

Radzilowski, Koscielski, Orlowski, Kaczmarek Inducted to Hamtramck Public Library's Hall of Honor

On Thursday, November 11, Hamtramck Public Library held their annual banquet-presentation of the Hall of Honor 2005 inductees. The banquet took place at the Holbrook Cafe. Masters of Ceremonies were Judge Paul Paruk and Virginia Skrzyniarz. Both presented this year's inductees. They are: Thaddeus Radzilowski, Frank Koscielski, Dennis Orlowski and Robert Kaczmarek.

Thaddeus Radzilowski served as director of rural studies and was professor of history at Southwest State University, Marshall Minnesota.

He has published several works about Eastern European history and American ethnic and immigrant studies, receiving the Haiman Prize for distinguished contributions to the study of Polish-American history in 1983.

In 1987 he and Gaylen Ross completed a one-hour documentary on the most recent Polish Immigration to the



2005 Hamtramck Public Library's Hall of Honor Inductee - Thaddeus Radzilowski (center) with Virginia Skrzyniarz and Judge Paul Paruk.

United States, which won the 1988 Golden Eagle Award.

He has been a consultant to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

He served as the President of St. Mary's College in Orchard Lake and currently holds the position of the President of the Piast Institute in Hamtramck.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Frank Koscielski is a lifelong Detroit area resident. He was born in Highland Park in 1950 and raised on Detroit's east side by Edward and Regina Koscielski.

Dr. Koscielski attended Our Lady Queen of Apostles grade school in Hamtramck and Pershing High School. After a very brief enrolling in 1968 with Wayne State University, he became a journeyman sheet metal worker, rock musician, van converter and finally achieved his lifelong dream as an auto mechanic. He worked at Garrity Motor Sales in Hamtramck for twelve years.

In 1967, he returned to Wayne State University, earning a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies degree in 1991, a Master's degree in History in 1993 and the Ph.D. in history in 1997. He currently works for Wayne State's Department of Interdisciplinary Studies as an academic advisor and social science professor.

He has had a lifelong love affair with music and currently plays in the rhythm and blues/jazz band "Big Shorty", that had performed, among other places, at the Hamtramck Public Library.

Frank resides in Rochester Hills with his wife of 28 years, Debbie.

Dennis Orlovski was born in Detroit in 1944 of second generation Polish parents. He began formal painting as a teenager, apprenticed to European trained artist and portraits painter Clea Popovich. He was a scholarship student at the Art Student's League in New York City and attended the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit.

He has studied fresco mural painting at the University of Mexico with a former assistant of Diego Rivera. Mr. Orlovski holds a bachelor's degree in art education and a master's degree in painting from Wayne State University. He currently teaches art in the Detroit Public Schools.

Dennis Orlovski has over twenty murals spread throughout different parts of Michigan in a variety of public places, ranging from schools to churches, as well as murals outside the U.S., in Mexico and Germany.

Recently he completed The History of Clinton Township mural for the new Clinton-Macomb Public Library and is currently working on The History of Hamtramck mural for the People's Community Center on Joseph Campau in Hamtramck.

Robert Kaczmarek was born in Detroit, the son of Zygmunt R. Kaczmarek and Mary C. (Muczynski) Kaczmarek. He attended Our Lady Queen of Heaven elementary school, Orchard Lake St. Mary's College Preparatory and Oakland University.

After three years service as an Army Officer including one year in Vietnam, he graduated from University of Detroit Mercy with his legal degree. After beginning his career with a silk stocking law firm in Detroit, he joined the family firm located here in Hamtramck.

Since 1925 the Kaczmarek family has served the Hamtramck community in the areas of professional legal services,



L. to R.: Virginia Skrzyniarz, Dennis Orlovski and Judge Paul Paruk.

real estate brokerage and insurance. For more than 31 years, Mr. Kaczmarek has practiced in the area of real estate law, property management, estate planning and probate. Mr. Kaczmarek is married, the father of four children and resides with his wife Terry in Grosse Pointe.

On July 14, 2005, during a special

ceremony held in the Hamtramck Public Library, Mr. Robert Kaczmarek turned over a check for \$20,000 made out to the library.

The funds came from the estate of the late Walter J. Chrusciel, who lived in Hamtramck, had a deep love for the city, and when he died recently his wish was to help preserve Hamtramck's history.

During the banquet a special

recognition award was presented to the family of Walter Chrusciel. Patricia Mack, representing the family, accepted the award.

Over 20 people are in the Hamtramck Public Library's Hall of Honor, among them Kazimierz Olejarczyk, Władysław Budweil, Joan Bittner, Karen Spung and Greg Kowalski, to name a few. (seb)



Anna Moskwa (left) and Wioleta Stachelek (third from left) were among the recipients of the awards for the library's volunteers.



Hamtramck Public Library Director Tamara Sochacka with Frank Koscielski (above) and Thaddeus Radzilowski (below).



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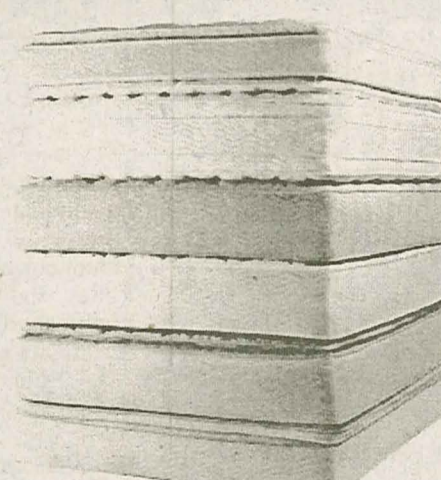
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