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Quick Hits

Happy Fourth of July!
 This Saturday is our national celebration of independence. In Hamtramck, the freedoms we as Americans enjoy are keenly felt by the many immigrants who have made arduous journeys to come here and be free.
 Many of us will be hosting barbecues and displaying the American flag.
 Many will also be shooting off fireworks. While they are now legal in Michigan, we urge our readers to take extra caution when handling them, especially when you consider how close our houses are and the number of children running around.
 Celebrate everyone!

Quote of the week

Who said this, and what is it about? You can find the quote and the story it belongs to somewhere in the pages of this issue.
"So we should eat the cost?"

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

City park renovation kicks off next week with ceremony

By Charles Sercombe
 Hamtramck's parks are about to get a total makeover.
 A few months ago it was announced that there will be major improvements to the city's three parks: Veterans Memorial Park, Pope Park and Zussman Park.
 The city is now ready to kick off the work, which will cost a total of \$500,000, with two groundbreaking ceremonies.
 The first is next Wednesday, July 8, 10 a.m., at Pope Park, located at Jos. Campau and Belmont. After that opening, another ceremony will take place at Zussman Park, which is located across from city hall.
 Then on July 14 at 10 a.m., Veterans Park will be the center of attention. That park is located on Jos. Campau, south of Holbrook.
 Invited guests include elected and appointed officials from Hamtramck, Wayne County and the state. Residents, of course, are welcomed to attend.
 Funding for the park renovations comes from Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) funds, Wayne County

Continued on page 2



Groundbreaking events will be held next week and the week after to kick off major renovations to all three of the city's parks, including Pope Park (above).



Two women say they were assaulted at The Tin Fish bar in St. Claire Shores last year while off-duty Hamtramck officers stood by and let friends of theirs commit the beatings.

Assault victims question behavior of off-duty Hamtramck police officers

By Charles Sercombe
 Their motto: To serve and protect.
 But according to two women, three off-duty Hamtramck police officers didn't live up to that police motto.
 Instead, the women said, the officers were part of the problem that led to a brawl at a St. Clair Shores bar last

year.
 The officers were not directly involved in the fight and are not facing criminal charges. The Review is withholding their names because no charges are pending nor is there a civil lawsuit.
 The Review reached out to the officers, through an email re-
 Continued on page 4

Election season heats up

By Charles Sercombe
 It's officially an election season.
 How can we tell? Technically it starts when the filing deadline has passed to run for office.
 But it really starts when things heat up and a candidate has reported either the theft of or damage to their campaign signs. We now have a victim: Saad Al-masmari, who is one of nine candidates vying for one of three seats on city council.
 He reported that about 40 of his signs were spray-painted with a large "X" through his name.
 Alasmari has this to say to whoever is responsible for the damage:
 "If you don't want me to run and win, stand against me legally by being my election competitor. Or support any other candidate against me. Or you would have come to me and tell me what you don't like about my plan and thoughts. Come and have conversations with me. I'm ready to answer all your questions and
 Continued on page 2

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World News

দি রিভিউ
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**PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR
QUOTE**

**QUOTES DUE
Noon July 13, 2015**

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City park renovation kicks off next week with ceremony

Continued from front page

Parks millage funds, the Karol Wojtyla Parks Committee, a non-profit group dedicated to the renovation of Pope Park, and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation Patronicity crowd-funding campaign.

So, what's in the works?

There are two common threads in all of the parks: more greenery in the form of trees, bushes and flowers, and new lighting.

Let's go park by park.

Pope Park at Jos. Campau and Belmont, which boasts a monument to the late Pope John Paul II – the first-ever Polish-born pope – will have the iron gating ripped out and reused in Veterans Memorial Park.

The brick pavement will also be removed and replaced with a stamped brick pattern. Look for more trees and a lot more benches. The park's mural will also be cleaned up.

New lighting will be added, making this a destination spot during the day and night.

Zussman Park, which is located across from city hall, will get a dramatic new look featuring amphitheater seating and a

pergola-like structure, all tailor-made to host special events and weddings.

The center of the park will be replaced with new concrete work and two additional walkways will be added. Parking will also be increased with the addition of angle parking spaces that will cut a little into the park.

The monument to Lt. Raymond Zussman, who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroics in World War II, will be moved to the main entrance of the park and elevated.

New lighting will also be installed.

Plans for the city's third park, Veterans Memorial, are the most ambitious. It will be good news for families and kids.

Starting at the front, the gating around the memorial will be removed, but iron gating from Pope Park will be repurposed and placed in the front of the park.

The fencing will be interspersed with bushes to create an attractive front, but still low enough for police to monitor the goings-on inside the park.

Just past the monument there will be a play area with new play equipment and fitness stations for adults. On the south side of the park, along the edge and continuing around the bend will be beds of wild flowers.

That will create a buffer to neighboring houses and also educate kids on native species.

Election season heats up

Continued from front page

concerns."

This election season has been otherwise low-key and calm. Unlike previous years, there has been no candidate forum for candidates to meet the public and discuss their plans.

