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September 28, 2018
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The Review

Hamtramck

 **www.hamtramckreview.com • e-mail news@thehamtramckreview.com**



313-872-9454

3236 Caniff St. • Hamtramck 48212



Quick Hits

Court offers a break on tickets

By Alan Madlane

Traffic ticket scofflaws, here's your chance to make it right with the world.

Or at least, the Hamtramck part of the world.

Beginning Monday, Oct. 1 and lasting the entire month through Wednesday, Oct. 31, the 31st District Court here in town – that's the one located in the city hall building in the center of the city – is holding an "amnesty program" to help people make good on their delinquent traffic tickets.

Per the court's press release on the matter, they stress that the program provides individuals an opportunity to settle outstanding financial court obligations while saving money (as many late fees and court costs will likely be waived or reduced).

The program is designed to coincide with the upcoming plan by the Michigan Secretary of State to eliminate driver responsibility fees – an extra burden that was added, in many cases, to already onerous costs.

The amnesty program can be taken advantage of either in person or online. Don't trust them not to arrest you? Simply go onto the city's website and follow the links to where you can make your payments from the comfort of your own hideout or bunker.

For more information on

Continued on page 5

— **HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD** —

Holbrook repaving project is back on track after three-week dispute

By Charles Sercombe

The worst case scenario was that the Holbrook repaving project would be on hold until next spring.

As The Review went to press Thursday, a labor dispute had been partially settled to allow work to resume after a three-week standstill.

That agreement between the road construction workers (Operating Engineers Local 324) and the contractors (the Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association) appeared unreachable as of Wednesday. Union members said they have been locked out of their jobs.

Both sides credited Gov. Rick Snyder for helping broker a deal. Snyder had planned to bring in the National Guard to finish work on I-696, and the contractors were going to hire non-union workers to come in.

The workers on the Holbrook site are also members of the same union as those working on I-696.

Even if the National Guard and non-union workers had stepped in the Hamtramck project would not have been addressed.

But with the union workers coming back, work is expected to begin this week, possible today (Friday, Sept. 28).

As of now the east-bound lane on Holbrook from Jos. Campau to Gallagher has been blocked off while crews install new water and sewer lines.

That leaves only the

Continued on page 2



The repaving of Holbrook hit a bump in the road three weeks ago when a labor dispute put a halt to work at the site. As of Thursday, a settlement has been reached and work should resume this week. File photo

Lawsuit filed against tow company

By Charles Sercombe

A tow truck company that got chased out of Hamtramck is now facing a class action lawsuit.

Attorneys with the Truth2Power Civil Justice Fund recently filed a lawsuit in Wayne County Circuit Court against Breakthrough Towing Company alleging the company performed "illegal, predatory, and rogue practices," according to the lawsuit.

According to a report by the Metro Times, a Detroit-based weekly news and arts publication, the owner of Breakthrough is denying the charges.

Breakthrough, which is located in Detroit, had been targeting cars parked after business hours in the CVS parking lot at Jos. Campau and Holbrook.

Patrons at Bumbo's Bar, located across the street from CVS, complained the company was preying on them and required cash-only payments to get their cars unhooked or returned from the company's holding lot.

Some accused the drivers of being threatening.

As it turned out, the CVS manager, Mike Raynor, admitted to The Review he had no contract with the tow company nor did he know the company had placed warning signs in the CVS parking lot.

The manager allowed for the signs to be removed, which they were by City Councilmember Ian Perrotta.

The CVS lot was not the only place where the company aggressively went

Continued on page 5



The Hamtramck Public Library will celebrate its 100th anniversary in November. There are already a number of activities planned for the ongoing celebration.

Hamtramck's public library is about to turn 100 years old

By Alan Madlane

The Hamtramck Library is turning 100 in November.

But the celebration has already begun.

The library, founded by the Tau Beta Association in 1918, initially held less than 150 books within its walls. It occupied a flat at the Hamtramck Community House on Hanley, and was moved around a bit

as it grew over its first two decades. Privately sponsored and operated as such, it was nevertheless open to all city residents.

By the late 1930s, the library was garnering public support from both the city's Board of Education and City Hall itself. A library board, composed of local interested citizens, was formed, and recom

Continued on page 4



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Get Out on the Hamtown!

