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June 9, 2023
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Hamtramck

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Quick Hits

Community health meeting is today

By Alan Madlane
Hamtramck cares about your health.

To that end, there's something happening today, Friday, June 9, at noon, that you just might want to be a part of.

Billed as an "Environmental Justice and Your Health" Town Hall style meeting, it's going to be at the Hamtramck Public Library at 2360 Caniff on the city's west side.

It's being hosted by the Detroit Hamtramck Coalition for Advancing Healthy Environments. Check them out at www.detroithamtramckcoalition.weebly.com.

Their mission statement reads:

"We are a Coalition defending our neighborhoods for the advancement of a healthy environment."

The group helps you take a "health needs assessment" of your community. It's also a way to reach out to your neighbors about their health concerns.

You can also call them at (313) 570-9201 for more information. Can't make the meeting?

No worry, the library will record the event and have it ready to view online at your convenience.

To show how seriously it's being taken, State Rep. Abraham Aiyash and State Sen. Stephanie Chung will both be there.

Maybe you should be, too?

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Hamtramck becomes second city to officially recognize Eid holidays

By Charles Sercombe

Recently, Hamtramck's city council added two more holidays for city employees.

Last April, the all-Muslim council designated two Eid holidays for city employees to have as paid days off.

The two holidays added are for Eid a-Fitr, which is the celebration for the end of Ramadan, and also for Eid al-Adha, which happens in June and celebrates sacrifice.

Eid a-Fitr has already been observed this year, but Eid al-Adha will be on June 29. This upcoming Eid holiday is when some Muslims perform an animal slaughter, such as a goat, which will then be eaten.

Religious animal slaughtering is also now allowed in Hamtramck, which was passed last December amid public controversy.

City officials passed the Eid holidays about a week after the City of Dearborn made the holidays paid days off for its city employees.



The Hamtramck City Council recently made the two Eid holidays official city holidays, which means they will be paid days off for city employees. Hamtramck adopted the resolution about a week after the City of Dearborn took the same action. File photo

At the time, Dearborn was the first community to take this action in the U.S. and the policy then attracted national media attention.

Dearborn has a Muslim mayor, and also has the largest Muslim population in the country. Hamtramck now has a majority population of Muslims. Hamtramck's mayor, Amer Ghalib, is also the city's first Muslim to be elected to that position.

At the time of Hamtramck's action, City Man-

ager Max Garbarino said that "our staff has indicated their thanks over this – my Muslim staff of course."

Councilmember Nayeem Choudhury also said, at the time, that state Rep. Abraham Aiyash (D-Hamtramck) is working on making the Eid holiday a state holiday as well.

The Democratic-controlled state legislature is considering a proposal to expand state-recognized holidays not only for the two Eid celebrations, but

also for a host of other religious holidays, such as the Jewish holidays Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, as well as holidays for Sikh, Jain and Hindu religions.

Private companies are not obligated to allow their employees to take the days off or have them be paid holidays.

The last state holiday adopted by Michigan was several years ago for Juneteenth, which is celebrated on June 19.



Recently, someone tore down a pride flag being displayed at the Piast Institute office on Jos. Campau. Photo supplied by Karen Majewski.

Pride flag vandalism leads to another round of debate

By Charles Sercombe

The display of a pride flag has once again stirred controversy in Hamtramck.

This time, it's about the vandalism of a pride flag that was displaced outside of the Piast Institute office on Jos. Campau.

During the past week, someone tore down the flag and placed it in a garbage can outside the office.

The issue with the flag underscored the heated discussions on some Hamtramck-centric Face-

book pages about June being labeled as "Pride Month."

Some consider Pride Month to be "Sin Month."

The issue has pitted religious conservatives in town against those who are progressive and liberal.

However, like many commenters on Facebook, it's hard to tell who is using their true name or an alias, or whether some are commenting just to create division.