But on a number of Facebook pages of the candidates, they appear to be doing a lot of door-to-door campaigning.

There have also been about 400 applications submitted for absentee ballots, which appears to be a new strategy by candidates in recent years to get more voters to vote, and vote early.

For those who are not registered to vote, you have until July 6 to do so in order to participate in the Aug. 4 Primary Election.

The election features three incumbents seeking re-election: Robert

Zwolak, Anam Miah and Abu Musa.

Their challengers, besides Almasari, include: Frank Woodman, Monzurul Karim, Mohamed Alsomiri, Susan Dunn and Cathie Gordon.

In the Aug. 4 election, three candidates for council will be eliminated and the remaining six candidates will square-off in the November General Election.

The Primary Election also includes a public school millage renewal. The renewal is for 18 mills, which has been in place for 20 years. It produces over \$1.8 million a year for the school district.

Only those who own commercial properties or rental dwellings pay the tax. Those who own their own home and live in it do not pay this tax.

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All parties interested in doing business with Hamtramck Housing Commission are advised to register their business as a Section 3 qualified business at www.hud.gov:

- Search Section 3 Business Registry
- Select Register a Business
- Complete form and submit
- Print and maintain record of registry

If you have any questions or concerns you may contact the Hamtramck Housing Commission at 313-868-7445.

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This week at the library...

Summer ESL Class - Monday, July 6 at 11 a.m. The ESL classes for adults are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

Registration for the Children's Summer Reading Program - Monday, July 6th. Children who want to participate in the 2015 Summer Reading Program can register for the program starting June 22. The SRP will be held every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. from July 8th to September 2. This year's theme is "Every Hero has a Story." Free to Hamtramck residents. Online registration is also available at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us>

Registration for the Teen Summer Reading - Monday, July 6. The SRP program for Teens will be held on

Thursdays at 4 p.m. It will start on August 6 and continue to September 3. Students who are 12-17 years old are eligible to participate in the program.

Meeting of the Library Board - Thursday, July 9 at 6 p.m. Regular meeting of the Library Board will be held in the auditorium. Open to the public.

Friends of the Library Meeting - Thursday, July 16 at 6 p.m. FHPL President Kathy Kristy and Treasurer George Gorday invite all members and volunteers to participate in the regular monthly meeting.

Michigan Activity Pass - The Michigan Activity Pass will enable library cardholders to print a pass, either from home or the library, that is valid for one-time entry into any Michigan state park or recreation

area and more than 100 participating cultural institutions, including many museums, for up to one week.

State of the Community Address - Monday August 3, at 6 p.m. State Senator Bert Johnson will deliver the State of Community Address at the Library. The purpose of this event is to update Hamtramck citizens on legislative key issues and provide an opportunity for them to express any concerns or issues they may have.

Common Word Alliance of Hamtramck - Monday, July 27 at 7 p.m. The Hamtramck Common Word Alliance will hold its monthly meeting at the Library. For more information call Arif Huskic at 313-999-5483. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is invited.

For more information about events at the library call (313) 365-7050, or visit our website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> where you can also access our online catalog.

Second Front Page

Recreation Department will host another fireworks show

By Charles Sercombe

A fireworks show will once again return to Hamtramck.

But it's not going to be this July Fourth weekend.

Instead, the Hamtramck Recreation Department, which is sponsoring the event, will hold its own show on July 25 at Keyworth Stadium.

Last year Hamtramck was treated to a free fireworks show by a cable television company as part of a nationwide contest. The event was so popular that the Recreation Department, which is part of the public schools, decided to keep the show going.

Craig Daniels, the Di-



Fireworks will return later this month in Hamtramck, on July 25 at Keyworth Stadium, thanks to the public school district's Recreation Department.

rector of the Department, said he chose to hold it later in the month to give residents a little extra bang since there are so many other com-

munities hosting fireworks this weekend.

"We wanted to be the only game in town, to stand out," Daniels said. Last year's theme was

"Red, White and You." This year it's: "Celebrate America in Hamtramck."

"It's a celebration of our city's diversity," Daniels said.

The event goes from 6 to 10 p.m. with fireworks going off near 10 p.m.

In addition to the main attraction, the event will be geared toward families, with bounce houses, petting farm, pony rides and face paintings. Food will be sold by the Athletic Department to raise funds for its activities.

No coolers will be allowed on site.

There will also be several local music acts.



It's Time to Pray, Please Join Us

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

- July 11 - Soup Kitchen 2-4 p.m.
- August 8 - Soup Kitchen 2-4 p.m.
- August 22 - Polish Dinner and Dancing, advance ticket required
- August 26 - Spaghetti dinner fundraiser 4-7 p.m.

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Latest trend in street robberies is all about cell phones

By Charles Sercombe

If you tend to talk on your cell phone as you walk around town, you might want to hold off.

In recent weeks Hamtramck police – and police nationwide – have reported a spike in the number of street robberies of high-end cell phones.

"Right now, it's an epidemic everywhere," said Sgt. Andrew Mileski. "People need to pay attention to their surroundings."