Attention: Hamtramck High School graduates, Class of 1968

We are attempting to organize a reunion for sometime this year. Please give us a call so we can find out how many fellow students would be interested. Cut-off date has been extended.

**Call The Review Office at:
(313) 874-2100
for more information**

Holbrook repaving project is back on track after three-week dispute

Continued from front page

westbound lane, from Mitchell to Gallagher, open for one-way traffic.

The city planned to have Holbrook repaved from Jos. Campau to Conant by the end of November.

City Manager Kathy Angerer said it's still possible the project can be completed on time.

"We expect they would work extended hours and weekends to complete the project," she said.

Plus, Angerer added, the project was actually ahead of schedule at the time the labor dispute erupted.

Union workers have been working without a

contract since the project began this summer.

The project, costing \$1 million, is being funded through the federal government – although the city has to kick in 20 per-

cent of the cost out of its yearly street repair fund.

Road construction cannot continue much past November since colder weather prevents the pouring of cement.

For every \$100 spent in locally owned business, \$68 returns to the community

source: the350project.net



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 July 27, and all councilmembers were present. Mayor Karen Majewski was absent.

Before the regular meeting a work session was held. During that meeting Councilmember Ian Perrotta criticized some councilmembers who habitually come late to the meeting.

"It's disrespectful," Perrotta said.

Councilmember Saad Almasmari countered by saying Perrotta had previously missed five meetings in a row. Perrotta correctly pointed out that they were excused in advance so he could attend law classes, and that he had actually only missed one meeting out of the five he anticipated missing.

Perrotta said the late ar-

rivals by some councilmembers have been ongoing.

"It's a repeated habit," he said.

Almasmari replied: "Write it down on Facebook," a reference to Perrotta periodically posting comments on his Facebook page about city issues.

In another issue, Perrotta asked what the legal costs are for recent labor contract discussions with the city's firefighters' union.

City Attorney Jim Allen said he does not release his invoices to the public because they contain confidential information. He said, however, that the acting city manager and city finance director review them.

Perrotta asked that Allen provide invoices without the confidential information so that the council can review the costs.

Coincidentally, there was a Freedom of Information Act request made by a resident regarding the issue. Allen said the request by Justin Jessop was "bull****."

He said Jessop was doing the bidding of the firefighters' union.

During public comment in the regular council meeting, Jessop took issue with that allegation.

"It was suggested I was stooge for the Fire Department," he said.

He said his request was based on his concern for good government and public safety.

Carrie Beth Lasley also commented on the matter, saying Allen's comment about Jessop was "unethical."

(Editor's note: Jessop was originally denied his FOIA request but after rewording his request was granted and received copies of Allen's invoices, which included heavy redacting of information.)

A short discussion was held on a \$5,000 grant the city was awarded by Domino's pizza company to fill some city potholes. Some 15 residents urged the company to award the city in their national campaign to help communities in need of pothole repairs. Acting City Manager Kathy Angerer discussed a state grant worth \$75,000 that would help Hamtramck and Highland Park to do a market analysis. However, the state administrator overseeing High-

land Park's finances, Cathy Square, is opposed to the joint grant because Highland Park has a bad track record of maintaining its grants.

Angerer said she will continue to discuss the issue with Square.

The market study, Angerer said, would provide a strategy on what to do with the city's many vacant lots.

In another issue, Angerer said she would like council support to spend close to \$50,000 on an engineering study to determine which residential alleys to repair first.

It is part of a proposal to expand the city's alley repair project and this additional work would cost about \$750,000. The council later approved the expense, with Councilmember Saad Almasmari casting the lone vote in opposition. During the regular meeting Almasmari asked if the council would have any input on selecting which alleys to repair.

He was told the selection process would be done on a "scientific" basis so as to not show favoritism.

Perrotta replied to Almasmari, saying: "We need to make out decision based on facts, not opinions."

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Hamtramck Housing Commission (HHC) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, handicap or familial status

This week at the library...

ESL Class – Monday, October 1, 9 a.m. and noon, ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required

ESL Class – Tuesday, October 2, noon, ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required

ESL Class – Wednesday, October 3, 9 a.m. and noon, ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

ESL Class –Thursday, October 4, noon, ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

Anniversary celebration – Hamtramck Public Library Centennial Celebrations, OUR LIBRARY: November 1918-November 2018

As part of the Hamtramck Public Library

100th Anniversary Celebrations we

invite you to contribute your thoughts on our Library's past, and predictions (or suggestions) for her future.