Hamtramck has tan-

Continued on page 8

City Council candidates talk about why voters should support them

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck has just one local public office election this year.

And the first phase of the election season is just a couple of months away.

City Councilmembers Mohammed Alsomiri, Mohammed Hassan and Nayeem Choudhury are facing challengers Lynn Blasey, Muhtasin Sadman, Nasr Hussain, Ruhel Amin, Sari Ahmed, and Yusef Saed.

Blasey, who has sought a seat on council before, is the only woman in the field of candidates.

Hussain has been a frequent critic of city officials, and is a former member of the Hamtramck Public School District Board of Education.

All candidates, except for Blasey, paid a \$100 filing fee instead of submitting nominating petitions with the signatures of registered Hamtramck voters.

The terms are four years each.

The number of candidates running will require a primary election on Aug. 8, where the field gets reduced to six candidates who will then faceoff in November to fill the three positions.

Several weeks ago, The Review emailed questions to each candidate, to give them a chance to talk about their background and why voters should support them.

Only three candidates responded, and here they are, in their own words:

Continued on page 2

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City Council candidates talk about why voters should support them Cont. from front page



Lynn Blasey

Review: What is your background (employment, education)?

Blasey: I have a BA in History from MSU with a

focus on the Middle East, and studied Arabic, History, and Islamic Art & Architecture at the American University in Cairo, Egypt in 2004.

From 2006-2008, I served as an AmeriCorps volunteer in the Education Department of the Arab American National Museum, giving museum tours, facilitating cultural competency workshops, and developing their arts/crafts and other programs.

In that position, I built bridges toward mutual understanding and respect

between museum visitors and the ArabAmerican community.

Since 2008, I've worked in the Community Arts Partnerships office of the College for Creative Studies. As Program Manager, I manage all the administrative day-to-day activities that make it possible for us to provide free art & design classes to 4,000+ area kids each year.

In addition to my core position, I've served on several sub-committees and projects including strategic planning, employee awards/recognition, DEI Advisory Board, and was a professor from 2017-2019.

This role has given me the ability to connect in meaningful ways with funders, community organizations, parents, and students in the area to uplift the role of the arts in individual, family, and community development.

Review: What qualifies you for office?

Blasey: I've been a resident of Hamtramck for over a decade, and serve the community in many ways.

I'm vice-chair of the Hamtramck Arts & Culture Commission, founding member and chair of the Hamtramck Area Disaster Recovery Group, steward of the planter boxes along Campau between Holbrook & Caniff, serve on the Organization & Promotions sub-committee of the DDA, am an active member of Ham-

tramck Mutual Aid, organize and volunteer with community cleanups, and more.

I regularly attend city council meetings and actively engage the community around topics that they're interested in that come before the council.

At council meetings, I ask questions for clarity on agenda items and share perspectives and concerns from the community. I have also built positive working relationships with our city, county, state, and federal elected officials and many of our Hamtramck city employees.

Review: What are some key issues you would like to address when in office?

Blasey: Historically, turnover has created many challenges within city hall and I will prioritize ensuring that we're providing competitive salaries and benefits packages to all of our city employees.

This will allow us greater ability to run more efficiently as a city for everyday business, increase our revenue, and allow for more consistent application/oversight of grants that allow us to work on infrastructure improvement and other projects above and beyond what our other revenue streams can support.

I will also continue the work that was started to review and update our city ordinances to eliminate outdated and confusing language, in order to make our local laws clear and easier to understand, obey, and enforce. I will make informed decisions that reflect the immediate and long term goals and priorities outlined in our city's Master Plan and reach out to, lis-

ten to, and advocate on behalf of all residents of our city.

Why should voters support you?

I am already actively engaged throughout Hamtramck, and will use my position on city council to make informed decisions that will bring Hamtramck into our next phase of development.



Nayeem Choudhury

Choudhury: I am Nayeem Leon Choudhury who has been a resident of the city of Hamtramck since my high school days. I have spent my childhood to my adulthood in this town.

