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Quick Hits

Meet Mahmoud Aljiburi.

He's a Hamtramck taxi driver who recently got a shout out by Mayor Karen Majewski on her Facebook page.

Why all the attention?

Mahmoud is the kind of guy Hamtramck needs more of. Every day when he starts his early morning shift, he cleans the taxi stand area on Caniff outside of the Post Office. He sweeps the entire length of the street and even picks up litter on the sidewalk and grass area.

Mahmoud is modest about this act of kindness, so to speak, and says he does this as a way to say thanks.

"I love this country, it gave me citizenship and a job," he told us one sunny morning.

It's a little hard to understand Mahmoud since there is a bit of a language barrier, but from what we gathered he fled his homeland in Iraq. He and his fellow Kurds were persecuted by Saddam Hussein and his government.

"I don't like war," is all Mahmoud would say about that time over 15 years ago.

When he's not driving a cab Mahmoud enjoys his comfortable apartment in the Hamtramck Senior Plaza.

"It's an easy life," he said. "No problems, I like it nice."

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

City ready to step up road repairs starting with the southend

By Charles Sercombe

City road repairs continue to motor on.

Recently, the city awarded two contracts totaling over $500,000 for the partial repaving of Goodson and Hanley streets.

Work on both streets will begin in mid-September, said Mark Ragsdale, the Director of Public Works.

On Hanley, the center lane will be milled down and filled with a new layer of asphalt from Jos. Campau to Conant. Residents will be notified of the work before it starts.

Ragsdale said that because parking is so limited, the repaving will be done in phases.

This project will cost $255,000.

On Goodson, the street will be entirely ripped up starting from Gallagher and going west for 280 feet.

Starting in mid-September, a portion of Goodson near Gallagher will be torn up and repaved. A scaled down repaving project will also occur on Hanley. The work will be paid through a state road fund, and will total over $500,000.

Besides replacing the street, a new water line will be installed as well. The entire project will cost $293,000.

Funding for both projects comes from the state. The money is held in an account funded by Act 51 tax money which has about $4 million in it.

Ragsdale said these two streets were chosen based on a recent engineering study that rated all of the city's streets.

Next spring it will be Lumpkin's turn, from Poland to Caniff. This portion will also be entirely torn up and water mains will also be replaced.

Continued on page 2

Out on the street, be alert

By Charles Sercombe

Heads-up, drivers.

There were two carjackings that occurred in the past week.

The first one involved a trick commonly used: Last Saturday at about 11:30 p.m. a driver was at Caniff and Conant when he was bumped into by another car.

Unbeknownst to the driver, however, the bump was intentional. When the driver pulled over, three men exited the car behind him and pulled out the driver, pistol-whipped him and stole his cellphone and wallet.

The thieves then drove off in the victim's car – a 1999 Toyota Corolla.

And then on Monday at 1:00 a.m. three males again attacked a driver in the 3900 block of Yemans. The suspects were armed with a shotgun and a pistol. The driver was robbed of his wallet and car.

While carjackings are not unheard of happening in Hamtramck, they don't often occur.

Acting Police Chief Anne Moise said the incidents are being investigated by a metro-area auto theft unit. Moise said if you are bumped by another car and suspect it was on purpose, stay in your car and call 911.

If it is dark out, she added, drive to a well-lit location, such as a gas station.

"Citizen safety is a priority and if someone feels uncomfortable about the situation or their surroundings they should contact police be-

Continued on page 2

Hamtown's movers and shakers...

Kim Kozlowski introduces her project called Detroit Little Libraries at a recent gathering of the Hamtramck SOUP organization. Her group plans to set up boxes filled with books in town in which passersby can take a book to read for free.

By Mike Murphy
Special to The Review

Recently, Kim Kozlowski, the founder of Detroit Little Libraries, received a helping hand for her project in the form of a $700 donation from the Hamtramck SOUP organization.

Little Libraries is a grassroots group partnering with the national Little Free Library to promote reading, community and neighborhood pride in Detroit by installing Little Free Libraries around the community.

She is also the higher education reporter at The Detroit News. The Review recently interviewed Kozlowski about her project.

Could you describe the Detroit Little Libraries campaign?