We would like to video record your brief (up to three minutes long) presentations, but we will also accept other formats: short essays, poems, paintings, drawings, etc.

The most interesting contributions will be included in the Library's Centennial Time Capsule for future generations to discover.

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts and ideas, please stop by the Library for a recording session on Tuesdays and or Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. For additional information please call

us at (313) 733-6802.

Happy 100th Birthday Hamtramck Public Library


ABCmouse.com – Now available at the Hamtramck Public Library, ABCmouse.com is a free digital learning resource for children ages 2-8+ with more than 8,500 Learning Activities and 850 lessons, ABCmouse.com is the most comprehensive early learning curriculum available online.

Ask your library staff for more details.

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. Ask at the circulation desk for more details.

For more information about events at the library call (313) 733-6822, or visit its website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> where you can also access the online catalog. The library is located at 2360 Caniff.

Second Front Page



School Bell

Hamtramck Public Schools Pre-K – 12th grade enrollment for the 2018/2019 School Year

Please bring the following documents to the HPS Enrollment Office located at 3201 Roosevelt: Original birth certificate, up-to-date immunization record, parent ID, two proofs of residency (utility bill, mortgage, etc.), proof of income (preschool only).

Early Childhood Elementary News

On September 21, Mrs. Rosemary Haacke and Ms. Janice Rakoczy's first grade students along with parent volunteers and paraprofessionals boarded buses bound for Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

While at Schoolcraft College, the students learned about science through lessons about gravity, push and pull, magnets, and force.

The students were challenged with activities to build things as a group. The students had to follow a blueprint of design and directions. Then they



Above and below: Students at the Early Childhood Elementary School recently visited Schoolcraft College.



Athletic Events

- Friday, September 28 – HHS Varsity Football vs. University Prep at 4 p.m. Away.
- Tuesday, October 2 – HHS Boys' Soccer vs. Eastpointe HS at 4:30 p.m. Home.
- Tuesday, October 2 – HHS Girls' Volleyball vs. Henry Ford Academy 5:30 p.m. Away.
- Thursday, October 4 – HHS Boys' Soccer vs. Taylor Prep at 4:30 p.m. Away.
- Thursday, October 4 – HHS Girls' Volleyball vs. Detroit Community 5:30 p.m. Away.
- Friday, October 5 – HHS Varsity Football vs. Detroit Community at 5:30 p.m. Away.

Recreation Department News

- Dance: Classes offered include tap, pre-ballet, jazz/hip hop. All skill levels for ages 3-15. Classes held Tuesdays and Thursdays. 10 weeks, 45 minutes, \$30 for residents, \$40 non-residents.
 - Tennis: Instruction offered in forehand, backhand, serve, volley and ball control. Practice Saturdays. Veterans Park. For ages 4 and up, \$15 residents, \$25 non-residents.
 - Guitar: Hands-on playing time the very first day. Guitar provided. Limited space available. Tuesdays/Fridays for ages 6 and up, all skill levels. \$10 residents, \$20 non-residents.
- For more information give us a call at (313) 892-2635, or check out the 2018 Fall/Winter Brochure. Follow us on Facebook for the most up-to-date information at www.Facebook.com/HamtramckRecreationDepartment

Compiled by
Janice Gandelman



It's Time to Pray, Please Join Us

We are a Multicultural Parish Family
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Sunday School 10 a.m.
Everyone is Welcome to Worship with Us

October 13 - Soup Kitchen 2-4 pm
October 20 - Polish Dinner Fundraiser 4-7 pm, Featuring Mike Zawojksy, Grammy-Nominated Accordionist

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Fall Book Sale

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Used books • DVDs • Puzzles

• Stationery • Music

Saturday, October 6, 2018

from 3:00-7:00 pm

Sunday, October 7, 2018

from 8:00 am - 12:00 noon

Any donations can be dropped off at the rectory weekdays between 9 am - 3pm.

Proceeds benefit the Q of A Soup Kitchen

For more information please call 313-891-1520



had to test their creations. It was a fun and educational day for all.

Curriculum Night

- September 28 – Horizon High School 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Upcoming Calendar:

- Wednesday, October 3 – Fall Count Day and end of Progress Report Period #1.
- Thursday, October 11 – Progress Report #1 distributed.
- Thursday, October 11 – Half day for Hamtramck High School and Horizon High School. Parent teacher conferences from 12:30-3 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. Full day for all other schools.