I completed my high school and associate degree in my home state Michigan. After that I started running my businesses. I work in Hamtramck as a certified insurance agent of renowned auto and home insurance carriers.

Besides that I have been preparing tax files for people not only from Hamtramck but also all over from Michigan. I am also a humanitarian and work for the betterment of my community.

I find myself qualified for the office because I have experience of working as a counselor already. I can deal with people from multi diverse communities, listen to their problems and bring

up resolutions to solve their issues. I believe in taking action.

So far, I worked to turn many resolutions into reality and one of them was building a safe and clean city and I have proposed many proposals to ensure the safety of residents. I brought forward a resolution for easy parking drive thru and building a garage. City budget balancing and substantiating financial crisis.

I proposed a 10-years plan to fix flooding in Hamtramck, We are also working to reduce the number of collisions in the streets of Hamtramck that's why I supported speed humps.

Voters should support me as I consider myself as one of them and I believe if we work together then this small city can be exemplary in front of other cities.



Muhtasin Sadman

Review: What is your background (employment, education)?

Sadman: I came to this country when I was teenager at the age of 15 with my parents. I went to Hamtramck High School. Completed my bachelor degree from University of Michigan—Dearborn. Currently I'm pursuing a law degree. I am working as real estate agent for last 3 years now I'm associate broker with AMIN REALTY, also mortgage

Continued on page 4



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This week at the Library . . .

June 9, 2023

Summer Reading: Our Summer Reading Program starts Wednesday, June 28th at 2 pm with your favorite wildlife expert, Randy Baker and his animals that are native to our state. Following weekly programs will be packed with science wacky games, awesome crafts, and tons of reading. Everyone will get a chance to earn tickets to participate in the end of program raffle with plenty of prizes. Summer adventures await.

Brian Jacques: This author was born on June 15, 1939. If your children simply devour books of fantasy and they have had their fill of Harry Potter, Percy Jackson and especially the Wings of Fire series, then perhaps we can turn them on to the writings of this author. Debuting, to much success, with his children's novel "Redwall" his following tales are populated with a variety of animals who do go on exploratory journeys, tinker with mechanisms, orchestrate elaborate parties, make haste to battle, and do all manner of things that we think belong squarely within the human realm. Wonderfully detailed with sensory descriptions, these books are thicker than most works for kids but that just means they will get to savor a delightfully developed storybook world for that little while longer. If this sounds tasty to you, a large selection of Jacques' novels can be found in our Juvenile Fiction section.

Group Exercise: Adaptive Yoga every Tuesday at 3 pm. Tai Chi every Friday at 10 am. The program is conducted by the RIM Foundation.

Story Time: Get you kids together and drop in on our Monday afternoon Story Time at 4 pm. It will put a smile on everyone's face, including yours. Presented by guest readers from Hamtramck Federation of Teachers.

Game Night: Join us for Game Night at the library. We are serving up something fun each Friday's at 4 pm. Stop by and let us know that you have come to play.

Library of Michigan: Gain some insight into the people and legislation that built the Library of Michigan into what it is today by viewing their next ZOOM presentation on Thursday, July 6th at 6:30 pm. Please visit www.michigan.gov/lmpublicprograms to register, see full details and check out the entire monthly schedule

Univac 1: This was the world's first commercial computer, June 14, 1951.

Alzheimer's & Dementia: Please join us for a pair of evenings with representatives from the Alzheimer's Association. Give us a visit on Tuesday, July 18th at 6 pm for an overview of the research into diet, nutrition, exercise, social engagement, and cognitive activity that supports healthy aging. Then, consider attending the conversation highlighting differences between Alzheimer's and dementia, stages and factors, current research, and resources available which will take place on Tuesday, August 15th at 6 pm.

