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TUESDAY AUG. 6, 2019

FOR HAMTRAMCK CITY COUNCIL





www.hamtramckreview.com · e-mail news@thehamtramckreview.com



3236 Caniff St. · Hamtramck 48212



Quick Hits

By Alan Madlane

Smile!

The Hamtramck Housing Commission is hosting a "Taking it to the Streets!" day this coming Tuesday, July 23, from 10 a.m. to noon.

What does it all mean?

Well, for one thing, there'll be free dental service offered to all youth ages 3 to 17, courtesy of the University of Detroit Mercy Dental School.

Bevond that, there'll be raffles, face painting (hopefully, after the dentistry), refreshments, workshops, a book giveaway and more.

All this will be put on at the HHC building, 12025 Dequindre, basically the west service drive of I-75 on the city's north end, near Carpen-

Come ready for an allday grin.

Meanwhile, the Hamtramck Recreation Department is hosting a family talent contest on Friday, July 26 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the

Continued on page 3

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD -

Forum attracts residents, but not many council candidates

By Charles Sercombe

What if there was a "meet the candidates" forum, and hardly any candidates showed up?

That happened Thursday evening when only three of the nine city council candidates were on hand.

The forum went forward as planned.

The event was sponsored by the Detroit League of Women Voters, who said they contacted all nine candidates.

Those who did show up at the Hamtramck Public Robert Library were Zwolak, Justin Jessop and Carrie Beth Lasley.



The Detroit League of Women Voters hosted a candidate forum last week in the public library. There was only one downturn: Only three of the nine city council candidates showed up.

clude incumbents Anam Hassan and Mohammed index cards by audience Miah, Abu Musa and Saad Almasmari. The other noshows were: Nayeem Those who were MIA in- Choudhury, Mohammed

Alsomiri.

For two hours, the three who were present fielded questions written down on

members, of which there were about 30.

Jessop was first up to **Continued on page 2**



The city's summer newsletter is out, and it has plenty of information to share.

Catch up on the latest summer news from city hall

By Alan Madlane

The City of Hamtramck released its summer newsletter recently. We are pleased as tropical punch to provide a summary:

The City Clerk's office provided a good deal of information on how to request an absentee ballot

from the city, now that State Proposition 18-3 has decreed that anyone can vote absentee if they prefer.

Basically, you must request the absentee ballot in writing by 5 p.m. the Friday before the election, and - after the city

Continued on page 4

City hall going hi-tech

By Charles Sercombe

Paying your water bill and property taxes is about to a whole lot easier in Hamtramck.

The city is installing a kiosk in the main entrance at city hall that will allow property owners to pay their city bills 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



The city will soon make it easier to pay your water and tax bills with a kiosk that will be accessible in city hall 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Customers can pay their bills via cash or check for no fee. A small service fee will charged, depending on how much the bill is, when a credit card is

Continued on page 3

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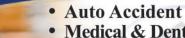
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Forum attracts residents, but not many council candidates cont. from front page

offer an opening statement, which he used, in part, to praise his two opponents at the candidate table.

"They are great people," he said of Zwolak and Lasley, and added: "They are great candidates."

He then went on to criticize the current council for ending the work sessions that had been held for two years when the former city manager was in charge.

Now with a new city manager, Kathy Angerer, that practice stopped.

"Without those work sessions, the city manager has no guidance," he said. "We need to change that."

This is the first time Jessop has run for local office. Next up was Lasley, also

a newcomer seeking local office. She said she is "sick

and tired" of watching money leave the city and "being spent recklessly."

Her focus, she said, will "budget, budget, budget."

Zwolak, who is a former city clerk and councilmember, boasted of "having a better attendance record than some of our current

indeed,



Carrie Beth Lasley

been a regular attendee of council meetings for a number of years, both in office and out.

His theme for the night was making sure the city gets an accurate Census count in 2020. He believes the city is currently undercounted by at least 3,000 residents.

Getting those residents included in the count, he said, would result in millions of dollars in extra federal revenue for the city.

He also stressed he is motivated to seek office again because the city, which was once known in the 1950s as the one of the cleanest cities in America, can no longer make that boast.

"I can't make excuses to visitors," Zwolak said.

As for what qualifies her for the job, Lasely said she has a doctorate degree in urban planning, as well as related experience.

She said she can perform budgeting in a "qualified, educated manner."

Zwolak said his past experience in public office is his strength.

"I got a real education in Hamtramck's cultures," Zwolak said, referring to

Justin Jessop

the city's well-known ethnic diversity. Jessop had nothing but

praise for Zwolak and Lasley, calling them "exceptionally qualified." As for himself, he said,

it's more than qualifications. He wants to change the city charter to expand the number who serve on council as a way to more accurately represent the "We need people with

new ideas. We need people with different backgrounds to come in, and bring their experiences in," he said.