Polish Dinner

Holy Cross Church

2311 Pulaski, Hamtramck

I-75 to exit #55 Caniff, turn east on Caniff, turn north on Fleming

Saturday

September 22, 2018

4 to 7 p.m.

Adult \$12.00 Child \$6.00

Dessert Included

Featuring Grammy-Nominated Accordionist Mike Zawojksy



Tender Breaded Pork Chop, Sauerkraut, Kielbasa, Pierogi, Green Beans, Beverage

For more information contact church rectory 313 -365-5191, Very Rev Nowak, Pastor. Carry out & Vegetarian option available www.HolyCrossPNCC.com

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The Review

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Hamtramck’s public library is about to turn 100 years old

mended yet another move, this time to the heart of downtown at Jos. Campau and Caniff. The library then, after World War II, inherited a collection of almost 2,000 books, magazines and newspapers in Polish, and also opened a small children’s library back in the Tau Beta Community House where they had first begun.

A branch library was opened in the east wing of City Hall’s first floor in the early 1950s. Finally, construction was completed on the current building on May 31, 1956. It is now the only branch in the city, and it

underwent a substantial renovation in 2002. It does still feature some of the original shelving and furnishings.

Tamara Sochacka is the current head librarian. She oversees a library brimming with diverse programs for learning and cultural broadening, including ESL (English as a Second Language) classes, a computer lab, math competitions, poetry programs, and much, much more.

We asked her a few questions ahead of the big anniversary.

Review: So the library is turning 100! That’s

impressive. To what do you attribute that kind of longevity?

Sochacka: First of all, to the sound minds of the founders, the women of Tau Beta Society, who recognized the pressing need for library services in Hamtramck and, in November 1918, established a small lending library for the benefit of the fast-growing population of that unique industrial Village (Hamtramck didn’t become a city until 1922).

But the longevity of our library services must also be attributed to the efforts of all the subsequent generations of the

city’s residents and leaders – all those who understood the value of free and unrestricted access to information and knowledge – who helped the library grow and develop throughout the past ten decades.

Review: Can you describe the things that the library plans on doing to celebrate this achievement?

Sochacka: The library will be celebrating its 100 years of service with a variety of activities. Some programs will be designed mostly for children, with the goal of showing them how their library was conceived and

developed, from a tiny 50 book collection kept on the second floor of the Tau Beta community house, through the steadily increasing number of volumes that had to be moved several times before they finally found the permanent home at 2360 Caniff.

By means of the special library orientation sessions, quizzes, games and story times, the kids will learn about the library’s early history: The importance of the 1950s, when the whole city, under the leadership of Mayor Albert J. Zak, participated in building a brand new, beautiful facility that still serves us today; then, the difficult 1970s and 1980s when Hamtramck had experienced an economic downturn, followed by the significant decline in the city’s population which of course affected the library funding and its services.

We also want our youngsters to learn about the library without computers, and some of the activities will emphasize the use of books, old card catalogs and the vertical files while researching the history of the library and our town.

It seems like only yesterday, but it was in the mid-1990s when the first public computers appeared in our library and they changed everything.

But to return to your question, we will also offer programs aimed at the adult population, both library users and potential users, who will have a chance to listen to the old library stories as told by senior Hamtramck residents and city officials.

Although an emphasis will be on sharing the historical perspective, we also plan some activities aimed at anticipating the future needs of Hamtramck citizens.

And the main celebration will be held on November 15 during the Hamtramck Public Library 100th Anniversary Banquet.

Review: Have you heard from any other libraries in the metro area

about your anniversary?

Sochacka: We are a member of TLN (The Library Network), but we do not engage much with other libraries. Unfortunately, there is not enough time for such social engagements, but of course we do share our unique collections with our TLN co-members, as well as with other Michigan libraries.

Review: Does the city have any plans to recognize this milestone? What might those be?

Sochacka: The mayor and the city manager have joined the Centennial Committee, and plan to contribute to the celebrations. We are lucky to have good working relations with the city government, and they will be playing a major role in the upcoming programs. One aspect we can mention is the collection of materials for the time capsule which will be opened, perhaps, in another 100 years.

