures & get details on these homes and all other homes currently for sale.



Hamtramck Community Initiative



"Weeding out crime, seeding positive action for clean and safe neighborhoods."

(313) 281-8150

HCI is looking for mentors and youth (ages 9-12) for the DEFY program. Scholarships are available. Please call (313) 281-8150

View crime maps and more at www.HamtramckCommunity.org

Labor Day Festival Fundraiser

IN OUR PRIVATE COURTYARD AT THE HAMTRAMCK REVIEW OFFICE, 3020 CANIFF

HAWAIIAN-POLYNESIAN THEMED EVENING

Saturday, August 7th

7pm - Midnight and beyond...

Minimum Donation:

\$15 in Advance • \$20 at the Door

gets you all you can eat, plus cocktails, wine and beer!

Get Your Tickets Now!

Help Preserve the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival - A Tradition We Don't Want to Lose!

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

at The Review Office
3020 Caniff
313-874-2100

and

The Polish Art Center
9539 Jos. Campau
874-2242

All Proceeds go to the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival Committee!



A Newspaper Reflecting its Internationally Diverse and Historic Community.

Gardener's Corner ...

By Kathleen Wojcinski

This one's for all of us penny pinchers.

Found it! Wood chips can be gathered for your garden mulch near the viaduct on Denton St. at the old Human Services building. Another site is at Council St., east of the viaduct.

This has been a very hot summer that took its toll on a few delicate flowers. Don't throw them out. Pinch off the dead parts of the plant just above healthy leaf. Toss that on the ground under the plant and forget about it.

In a week or so, you will see new buds and blooms.

Save money, too. When the seed pods form (anything brown and crispy at the end of stems) pick those off and scatter around. Press these seeds into the soil with your shoe or shovel. Soon you'll have an abundance of beautiful new plants without spending a dime.



We Are Back! **HAMTRAMCK POLICE FOP 109 GOLF EVENT**
AUGUST 9th • 9AM
CRACKLEWOOD GOLF COURSE

18215 24 Mile • Macomb • 586 781-0808
\$80 PER PERSON

Includes 18 holes of golf w/ cart, continental breakfast @ 7:30am, lunch at the turn, 6 drink tickets, and a 2 meat dinner buffet

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REGISTRATION WILL START AT 7:30AM

Contact persons: Amy Buchl or Mike Fedenis
3401 Evaline Hamtramck, MI 48212 313 876-7800
or Jackie Crachiola 313 876-7823

Make checks payable to Hamtramck FOP 109
List 4 golfers names, with contact persons phone number.

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- (your choice of chicken, meat, veal, or mushroom & beef)
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- Potato Dumplings
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- Beets
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Rentals and Real Estate

Classifieds

APARTMENTS & FLATS FOR RENT

Hamtramck, 3 Br. upper, totally remodeled, 586-739-5860, please leave message. 7/23

Hamtramck, 2 Br. upper & lower flat, heat and water included, newly painted + carpet, 734-671-2902. 8/6

Hamtramck, Danforth St., 2 Br., \$400/month + security, nice, clean, good area, 313-712-6021. 8/6

Move-in ready, furnished, 2 Br. upper, all utilities included, \$600/month + security deposit, seniors or adult couple preferred, no pets, 313-350-3207. 7/23

Hamtramck, Jos. Commor Commor, 2 Br. lower, remodeled, no appliances, utilities separate, \$425/month + security + references, adults only preferred, call after 6 p.m. 248-557-8345. 7/23

Hamtramck, Belmont, between Gallagher and Conant, 2 Br. upper and lower, stove-fridge, 586-604-0553. 8/6

Upper, \$550/month + 1st month's rent for security, appliances and water included, safe, well-lit area, large backyard, 313-301-0594. 7/16

Hamtramck, 2 Br., living room, kitchen, clean and great location, 313-550-9205. 7/30