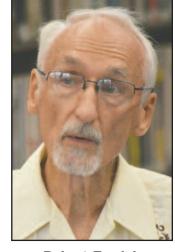
The subject of allowing marijuana retail shops was posed, and all three rejected that move. They were in favor of al-

lowing grow operations but only in isolated areas of the cities - as a way to drum up tax revenue. Jessop said marijuana

dispensaries in the city business district would "look a little trashy." As for important issues

facing the city, Jessop stressed public safety, and Lasley said it's about the budget and taxes.

Zwolak again stressed the 2020 Census, and get-



Robert Zwolak

ting an accurate count.

Each person counted, he noted, represents an additional \$1,800 for the city to receive.

If there was one moment that raised eyebrows, it was when the question of how to increase transparency in government was posed. Lasley said that it wasn't just about transparency, but also "calling out things."

"A lot of things are going on here. Some of it needs to be public, some of it needs to go straight to the

Lasely did not offer specifics on what information needs the attention of the FBI.

Those were just some of the points mentioned in the forum. If you'd like to see the entire session, visit the League of Women Voters Detroit on their Facebook page, where the entire forum was recorded.

The primary election is Aug. 6. The top six votegetters will then advance to the November General Election.

The top three candidates winning that election will serve a term of four years.

This week at the library...

Toddler Time - June 6th-August 8th, Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Toddler time is for Children up to age 5 and their parents and caregivers. This program includes stories and songs and is followed by unstructured playtime.

A UNIVERSE OF STO-RIES SUMMER LI-**BRARY PROGRAM** 2019 Registration opens Monday June 17th! Come to the Library to sign up and get your activity log! Guest performer, activities, prizes, and lots of fun! Program runs weekly on Wednesdays, June 26-August 7. This is a Free Program. Open to all youth ages 4-12.

Free Time Fridays -Friday July 26th, 2019 1:00 p.m. American Red Cross Emergency Prep Pillowcase Project. Ages 4-12.

A Universe of Stories TEEN CLUB - Mondays June 24-August 5, 2-4 p.m. Registration opens June 17th. Grades 6 and up are welcome. Join us for workshops, guest speakers and hands-on events! **ANIME CLUB** - Every

Thursday 5-7 p.m. Begins June 27. Hang out, share and discover Anime and Manga. Grades 6 and up . Adults are also welcome

ESL CONVERSATION CAFÉ - 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Weekly on

Mondays. Program is

free and open to adults and teens who want to improve their English language skills. Interested in volunteering? Contact the library for more information

A Universe of Stories - (Movies at the Library) - Tuesdays 4 p.m. July 2- August 27. Adults and Teens are welcome. Light refreshments will be served

Dinosaur Party!! Hamtramck Public Library, Friday August 9th, 2:30 p.m. Join us for a Dinosaur Storytime Event Featuring: snacks, stories, crafts and more that's all Dinosaurs!!!! about (This is an all ages event, and children must be accompanied

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.

our 10-year anniversary!

Second Front Page

Hamtown Farms site is now up for sale

By Alan Madlane

The saga of Hamtown Farms is drawing to a close.

On the first of this co-founder month, Michael Davis sent out a press release, detailing the final steps to be taken in the permanent dismantling of the plucky non-profit.

This follows on the heels of their board decision, back in May, to end the community garden due to persistent vandalism issues.

Side note: Hamtramck: You need to do better. Don't you want to have nice things?

In any case, there are legalities involved in the dissolution of a nonprofit.

Their dissolution plan had to first pass the muster at the State Attorney General's Office. The primary thing to take into account is the disposition of the land, which is most of the value in this case since we are talking sev-



Need land to build on? The Hamtramck Farms site is now up for sale.

eral lots, with no building involved.

The letter notes that "many of the tools and other pieces of equipment have been donated to other non-profits in the area."

However, no other nonprofit "with a similar mission and/or other goals" came forward with interest in the land.

So, the lots, located at 9026 Lumpkin St., are now officially up for sale.

There is also, in this case, the complication that Hamtown Farms wanted to make good on the returning of funds, donated by an unnamed group, which had originally been earmarked for a sidewalk upgrade project that never got a chance to get off the ground this past spring.

The group's missive concludes with the follow-

"Rest assured that once the creditor is made whole the remaining funds (from the realization of the sale) will be donated to area non-profits" that do meet the mission/goal similarity test.

Anyone interested in the property can contact the property's realtor Alex D'Avanzo at alexdavanzo@gmail.com.

Quick Hits

Continued front page

Hamtramck High Community Center at 11350 Charest.

You must sign up by today, Friday, July 19. The

registration cost is \$10 per family. Winners get a spiffy trophy to admire for years to come. Light refreshments. Keep it friendly, minimize the mic drops and trash talking. Call (313) 892-2635.