Kozlowski: It is a grassroots campaign that is working to install libraries that are catalysts for free book exchanges, and community interaction.

Though there are

Continued on page 4

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City ready to step up road repairs starting with the southend

Continued from front page

In the ongoing pothole repairs, the following streets will be next: Mitchell (near PNC Bank), Evaline, Yemans, Belmont and Trowbridge.

After those streets are completed, and weather-permitting, a number of side streets north of Caniff will be next.

Streets that have already been repaired include Holbrook, Gallagher, Caniff, Carpenter, Commor, Casmere and Lumpkin.

The city is using a longer-lasting technique called spray filling, which clears out debris from the pothole and then insulates it with tar and is then filled with a mixture that includes tiny pebbles.

In many instances the repairs will last for 10 years.

The city was delayed about a month in fixing potholes because a state-appointed financial board, which oversees all expenses and contracts, ordered the project to be re-bid over a technicality.

That delay caused considerable frustration in the community, and led to a group of residents taking matters into their own hands.

The residents call themselves the Hamtramck Guerilla Road Repair group and have been spending Saturday mornings cold-patching streets the city hasn't yet touched. That initially rubbed some city officials the wrong way, but officials eventually coordinated the volunteers' efforts with the city's plan.

In other road maintenance news, Ragsdale said there has been a rash of residents removing no parking signs that notify of a coming street cleaning. He said it has become such a problem that the company performing the street sweepings is now documenting and photographing the signs and noting when they were put up.

Ragsdale said people are removing the signs just so they can park their car. The thinking is if the resident gets a ticket, he or she can go to court and tell the judge the city failed to notify residents.

No so any more. Ragsdale said his department goes to court armed with documentation.

The result is the ticket sticks.

But worse, that portion of the street is not cleaned because a car blocked the path of the sweeper.

"It's ludicrous to me," Ragsdale said of the actions by residents. "We're

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Out on the street, be alert

Continued from front page

fore they decide to confront someone outside their vehicle," Moise said in an email.

"The same is true for people who appear to stop someone to ask for directions and carjack them."

In other crime news, an unwelcome blast from the past returned this summer: There have been weekly reports of license plates being stolen.

The last time this was a trend was in the 1980s.

Drivers who either can't afford a license plate or can't get one because of a bad driving record take the plates and put them on their own car (or in some cases a stolen car).

Problem is, if a police officer runs the plate, it will come up stolen and the driver faces criminal charges.

Have to make a call or text while out on the street? You might want to hold off on that. There are also almost daily reports of people having their cellphones being snatched from their hands while walking the streets.

Thieves appear to come out of nowhere and just as quickly escape – in many cases on bicycles or in a nearby waiting car.

Some of these phones are worth several hundred dollars.

This week at the library...

Documentary Film Release - This week three documentary films will be released by the Library: Pope Park Groundbreaking, Zussman Park Groundbreaking and Veteran's Memorial Park Groundbreaking. If you want to know what is going to happen in the parks, who is behind the renovations, who is funding the renovations and when the work will start, tune into these short films and get all the details. You can find them on the Hamtramck Public Library Website under media heading.

ESL Class - **Monday, August 24 at 11 a.m.** Summer ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

Family Game Night - **Tuesday, August 25 at 4 p.m.** All children are invited to participate in competitive games that can be played by the whole family.

Common Word Alliance of Hamtramck - **Monday, August 31 at 7 p.m.** The Hamtramck Common Word Alliance will hold its monthly meeting at the Library. For more information call Arif Huskic at 313-999-5483 Refreshments will be served. Everyone is invited.

Labor Day Parade - **Monday, September 7 at 1 p.m.** The annual Labor Day Parade will be held on Monday, September 7. Everyone who wishes to march with the Library Group should report at the meeting location, in the parking lot at Jos. Campau and Holbrook at 12:30 p.m. More information about the parade can be obtained at the Library.

Meeting of the Library Board - **Thursday, September 10 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, September 17 at 6 p.m.** FHPL President Kathy Kristy and Treasurer George Gorday invite all members and volunteers to participate in the regular monthly meeting.

Michigan Activity Pass - The pass will enable Library card holders to obtain a one-time free entry into any Michigan State Park or recreation area, and free entry into over 100 participating cultural institutions, including museums, for up to one week. Ask at the circulation desk for details.