APARTMENTS & FLATS FOR RENT

3 Br. lower, clean, no deposit, no pets, 734-216-3959. 7/16

Hamtramck, upper, studio-style, large kitchen and front room, \$475/month, ideal for couple or single person, 586-582-0311, 586-530-6872 (cell). 7/16

Hamtramck studio apartments, good location, immediate occupancy, 248-229-4295, 248-229-4297. 7/30

Hamtramck, beautifully remodeled, 2 Br. upper, fantastic location, washer-dryer, \$550/month + security deposit, Section 8 OK, 313-590-1000. 7/16

Hamtramck, 3850 Casmere, immediate occupancy, upper 2 Br., fridge-stove, updated, \$380/month, utilities not included, 586-873-8510. 7/16

1 Br. lower, Sobieski-Casmere, appliances included, \$350/month + deposit, 313-477-2454. 7/30

Hamtramck, 3224 Evaline, 2 Br. lower, no pets, open house, 12-2 p.m. on Saturdays, 586-264-0493. 7/16

Hamtramck, beautifully remodeled, 1 Br. upper, \$430/month, utilities separate, washer-dryer, security deposit, Section 8 OK, 313-590-1000. 7/16

ROOM FOR RENT

2 rooms furnished, separate entrance, \$250/ month, 14393 Strathmoor, Detroit, 415-572-3963. 7/16

Separate entrance, no pets, 313-369-1654. 7/16

HOUSE FOR RENT

2 & 3 Br. for rent, available now, near White School, call Nelson at 313-310-3540. 7/16

Freshly painted, clean, appliances, large yard, nice area. 2BR/1BA. 313-220-8961

Hamtramck, 11333 Lumpkin, brick, 3 Br., full basement, \$750/month, 313-839-4580, 586-754-6272. 7/16

3-5 Br. single-family house, rent with option to buy, no pets, 313-369-1654. 7/16

12404 Klinger, Detroit, 2 Br., living, dining, kitchen, \$525/month, 313-523-5851. 7/16

2 Br., appliances, clean, senior citizens or couple preferred, \$550/month + security, 313-580-3771, 313-871-0189. 7/23

Hazel Park, 3 Br. brick, living room, kitchen, \$700/month + \$700 security, Section 8 or working folks, 586-945-0317. 8/6

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Looking for roofing workers, 313-443-2868, 248-302-9608. 7/30

Legends Grill seeking experienced waitresses at busy location, days only, apply within, 11123 E. Jefferson, Detroit, 313-331-4000. 7/30

Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. The newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad, for a typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day's insertion. Adjustments for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. We reserve the right to classify, revise or reject any classified advertisement.

WANTED

Houses for sale, Hamtramck and Detroit, no commission, all cash, Art Klasky, 313-839-4580. 8/6

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Readings \$15 on Fridays, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Regular price for reading, \$25. Also free crystal class on Sundays at noon, located in booth 313 in the Russell Bazaar, 1600 Clay.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Washer-dryer unit, Kenmore, almost new, \$250, 734-216-3959. 7/16

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service directory

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Coming Events • Coming Events • Coming Events • Coming Events

JULY 21, 4-7 p.m. – Holy Cross Parish, at Pulaski and Fleming, is having a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser. Adult dinners \$6; Child dinners \$3; Dessert 50 cents. Dinner includes salad bar, spaghetti, meat sauce or (vegetarian sauce upon request), garlic bread and beverage. Carry out is available. All are welcome.

JULY 24, Saturday—The Hamtramck Central Block Club is sponsoring a graffiti cleanup. For more information, email hamtramckcbc@gmail.com or visit their Facebook page (Hamtramck Central Block Club). The club will have a meeting before the cleanup at 11 a.m.

JULY 28, Wed., 6:30 p.m. – The final presentation of the city's Master Plan will be made at the public library.

JULY 31, Sat., noon-7 p.m. – Join the fun at Art in the Park at Zussman Park, featuring events for the entire family.