Most of the incidents involve young men, some even in their teens, who come up on a person talking on their phone and quickly snatch it, then run away, sometimes to a waiting car.

In prior years most street robberies involved yanking off gold necklaces from pedestrians.

That has just about disappeared, and is replaced with cell phone thefts. Mileski said the phones get more money than jewelry.

In some of the more brazen cases, thieves will enter a store and steal display models.

While it is possible to track where the phones go, they must remain on to do so. Mileski said thieves turn off the phones and have the information card in it erased, thus making it untraceable.

Some of the higher end phones sell for upwards of \$600 new.

Mileski said there have been some arrests made, but if it involves a juvenile, they are likely to be released to their parents or parent with little legal backlash.

In some cases there are groups of thieves coordinating the thefts and in other cases it's just a matter of an individual



If you talk on your cell phone as you walk through town, be on the lookout for someone coming up to you and swiping your phone.

acting on the spur of the moment.

Thefts of cell phones are on the rise across the country, according to various media reports. Some cities are requiring deal-

ers who sell used cell phones to register as second-hand dealers.

They are also required to get the name of the person selling it, their ad-

Continued on page 6

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Movie Night at Pulaski Park



Friday, July 10, 2015



Movie will begin at dusk

All shows are weather permitting. Please bring your own chair or blanket, bug spray and any snacks or drinks you would like to have. Movie nights are for the enjoyment of the community. There is no alcohol, tobacco or fireworks allowed in the park. Movies in the park are free! Playground and pavilion are closed during the show.

Your Millage Dollars at Work

Assault victims question behavior of off-duty Hamtramck police officers

Continued from front page

quest to Acting Police Chief Anne Moise, for their version of events, but we were told by City Manager Katrina Powell that our request for comment would not be passed on to the officers.

Powell added that since there will be further legal action the officers are not allowed to comment on the matter.

One woman who assaulted the two victims has been convicted and is awaiting sentencing. Although the woman was charged with a misdemeanor, because it was an aggravated assault her sentence could be as much as one year in jail.

Two other women involved in the matter cannot be found but have outstanding warrants for their arrest.

The two victims, Vivian Arapaj and Maria Olivan, provided The Review with written statements about what happened on the night of Aug. 22, 2014 at a bar called The Tin Fish in St. Clair Shores.

Here is their account of what happened that night:

They were at the bar celebrating a friend's birthday when one of the officers insisted they have a shot with him. They declined, and that's when things got testy.

The officer picked up Vivian and sat her on top of the bar, insisting she have a shot.

A male friend of the pair told the officer to back off. The officer responded with a threat: "I'm going to kick your f***** ass."

The officer further said: "Do you even know who I am and what I can do to you?"

A scuffle ensued with a bartender who intervened, and that's when the women left with their friends.

Outside in the parking lot they said their good-byes, but the three officers and others came up to them.

One of the officers said to Maria Olivan: "You need some d*** that's why you're such a bitch."

And then suddenly a group of women attacked the two victims, kicking their heads and pulling their hair.

Police were called but the suspects fled. However, someone took a photo of the license plate of the car the group left in.

One of the officers ended up cooperating with St. Clair Shores police and identified the women who committed the assault.

The victims both asked Hamtramck's Police Department to look into the matter.

Former Police Chief Max Garbarino told The Review he assigned an investigator to look into the matter, and as a result of that felt there was no need to take disciplinary action.

However, Maria Olivan said no one from Hamtramck ever contacted her to talk about the incident despite several pleas, including one to City Manager Powell.

She said that although she is frustrated by Hamtramck's response, she is not surprised.

"I thought to myself, they're living up to the reputation they have as a department," Olivan said. "It's a department that doesn't care and is corrupt."

Olivan said that although the officers didn't commit the assault, they added to the tension and "egged on" the assault. For that reason, she said, the department should have taken disciplinary action.

"Officers are held to a higher standard. I definitely feel they took advantage of this situation," Olivan said. St. Clair Shores Sgt. Jay Cohoe, who handled the matter, said because the officers were not directly involved in the assault, they were not charged.

However, he conceded that: "This was no ordinary bar fight. It's unfortunate the officers didn't act accordingly."

The incident raises the question: Should the officers have intervened when members of their group assaulted the two women?

It's a trickier question than it appears.

The Review talked with Erick Barnes, an instructor of criminal justice at University of Detroit Mercy, about the responsibilities of an officer who sees a crime unfold in front of him or her.

Although Barnes couldn't comment on this specific matter, he said there are many factors to take into account, and that depends a lot on an officer's training and experience.

For starters, when an incident rises to a level of a serious crime, such

as a shooting, an off-duty officer "has a legal obligation to take action," Barnes said, but to what extent is still open to interpretation.

It could mean taking out his gun, calling local police or simply coming forward as a witness.

The incident in this matter was a misdemeanor.

Often, Barnes said, it's a split-second call.

"Most individuals would agree that a certain legal duty is required when a crime happens in their presence," Barnes said. "Hindsight is 20-20."

But a major mitigating factor is the recent attention on police behavior and the allegations of police brutality. That, Barnes said, has a "chilling effect" on officers getting involved in a situation when off-duty.