Review: Tell us a bit about yourself, and your journey to become Library Director. Do you know how many have held the post before you?

Sochacka: Way back in the previous millennium, the library was advertising for a children’s librarian. I decided to apply and was hired. Of course, I had to earn a degree in Library and Information Science and qualify for a State of Michigan Librarian’s License. Then, in 1998, the library director left Hamtramck for an academic library position, and with the support of the mayor and hundreds of patrons I decided to apply for the position of the Library Director.

That position has been held by nine other librarians, since 1918, and I became the tenth Director of the Hamtramck Public Library.

Some of my predecessors served as little as one year, but the best known, Beatrice Adamski, served 21 years. In February 2019, I will be celebrating 21 years of service as a Director.

Continued on page 6

NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION
GENERAL ELECTION
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018

To the Qualified Electors of
HAMTRAMCK CITY – WAYNE COUNTY,
MICHIGAN

Notice is hereby given that **Tuesday, October 9, 2018** is the **last day to register** to vote or change your address for the above stated election.

If you are not currently registered to vote or have changed your address in the above stated jurisdiction in which you live you may do so at the following locations and times listed in this notice.

IN PERSON:

- At your city or township clerk’s office or at the office of any county clerk during normal business hours.
- At any of the Secretary of State Branch offices located throughout the state during normal business hours.
- At the specified agency for clients receiving services through the Family Independence Agency, the Department of Community Health, Michigan Jobs Commission and some of the Commission for the Blind.
- At the military recruitment offices for persons enlisting in the armed forces.

BY MAIL:

- By obtaining and completing a Mail Voter Registration Application and forwarding to the election official as directed on the application by the close of registration deadline. Mail voter registration applications may be obtained by contacting:

CITY CLERK
1-313-870-0342
3401 EVALINE, HAMTRAMCK, MI 48212

NOTE: A person who registers to vote by mail is required to vote in person unless they have previously voted in person in the city/township where they live or are at least 60 years of age.

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রাষ্ট্রপতি নির্বাচন
মঙ্গলবার, NOVEMBER 6, 2018

যোগ্য ভোটারদের কাছে
Hamtramck শহর - Wayne County, মিশিগান

নোটিশ এতদ্বারা দেওয়া হয় যে মঙ্গলবার, অক্টোবর 9, 2018 ভোট বা উপরে বর্ণিত নির্বাচনে আপনার ঠিকানা পরিবর্তন করতে প্রবেশ করার চেষ্টা শেষ দিন.

আপনি বর্তমান মার্কোট দানের জন্য নিবন্ধিত না হয়ে থাকলে বা উপরে বর্ণিত আপনার বসবাসরত নির্বাচনী এলাকার ঠিকানা পরিবর্তন না করে থাকলে বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত স্থান ও সময়ে আপনি তা করতে পারেন।

স্বশরীরে উপস্থিত হয়ে তা করতে পারেন:

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- স্বাভাবিক কর্মদিবসের সময়ে অঙ্গরাজ্য জুড়ে অবস্থিত অঙ্গরাজ্যের অফিস সমূহের সচিবালয়ের যেকোনটিতে।
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- সশস্ত্র বাহিনীতে তালিকাভুক্ত ব্যক্তিদের জন্য সেনা নিয়োগদানের অফিসগুলোতে।

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Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Litter and speeding drivers: two issues city officials can tackle

We have been hearing a lot lately, at least more than usual, about the amount of litter in the city and the ongoing problem with speeding drivers. Both issues are difficult to solve and have also vexed many other communities. But there are strategies out there. The last time city officials even came close to addressing the litter issue was when Councilmember Ian Perrotta attempted to start a discussion. He was promptly chastised for being insensitive to our ethnic communities and households where English is not the first language spoken. Members of the council also attempted to cen-

sure him but ultimately abandoned the idea. Perrotta was simply trying to create a process where the issue could be tackled and an education campaign could be organized. After he was called out for some of the things he said the discussion promptly died. The city's battle with litter and proper sanitation disposal comes in fits and starts, with no consistency. We all complain about it and then basically do nothing about combating the problem. In the meantime, Hamtramck looks filthy and must give a horrible impression to visitors. As for speeding, many communities are looking at creative ways to slow

down traffic. In Hamtramck, we continue to complain and do nothing. These are topics the city council could take a serious stab at solving. It would likely require the help of our public school district to begin an education program from an early age and continue it as students progress. The city and schools have joined in a partnership to seek a major grant to renovate Hamtramck Stadium and Veterans Park. We encourage city and school officials to expand that relationship. If we do nothing about these issues, or worse spank those who attempt to, then we lose the right to complain.