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

Women living in distress hear some empowering words

Scenes from last Saturday's gathering in Veterans Memorial Park in which about 100 women heard motivational speeches. Lower right: Dr. Ghidah Alkhouri talks about health issues at the gathering.

By Charles Sercombe

Saturday morning (Aug. 15) at Veterans Memorial Park was the scene of a special empowering meeting for women.

About 100 women who are suffering from addiction, living in poverty or even homeless, or who suffer from other issues, listened to motivational speakers and health experts.

The event was hosted by State Representative Alberta Tinsley Talabi, who has been holding the get-togethers every Saturday throughout the Detroit area since June.

Those attending received a free breakfast and lunch.

Also speaking at the event was Dr. Ghidah Al-Khouri from the Hamtramck Henry Ford Clinic.

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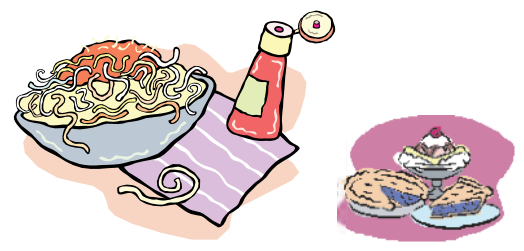

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School Supply Drive for HPS at our Dinner

City Hall Insider ...

What is our City Council up to these days?
We have the highlights of the latest council meeting.

By Charles Sercombe

The city council met on Aug. 11, and all councilmembers, except Mohammed Hassan, were present. Before the regular council meeting a work session was held.

During the work session, Councilmember Robert Zwolak questioned how much the city has spent on legal fees in the Steve Shaya lawsuit. (Shaya is a former Director of Public Works who filed a Whistleblower lawsuit against the city.)

City Attorney Travis Mihelick declined to answer, saying he would talk about it in a closed session scheduled for the regular council meeting.

Zwolak also asked about the cost of landscaping in front of city hall. City Manager Katrina Powell said it was paid through the district court's building fund. She said there is currently $200,000 in the fund.

Zwolak asked if that fund could be tapped to upgrade city hall's broadcast unit. Powell said she would look into it.

Zwolak added that he won't vote in favor of a resolution that will set the new water and sewerage rate because water bills also include a sanitation fee. He said the fee has nothing to do with water service. Later in the regular meeting the resolution passed with Zwolak being the sole opponent.

On a resolution to hire a company to perform re-appraisals of properties, Zwolak questioned whether the public school district will help with the cost since the district could benefit tax-wise if property values increase.

City Manager Powell said the appraisal is being paid for by a state grant.

City Assessor Jay Singh said there is no guarantee the appraisal will result in an increase.

In a discussion on the upcoming repaving of Goodson and Hanley, Zwolak asked if the city coordinated with DTE Energy. He said the city needs to avoid having DTE come in later and tear up part of the street to install new gas lines, which it

Continued on page 6

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Hamtown's movers and shakers...

30,000 of these little libraries around the globe, few were in Detroit until September 2014 when our campaign began to make Detroit the Little Free Library capital, with the most libraries per capita in a major city.

In less than a year, we have installed dozens of Little Free Libraries throughout Detroit in front of individual homes, nonprofit organizations, faith-based institutions, small businesses, community farms and gardens, health care centers and city parks.

As a result, we have distributed thousands of books in the community.

What does a little library look like and how does it work?

Kozlowski: A Little Free Library is a container about the size of a doll house that is placed outside someone's house, or in a public space such as a park. It is filled with books that anyone can take, read and keep. Patrons are encouraged to return a book for someone else in the community. Stewards in the neighborhoods take care of the little library, and often evolve into ambassadors for community involvement

How and when did Detroit Little Libraries get its start?

Kozlowski: It began after we saw a Little Free Library in Ferndale. We put up one in front of our own house and it caused a sensation in the neighborhood. On September 12, I launched a crowdfunding campaign on my birthday to raise money to put up little libraries in Detroit, and word has continued to spread.

Who is involved in the project?