Former Hamtramck Police Chief Garbarino said that given the specifics of this matter, the officers should have stepped forward and held back their friends.

"That's common sense," Garbarino said.

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ACROSS

- Shout
- Resorts
- French for "State"
- Reddish brown
- Stringed instrument
- Style
- Cowboy movie
- A single time
- Fiber source
- Punctuation mark
- Vipers
- Abominable Snowman
- Indicate
- Blown away
- Not bottom
- Long-haired wild ox
- Hubs
- Regretted
- Demolish
- Hearing range
- Absolutely
- Draw forth
- An exchange involving money
- Half-moon tide
- Flee
- Frozen water
- Adhesive strip

DOWN

- Stop for a horse
- Pile
- Savvy about
- 1 1 1 1
- Celebration
- Gunfights
- A primitive wind instrument
- Eyebrow shape
- Fast
- A long artificial mound
- Body

- Suit
- Anxious
- Backward-looking
- Where the sun rises
- Away from the wind
- Blue dye
- Beige
- Divulgence
- Zithers
- District
- Smack
- Hoopla
- Warmth
- Adolescents
- Control surface on a plane
- A way of doing something
- Adulterated
- Swelling under the skin
- Excellence
- Taxonomic group
- Conceal
- Alley
- Wicked
- Always
- Collections

Solution on page 7

NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION HAMTRAMCK CITY PRIMARY ELECTION TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2015

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

Notice is hereby given that **Monday, July 6, 2015** 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.

নিবন্ধন বন্ধ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

Hamtramck শহর প্রাথমিক নির্বাচন

মঙ্গলবার, 4 আগস্ট, 2015

এর ভোটারদের কাছে

Hamtramck শহর - ওয়েন কাউন্টি, মিশিগান

নোটিশ সোমবার, জুলাই 6, 2015 ভোট বা উল্লিখিত নির্বাচনের জন্য আপনার ঠিকানা পরিবর্তন রেজিস্টার শেষ দিনে যে দেওয়া হয়.

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- স্বাভাবিক কর্ম দিবসের সময়ে বা নগরের ক্লার্ক অফিসে বা যে কোন কাউন্টি ক্লার্কের অফিসে।
- স্বাভাবিক কর্ম দিবসের সময়ে অঙ্গরাজ্য জুড়ে অবস্থিত অঙ্গরাজ্যের শাখা অফিস সমূহের সচিবালয়ের যেকোনটিতে।
- গ্রাহকদের জন্য নির্ধারিত এজেন্সিতে, যেখানটায় ফ্যামিলি ইনডিপেনডেন্স এজেন্সি, ডিপার্টমেন্ট অফ কমিউনিটি হেলথ, মিশিগান জব কমিশন এবং অঙ্কদের জন্য কয়েকটি কমিশনের মধ্য দিয়ে বিভিন্ন সেবা পাওয়া যায়।
- সশস্ত্র বাহিনীতে তালিকাভুক্ত ব্যক্তিদের জন্য সেনা নিয়োগদানের অফিসগুলোতে।

ডাক মারফত তা করতে পারেন:

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লক্ষ্য করুন: ডাক মারফত ভোট দেওয়ার জন্য নিবন্ধিত যে কোন ব্যক্তিকে স্বশরীরে ভোট দিতে হবে, যদি না তারা তাদের বসবাসের শহর/নগরে পূর্বে ভোট দিয়ে থাকে বা তাদের বয়স কমপক্ষে ৬০-বছর না হয়।

Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Hike in water fees will be money well spent

Like it or not, we have to fix up our city.

In the upcoming months it's likely we will see an extra fee tacked onto our water bills in order to fund needed – and way overdue – repairs to our sewer system.

Hamtramck's basement flooding is well known, and after two major floodings homeowners filed a class action lawsuit against the city to force the issue.

Because of that case,

the court has ordered the city to begin making repairs. But since the city doesn't have millions of dollars on hand, it has to pass on the cost to us.

It's not yet known what the fee increase is going to be until \$7 million worth of bonds is purchased by the city. That will take a few months to put together.

Our sewer system is old and breaking down. It should have also been connected to a much

larger system that runs under Conant, which was built in the 1950s.

Voters had a chance to connect with that sewer line back in the 1950s but foolishly rejected it.

We have suffered the consequences of that action for decades.

It will cost us more money in the near future, but in the long run it will be money well spent.

Odds & Ends

Correction... Last week it was incorrectly reported that the public school district is seeking a renewal of a millage worth 10 mills. The correct amount is 18 mills, which has been in place for 20 years. The ballot issue will be presented to voters on Aug. 4.

Congratulations... Mike Wilk was honored Wednesday June 24 at the 15th Annual Cardinal Mercier Knight of Columbus Golf outing banquet at Polish Village Cafe.

Mike was honored for years of faithful service to Hamtramck and the Knights of Columbus.

He has also been active in the Hamtramck Goodfellows for many years and is the former city treasurer. Thanks, Mike, for being such a valuable part of our community.