Library is located at 2360 Caniff Avenue, Phone (313) 733-6822
Or visit its website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> for on line catalog
Attachments for printing, faxing or scanning send to hamtramcklibrary@gmail.com

Second Front Page



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 April 25, and all councilmembers, except for Khalil Refai and Mohamed Hassan, were in attendance.

In the consent portion of the agenda, Adam Alharbi was appointed to the Human Relations Commission.

Following a public hearing, the council approved a 2024 Drinking Water and Clean Water SRF Project Plan.

In a note to council, it was said of the plan:

“The City of Hamtramck is required to replace a minimum of 366 lead service leads per year. This project will consist of the replacement of lead and galvanized water service lines from the main to 18 inches inside each building at various locations throughout the city.

“These projects are in locations of water main replacement projects per the 5-year Capital Improvement Plans. The City of Hamtramck has a 5-year Water and

Sewer Capital improvement plan, consisting of the following projects in 2024:

- Lead Service Line Replacement
- Distribution Material Service Line Investigation
- Goodson Water Main Replacement
- Caniff Water Main Replacement
- Casmere Water Main Replacement
- Commor Water Main Replacement
- Comstock Water Main Replacement
- Poland Water Main Replacement
- Belmont Water Main Replacement”

The total cost for the project is over \$34 million, which is coming from a government loan.

In another matter, the council authorized the city to apply for a pension grant that is being made available to financially-distressed communities, such as Hamtramck.

The grant would bring Hamtramck’s employee pension up to 60- per-

cent fully funded.

Another financial issue received the go-ahead from the council after a lengthy discussion.

This matter dealt with accepting a \$2.3 million grant from the American Rescue Plan Act that was earmarked for paying city employees’ salaries and benefits.

But City Manager Max Garbarino said the fund can be used for anything the city wants to spend it on, except for the pension fund or paying off debts.

Garbarino said his initial plan was to use the money to construct a building for the city’s Public Services Department. He also said there are a number of improvement projects coming up this summer, including alley repaving.

The alleys chosen, he said, are based on which ones were in the worst condition and “have the greatest impact on our community.”

Garbarino stressed that the mayor and council have final say in which

projects to undertake.

Moving on, the council OK’d a proposal to have the Islamic Eid holiday be a paid day off for city workers.

Garbarino said that “our staff has indicated their thanks over this – my Muslim staff of course.”

Councilmember Nayeem Choudhury said that state Rep. Abraham Aiyash (D-Hamtramck) is working on making the Eid holiday a state holiday as well.

The council approved the purchase of a used vehicle for the code enforcement department.

In a note to the council, it was said:

“The Hamtramck code enforcement unit currently consists of one full-time and five part-time officers. The unit currently shares one or two older vehicles and is in significant need of a new reliable vehicle. A 2023 Chevy Malibu was located using MI DEAL, filling the unit’s needs. The last new vehicle added to this unit was in 2017.”

The vehicle will cost over \$22,207. The city had budgeted \$36,000 for the purchase, and thus saved \$14,000.



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**June 16 – Solemnity of the Sacred
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**June 10 – Take-out Only Soup
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Movies in the Park



Friday, June 16, 2023

Puss in Boots: The Last Wish - PG
1 hr 40m

When Puss in Boots discovers that his passion for adventure has taken its toll and he has burned through eight of his nine lives, he launches an epic journey to restore them by finding the mythical Last Wish



Friday, July 14, 2023

Minions: The Rise of Gru - PG
1 hr 27m

The untold story of one twelve-year-old's dream to become the world's greatest supervillain.



Friday, August 11, 2023

Tom & Jerry: The Movie - PG
1 hr 41m

A chaotic battle ensues between Jerry Mouse, who has taken refuge in the Royal Gate Hotel, and Tom Cat, who is hired to drive him away before the day of a big wedding arrives.

All shows are weather permitting. Bring your own chair or blanket, bug spray, and snacks you would like to have. No alcohol, tobacco, or fireworks allowed in the park. Playground and pavilions are closed during the movie. Movie begins at dusk. *If postponed movie will show the following Friday.*

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Many of these plans are available online at treasurer.waynecounty.com!

The final date to enter into a payment plan will be **March 14, 2022**, and the last day to pay your forfeited taxes will be **March 31, 2022**.

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City Council candidates talk about why voters should support them

Continued from page 2

broker with SNS HOME LOAN.

When I was in high school, I worked at local restaurant in Hamtramck called Kabob House and Mouchak Sweets.

Review: What qualifies you for office?

Sadman: I believe running for office is a fundamental right of every citizen of this country. And from my educational background and professional experience I am confident that I am qualified for office.

I grew up in Hamtramck. Went to Hamtramck High School. Living in this city for around nine years. When I first came to this country in 2014, I started living in Hamtramck. I grew up in this community. I first started working on my American dream in this community. And now, I think it's time to give back to the community. I want my people in this community to make their American dream true.

Review: What are some key issues you would like to address when in office?

Sadman: There are many issues that I want to address when I am in office. But main issues that I want to focus first from getting feedback from community is: Grow small businesses, taking initiatives to lower property taxes, making Hamtramck more safe and cleans, developing Hamtramck downtown to attract more visitors.

Review: Why should voters support you?

Sadman: I confidently think I'm qualified among all. Hamtramck needs a young and energetic leader to be their voice. Hamtramck needs young leadership. A leader who Believes in American dream. A leader who have vision for a new Hamtramck and who wants to make the change and bring Hamtramck move forward.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED 2023-2024 BUDGET

The Board of Education of the School District of the City of Hamtramck will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in the Administration Building, 3201 Roosevelt Street, to review and consider the school district's 2023-2024 proposed budget.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

The 2023-2024 Proposed Budget will be posted for examination on the Hamtramck Public Schools Website, www.hamtramckschools.org beginning June 14, 2023.

Daz'Shavon Hall, Secretary
Hamtramck Board of Education

Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

The only population count is the one held every 10 years

Recently, we reported that Hamtramck has seen a slight dip in its population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. That adjustment is based on the bureau's own quirky estimates, which have been suspect in the past.

If anything, it appears the city's population keeps growing.

How do we know this?

Easy: look at the housing demand. People are looking hard everywhere in town for a place to rent, or purchase. Hamtramck's real estate market has been on fire for the past several years – even during the covid pandemic.

Also, housing developers have been buying up city-owned vacant lots as fast as the city can market them.

Why?

Because there is money to be made in the housing market, and developers will go where the money is.

We bring this up only because there are a lot of federal dollars tied up in every community's population; the more people you count as residents results in more federal funding for such things as street repairs and other infrastructure needs.

The one constant hang-up for Hamtramck is getting people to voluntarily participate in the Census. That's why it's important for city officials to organize a Census drive before the official Census count happens.

That Census count is held every 10 years; the next will be in 2030.

By that time, there likely won't be a vacant lot left to sell or develop.

Hamtramck was once home to over 50,000 people when the auto factories were operating at full capacity, and were still actually located in the U.S., and we may be trending in that direction once more.

These are exciting times for the city.

Odds & Ends

Clean-up... Hamtramck's streets and lots are always ready for another citywide clean-up.

You can do your civic duty next week on June 17 at Sarah Garrett Park, starting at 10:30 a.m.

The effort is to make the park ready for the June 19 Juneteenth celebration being held there. The park is located on the southbound I-75 service drive, just north of Caniff.

Hiring... Hamtramck is hiring eight young people, and two supervisors for its Summer Youth Program.

The interns must be 14-24 years old, and the supervisors 18-24. The city will be paying \$15 and \$17 respectively.

"It's a great opportunity for Hamtramck Youth to learn about city government, work outside to beautify our city, and do outreach for more volunteers," said Max Gilginas, Community Involvement Coordinator, to The Review in an email.

"It is a dynamic program with many components and we are excited to bring this opportunity to the young people of this city. The job posting and application are on the city website (<https://hamtramck.us/job-postings/>)."

Juneteenth... And speaking of the Hamtramck Juneteenth celebration this June 19, it's also being coordinating with a special family health care at the event.

All of this will be happening at Sarah Garrett Park, located on the southbound I-75 service drive, just north of Caniff.

The family event goes from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and will also feature a march to Veterans Park.

You are invited to bring your own chair or blanket.

Snacks will be provided.

For more information, call Dwydell Garret at (586) 871-6682.

Population growth?... Recently we reported that, according to the U.S. Census, Hamtramck has experienced a slight – ever-so-slight – population decline (about 600 people) since 2020.

That's an estimate we've seen before, and it seems dubious – considering the housing shortage in the city, it's likely the next Census count, in 2030 (it happens once every 10 years), will record another uptick.

In the meantime, all of Michigan is going through a population decline, and, also, the existing population consists of a lot of already-elderly folks.

In fact, Michigan now ranks 13th among the states for having the oldest population.

So, how can the state turn this around?

It's been suggested by some to "chase down" those who live in areas of the country where the weather is getting hotter and hotter – say, like those living in Arizona.

Climate-wise, Michigan is sitting pretty for the near future, and also has a lot – and we mean a lot – of fresh water. The western states, by contrast, are quickly running out of water.

So far, though, Gov. Whitmer said she will concentrate on making the state globally competitive, and using that as a calling card to lure new residents.

Well, the last thing we need is for people from California moving here and driving up our housing prices and monthly

School Bell

From the Superintendent

HPS Superintendent Jaleelah Ahmed recently distributed this message to the families and students of the Class of 2023:

"Yesterday (Friday, June 2) was an unforgettable day as we gathered together to celebrate the culmination of years of hard work, growth, and achievement. Our high school graduation ceremony was a beautiful event filled with joy, pride, and a sense of accomplishment. As we reflect on this momentous occasion, I wanted to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude and share some thoughts with all of you.

"To the families, thank you for your unwavering support, encouragement, and love throughout this incredible journey. Your presence in the stands, cheering on your graduates, created an atmosphere of warmth and celebration.

"You have been their pillars of strength, guiding them through the highs and lows, and your dedication has played an instrumental role in their success. Seeing your smiles and tears of joy as your children crossed the stage was a testament to the profound bond between families and graduates.

"To the faculty and staff, thank you for your tireless dedication, passion, and commitment to nurturing the minds and spirits of our students. You have gone above and beyond, not only imparting knowledge but also instilling valuable life skills and fostering a love of learning.

"You have been mentors, counselors, and friends, shaping the lives of our graduates and preparing them for the challenges that lie ahead. Your unwavering belief in their potential has empowered them to reach new heights, and the impact you've made will be felt far beyond the walls of our school.

"And finally, to the Class of 2023, congratulations on reaching this incredible milestone in your lives. You have emerged as confident, compassionate, and resilient individuals who are poised to make a positive difference in the world. Throughout your high school years, you have embraced opportunities, challenged yourselves, and grown in ways that have exceeded our expectations. Your academic achievements, artistic endeavors, athletic triumphs, and community service initiatives have left an indelible mark on our school and community.

"Once again, congratulations to the Class of 2023! May your future be filled with endless possibilities, and may your journey be filled with love, success, and fulfillment. Cosmos today, Cosmos tomorrow, Cosmos forever!"

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The Hamtramck Review

Published every Friday

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June 9, 2023

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Hamtramck Disaster Recovery Information,
Piast Institute Health Hike,
Local events, Library programs, Interviews, Council meeting highlights, Event announcements, Evenings with authors, Merchants Annual Meeting and more.....

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Announcements submitted by 10 am
Will go on air the same day (evening)

By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers May 30-June 5.

Tuesday, May 30

- A complaint about noise was made in the 2600 block of Holbrook.
- Officers responded to a call about a male attempting to force his way into a residence in the 12000 block of Selfridge.
- A disturbance was reported in the 12000 block of Grand Haven.
- A large fight was reported in the 12000 block of Dyar.
- Possible gunshots were reported in the area of Grand Haven and Circle Dr.
- Reckless drivers were reported on Lumpkin, near Edwin.

Wednesday, May 31

- Customer trouble was reported in the 11400 block of Jos. Campau.
- A theft was reported in the 12000 block of Dequindre.
- An incident of fraud was reported in the 2600 block of Casmere.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 3000 block of Belmont.
- A hit-and-run accident occurred on Jos. Campau, near Holbrook.
- A complaint was made about reckless drivers on Lumpkin, near Edwin.
- A disorderly person was reported on Gallagher near Yemens.

Thursday, June 1

- A juvenile male was arrested for reckless driving, and for possessing a facsimile gun.
- Gunshots were reported in the area of Lumpkin and Commor.
- A car theft was reported in the 2600 block of Botsford.
- A complaint was made about an animal in the 2900 block of Yemens.
- A theft was reported on Lumpkin.

Friday, June 2

- A complaint was made about an unwanted guest at a residence in the 12000 block of Oklahoma.
- Officers investigated a complaint about a reckless driver in the area of Carpenter and Jos. Campau.
- A woman was arrested in the 2600 block of Holmes for domestic assault.
- A theft in progress was reported in the 11600 block of Fleming.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported.
- A break-in was reported in the 11700 block of Fleming.
- Reckless drivers were reported in the area of Conant and Doremus. A reckless driver was also

reported in the area of Jos. Campau and Holbrook.

- A robbery was reported in the area of Dequindre and Carpenter.
- Gunshots were reported in the 12000 block of Lumpkin.
- A complaint was made about a reckless driver in the 11400 block of Charest.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 3200 block of Lehman.
- An attempted auto theft was reported in the 12100 block of Nagel.

Saturday, June 3

- Gunshots were reported in the area of Lumpkin and Commor.
- A hit-and-run accident happened in the 9300 block of Mitchell.
- A noise complaint was made in the 2200 block of Danforth. Officers investigating another noise complaint, in the 11500 block of Lumpkin, arrested a female.
- Several property damage reports were made in the 12000 block of Lumpkin.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 11600 block of Lumpkin.
- A theft was reported in the 11500 block of Dequindre.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 2600 block of Norwalk.
- A break-in was reported in the 2900 block of Hanley.
- An auto theft was reported in the 11500 block of Dequindre.
- A theft was reported in the 12000 block of Dyar.
- An illegal dumping was reported in the 2300 block of Poland.
- Officers investigating a report in the 12000 block of Selfridge of a women bleeding, arrested a female at that location for possessing drugs and for obstruction.
- An incident of fraud was reported in the 2400 block of Holmes.
- A fight was reported in the area of Dequindre and Commor.
- A report was made about juveniles jumping a service drive fence in the area of Nagel and I-75.
- A fight was reported in the 12100 block of Dequindre.

Sunday, June 4

- Gunshots were reported in the 12000 block of Lumpkin.
- A theft from an automobile was reported in the 3000 block of Caniff.
- An assault was reported in the 12000 block of Grand Haven.
- A domestic dispute was reported in the

Continued on page 8

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CRIME LOG

Continued from page 7

12000 block of Dyar.

• A break-in was reported in the 12000 block of Dyar.

• A complaint was made about a disorderly juvenile in the 2300 block of Burger.

Monday, June 5

• A noise complaint was made in the 9300 block of Jos. Campau.

• A complaint was made about an intoxicated male in the 9800 block of Jos. Campau.

• Officers responded to a call about a male and female arguing in the area of Dequindre and Norwalk.

• An intoxicated male in the 3400 block of Yemans asked officers to be taken to a hospital.

• Officers responded to

a call about a female, in the area of Fleming and Commor, who appeared to be lost.

• An assault occurred in the 2300 block of Zinow.

• An animal complaint was made in the 2400 block of Zinow.

• A possible fight was reported at Veterans Park.

• An assault was reported in the 3500 block of Hamtramck Dr.

• A complaint was made about a juvenile in the 2300 block of Burger.

Pride flag vandalism leads to another round of debate

Continued from front page

gled with the issue of displaying a pride flag since when the city allowed a pride flag to fly from a city-owned flagpole in Zussman Park a few years ago.

More recently, a year ago, a pride flag was displayed on one of the city-owned flagpoles on Jos. Campau.

The issue ended up with Mayor Amer Ghalib saying that those involved in displaying the flag did so without city permission, and did it “illegally.”

But, despite protests by some, the flag remained for the season.

The issue has also pitted former Mayor Karen Majewski and Mayor Ghalib against each other.

Majewski has been an outspoken supporter of the LGBTQ community and for allowing pride flags to be flown on city property, while Ghalib said that the issue is up to city officials to decide.

In this recent incident, some have called out for the mayor to speak about the incident.

He eventually did on the city’s Facebook page, although he didn’t specify the Piast incident at hand:

“We denounce any vandalism or hate crime,” Ghalib said. “Especially against anyone or their property for religious affiliation, political views, or sexual orientation, which makes it particularly egregious.

“I also condemn all criminal acts designed to stifle debate and freedom of expression, which, along with religious and press freedom, are the most important rights protected by our First Amendment. Violence only leads to more violence, and we never get close to the truth if other voices with whom we disagree are silenced.

“I would encourage anyone who has any knowledge about the recent vandalism to reach out to our Hamtramck Police Department and report it.

“I also trust our police department to conduct a very thorough investigation, and I plan to stay informed of their progress.”

Others have been not so diplomatic.

City Council candidate Nasr Hussain had this to say on the Facebook page, “Hamtramck

Square.”

“One of the symptoms of homosexuality is the need to feel victimized. If whoever did it wanted to get rid of it, he will never conveniently put it in the trash can where it can be easily retrieved.

“If this is not a case of getting attention then a police report should be made and I am sure many businesses in this section have good-quality video cameras to identify the person who did it.”

Others have also said that the incident was a set up by Piast with former Mayor Majewski, who took a photo of the flag in the garbage can and then posted it on her Facebook page, to purposely stir up controversy and make Mayor Ghalib look bad.

“Why would someone remove this flag and neatly place on the trash can and no one ever saw them do it on major busy street with many cameras (and) then out of nowhere the former mayor appeared to take a very clean picture of it,” said Mamon Shareef on the Facebook page called “Hamtramck Square.”

He later added in another comment:

“...They got what they need out of this, which is to bully the mayor (Ghalib). Like what does the mayor have to do with this non issue? ...”

Finally, Virginia Skrzyniarz, the CEO of Piast,

said that the flag was not meant to cause division in the community.

“The reason the flag is there is for inclusion,” Skrzyniarz told The Review. “We weren’t trying to get under anyone’s skin; it wasn’t in anyone’s face.”

Skrzyniarz said the incident should be used as a teaching moment on “how we can all live together.”

Piast has since displayed a pride banner high up on its building.

As for a pride flag once again being on display on a Jos. Campau flagpole, that’s up to the Human Relations Commission.

The problem, however, is that there has been an ongoing issue of getting enough commission members together to meet as a quorum to hold a meeting and conduct votes.

Commission Chairman Russ Gordon said that, if no decision is made this month, he will put up a pride flag on Jos. Campau in July, after the Fourth of July.

As of now, the flagpoles are all displaying the American flag, except one that is currently displaying the Ukrainian flag.

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