MONDAYS and THURSDAYS, Through July 29, from 3-5 p.m. – Workshops will focus on skills development and ACTION in the community. Everyone is welcome, and young people between the ages of 14 and 26 are strongly encouraged to register. Please call Cheri or Whitney at (313) 875-1750, People's Community Services (8625 Jos. Campau Avenue). TO REGISTER: Please contact Cheri or Whitney at (313) 875-1750, or cmpace@umich.edu.

The Hamtramck Drug Free Community Coalition meets the second Thursday of every month from 11 a.m.-noon at the Piast Institute, 11633 Jos. Campau. To allow for summer planning sessions, the next meeting will be held on Thursday, Sept. 9. Meetings are open to the public.

SECOND MONDAY of each month, through Dec. 13, 12:30-2:30 p.m. – A Wayne County program, food program for low-income families, at People's Community Services, 8625 Jos. Campau. To qualify you must be a Hamtramck resident and had picture ID and proof of income. Volunteers are needed to unload supplies, etc. To volunteer, show up at 10:30 a.m.

On this Little League team, it's a United Nations

By Omar Thabet

Special to the Review

Playing with your friends, winning games and having a great time doing it ... all signs that indicate Bronco league baseball is back in Hamtramck.

Led by first-year Head Coach Tom Habbitz, the Hamtramck Broncos are off to a winning start for their season with a 5-1 record in an independent league. Habbitz is accompanied by two assistants: His father, Tom Habbitz Sr., and friend, Gjeto Gjelijaj.

Habbitz is a resident here in Hamtramck and works for the Henry Ford Health System. He originally wanted to be an assistant, but once he heard the head coach job needed to be filled, he knew he was the right guy for this position.

"I just wanted to teach kids the fun of learning a new game like baseball. And so far the kids have accomplished beyond expectations with the dedication they've shown, the commitment, and the fun they're having day in

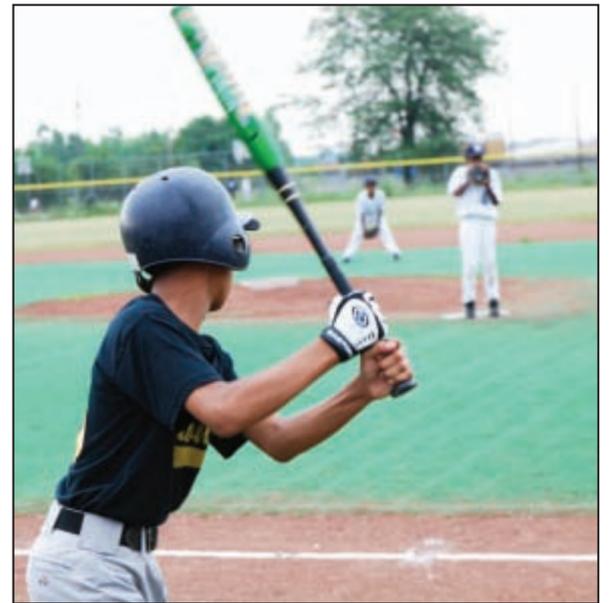
and day out," he said.

The Hamtramck Broncos are made up of players from different ethnic backgrounds - players like Jusuf Muhic, a Bosnian catcher, Myran Winnbush, an African-American pitcher, and Hamza Alhadali, an Arabic infielder/outfielder.

You might think it would be tough to coach these kids a sport they are not accustomed to, but it's been a joy for coach Habbitz.

"Usually when the parents drop their kids off for a game, they would have to walk by two or three soccer games that are going on," Habbitz said. "All in all, the kids still walk with a big smile on their faces, proud to wear the Bronco uniform."

There are no planned tournaments or title contention for the Broncos. However, when the players were asked what they wanted to accomplish by the end of the summer, they all shouted: "Win every game and keep having fun doing it!"



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