Can do... A big thanks goes out to the Kathy Angerer and the Downtown Development Authority for not only getting the planter boxes on Jos.



Joan Bittner of the Polish Art Center makes use of her watering can that was recently passed out to merchants on Jos. Campau to help keep flower boxes on the avenue maintained.

Campau up and running, but also for involving merchants along the avenue.

The DDA passed out dozens of watering cans to businesses to encourage them to maintain the flower boxes.

Update... Some of you probably noticed that Jos. Campau wasn't fully re-

opened last Friday as scheduled.

That's because a portion of the street that was dug up wasn't ready for traffic. The Detroit Water Department spent the week fixing a water leak at Campau and Trowbridge.

Part of the repair required making sure the new asphalt used to patch the street would be able to support the weight of trucks. Well, it didn't pass the first road test, but it did on Wednesday.

The barriers were taken down on Wednesday and all has returned to normal.

Breaking news... Next Wednesday's School Board meeting is going to be an eye-opener about a certain boardmember.

We can't say what specifically will be discussed, but it will be a meeting worth attending.

The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. and is held at the Administrative Building, on Roosevelt next to Keyworth Stadium.

Hamtramck can boast of having happy feet, according to report

By Mike Murphy
The Review special writer

There's good news and bad when it comes to Hamtramck, according to a recent George Washington University School of Business report on Michigan metropolitan areas and "walkability," which the authors of the report describe as much more than the ability to get around town on foot.

In terms of hoofing it in Hamtramck and its affordability the city ranks high among communities in Michigan metropolitan areas, but walking to work is another story, said Patrick Lynch, who co-authored "The WalkUp Wake-Up Call: Michigan Metros" along with GWU business professor Christopher B. Leinberger.

Leinberger and Lynch have also created reports on walkability factors in the metropolitan areas of Boston, Atlanta, and Washington D.C. The gist of the reports is that walkability factors add value to cities, and Boston is leading the way in the United States.

On the whole, though, the Michigan Metropolitan areas are leaps and bounds ahead of their late 20th Century selves when it comes to improving these factors, which are based on the "economic performance" and "social equity" of cities.

The seven metro areas included in the report were Detroit-Ann Arbor; Grand Rapids-Muskegon-Holland; Lansing; Jackson; Kalamazoo-Battle Creek; Saginaw-Bay City-Midland; and Flint, which are all on the comeback trail, according to the report.

"They can all point to examples of walkable urban places in their communities that have seen at least some form of investment and activity that 15 years ago would have been almost unimagin-

able," the report says.

According to Lynch, the social equity of a municipality is based on two criteria: access to jobs versus affordability.

The Economic Performance category takes account of real estate values and the average rent for each community, which the report classifies as

Michigan communities – and its low-density commercial areas drag down its overall rating.

Lynch said Hamtramck's abundance of single-family and two-family houses and its mostly one-to-two story commercial strips skew the overall walkability rating and keep real estate values relatively low.



A recent report gave Hamtramck high marks for being a walkable community.

"Walk Ups."

Lynch said Hamtramck residents and businesses share the benefits of relatively low rents and residents and those who work in Hamtramck can generally walk to shops and restaurants.

"Hamtramck ranks above average in affordability," Lynch said.

However, Hamtramck's corresponding lack of employment opportunities – which it shares with many

"One of the reasons is that there is not a whole lot of density," Lynch said. "Most of the commercial space is single story and not incredibly dense. To get high rents you need more density."

In terms of economic performance, Hamtramck received a copper ranking (behind gold and silver rankings) in the report, which rated Hamtramck as silver in terms of its social equity.

Letters • Letters

A call for action on speeding drivers

Enough talk about the speeding drivers in Hamtramck.

We need action.

I am asking the Acting Hamtramck Police Chief to station a patrol car on Roosevelt and Gallagher (not a drive-by now and then), because you have to sit there to catch and cite the young males who don't care about anything other than showing off by

driving at speeds that can and will kill.

They don't care about people, animals, children or parked cars.

I need the Hamtramck Acting Chief of Police to care. Citizens, get license plate numbers and turn these lawbreakers in.

Enough is enough.

**Ilene Andrus
Hamtramck**



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 June 9, and all councilmembers, except Abu Musa, were present. Before the regular council meeting a work session was held.

A discussion was held on the 2015-16 budget set for the city. The budget was put together by former Emergency Manager Cathy Square. Her amended budget was going to have to be adopted by the council.

Councilmember Titus Walters questioned how

the city's finances were "looking."

City Controller Bham Cairns said that overall the general fund is OK but other areas in the budget will have to be adjusted.

Councilmember Mohammed Hassan questioned why the council has to adopt the budget since it was created by Emergency Manager Square.

City Manager Katrina Powell said this is what the state Treasury Department wants.

Hassan said he might disagree with the budget plan. In response, Councilmember Anam Miah said, "You could bet it wouldn't make a difference."

Powell said that she will have budget workshops to plan for next year's budget.