We are an Active Parish Serving the Community

It's Time to Pray, Please Join Us

We are a Multicultural Parish Family Sunday English Mass 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Everyone is Welcome to Worship with Us

July 30 – Mass for people on our Prayer List 7 pm **August 10** – Soup Kitchen 2-4 pm Everyone Welcome!

Holy Cross P.T.O. Annual Hamtramck Public Schools School Supply Drive continues through Sunday, August 25th

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Hamtramck Public Library

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School Bell

Summer in the city

School may be out for the summer but that doesn't mean students stop learning.

To help nurture your reading skills and also have some fun, the Hamtramck Public Library is the place to hang out.

The library's summer ticket: the annual Summer Reading Program runs on Mondays in the afternoons from 2 to 4 p.m., through Aug. 5. The program is targeted at grades 6 and up.

There will be guest speakers, workshops, hands-on and some events.

Adults and teens can also fill their time - and

beat the heat – while they watch movies on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. through Aug. 27. These screenings are free, and light refreshments will served.

The library is located at 2360 Caniff.

Enrollment Information

Hamtramck residents may enroll their children in Hamtramck Public Schools at the HPS Business Office, 3201 Roosevelt. School of Choice applications will be accepted during the following dates: Kindergarten: Unlimited, through September 5; Grades 1st through 12th.

Late school of choice applications cannot be

School accepted. choice applicants may be denied based on the student's attendance and/or disciplinary

records. You will need to bring with you: an original birth document (raised seal birth certificate, passport, green card, visa), an up-to-date immunization record, a final 2018-2019 report card/transcript, parental identification, two current proofs of residency (utility bill, mortgage statement, formal signed lease, pay stub, etc.) and proof of income (required only for preschool applications).

Summer Break

Mondays June 24 - August 5 2-4 pm

Registration opens June 17

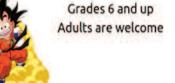
Grades 6 and up are welcome.

Join us for workshops, guest speakers and hands-on events!

ANIME CLUB

Every Thursday 5-7 pm **Begins June 27**

Hang out, share and discover Anime & Manga.



ESL Conversation Cafe

10:30 am- 12:00 pm Weekly on Mondays

OPEN HOUSE June 10th

Program is free and open to adults & teens who want to improve their English language skills.

Interested in volunteering? Contact the library for more information.

Movies at the Library

Adults and Teens are welcome Light refreshments served

Tuesdays 4:00 pm July 2-August 27

City hall going hi-tech

Continued from front page

used.

City Manager Kathy Angerer said the kiosk will now allow people to not have to "take time off from work" to pay their

city bills. The kiosk will offer instructions in English, Arabic, Spanish, and can be

programmed for Bengali. The company that is installing and maintaining the kiosk is Diversified Data Processing and Con-

sulting, Inc. (known as DivDat). The company has similar kiosks installed in Detroit, Wayne County and at DTE locations.

Hamtramck customers can also pay their city bills at any of the kiosks located outside of the city.

The city will now be directing customers to use the kiosk, even during regular business hours, in order to free up city employees to perform other

jobs. It is also hoped that bill collections will increase, thus resulting in fewer delinquencies.

It will take a few months for the kiosk to be installed and programmed to coordinate with the city's computer network.

The city is expecting at least 3,500 transactions a month. The contract with the company is for three years.

Hamtramck Public Library

2360 Caniff Ave., Hamtramck MI 48212

313-733-6822 hamtramck.lib.mi.us

The Review is celebrating our 10-year anniversary!



Catch up on the latest summer news from city hall

Continued from front page

has checked that your basic information matches, they'll mail you the ballot. You then have until 8 p.m. on Election Day to complete it and submit it.

The Building Department reminded everyone who owns property in the city that is not their primary residence to register it with the city as a vacant or rental property. Tickets involving fines are possible if you fail to do so.

A reminder of the remaining Music in The Park (located at Zussman Park, across from City Hall) dates: July 25, 7 p.m., Danny D (famed for his Rod Stewart impression); Aug. 22, 7 p.m., Street Corner (Motown and soul covers). It's free to all. Bring blankets, lawn chairs, picnic lunches too; but leave alcohol at home.

Water bill payments can be made any one of four different ways, the Water Department helpfully advises: In person, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; in the after-hours drop box in the entryway area of City Hall (check or money order only, no cash); online at hamtramck.us; or by mail to P. O. Box 33755, Detroit MI 48232-3755.

They want to remind you that, if you are struggling to pay your water bills, you can see if you qualify for assistance by calling (313) 386-9727.

City officials urge you to be a good neighbor to others by keeping noise levels reasonable, even in the daytime; by keeping your lawn cut to 5 inches or less, and your weeds in the alleyways and around your fences managed; by keeping any street drains along your property's curb clear of debris. which might cause giant street puddles from backed up rain; and by keeping your speed down when driving (the default limit is 25

Drivers: watch out for children, pedestrians and persons in, for example, wheelchairs.

You are also reminded by the Building Department to secure permits before commencing any building projects. Stop by City Hall's first floor mezzanine area, or call (313) 800-5233.

Projects that require permits include bigger outside ones such as roofing, fencing, siding, driveway/concrete, chimney/brickwork, demo, or outside HVAC, but not painting or smaller repairs (one stair step, etc.).

Indoor projects such as HVAC, plumbing or electrical also need a permit. If you begin a project without a permit, you will receive a "Stop Work" order and will have to pay an additional \$75 plus the costs of the permit to resume work.

Common sense rat and pest control tips were offered, such as eliminating or picking up debris, food and water sources and garden produce (when ripe), and capping garbage receptacles tightly. Trash regulations were also gone over, too numerous to include here. Check the website.

Lastly, fire safety tips were offered, including grill care (some 9,000 home fires in the U.S. each year begin with unattended or poorly grilling planned capades, apparently), having your chimney cleaned during the downtime of summer, changing smoke alarm batteries and clearing out your clothes dryer's lint screen and vent pipe to the out-

A special back page tribute to the establishment of "Banglatown," via city resolution 2019-28, was printed, in the form of the full language from the resolution. The east end of the city, specifically Conant between Carpenter and Holbrook, has earned the Bangladeshi-inspired designation.

See you in the fall with more.

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 May 14, and all councilmembers were present, except for Fadel Al-Marsoumi.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, Bill Meyer said that, while the city is ethnically diverse, "we are very divided."

He was speaking in reference to a proposed resolution, on the agenda, to hire an outside attorney, to follow up on a citizen complaint that Councilmember Saad Almasmari is in "default" to the city for outstanding water and tax bills.

The complaint called for the removal of Almasmari from council, per the city charter section on the subject of a city officials being in default. The complaint was filed by council candidate Carrie Beth Lasley.

Almasmari is also seeking re-election.

Meyer said the council "should show more compassion to a person who can't pay their bills."

Meyer said the inquiry is an attempt to overturn the Muslim majority on council.

On the same subject, Robert Zwolak, who is also a council candidate, said the city charter is "clear" on the matter. He said hiring an attorney is a waste of money.

He said the council should just decide what to do.

"It's up to you," he said. Mark Koroi, an attorney, said the council should look into every candidate to see if they are in default – not just Almasmari.

The council approved appointing Virginia Skrzyniarz as the city's U.S. Census Complete Count Committee Chairperson.

The 2020 Census will begin in several months. In a memo to the council, it was said:

"The City of Hamtramck needs to have full participation in the U.S. Census, to be held in 2020, in order to receive full funding for the ten years following the census. In order to familiarize our community with the process, and understand the need for a complete count, organizational efforts must begin now."

In another action, the council approved establishing an indigent defense fund for the Hamtramck 31st District Court.

The city was awarded a \$200,000 grant from the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission. It will pay for court-appointed attorneys for people who can't afford one.

The council hired a new IT company, at a cost of \$6,333 a month. The contract was awarded to I.T. Right, Inc.

University of Michigan will be conducting a city-wide study "to optimize the City of Hamtramck's Banglatown commercial identity, with a focus on economic growth."

Councilmember Anam Miah welcomed the study.

"We see the potential in the community," Miah said.

The council awarded a new building services contract to McKenna Building Department

Services of Northville.

The company will be performing code inspections for the city.

City Manager Kathy Angerer said she expects a "smooth transition" to the new company. The new contract will save the city \$30,000 a year.

With the help of a \$75,000 state grant, the council hired Plante Moran to help plan a financial strategy for the next five years. In the council resolution, it was noted that the city is predicting a five-year budget shortfall.

Angerer said she asked Plante Moran to "drill down" on city department budgets.

The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) will conduct a study on the operations of the police and fire departments. The study will be used to plan

Continued on page 6

Hanley International Academy salutes our students!



1st grade Principal's Award winners for All A's. Thank you Ms. Gniewek, Mrs. McGregor, and Mrs. Watson.



2nd Grade Principal's Award winners for all A's. Thank you Ms. Bauer, Mrs. Bibbee, and Ms. Reese.

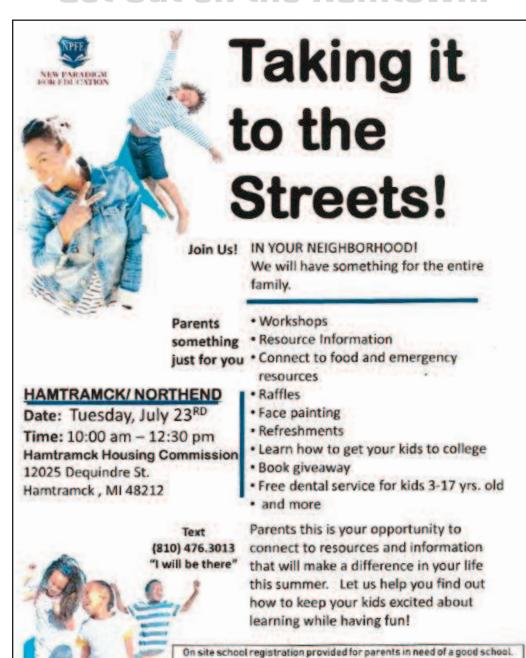


3rd Grade Principal's Award winners for all A's.



5th Grade Principal's Award winners for all A's.

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Kindergarten - 8th grade. FREE TRANSPORTATION! Bring your students documentation to reserve your spot today!

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Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Candidate no-shows are an embarrassment to the city

Disappointing.

And embarrassing. Those are two words that come to mind regarding the turnout at last Thursday's Meet the Candidates forum.

Only three of the nine city council candidates showed up. That's the disappointing part.

candidates Those were: Robert Zwolak, Carrie Beth Lasley and Justin Jessop.

Candidates Nayeem Choudhury, Mohammed Alsomiri, Anam Miah, Abu Musa, Saad Almasmari and Mohammed Hassan were the no

shows.

outside cause an group, the Detroit League of Women Voters, cared enough to host the event. It was an insult to the group as well.

But this has been the norm for the past several years. Local organizations and individuals finally gave up hosting these forums because too many candidates blew them off.

Oh, some of them, in the past, have claimed work obligations or offered lame excuses.

Let's face it, if you It's embarrassing be- can't carve out time to meet with the public and talk about your views, you probably shouldn't be running for public office.

Why?

Because the public has a right to be informed.

Being a no-show is a slap to the public's face. It makes one wonder how seriously the candidates will take the iob if elected. This is a matter of respect and commitment to public service.

People's Services offering a free health fair

By Alan Madlane

Got a boo-boo?

Feelin' queasy, a bit uneasy?

Well, fear not. There's a free health fair coming around.

People's Community Services on the city's southend are helping host a series of free Wednesday screenings into next month and is open to all ages.

The remaining dates (again, all Wednesdays) are: July 24 and 31, and Aug. 7. The times are: from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on

each of those days.

The health fair is being co-sponsored by Chamberlain University's College of Nursing. The nurses performing the check-ups are students of this program. Chamberlain University's local campus is in Troy and opened in 2014. Their home campus is in Downer's Grove, Illinois.

Participants will be either tested or advised on their blood pressure, potential for diabetes, their nutrition, medications, physical activity and, if

applicable, the status of any chronic conditions from which they may suffer. Expect recommendations on follow-up care possibilities.

Also, expect some fun to break up the probing; they promise raffles, ice cream and activities, not necessarily in that order.

The address: People's Community Services, 8625 Jos. Campau. For more info, contact Leslie Niameh Minard or Muhammad at (313) 875-5230, or Leslie at I.minard@pecose.org.

Odds & Ends

Volunteers... A whole bunch of teens and adults from Tennessee Florida, who were part of a volunteer effort call "Team Summer Jam," recently visited Hamtramck.

They were joined by the Bangladeshi American Business Association of Michigan (BABAM). They all pitched in to clean the city's business district.

They also got to meet Mayor Karen Majewski, Councilmember Anam Miah, City Manager Kathy Angerer and City Clerk August Gitschlag.

Thanks to everyone for taking time out and helping Hamtramck look a little better.

Big sale... Bargain hunters, here's your last chance to grab some sweet deals.

Recycled Treasures is now officially out of business, and it is clearing out its warehouse.

A liquidation sale continues this weekend, July 19-21, at 2697 Caniff (the former St. Ladislaus convent dormitory), on the north side of the street.

The sale runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. All items must go, and include larger pieces such as display cabinets, shelves, clothing racks, work benches, folding chairs and tables and the like, to art, collectables, tools, smaller items: dish-, glass- and kitchenware;

clothes and fabric, and



Above and below: Scenes from a recent city cleanup sponsored by the Bangladeshi American Business Association of Michigan. Bottom photo: City Clerk August Gitschlag welcomes the volunteers.





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Hamtramck baseball dynasty continues to live on

By Raymond Rolak

The Review Special Writer Baseball, and Hamtramck, both run deep in the bloodline of the Paciorek family.

Now, a second generation family member has made his initial mark on Major League Baseball.

Nick Paciorek, a rightpitcher, handed drafted last month by the storied New York Yankees. The Yankees nabbed Paciorek with the 225th overall pick, near the end of the 7th round, which is actually rather high (unlike other major sports, baseball's draft goes on for an amazing 40 rounds total).

He is the son of Mike and Staci Paciorek. His dad was a second-round draft pick of the Los Angeles Dodgers in the 1973 amateur draft. Mike excelled on the sandlots of Detroit, and also played five seasons in the minor leagues. He never quite cracked the majors, even if others in the family did.

Probably the best known of the Paciorek baseball family was Tom, who played mostly first base for 17 years with six different teams. For his career, he hit a very respectable

.282, and finished with over 500 RBI.

Tom was a St. Ladislaus grad, and is Nick's uncle and Mike's brother.

Another uncle, Jim, played for Milwaukee for one season (1987), hitting .220 for his career, and a third uncle, John, played a single major league game in 1963, albeit a very successful one (he reached base in all five plate appearances, with three singles and two walks, making him the only player in major league history with a perfect 1.000 batting average involving more than two at bats).

Nick's career shows considerable promise.

A native of Sherman Oaks, California (where he played high school ball) and formerly a utility catcher at Northwestern University, the junior is now making his mark as a closer. When Wildcats coach Spencer Allen needed a stopper this season, he most often called on his new relief ace.

The right-hander has great 6'3" and 200-pound power frame, and strong, long legs – a relief pitcher personified.

Nick had great high

school baseball success in Southern California. He was there because his father was working in the movie business. thrived as a catcher in high school, but the transition to D-I in the Big Ten Confer-

ence was a bit thorny. He didn't have immediate success at the college level. In his first game pitching for Northwestern last season, with the game against Indiana out of hand, Paciorek got some mop-up action. He proceeded to walk the first batter he faced to load the bases, then the next three hitters were hit-by-pitch, single and walk. He then got the fifth batter he faced for an inning-ending

Season highlights did eventually include: appearing in 20 games out of the bullpen; leading the team with a 3.37 ERA, 44 strikeouts, and three saves; and holding opponents to a .196 batting average.

"I always had belief I could do it. Last year, I was just a thrower, and this year I'm a pitcher," Paciorek said. He becomes the first Northwestern player drafted in four

Continued on page 8

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City Hall Insider ...

Continued from page 4

how to provide the services at a lower cost.

After a lengthy study, the council agreed to hire the Miller Law Firm to look into a complaint alleging that Councilmember Almasmari is a defaulter for being behind in his water and tax bills.

(Editor's note: the law firm determined Almasmari was not a defaulter.)

A public hearing was held on the city's proposed new yearly budget.

Robert Zwolak said the city should sell its vacant lots to raise money. He also suggested imposing a "service fee" on tax-exempt organizations.

Carrie Beth Lasley noted the new budget calls for deficit spending, which if continued at the current pace will bankrupt the city in a few years.

Justin Petrusak said the city should employ more people. Instead, he said, the city contracts out too many services.

As for budgeting for improvements to the city, he was critical.

"It looks like we're preparing for the pope,"

City Manager Angerer ran through some of the revenue losses facing the city. A major financial blow will be the loss of a fire department grant from the federal government that paid for the salaries of 12 firefighters.

That loss will amount to \$500,000.

The lore of Hamtramck ...

The Lore of Hamtramck: A charming mystery

By Greg Kowalski

Who is she?

With her Mona Lisa-like smile, she looks beguilingly at us from out of the past. There are some things we can surmise from her surroundings. She sits on the ground, under an umbrella.

The lawn looks to be an overgrown mess of grass and weeds. Behind is a plank yard fence. And even farther in the distance looms the high rising wall of the old Briggs manufacturing plant.

We can tell it is that plant, which once stood just north of the Dodge Main factory, by the distinctive water tower that is partially visible. And the walls of the Briggs plant match clearer views in other pictures.

The fence, the factory and the distinctive cap she wears date this to the 1920s. And we know she was in the vard of a house just a block away from that massive factory.



Who is this presence from the past?

But who is she?

She's young, charming and has no rings on her fingers, so she was probably single. Did she live there, or was she just visiting on a warm summer afternoon?

We know that the photo was among a collection of pictures from the Joseph Mitchell collection. Mitchell was well-known in

Hamtramck in the 1920s. He was Hamtramck village clerk in 1920.

And we know the picture was once in an album, because there are traces of the black paper from the album page still adhering to the back. So it's possible, even likely, there was a connection between her and Mitchell.

But what?

She seems self-assured. This was a young lady who appears to be comfortable in her environment. She looks comfortable seated on the ground.

Given the setting, that would likely mean she was a working person. She may even have worked in the Briggs plant. But she also shows a degree of sophistication. It's a lovely, posed portrait not that different from what **Edouard Manet or Mary** Cassatt might painted.

Yet this lady is more enigmatic, for we don't know who she is, or was, It would be wonderful to know what she was thinking as she sat there in that nearly industrial back-

Was she annoyed?

There's just a hint of a smile there; perhaps she didn't want her photo taken. Yet she looks relaxed, not uncomfortable

Continued on page 8

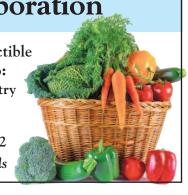




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Hamtramck Review

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2954 Goodson, 4 br., living, dining rm., kitchen, full basement, 2 car garage, turn-key house, \$125,000, 248-879-2521, ask for Pete.

13493 Sparling, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, living room, kitchen, rec room, as is good condition, little to be done on the inside, as is, \$27,500, 313-310-3540. 7/26

STORE FRONT **FOR LEASE**

New Al-Baraka, call 313-366-0500 or 202-664-2756.

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Great for retail or office, for rent. 11808 Jos. Campau. Hamtramck. 586-222-7304. 7/19

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Person wanted to clean apartments in Hamtramck, must live in Hamtramck, need immediately, flexible hours, call Julie, 313-570-4242. 8/9

Carpenter needed to renovate Hamtramck apartments. call Julie, 313-570-4242. 8/9

Tire tech/tire repair, experienced preferred, up to \$15 per hr. with experience, 40 hrs. + O/T, health insurance available, paid holidays. If interested, apply in person: corner of Conant/Davison, Sucher Tire Service Inc., 3641 Davison St., Detroit, MI 48212. 8/16

GARAGE SALES

Largest sale in the city, building materials, household items, anything else you may need, 9 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, 13101 Bloom St., across from White Elementary School, 313-310-3540.

By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers July 9-15.

Tuesday, July 9

- · At a little after midnight, a Detroit resident was arrested in the area of Brombach and Poland for reckless driving.
- · A resident reported receiving several harassing phone calls from a person they know.

Wednesday, July 10

- · At 3 a.m., a Livonia resident was taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital, where she was petitioned for committal by her bovfriend.
- · An incident of domestic violence was reported.
- Officers took a report in the 11400 block of Nagel St. about someone being intimidated.
- · While officers were investigating an incident in the area of Yemans and Falcon, a resident was arrested for being disorderly.
- Officers took a report about a suspicious situation in the area of Geimer

and Brombach.

Thursday, July 11

- · A resident was arrested for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.
- · At 2 a.m., a resident was arrested for drunk driving and for driving without a license.
- · At a little after 3 a.m., a resident was arrested after a traffic stop for driving without a license, having an improper license plate and for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant for not paying their city income tax.
- · At a little after 3:30 a.m., a Detroit resident was arrested after a traffic stop for driving without a license and for possessing narcotics.
- · A Detroit resident reported the theft of their handgun from their car that was parked in the 3200 block of Belmont
- A resident in the 12000 block of Grand Haven St. reported the theft of a package from in front of their door.

Continued on page 8







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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.

MONDAY, July 22, 9 a.m. - Wayne County Commissioner Martha G. Scott hosts a free Community Coffee Hour every fourth Monday of the month at Maine Street Restaurant, 11650 Jos. Campau.

WEDNESDAY, July 31, noon-4 p.m. - The Hamtramck Public School District will host a family event at the HHS Community Center (11350 Charest) that will feature free health check-ups, information on educational resources and much more.

SATURDAY, Aug. 24, 1-5 p.m. - Free event, "Making It To The Finish Line, 1st Annual Girls Makeup Expo," for girls ages 12-18, at Ears Showplace, 2140 Holbrook, Hamtramck (Inside the former UAW Local 235 Bldg.). Advance registration required. Visit our website for more information: www.mittfl.org

























The Review is celebrating our 10-year anniversary!





RE-ELECT ANAM FOR HAMTRAMCK CITY COUNCIL

Primary: Aug. 6

General: Nov. 5

with Michigan Municipal League, Hamtramck Public School Board and City Employees on Master Plan for Park and Improvement to Keyworth

Applied for and received grant that provided us with \$188,315 in funding to convert run down field to soccer arena in Veterans park.

Organized and Led a local business sign ordinance subcommittee where we successfully passed a resolution to increase business signage size and allow temporary banners on storefronts.

Applied for and approved Parks Grants totaling \$100,000 from Wayne County Commission Martha G. Scott while also securing a sidewalk replacement grant for Veterans Park totaling \$57,779.

Drafted road work plan that approved the repair of 7 major streets and roads as well as 8 alleys totaling \$615,429.

Secured grant from State of Michigan through Wayne County for \$1 Million to repair Holbrook Street.

Worked with water department and water sub-committee to successful ly replace \$174,000 worth of water meters throughout the city of Ham-tramck and approved accurate billing that assisted household and business owners with 60% of their delinquent bills.

Drafted, applied to, and received Recycling Bill Grant that provided \$13,100 to bin placement. Paid for by Friends to Elect Anam Miah, 3907 Prescott St., Hamtramdt, MI 48212





Continued from page 7

- A 2001 Ford Explorer with the Michigan license plate DHR9836 was reported stolen while it was parked in the 12000 block of St. Aubin St.
- · A Brombach resident reported seeing a male pulling trash out of their garbage can and throwing it on the ground.
- A resident reported that, while in the area of Casmere and Sobieski, they were bitten by a dog. The owner of the dog was ticketed, and the dog was taken to the Westland Humane Society for quaran-
- A hit-and-run accident occurred in the Belmont-Conant area.

Friday, July 12

- · At a little after midnight, a Detroit resident was arrested in the area of Jos. Campau and Poland for reckless driv-
- · At 3:30 a.m., a Detroit resident was arrested in the area of Dyar and Commor for possess-

ing heroin.

- A hit-and-run accident happened at Jos. Campau and Commor.
- A Warren resident reported the theft of the car license plate, DWP8600, while their car was parked in the 2600 block of Eva-
- · A resident was arrested for domestic violence.

Saturday, July 13

- · At 1:30 a.m., a resident was arrested in the area of Dyar and Commor for domestic violence.
- A Detroit resident was ticketed in the 2400 block of Goodson St. for animal cruelty.
- A resident was arrested in Veterans Park for assault.

Sunday, July 14

- · At almost midnight, a Warren resident was arrested after a traffic stop for drunk driving.
- At about 11:30 p.m., a resident reported being sexually assaulted while

walking home.

- A woman reported that, while at a business in the 11400 block of Jos. Campau, two males. one armed with a handgun, threatened her.
- · Officers secured an open door at a business on Holbrook.
- · A hit-and-run accident occurred at Caniff and Moran. Another hit-andrun occurred at Conant and Caniff.
- · A resident reported an arson fire at their garage in the 2300 block of Neibel St.
- · A resident reported their bike was stolen at Pulaski Park. The bike was later recovered in the Hamtramck Housing proj-

Monday, July 15

- · At 2:30 a.m., two people were arrested in the Conant-Caniff area for being disorderly.
- · An Oliver St. resident reported the theft of his vehicle.
- · An Evaline St. resident was arrested for being wanted on Hamtramck warrants.

The lore of Hamtramck ...

Continued from page 6

with the camera facing

Maybe there were other things on her mind. Life wasn't easy back then, especially for young women who had few options in life: marriage, a morethan-likely low paying job, raising a family and a bland future. Or, maybe she just wanted to go inside.

We could go on, but there is no way to know what we are looking at beyond the image of the photo. Yet there was more. Much more, for she was a real person, one with hopes, dreams, fears and disappointments.

Even at her young age, she had experienced thousands of adventures - for every day of life is an adventure for all of us. And like everyone else, almost all of those adventures are lost in time. It's unlikely we will ever know the story of her life, or even a bit of it beyond the borders of this picture.

But we can use every clue to learn a little about her and the life she led.

That, too, is the study of

(You can learn more about Hamtramck's history 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. Visit our website www.hamtramckhistory.org. Email: hamtramckhistory@gmail.com.)

Hamtramck baseball dynasty continues to live on

Continued from page 6

years.

Might he one day end up, as Tom did eventually in 1992, in the National Polish-American Sports Hall of Fame?

Time will tell, but he's certainly off to a great start.

Even for a "closer." Madlane Alan contributed to this story.



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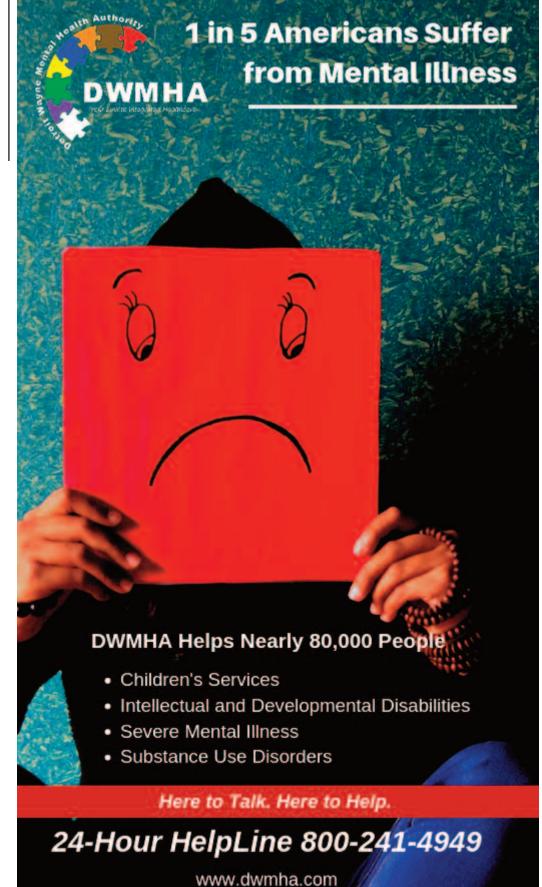
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