Kozlowski: We've created partnerships with Detroit Rotary, Detroit Kiwanis, Detroit SOUP, Detroit Bikes, the Detroit News and Free Press, Rx for Reading Detroit, Community United for Progress, the Boy Scouts, the Grand River Creative Corridor, First United Methodist Church of Birmingham and hundreds of volunteers -- including two Eagle Scouts and two young people who are embracing Detroit Little Libraries for their mitvah project.

We also work with the End Grain Woodworking Co., a woodworking duo who builds many of the little libraries from reclaimed wood salvaged from abandoned Detroit houses.

What are the goals of the project in Hamtramck? In the Detroit area?

Kozlowski: With our presence in Hamtramck and Detroit, we hope to offer books, especially for children. We are always aware of the need to provide books that reflect the diversity of both communities, and work to try and find them to fill the libraries.

How are you raising funds for the project?

Kozlowski: We held a crowd funding campaign on Indigogo; received individual and corporate donations and plan to apply for grants. There are numerous individuals and groups, such as Rotary, that also put up little libraries in the community.

Why do you feel there is a need for little libraries in the Detroit area?

Kozlowski: Books promote reading, which expands vocabulary, imagination and critical thinking. There are numerous physiological and social benefits of reading that impact an individual, their relationships with family, friends and society and ultimately their life trajectory.

Detroit Little Libraries shifts the paradigm of the traditional library by bringing books closer to communities through a relatively inexpensive vehicle that anyone can make.

The libraries also foster a pay-it-forward mentality among neighbors and children.

Perhaps most important of all, the little libraries act as a mini town square for residents to gather around and share stories not only about books they are reading but also stories about their lives.

Never has there been a better time to build little libraries for Detroit, since the city is at a historic moment, climbing out of bankruptcy and poised for a comeback. Citizens also have long struggled with literacy, and many Detroit libraries have limited hours, and some have even shut down.

What do you think the Little Libraries mean to a neighborhood?

Kozlowski: One resident, in the North Rosedale Park neighborhood, summarized it this way: "The little things are really everything when it comes to neighborhoods. It's something to gather around."

How can people outside the organization help Little Libraries grow?

Kozlowski: Make a donation. Build a library. Become a steward for a library. Go to our website: http: www.detroitlittlelibraries.org, find a library on the map and fill it will books.

Obituaries

LASH

Margaret Jane Lash (Nickel), 85, died July 17, 2015.

Mrs. Lash was predeceased by her husband, Detective Lt. Richard Lash. Mrs. Lash is survived by her son, Paul (Sheila); grandson, Richard Paul Lash.

Mrs. Lash was an active member of the Daughters of Isabella.

Coming events

SATURDAY, Sept. 12, 9-3 p.m. – Hamtramck's Recycle Center is open at Caniff and McDougall. Drop off your recyclables for free.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 16, 7 p.m. – The Hamtramck Midtown Block Club will meet in St. Florian's Convent; please use the side entrance.

Get Out on the Hamtown!

Hamtramck Historical Museum

9525 Jos. Campau, Hamtramck, MI 48212; 313-893-5027; hamtramckhistory@gmail.com;www.hamtramckhistory.org

'Poletown 1981': Photographer Bruce Harkness will present a PowerPoint lecture on Detroit's old Poletown neighborhood as it was being demolished to make way for the General Motors Hamtramck-Detroit Assembly plant in 1981. Harkness will speak at the Hamtramck Historical Museum's Hungry for History dinner program on Thursday, Aug. 27, at the Museum, 9525 Jos. Campau. It is held in conjunction with his showing of 50 photos of the neighborhood on display now through August at the museum.

A sit down dinner is offered for $12 ($5 is tax deductible) at 6 p.m. The program is at 7 p.m. and is free. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for dinner; 6:45 p.m. for the program.

For dinner reservations and more information, call (313) 893-5027 or (313) 574-9758 and visit the Museum website at www.hamtramckhistory.org.

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Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Voters did the right thing by supporting school millage

Voters did themselves a huge favor by supporting the school millage on Aug. 4.

And campaign supporters of the millage deserve a big hand in sending the message out.

We have said this before, but it's worth repeating: This millage will help boost home values in the city. It's too bad that it took two tries to convince voters, but we all learned a large lesson from the effort.

And that lesson is: If you want to get voters on your side, engage them.

On the second attempt, millage supporters did that by aggressively educating the public, letting them know how the community at large will benefit.

Absent this time around was a last-minute attack ad falsely claiming a $500 per year savings to all property owners if they defeated the proposal. That was the tactic used in February's election to sabotage the millage proposal, and it proved effective.

Dirty tricks are nothing new in elections, but that one stung because it meant hurting our kids and their chances to succeed in life.

Taking away money from our children's education is about as despicable as it gets.

The millage is now set in place for 10 years, and will produce a little over $1.8 million a year. This will keep our schools stable and secure. Better yet, by having a financially healthy public school district, we also will have a stable housing market.

Thanks, voters, for making the right choice and believing in Hamtramck.

School Bell

Kosciuszko Middle School

Wednesday, September 2 at 2 p.m. 7th grade orientation and orientation for new 8th grade students to Kosciuszko.

This meet-and-greet gathering will give your child an opportunity to meet the principal, teachers and staff and become familiar with the Kosciuszko Middle School Campus.

All Schools

• School Resumes – Tuesday, September 8 for all students.

Enrollment

Hamtramck Public Schools is now enrolling for the 2015-2016 school year. Families interested in enrolling their children in HPS schools can do so at 3201 Roosevelt in Hamtramck. Summer Registration Hours through August 28 are as follows: Monday, Thursday, Friday between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., and Tuesday, Wednesday between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. Enrollment documents are also available on the HPS website at: www.hamtramck.k12.mi.us

For further information, call 313-892-2306.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
REQUEST FOR ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT
PLAN COMMISSION
CITY OF HAMTRAMCK

The Plan Commission will conduct a public hearing in the 2nd Floor Council Chambers of Hamtramck City Hall, 3401 Evaline Street, Hamtramck, MI 48212, on September 9, 2015, at 6:30 p.m., to consider and afford the opportunity for input to be recorded on the proposed request for zoning ordinance text amendments. The public may appear or express their views in writing. Any written communication must be delivered to the attention of Kathy Angerer, c/o Plan Commission, 3401 Evaline Street and received on or before the date of the hearing. Articles proposed to be amended:

Article VI. COMMERCIAL ZONES - Section I, Item 1.03 Uses Subject to Special Land Use Approval
*To allow for warehouse land use

Article XIII. SPECIAL LAND USE REVIEW REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES – Section 3, Item 3.02. Eligible Uses and Activities
*Additional standards for warehouse use in C2 district

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Labor Day Festival is ready and primed for another party weekend

By Charles Sercombe

In two weeks from now, Hamtramck will once again roll out the barrels.

Barrels of beer, that is, for the 36th Hamtramck Labor Day Festival.

Yes, summer is coming to an end — well figuratively speaking, since fall doesn't officially arrive until Sept. 23.

Co-organizers Shannon Lowell and Konrad Maziarz say that the festival, which will be held Sept. 5-7, is "coming along."

"What we've done well in the past, we'll do even better," Lowell said.

The music line-up once again includes the very best of the local rock and alternative scene, featuring the Detroit Cobras (Monday at 9 p.m.), the Bill Bondsmen (Sunday, 6 p.m.) Tunde Olaniran (Saturday, 9 p.m.) and everyone's favorite party band, the Polish Muslims (Sunday, 7 p.m.)

Some locals are also on tap, including Steve Cherry, who will spin records on Saturday at 1 p.m. and the Devious Ones on Sunday at 3 p.m.

Not everyone is happy with the line-up. There has been some blowback on the festival's Facebook page about the lack of polka bands.

Maziarz said the booking of live music was handled by volunteers from the Hamtramck Music Festival, and that it came down to some polka bands not being available and others simply wanting too much money.

The festival also features food and arts vendors as well as midway rides and games.

One new wrinkle popped up this year when the city said it was going to charge for water and require a $6,000 deposit on three water meters. After some negotiation, it appears the city won't require a deposit on the meters.

Maziarz estimated that the festival uses $500 to $1,000 worth of water – mostly used for filling 55-gallon containers to weigh down vendor tents.

In all, it costs anywhere from $80,000 to $95,000 to pull off the festival. Unlike many other city festivals, this one relies on volunteers and is not city-sponsored.