Hassan said the city can't afford pension payments nor a full-time Fire Department. He said the city needs to consolidate, and that he won't

Continued on page 8

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Obituaries

TILICKI



Annette T. Tilicki, 85, died June 29, 2015.

Mrs. Tilicki is survived by her husband, Edward (Haba), children, Denise (Randall) Rubaga, Barbara Niedzwiecki; grandchildren, Brandon Rubaga (Jacquelin) Mocer; siblings, Michael Calabris, Jeannette Graca, Delores Calabris. Mrs. Tilicki was predeceased by her son, Edward; sister, Marie Kovacic.

The Funeral Mass was Thursday, July 2, at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Catholic Church with interment at Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home in Hamtramck.

WARMINSKI



Catherine Warminski, Alpena, MI, daughter of Julian and Anna Amartzlik, died on June 30, 2015. She was born March 18, 1954 in Ham-

tramck, MI.

Cathy graduated from Hamtramck High School and then served four years in the U.S. Air Force.

Preceding her in death were her parents; husband, Adam; and brothers, Henry and Chet. She is survived by her sister, Eve and brother-in-law, Barry Loper of Lansing, MI; sister, Carol Thomas of Los Angeles, CA; brother, Julian (Jules/Junior) Zmarzlik of Posen, MI; and her aunt, Olga Zmarzlik of Sterling Heights, MI.

In addition to her immediate family, she will also be missed greatly by her loving companion "Doc" Ted Wietrzykowski and the Polish Village Café family in Hamtramck. Also surviving her are nephew, Steven Zmarzlik (Margaret) of North Dakota; their son, Noah; nephew, Kevin Zmarzlik (Jennifer); niece, Wanda Zmarzlik.

Visitation is at Krot Funeral Home in Hamtramck, on Friday, July 3, at 3-8 p.m. with a Rosary at 7:15 p.m. In state, Saturday, July 4, 9:30 a.m. at St. Florian Church, fol-

lowed by Mass of Christian Burial at 10. The Committal Service is Tuesday, July 7, 1:00 p.m., at St. Casimir Cemetery in Posen, MI.

To honor Cathy's memory, donations may be made to Alpena's Humane Society/local animal shelter (Catherine loved all God's creatures), your local cancer society,

or St. Casimir's Church in Posen, MI.



Latest trend in street robberies is all about cell phones

Cont. from page 3

dress and even a thumb print.

Owners of expensive cell phones are encouraged to write down the phone's serial number and give a copy of it to the police.

In other public safety news, there have been

three cases of drivers striking people on bikes. In one case a few weeks ago a man received serious head injuries.

Police warn those on bikes to be extra cautious, especially with the number of potholes throughout the city.



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Coming events

SATURDAY, July 11, 2-4 p.m. – The Hamtramck Farms invites city council candidates and the public for meet and greet at the Farms, on Lumpkin just south of Holbrook. Refreshments will be provided.

SATURDAY, July 11, 2-4 p.m. – Holy Cross Parish will host a Soup Kitchen 2-4 p.m., 2311 Pulaski. All are welcome.

SATURDAY, Jul 11, 9-3 p.m. – Hamtramck's Recycle Center is open at Caniff and McDougall. Drop off your recyclables for free.

MONDAY, July 13, 7 p.m. – Hamtramck Eastside Block Club will meet at in the convent of Our Lady Queen of Apostles, 3851 Prescott. We meet every other month on the 2nd Monday. There is plenty of parking behind the Church. Our goal is to gain a better understanding of our community cultures and needs and to make our city safer and cleaner for residents and visitors.

WEDNESDAY, July 15, 7 p.m. – Join the Hamtramck Midtown Block Club! Attend our next scheduled meeting in St. Florian's convent, 2626 Florian, across from the church. A guest speaker will participate in our discussion. We meet the third Wednesday of each month. The Midtown Block Club works for promoting community safety, stewardship, service and social events. Add your voice on any neighborhood concern.

SATURDAY, July 25, 6 p.m.-10 p.m. – Celebrate America in Hamtramck at Keyworth Stadium, 3201 Roosevelt. Bring the entire family to this free event to enjoy live music and dancing, petting zoo, inflatables, food, carnival games and fireworks!



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9398 Charest, Hamtramck, 2 br., living/dining, kitchen, call Doda or David, 586-722-8963, 586-978-2363. 7/10

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Deadline for classifieds for next week is Thursday at Noon Call to place your ad (313) 874-2100



By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers June 23-29.

Tuesday, June 23

- Two Detroit residents and a Windsor resident were arrested for possession of cocaine, open intoxicants and obstruction following a traffic stop at Conant and Charles.

- A resident reported the theft of his white Dodge Caravan from the 2600 block of Commor.

- A market owner on Commor reported receiving two fraudulent checks.

- A resident in the 2400 block of Botsford reported someone damaged the vines in her backyard.

- A resident in the 12000 block of Nagel reported a garage break-in.

- Two Detroit residents were arrested following a traffic stop for driving without a license and obstruction.

- A woman and a man were arrested for possessing a stolen car, heroin possession and possessing drug paraphernalia.

Wednesday, June 24

- At almost 6 a.m. a Lincoln Park resident was arrested for theft in the area of Caniff and Lumpkin.

- Two suspects were arrested in the area of Jos. Campau and Jacob for

robbery and possessing stolen property.

- A resident was assaulted by a group of male juveniles in the alley of Lehman and Hanley.

- Three men stole multiple cell phones from a store in the 9800 block of Jos. Campau at about 6 a.m.

- A resident in the 11600 block of Mitchell reported a break-in and the theft of several items.

- A resident in the 11600 block of Lumpkin reported her upstairs neighbor stole her dog while the dog was in the back porch.

- A Lumpkin resident was arrested for driving with improper license plates and having an outstanding Hamtramck warrant.

Thursday, June 25

- No incident report was available for this date.

Friday, June 26

- Three men attempted to steal a Moped from a 15-year-old boy while he was riding near Carpenter and Fleming.

- A man was arrested for driving without a license after police observed him following another car too closely.

- At about 1 a.m. officers responded to a car where an occupant fired a gun. It was determined the incident occurred in Detroit, but one person was turned over to Highland Park police.

- At 3 a.m. a Charest resident reported receiving harassing phone calls.

- A resident reported the theft of her 2008 Saturn while it was parked in front of her house on Nagel.

- An agent for T-Mobile on Jos. Campau reported a male who was 15-to-20 years-old grabbed three cell phones from a display case and attempted to flee. However, the suspect broke the display case and dropped the phones as he ran away.

Saturday, June 27

- A resident in the 2900 block of Jacob reported a theft of his lawnmower from his garage. Officers later recovered the lawnmower and other items that had been stolen.

- A man was arrested following a traffic stop for driving without a license and possessing marijuana.

- A person riding a bike

was struck by a car at Lehman and Gallagher.

- A McDougall resident reported a neighbor was stealing his water.

- A resident was cited for trespassing on property belonging to the Hamtramck Housing Commission.

- A Roosevelt resident reported someone attempted to steal his license plate tab but was unable to get all of it off.

- A Caniff resident reported being followed by a man with no shirt while going through the Glory Supermarket parking lot.

- A person reported the theft of his license plate tab.

- A Holbrook resident reported the theft of her lawnmower.

Sunday, June 28

- Two juveniles were arrested for stealing a taxi driver's cellphone in the Glory Supermarket parking lot.

- A Klinger resident said that while in a fight at Park and Save a man smashed his iPhone5.

- A Doremus man reported his car was stolen in front of his residence.

- A Prescott man reported three male juveniles stole his bike while it was in front of CVS on Jos. Campau.

- A Lehman resident reported a young man on a bike stole his phone.

- A vendor selling fireworks on Caniff reported a man stole some items.

Monday, June 29

- At about 3 a.m. a driver of a black Cadillac hit a person on a bike and fled.

- At almost 3:30 a.m. a juvenile was arrested in the rear of store on Jos. Campau for violating the city's curfew.

- A Moran resident reported a break-in and the theft of assorted tools.

- The owner of a 1998 Infinity reported someone broke into the car while it was parked in a parking structure on Carpenter. A wallet was stolen.

- A man was arrested for possessing narcotics in the 8800 block of Jos. Campau while officers were conducting an investigation there.

- A candidate for city council reported someone damaged about 40 of his campaign signs throughout the city.

- Detroit investigators reported recovering a stolen Ford out of Hamtramck and the arrest of one person.

- A woman reported the theft of her license plate.

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The lore of Hamtramck ...

Home – not so sweet – home

By Greg Kowalski

Homelessness is not a new issue. The poor, the displaced, the troubled have always been with us.

Hamtramckans added a different twist to that story, however, in the wake of World War II.

The city was packed solid with people. Soldiers were returning from the war and starting new families. It became hard to even find a flat to rent. Some enterprising Hamtramckans found an alternative.

Going back to the early part of the 20th century, when Hamtramck's population exploded with the immigrants, thousands of people registered to vote.

Finding a place for everyone to cast ballots became an issue, so the city responded by having a series of "voting shacks" built. These were simple one-story buildings, each about eight feet by 10 feet where people could cast their ballots in relative comfort. At least they were out of the open air.

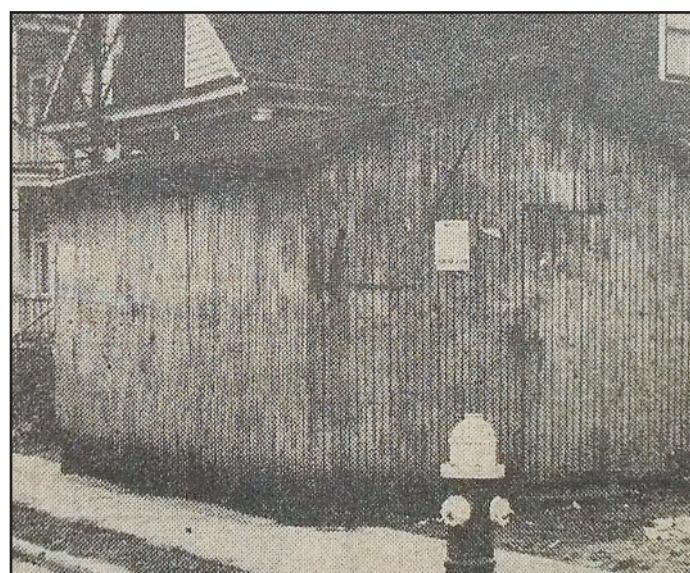
The shacks were just that. They had no amenities whatsoever. No toilets, no water, and heat was provided by a potbelled stove. They were stored at the DPW yards when not in use, and towed to various sites around the city for elections.

In late 1948 four families with no place else to go took up residence in the shacks. They were given unofficial permis-

sion to use the small buildings by DPW Director George Banish, who took pity on their plight.

City officials looked the other way and everyone lived in harmony, at least for a while.

But a problem arose in early February, 1949,



Hamtramck's old voting shacks became residences for some.

when officials realized that an election was coming up on the 21st of the month and the shacks would be needed for voting. The city had the right to evict the families, but that wouldn't look good to the public, especially in the depths of winter.

The problem was especially acute with the Grzelbyk family – mom, dad, and two kids – who resided in a shack that had been placed at Comor and Mackay.

The shacks at the DPW yard at least had access to the bathroom in the nearby DPW garage, but there were no other facilities available near that shack. Exactly what the family did in regards to that is not recorded.

The city welfare department stepped in and tried to locate a rental for the family, but found little success. Part of that seemed to be due to the Grzelbyks, who didn't seem responsive to any help.

Finally, they city turned

to the court, citing that the shack was an unhealthy place to try to raise kids. Judge Thaddeus Machrowicz signed an order to have the parents evicted and the children placed in a "public institution."

Shortly thereafter the parents disappeared from the scene.

But the election did go on successfully. There's no record of what happened to the other families. And as Hamtramck's population declined in subsequent years, the need for voting shacks faded too. By 1970 all the shacks were decommissioned as people cast their ballots in a variety of existing buildings.

And the shacks slipped into Hamtramck's history.



City Hall Insider ...

Continued from page 5

approve the budget.

He added that the city asked the state to step in and "fix the problem, but didn't."

Councilmember Walters said that regardless of how the council feels about Square, it has to move forward.

"Do you want to end up like Highland Park?" he said. "If we dwell on the past we have no shot for the future."

Powell said that ultimately the state Transition Advisory Board approves the budget. But, she warned, state officials will take note of the council's refusal to adopt it.

"The last thing you want to do is show the state that we're not being cooperative," Powell said. "We need to show that we're cohesive."

Powell added that not adopting the budget will bring on "adverse consequences."

Hassan said he has no problem dealing with the state.

Councilmember Robert Zwolak suggested reducing a \$20 fee on water bills to \$5.

Powell replied: "So we should eat the cost?"

Zwolak questioned if the city will repair potholes in the alleys. Mark Ragsdale, the Director of Public Works, said the city's state-funded street repair fund can't be used for alleys.

Zwolak criticized the city for delaying pothole repairs. He said the public is blaming the council for this.

However, later in the meeting in the vote to approve a new contract for pothole spray patching, Councilmember

Zwolak was the sole vote against it.

During the regular council meeting, Fire Chief Paul Wilk made a presentation on Fire Marshal Greg McBryar, who was retiring after 25 years of service.

"He made a difference," Wilk said, "Not only in the Fire Department but in my life."

McBryar thanked the Fire Department and the city.

Mayor Karen Majewski said: "The city will be really hard-pressed in replacing your leadership."

In the public comment portion of the meeting council candidate Saad Almasmari said the city needs to attract businesses in order to shore up the city budget.

"That's the only way to make the city better," he said.

Bill Meyer noted that members of the public used to be allotted five minutes to speak and now it's limited to two minutes.

He said if the public were allowed more time to talk "maybe more people will attend the meetings."

He said the city needs to stop taking money away from people, allow more Muslims to serve in office since the city has a Muslim majority population and get a newspaper to cover the city.

He said the current local paper is all opinions.

Later in the meeting Councilmember Walters agreed with Meyer about the local paper.

In the vote to adopt an amended budget a long discussion was held.

Councilmember Zwolak said that the procedure of creating the budget violated the city charter, which requires budget meetings. He was also critical of being presented with the budget "at the last minute."

City Manager Powell said if the council fails to adopt the budget state officials will not be pleased.

"It's very unwise to do something that's going to jeopardize this community," she said. "The last thing to do is raise the ire of the state."

In the vote to adopt the budget Councilmembers Miah, Zwolak and Hassan voted against it. Since Councilmember Musa was absent, the vote meant the budget failed to be adopted.

(In a special meeting held the next week, the budget was adopted.)

Councilmember Andrea Karpinski complained about having to repeat discussions held in the council's work session before the meeting because some councilmembers fail to attend them.

Councilmember Miah said the people have a right to know what the council discussed and the discussions should be held during the regular meeting. He said that's called democracy.

Zwolak said the work sessions should be held in the council chamber and televised.

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