Odds & Ends

Celebration... Hamtramck families kicked off the first day of fall at Pulaski Park last Saturday. The Hamtramck Recreation Department held its annual Fall Harvest at the park, which featured cider and donuts, games, hayrides and a petting zoo. Despite the gray skies and coolish temperature, kids looked like they were having fun.

Serving... A couple weeks ago a federal judge sentenced former state Sen. Bert Johnson to 90 days in prison. Johnson resigned from office after being charged with hiring a ghost employee and paid with taxpayers' money to do no work. The "employee" was hired to pay back a debt Johnson owed her. Johnson at first denied the charge but eventually took a plea deal. Believe it or not, he got a break. The prosecution wanted

him to serve six months to one year behind bars. Johnson, who had asked to just be placed on probation, also has to pay \$23,000 in restitution. A former staffmember of his, Adam Hollier, is running for his seat in the Senate. Hollier, who also was a staffmember of former Detroit Mayor Dave Bing, won the Democratic primary election in August,



Families enjoyed the annual Fall Harvest held at Pulaski Park last Saturday.

Quick Hits

Continued front page

the amnesty program, the Online Amnesty Application, and a link to information about driver responsibility fees, court

users should visit the 31st District Court website at www.31stdistrictcourt.net. For those still wishing to appear in person at the court, extended business hours are being offered on Tuesday, Oct. 23, when the court will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. For the

other business days of October, standard business hours are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. So pony up, people, and ride clean! As in, with a clean conscience.

Lawsuit filed against tow company

Continued from front page

after cars. Customers at a McDonald's in midtown Detroit complained the company was towing their cars despite the fact that they were customers at the fast food restaurant. They, too, were forced to pay in cash to get their cars returned. For those who would like to join the lawsuit, one of the attorneys involved in the lawsuit, Tony Paris, can be reached at (313) 993-4505. You can also email the attorneys at: info@truth2powercjf.com

One of the issues that has come up in this matter is the amount of red tape facing those who want to go to court to challenge tow companies. In an email, attorney Tony Paris said there needs to be changes in state law. "Our state law makers need to realize how behind Michigan is," Paris said. To file a complaint, he said, there is a 20-day deadline. "And you need to post

\$115 in addition to first paying (or posting bond/escrow) all of the same fees you're disputing (this is obviously a problem if the tow company doesn't give receipts and accepts cash only)," he said. "Further, you need a form from the Secretary of State that's only generated if the tow company properly reports the tow to the police. This needs to change."

The lore of Hamtramck ... Portraits of the past come to life

By Greg Kowalski No matter how poor folks were, they wanted to preserve their images. Not perceptions of them, but their actual images. So today, a century or so from the great immigrant influx into Hamtramck there can be found tucked away in attics, basements, old trunks and closets classic portrait photos. Usually they are framed in ornate cardboard folders that themselves are works of art. Often these were of weddings, which, of course, were momentous occasions to preserve. First Holy Communion portraits were also common, and there are family group shots, teams of athletes, even parish priests who would gather to preserve their images. The Hamtramck Historical Museum has dozens, if not hundreds of these photos. They are elegant, revealing and usually quite frustrating. As is often the practice with family photos, the people rarely are identified and usually there is no date attached to the images. So we are left with stacks of anonymous pictures of people who cannot reveal their stories. Still we can gleam some hints. While we usually don't know who is depicted in the images, we often know who took the photos. Almost all have the imprint of the photographer on the ornate frame. There were a number of photographers in Hamtramck through the 20th century. The premiere one was Pieronek's, whose studio was in the building now operated by the Piast Institute on Jos. Campau. Pieronek, more than any other studio, chronicled life in Hamtramck. In its long history in Hamtramck spanning most of the 20th century. it took thousands of photos of people, places and events. The pictures were

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Obituaries

NYLUND

Mr. Dirk J. Nylund, 68, died September 16, 2018. Mr. Nylund, of Hamtramck, leaves behind many friends including his cat “Tommy Two-tones”. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him. Mr. Nylund had a bachelor’s degree and

was a retired security officer. A private memorial service will be held at a later date.