That relationship has long been a point of contention ever since the festival began in 1980 (the festival was cancelled one year when former Emergency Manger Lou Schimmel was in charge of the city).

A highlight of the weekend is the annual Polish Day Parade, held on Labor Day, Sept. 7 at 1:30 p.m.

This year's festival T-shirt theme is dedicated to the creator of Hamtramck Disneyland, Dmytro Szylak, who died on May 1 at the age of 92. His whimsical creation of whirligigs mounted on top of his Klinger house (which also spans over to a neighboring house he owned) has attracted visitors from all over the world and spawned countless media stories and documentaries.

Also happening on Labor Day (Sept. 7) is a 5k run, called the "Golab-K" (at 10 a.m.), and later that day the Hamtramck Yacht Race on Jos. Campau.

We'll let organizers explain both events:

"Golabki: A cabbage roll common in Polish cuisine made from lightly boiled cabbage leaves wrapped around pork or beef, chopped onions, and rice baked in a casserole dish in a tomato sauce.

"Golab-K: An awesome 5K race common to Polish Labor Day Festivals held in Hamtramck.

"The fun course takes you through parks, a stadium and past historic sites. We created a unique run because you deserve it! Awards to top male and female racers and top finishers in age groups."

You can register for the event online (at the Facebook page for the festival) or on the day of starting at 8 a.m., in the parking lot in front of Glory Foods on Jos. Campau and Holbrook.

The yacht race is explained as thus:

"(It's) a competition involving push-carts that look like canoes on wheels, the race pits patrons of different bars against each other in a race down Joseph Campau.

"Adding flavor to the festivity, the race is announced by Hamtramck's own City Clerk, August Gitschlag, and The Admiral, Tom Stackpoole. Once the contest begins, it is pure unadulterated madness as the teams from race toward the finish line as spectators on either side splash them with buckets of water, shoot them with squirt guns and pelt them with water balloons.

"For their victory, they are awarded a wooden captain's wheel, which, much like the Stanley Cup, will be inscribed with the bar's name and given to the winning team until next year's competition."

New this year will be Bloody Marys served on Sunday (until they last). McClure Pickles has donated its special mixer just for the day.

Of course the best part of the three-day festival is just hanging with friends and watching people go by.

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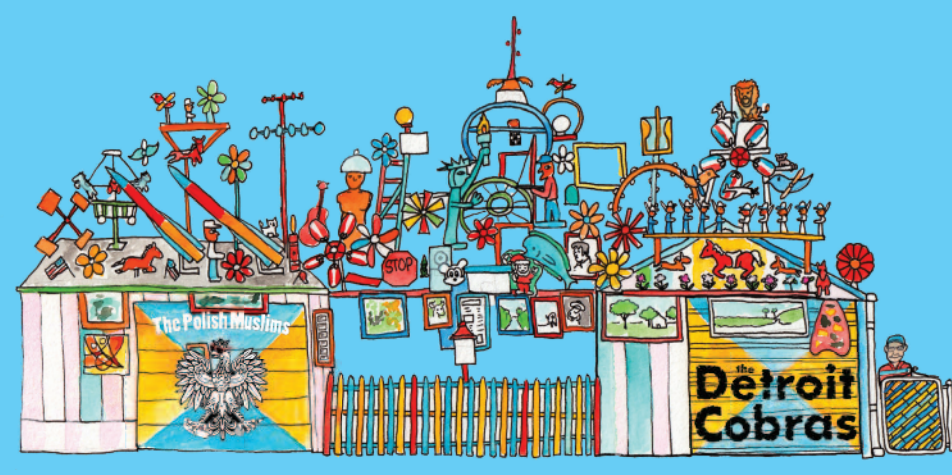

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City Hall Insider ...

Continued from page 3

has been doing throughout the city.

City Manager Powell said the city engineer has indeed coordinated with DTE.

"We're not idiots," she said.

Zwolak asked how much is in the city's Act 51 account, which is used for street repairs. City Controller Bhama Cairns said there is about $4 million.

"It's a lot of money," said Mayor Karen Majewski.

Powell agreed, but pointed out that the fund is used for a lot of improvement projects.

Councilmember Titus Walters asked the city attorney to look into the process of how to rename city hall in honor of former Mayor Robert Kozaren.

In the regular meeting, City Manager Powell gave certification of appreciation to Angelo Shalaj and his daughter, Annabella. They helped clean up Zussman Park in April without being asked.

Mayor Majewski complimented residents who have pitched-in to fill potholes in the city and raised their own funds to purchase cold patch.

"Maybe we can get them to work in the alleys," she said.

Councilmember Zwolak asked for a closed meeting to discuss recent crime issues. City Clerk August Gitschlag said that would violate the state's Open Meetings Act.

City Manager Powell encouraged Zwolak to meet with her to discuss the issue.

CRIME LOG

By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers Aug. 11-17.

Tuesday, August 11

• At 2 a.m. a break-in occurred through the rear door to a business in the 9200 block of Jos. Campau.

• At 2:30 a.m. someone broke out a living room window at a residence in the 2200 block of Hewitt.

• A woman reported fraudulent activity in her ATM account.

• A road survey engineer reported his equipment was stolen while working at Jos. Campau and Hamtramck Dr.

• A Hamtramck resident was arrested following a traffic stop for driving without a license. A passenger was also arrested for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.

Wednesday, August 12

• Three Detroit residents were arrested following a traffic stop. The driver was charged with possessing heroin, driving without a license (he has 34 prior convictions of this charge) and driving with an improper license plate. The passengers were also arrested for possessing heroin.

• At about midnight a resident flagged down officers and turned over a Visa debit card that he had found in a dumpster.

• A man was arrested for assaulting his wife.

• A fish market on Holbrook reported a robbery. The suspect got away with $120 and a cellphone.

Thursday, August 13

• A Charest resident reported that their signed absentee ballot was stolen by a person known to them. An Edwin resident reported the same thing.

• At a little after 3 a.m. an intoxicated Detroit resident was arrested after he was seen urinating on a building in the 12000 block of Conant.

• A Yemans woman reported someone she knows stole her jewelry from her bedroom.

• A Conant resident reported someone stole his cellphone while he was playing soccer at Keyworth Stadium.

Friday, August 14

• A Warren resident was arrested following a traffic stop for driving without a license (he has 15 prior convictions for this offense) and obstruction.

• At 2 a.m. two men were seen getting out of a silver Pontiac mini-van in the 3100 block of Roosevelt. One of the suspects then punched and

Continued on page 7

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CRIME LOG

Continued from page 6

damaged the mirror of a parked car. Both suspects then fled.

• A resident in the 3500 block of Caniff reported a break-in.

Saturday, August 15

• At about 11:30 p.m. a resident reported that while driving in the Conant-Caniff area he was bumped by another car. When the resident stopped, three men pulled him out of his car, pistol-whipped him and stole his cellphone, wallet and money. The suspects then fled in his car, a white 1999 Toyota Corolla, and another car.

• Officers located a man suffering a seizure at Jos. Campau and Casmere.

• At 2 a.m. a Roseville resident was arrested at a Jos. Campau bar for domestic violence.

• A juvenile was arrested after threatening his family with a knife.

• A person complained of receiving threatening phone calls.

• A resident reported that two suspects were using Facebook to threaten her son.

• A resident in the 12000 block of Selfridge reported a break-in and the theft of her television.

• A resident in the 11400 block of Klinger reported someone stole a DTE meter from his residence.

Sunday, August 16

• At a little after 11:30 p.m. a resident was arrested in the area of Conant and Caniff for being disorderly, possessing an open bottle of liquor and obstruction.

• At about 12:30 a.m. a Detroit resident was arrested after being seen prowling in the backyard of a house in the 12000 block of Gallagher.

• At almost 5 a.m. a resident was arrested after a traffic stop for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.

• At almost 5 a.m. someone threw a brick through a bedroom window at a residence in the 2900 block of Casmere.

• At about 2 p.m. officers responded to the 9000 block of Jos. Campau where a large fight was occurring. Upon arrival, a witness said suspects had attempted to shoot him.

• At 2 p.m. a resident was cited for drinking in public and was taken to a hospital after he was found laying in a parking lot at Jos. Campau and Roosevelt.

• A landlord of a unit in the 2400 block of Holbrook reported a previous tenant destroyed various items inside the residence.

• A Detroit resident was arrested for domestic violence and parental kidnapping.

• A resident in the 11500 block of Nagel reported the theft of a lawn chair from his backyard.

• A resident in the 3400 block of Caniff reported his brother stole his Xbox from his room.

• Officers responded to a call in which a woman was on the ground bleeding in the area of Caniff and Klinger. The woman said she had been robbed of a money order by two suspects.

• A resident reported he was robbed of his cellphone in the area of Caniff and Sobieski.

Monday, August 17

• At about 1 a.m. a resident in the 3900 block of Yemans reported he was robbed and carjacked by three males armed with a shotgun and pistol.

• At a little after 1 a.m. a Detroit resident was arrested for assaulting his friend with a large wooden beam.

• A Charest resident reported the theft of his backpack, containing his medications, from his front porch.

• A Highland Park resident was arrested after a foot chase for burglary and assault after being observed breaking into a residence on Gallagher.

• At about 1 p.m. a Dorothy resident and a teenager were arrested after assaulting a police officer who was investigating a suspicious circumstance.

• A Roosevelt resident reported that someone opened three DTE accounts in his name.

• A Yemans man was arrested for assaulting his girlfriend's grandmother during an argument.

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The lore of Hamtramck ...

More than scraps of history

By Greg Kowalski

Scrapbooking is not a new concept. People have been doing it for decades. It's akin to writing a diary in that it can be revealing.

But scrapbooks are a bit different than diaries. They can be almost anonymous. We may not even know who put the scrapbook together, and we can only infer what the person was like by what attracted his or her interest.

Such is the case of a scrapbook we acquired from a woman who put one together in the 1930s. We know nothing of her except her name, yet the book is a fascinating glimpse of those times. Its crumbling pages contain a curious mix of local, national and even international news and entertainment items.

It opens with the big smiling face of Mayor Rudolph Tenerowicz as he appeared in a photo from The New Deal newspaper following his re-election in 1936. It carried the caption "Back in the Saddle Again."

On the next page was a list of candidates from the 1936 primary and general elections. Tenerowicz lost in the primary to Joseph Lewandowski but bounced back for a win in the general election.

A couple pages over is a newspaper photo of the 1936 Memorial Day parade on Jos. Campau near the viaduct. Along with the marchers, you can just make out a street car in the distance.

On another page is a photo of band leader Ed Kotlar (with his saxophone) congratulating Peter Palisuk and Helen Laskowski on winning a waltz contest held at the Nite Owl Inn. That was once a popular club on Jos. Campau near Carpenter.

This 1930s scrapbook covered a lot of territory.

On another page is a photo of Peoples State Bank (now Talmer Bank) at Jos. Campau and Holbrook before the building got a makeover in the early 1960s. The old design is beautiful.

Another page shows the dedication of the Hamtramck Post Office in April of 1936, complete with photos of dignitaries at the dedication.

Further along we go national with a newspaper story on the kidnapping of the Lindberg baby, another "Crime of the Century." This one shows a photo of the child with the ominous heading "Doubts Theory Lindy Baby Alive Here." Sadly, the headline was accurate. On the next page is a spread on the mysterious death of actress Thelma Todd in 1935.

Todd was a major star who was found dead in her car. Was it murder? She associated with gangster Charles "Lucky" Luciano and there were other unsavory aspects of her life. But we'll probably never know the true story.

But perhaps the oddest thing is a series of newspaper or possibly magazine articles about weird stage acts being performed in London, England. One was the New Vampire Dance, apparently involving a nude woman dancing with another woman dressed as a big bat.

Another performance featured a woman dancing with a skull in an act called "Dance with Death" that was supposed to be about the evils of drugs. These were daring and apparently quite the thing to see.

There are plenty of other items as well, including announcements of various events. It's a mix without any real meaning, other than it gives a brief insight as to what caught a woman's attention back in the 1930s. And that's enough to make it important today.

You can see the scrapbook – and much more – at the Hamtramck Historical Museum, 9525 Jos. Campau. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and by appointment. Call (313) 893-5027. And visit our website at www.hamtramckhistory.org.

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