Hamtramck’s public library is about to turn 100 years old

Continued from page 4

rector of the Hamtramck Public Library. A complete listing of librarians that served in that position can be found in the publication we will distribute in November during the Annual Library Dinner Program.

Review: How do you see the Hamtramck Public Library 10 years from now?

Sochacka: Ten years from now, the main function of the library – to serve its community by making free access to knowledge and information available to all – will be similar to what it has been for the last several decades, though the use of the library has already undergone tremendous changes. Printed materials were the only media utilized in our formative years.

In the last 20 years, since when I took over library development, computers, the internet, and electronic and digital for-

mats have become the main thrust in librarianship, changing the ways we work and deliver services to our patrons.

These new and emerging technologies are reshaping our libraries as we speak, and even though the Hamtramck Library is hardly in the forefront of these new technological trends, they strongly affect the way we function.

While today we provide fast internet and free public access to Wi-Fi, tomorrow we will certainly offer more high-tech and digital contents. But I believe that in 10 years we will still have traditional books, multi-lingual collections, story times for children, annual summer reading programs, and free-of-charge access to a variety of valuable cultural and educational programs.

I also believe that the current trends of library-supported lifelong learn-

ing and of enabling discovery in our patrons will continue, making our library even more of an opportunity institution – which it has always been.

Review: How do you see the Hamtramck Public Library another 100 years from now?

Sochacka: It is difficult to imagine what kind of technology – if any – will exist 100 years from now. I think it may well surpass our imaginations. If current civilization will not destroy itself, the libraries will probably be more important as social infrastructures, “the facilities and conditions that allow connections between people” (Eric Klinenberg), than just repositories of knowledge.

Actually, one of the activities we plan for this November will be for our patrons to imagine Hamtramck Library in 2118. I will be happy to share the results of this endeavor with you.

Review: Feel free to add anything else that you think is pertinent that I might not have thought to ask!

Sochacka: For the City of Hamtramck, with its ever changing populations over the last 100 years, a library provides both stability and historical perspective.

People who grew up in Hamtramck years ago come back here to remember their formative years, find information from years past, and make new friends.

Newcomers come to the library to learn English (via ESL classes) and become familiar with the computers. Children come after school to play games, work on their homework and research assignments. All in all, the more the library changes, the more its purpose remains the same.

Review: Thank you so much for your time!



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CRIME LOG

By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers Sept. 18-24.

Tuesday, September 18

At a little after midnight, a man was arrested in the 3400 block of Holbrook for being intoxicated and disorderly.

At 4 a.m. a person was arrested in the 11300 block of St. Aubin for being disorderly.

An agent for a Conant business reported an incident of fraud.

Officers recovered a car in the 2300 block of Neibel that had been stolen in Hamtramck.

Wednesday, September 19

A Mitchell resident reported a break-in.

A resident reported receiving harassing communications.

At about 1:45 a.m. two people were arrested in the 3100 block of Carpenter for lewd and lascivious acts.

A Dorothy resident reported a garage break-in and the theft of several items.

A resident in the 12000 block of Grand Haven was arrested for domestic violence.

A resident in the 3200 block of Belmont was arrested for domestic violence.

Thursday, September 20

A person reported their car was stolen in the area of Gallagher and Trowbridge.

At 4 a.m. a person was arrested in the 12000 block of Selfridge for domestic assault.

A Sterling Heights resident reported that while walking in the 2900 block Caniff a man walking two pit bulls allowed one of his dogs to bite him. The man then ran away with his dogs.

An agent for Hanley House for Boys reported a juvenile was missing.

A resident reported someone broke out a window of their vehicle.

A resident reported a girl about 12 years old wearing a black and yellow items.

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Continued from page 7

low shirt and black pants stole his son's black and red Mongoose bike in the area of Fleming and Burger.

Friday, September 21

- At 12:30 a.m. a Detroit resident was arrested in the area of Conant and Caniff for possessing an open intoxicant while in public.
- At 2:30 a.m. a Detroit resident was arrested in the area of Jos. Campau and Roosevelt for possessing an open intoxicant in public and for obstruction.
- A Florian resident was arrested for a break-in that occurred on Neibel.
- A resident in the 2200 block of Andrus reported being assaulted in an incident of domestic violence.

- A resident reported seeing a man about 25-to-30 years old in the area of Jos. Campau and Goodson smash out their car window with a metal pipe.
- A Detroit resident was arrested after a traffic stop for obstruction, possessing narcotics, driving with an expired license, and being wanted on several warrants.
- At 10:30 p.m. a resident was arrested in the area of Yemans and Brombach for being disorderly and carrying a butcher's knife.

Saturday, September 22

- At 3 a.m. a representative from Henry Ford Hospital reported that a man was being treated at

the hospital for a gunshot wound he received while in the 11400 block of Jos. Campau.

- At 4 a.m. a resident was located and arrested after failing to report an accident and leaving the scene.

Sunday, September 23

- No incident report was available for this date.

Monday, September 24

- A resident was arrested for fleeing and eluding during a police chase that started at Jos. Campau and Casmere.
- A Detroit resident reported their pawn shop receipt was stolen in Detroit and used to—sell the victim's property to a jewelry shop in Hamtramck.
- A group of people reported they were assaulted in the 5000 block of Trowbridge.

Portraits of the past come to life

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invariably superb and remain a priceless source of information about the city.

Pieronek wasn't the only photographer. Hoffman, Smart Set and other photo studios operated in the city, and there were even more photographers in the old Poletown neighborhood centered along Chene St. in Detroit.

And while the people depicted in these photos often are unknown there is still something fascinating in these images.

Hairstyle and clothing – even the expressions on the faces – are a revealing portal into the past.

Usually everyone is dressed in their best, and poses tend to be formal, even rigid. Here and there you'll see a hint of a smile, but hardly ever any more than that. Photo sessions seemed to be solemn occasions, and certainly they were important.

Few people in this area then had money to spend on non-necessities like photos, but these were more than amenities. They were the records of people's existence, a verification and an affirmation of their lives. And they are so important because they help bring the past to life, to give it human faces and remind us that history is made up of people.

You will be able to get a sense of this for yourself

in a new exhibit, "Portrait Studios of Detroit's Polonia: The Face of Polish Immigration," coming to the Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools, Oct. 3 to 29. An opening reception will be held 7-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3.

The exhibit will come then come to the Hamtramck Historical Museum and be on display from Nov. 1 to 22 before moving on to the Clinton-Macomb Public Library, from Jan. 5 to 30.

An opening reception will be held at the Hamtramck Historical Museum. Further details will be made available in October. It promises to be a fascinating exhibit.

You can see samples of these photos 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.

Notice of Public Hearing Zoning Board of Appeals City of Hamtramck

The Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing in the 2nd Floor Council Chambers of Hamtramck City Hall (3401 Evaline Street, Hamtramck, MI 48212) on October 10, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. to consider and afford the opportunity for input to be recorded on the appeal for a modification under Zoning Ordinance 497 on the premises described below. Any variation or modification granted would have no bearing on private restrictions. The public is invited to attend and comment at the public hearing or to make written comments on or before the date of the hearing. Written comments should be made to the attention of Hassan Sheikh, Community and Economic Development Coordinator, ATTN: Zoning Board of Appeals, 3401 Evaline St., Hamtramck, MI 48212.

- PUBLIC HEARING: Kola Nikprelaj, 2117 Trowbridge Street. The request is for a variance to allow the addition of a second story to the existing house at this address. Existing house is located 1.5 feet from side lot line. Ord. 497, Article V – 1.05 (e) Minimum Yard Setback. Article VIII – 1.03 Section 3: Nonconforming Structures. Section 7: Expansion of Nonconforming Uses and Structures.

Please note: This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.71 a (2) (3) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The City of Hamtramck will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the Meeting to individuals with disabilities at the Meeting or Public Hearing upon 10 day notice to the City Clerk's Office. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Hamtramck City Clerk by writing or calling the Clerk's Office at 313-800-5233 x. 343.

Coming events

WEDNESDAYS, 7 p.m., every second Wednesday of the month – The 3C7 and Midtown Block meets at 2339 Caniff PCS Senior Day Center. This block club includes all residents and businesses west of Jos. Campau and north of Holbrook.

SATURDAY, October 13 – Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross R.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. Everyone is welcome!

SATURDAY, October 20, 4-7 p.m. – Polish Dinner Fundraiser with Mike Zawojksy, accordionist, at Holy Cross R.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming.