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Volume 2 No. 36
September 3, 2010
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— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Come Celebrate the
30th Anniversary of the HAMTRAMCK FESTIVAL!

Pot law raises more questions than answers

By Ian Perrotta
At last Tuesday's (Aug. 24) City Council meeting, the council decided it would pass on grass.
Or, rather, it will wait to decide what zoning law to adopt that will regulate where medical marijuana can be grown here.



Along with the legalization of medical marijuana in Michigan came a whole set of questions on how to control the growing industry, as well as what exactly the role is that cities should play in regulating it. For the past three months, council members have been working on finding the answers to those questions and others.

The solution, according to an ordinance proposed by Councilmember Tom Jankowski, is a zoning ordinance that would limit the areas of Hamtramck where the plant can be grown and sold to areas outside of residential districts. He said that this would allow the city to have greater oversight of the overall industry.

However, since the draft proposal has circulated, several questions have been raised. At last Tuesday's council meeting, Councilmember Catrina Stackpoole had reservations over the law, saying that she felt it may be too restrictive by not giving patients an adequate opportunity to procure their medication. That, according to Stackpoole, is in direct conflict with the law, which she says was written not for

Continued on page 2

Quick Hits

Yippee! The Hamtramck Labor Day Festival is here. Starting this Saturday and going through to Monday, Hamtramck is going to be party city. And to help make your weekend more organized, The Review has once again put out a festival guide, which is included in this newspaper.

The guide offers a schedule for entertainment, background info on performers and the latest with the Polish Day Parade, which is held on Monday at 1 p.m.

Enjoy yourselves this weekend and be sure to stop by The Review's booth on the festival grounds. We'll be offering festival guides and will take souvenir photos of you and your friends for a nominal fee.

This week in history

- Public school teachers are by law not allowed to go on strike. However, in 1972 Hamtramck teachers defied the law and went on strike.

- Hamtramck has a long history of attracting our presidents to visit. President Truman was no exception. He rode down Jos. Campau in 1948.

- Back in 1902, Hamtramck was just a village. Even though the village had limited funds, it bought 50 wooden lampposts that year.

Source: Hamtramck Historical Commission

This year's festival overcame a huge obstacle

By Walter Wasacz
This most charming of area festivals, a regular street party spectacle each Labor Day weekend, almost didn't happen this year.
Constraints in the Hamtramck city budget meant events programmer Eve Doster, who guided successful Paczki Day and Blowout weekends, was not retained. Fans of the festival – and we are many – feared the worst.
Enter Kathleen Bittner and Rachel Srodek, two young Hamtramck women with business savvy and a knack for

party promotion. They came up with a plan to grab the festival by its grass roots and re-plant it the same way they say the late former mayor Robert Kozaren did in 1980, when he helped steer the good times back to a city devastated by the loss of the iconic Dodge Main.
The plant, which straddled the city's southern boundary with Detroit before closing in January 1980, was Hamtramck's largest manufacturer and biggest taxpayer. It was also an industrial arch-

Continued on page 6



Rachel Srodek (left) and Kathleen Bittner are co-organizers of this year's Hamtramck Labor Day Festival.

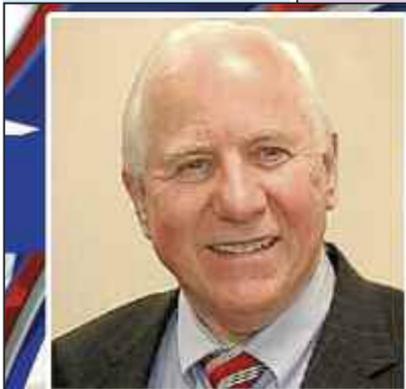
Drivers beware: Hamtramck has speed traps

By Charles Sercombe
Hamtramck traffic police, you're on the radar of the National Motorists Association.
According to a recent report released by the group, Hamtramck has three speed traps.
The NMA actually says the city has five speed traps, but three of them basically cover the entire northbound stretch of the I-75 service drive, starting at Holbrook and continuing north of Caniff.
Besides the I-75 drive, the other two sites are Hamtramck Drive near Jos. Campau and the area near Conant at Holbrook.
Here's what the organization has to say about Hamtramck's hotspots:
Northbound I-75 service drive: Starting at Holbrook:

First off, the 25 miles per hour speed limit is called "ridiculously low."
"Most motorists drive 40 to 50 along this stretch due to the lack of cross streets or signage. The only speed limit sign is small and partially obscured by other signs. The officer likes to sit at the bottom of the dip, where gravity easily pulls cars over the limit unless they ride the brakes."
At just before Caniff:
"There is a curve in the wall on the service drive just enough for a police car to hide on the shoulder of the service drive where you cannot see him until it is way too late. This is the stretch between Holbrook and Caniff. Hamtramck police hide there and write tickets. The speed

limit on the service drive is 30. People drive on the service drive at 50-55 and sometimes 60 mph. BE AWARE!"
And just north of Caniff:
"The police sit in front of the second house north of Commor on the service drive of the freeway to meet their monthly quota. ... I watched it for years at a house on the next block on St. Aubin and could see them there daily."
For Hamtramck Drive:
"When you travel northbound on Hamtramck Drive from West Grand Blvd, you pass under a railroad bridge which is the city limit between Hamtramck and Detroit. They're usually sitting at the top of the hill as you come under the bridge. Last time I

was through there, it was posted 25 mph. Hamtramck PD lets NO ONE off with a warning."
On Conant near Holbrook:
"Police park at entrance to the apartment complex on the east side of the road just over a slight rise. When traveling south bound you will not be able to see the car until it is too late!"
(Editor's note: We have no idea what area they are talking about.)
Although Hamtramck has long been notorious for speed traps, Livonia wins the dubious distinction of being the worst offender.
No matter, Hamtramck, consider yourself warned where to be extra cautious when driving.



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BINGO AT THE HAMTRAMCK FESTIVAL!

Our Lady Queen of Apostles is sponsoring a Bingo Booth at the Hamtramck Festival this year. The Festival will take place during the Labor Day Weekend Sept. 4th and ending Labor Day evening Sept. 6th. Bingo hours will be from 3pm-9pm on Saturday and 2pm-9pm on Sunday and Monday. Look for us on Jos. Campau, corner of Casmere. Make plans to join us for a game or two, three or more, have some fun, meet old and new friends and support our parish and the Hamtramck Festival.



Pot law raises more questions than answers

Continued from front page

economic reasons but medicinal purposes.

"I think the spirit of the law is for patients to have the right to access," she said. "I'm concerned that forcing production to be in commercial areas will prohibit people from accessing the medication."

To counter her argument, Jankowski said that Stackpoole was looking at the issue through too narrow of a perspective. He said that patients would have other opportunities to obtain their medication, and that the point of his ordinance was to keep the growth of marijuana away from neighborhoods.

"The assumption shouldn't be made that the only access the patient will have will be in Hamtramck," he said. "Quite frankly, I didn't want to see it in the residential areas. I wanted to see it in the commercial district."

After further back-and-forth debate over the merit of the proposed ordinance, as well as a discussion of the legal interpretation of the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act, Stackpoole said that she didn't think there was a solid enough understanding of the law for the council to make any decisions concerning the matter.

She also said that on Sept. 21 she was scheduled to attend a medical marijuana seminar hosted by the Michigan Municipal League, suggesting the issue be tabled until after that meeting. But because any new or-

dinance must be read three times before it can be voted on, it was agreed that the first reading of the law would be read on Sept. 14. That would give her a chance to attend the meeting before the second reading.

It seems the one thing that everyone could agree on was

that more time was needed to hash out the ordinance. But if City Attorney Jim Allen's explanation to Stackpoole about the deficiencies of the proposed ordinance is any indication of where the issue is headed, it may be one long, bad trip.

"What we have here is an

imperfect draft," said Allen. "We're still operating in the dark, so to speak, because the State of Michigan hasn't passed any precedents relating to the issue. I won't sit here and tell you with any certainty that I know how this will play out."



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This week at the library...

"Massacre in Katyn Forest: Poster Exhibit" -

Through Aug. 31 This unique traveling exhibit was prepared by the Kosciuszko Foundation with additional funding from Poland. It is dedicated to the memory of over 22,000 Polish intellectuals, army officers, university professors, doctors, politicians, priests and public servants murdered by the Soviet Union in April and May 1940, after the invasion of Poland by the Soviet Union. The mass graves and documents were discovered in 1943 in the Katyn forest, and it was not until the 1990s that the Soviet Union admitted responsibility for this act while refusing to classify this as a murder of prisoners of war and civilian intellectuals as a war crime. You can learn more about the mass extermination of Poles in Katyn, Siberia and other Soviet labor camps at the Hamtramck Public Library.

Computer Class for ESL Beginners - Friday, Sept. 4 at 10 a.m. ESL students will start with one hour hands-on experience on computers followed by 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. instruction with Christine Templin.

ESL Class for Beginners - Monday, Sept. 13 at 10 a.m. Christine Templin is the instructor for the ESL class for beginners. Free to the public.

ESL Summer Reading for Adults - Tuesday, Sept. 7 at 3 p.m. Reading program for adults sponsored by the ALA, prepared and conducted by staff members to accommodate various levels of reading skills. Free to the public.

Math Club Meeting - Tuesday, Sept. 7 at 4 p.m. Mr. Nuo is the new instructor for the math club and math tutoring.

Movie Wednesday - Wednesday, Sept. 8 at 3:30 p.m. Every Wednesday is movie day at the library. Come and enjoy our feature presentation, including popcorn and snacks.

Jeopardy at the Library - Thursday, Sept. 9 at 4 p.m. Sign up and participate in Jeopardy games held on Thursdays at the library. Compete against friends, win prizes and have fun developing your knowledge skills.

Labor Day Parade - Monday, Sept. 6 at 12:30 p.m. March with the library in the Hamtramck Labor Day Parade, on Monday, Labor Day. Meet at Jos. Campau & Holbrook.

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

Downtowns of Promise Program - Wednesday, Sept. 15 at 7 p.m. Hamtramck Downtown Development Authority invites Hamtramck residents to learn about new plans to revitalize our traditional downtown with funds provided by MSHDA under the Downtowns of Promise Program. Hamtramck is one of six cities in Michigan selected.

Friends of the Library Meeting - Thursday, Sept. 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 and election meeting of the FHPL.

Author, Mirosława Wojszwillo - Saturday, Sept. 25 at 2 p.m. The author presents her new book, "Po Sladach Historii," which is about her experiences in Eastern Europe, Lithuania, Soviet Union and USA. 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.

The Hamtramck Firefighters have a very long and proud tradition of being a major part of the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival. Sadly, this year the Festival organizers have made it impossible for us to continue that nearly 30-year involvement.

No "World Famous" chili will be available nor will anyone be sporting a 2010 Hamtramck Firefighters Mug or T-Shirt from our usual spot on Jos. Campau.

It's unfortunate that this year, organizers have refused to work with the Hamtramck Firefighters to help continue this tradition and relationship. We've been a part of the community for nearly 100 years and we continue to proudly protect lives and property in Hamtramck. Money we raise during Festival weekend helps the many charities we support throughout the year; we will do our best to make sure funds are still available for those that need our help.

We'd like to thank our faithful patrons and supporters that come from all over and ask them to please check our website (hamtramckfirefighters.com) as we have several possibilities for alternate activities this Labor Day Weekend.

In addition we would like to carry on our tradition of providing our charities with the utmost professionalism and donations to keep them running in an efficient manner. Donations will still be accepted in the form of cash or check payable to "Hamtramck Firefighters Local 750" at the firehouse located at 2625 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212. Please don't hesitate to call if you have any questions regarding any of the above information at (313) 876-7778.

As always thank you for your continual support and we look forward to seeing you at upcoming events.



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Second Front Page

Detroit's legal win over union is no go for Hamtramck

By Charles Sercombe

Does Hamtramck's city manager have a legal weapon he can use to force contract concessions with the city's four labor unions?

With news this week that Detroit Mayor Dave Bing won a huge legal battle in forcing concessions with Detroit's AFSCME union, the question arose whether Hamtramck City Manager Bill Cooper can use that strategy.

No go, said Cooper, who had been watching the legal tussle from the sideline.

Cooper said the involvement of the Michigan Employment Relations Commission to mediate Detroit's labor dispute cannot be an avenue for Hamtramck.

Cooper said the contract concessions he needs comes from the unions representing the police and fire departments. Contract disputes with those unions must be settled through the state's Act 312 labor arbitration process – meaning disputes must go through an arbitrator whose decision is binding.

In the past, Hamtramck's administration has mostly struck out using that process. Critics have long said that arbitrators have a bias for labor.

Hamtramck is facing a \$3.3 million budget deficit in the coming year. Cooper has warned that unless new revenue streams are found and cuts are made, the city will be broke by next January.

Hamtramck is battling Detroit over tax revenue collected from GM's Poletown plant. Detroit is withholding \$3 million – money that was already budgeted by Hamtramck.

Cooper has forced concessions on non-union City Hall employees, which includes district court personnel and appointees.

The police and fire unions have refused any concessions. Cooper said he is asking for salary and benefit cuts.

Cooper said he needs \$2 million in cuts from employees. Cooper added that in the near future "we may end up going to final war with an arbitrator."

Public school students now have to follow dress code

By Charles Sercombe

School starts next Tuesday (Sept. 7) and here's a reminder kids: The public school district now has a dress code for all grades expect kindergarten.

Here's the lowdown on what's acceptable:

For grades 9 through 12, students will have to pick from the following list of clothing options:

Shirts: white, light blue, navy, burgundy/maroon, gray or hunter green oxford cloth/poplin/polo style (short or long sleeve).

Pants: blue, black, tan/khaki dress pants – no jeans.

Girls in grades 1 through 12 may also wear blue, black or tan/khaki skirts, but no shorts or mini-skirts.

Belts are also required and pants must sit on the waistline. "Saggy" pants will not be allowed.

Shoes: dress or casual. Students may also wear all black or all white sneakers. No other colors are permitted.

The HPS logo is preferred on shirts but is not required.

Hindu community to celebrate Krishna

By Charles Sercombe

Monday's Polish Day Parade isn't the only parade in town this weekend.

On Saturday (Sept. 4), Hamtramck's Hindu community will be on parade. It's the annual celebration of the birth of Lord Sri Krishna.

Members of the nearby Durga Temple will meet on Saturday at 6 p.m. in a parking lot on Caniff, just east of McDougall. Members of the temple will parade down Caniff to Gallagher to Trowbidge, down to Jos. Campau, over to Belmont and up to Conant.

If you've never seen this gathering, it's a colorful and joyful event. Be sure to bring your camera, too.



Treating Allergies in Kids

By Dwight Encinas, M.D.

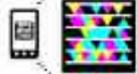
Babies and children can suffer from allergies, just like adults. One of the most common allergies is allergic rhinitis, or hay fever. Airborne particles — such as pollen, dust, mold and pet dander — can trigger hay fever symptoms. These may include runny nose, congestion, sneezing and itchy eyes and throat.

There are many options that can help your child cope:

- Avoiding allergens altogether by controlling dust and mold exposure, cleaning humidifiers with bleach as often as possible, replacing furnace filters, and cleaning stuffed animals, down comforters and carpeting when possible.
- Antihistamines prevent the effects of histamine, a substance produced by the body during an allergic reaction. Consult your physician or pharmacist for dosages for small children.
- Other medicines can also help. Talk with your child's doctor about mast cell stabilizers, prescription steroid nose sprays or prescription leukotriene antagonists.

Always consult your child's physician before giving your child any over-the-counter medications. Some medications that include decongestants can be harmful and are not recommended for children younger than age 5. Plus, no studies show benefits of oral decongestants for children of any age. Nasal decongestants may help with nasal swelling but can make symptoms worse if used for more than three days.

If your child's allergy symptoms are hard to control, allergy shots may be recommended.



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Carbon Lounge: 11474 Joseph Campau.

Celina's Sports Bar: Lots of TV's, sports and hot women, 11667 Jos. Campau; (313) 365-4194.

Head Coach: A Hamtramck tradition; 12001 Conant; (313) 366-6317.

Hippo's: Friendly service and plenty of smiles; Beer \$2.25, Jagar Bombs \$3.00, Jello Shots always; Open Wednesday - Saturday 3 p.m. till close; 11641 Conant; (313) 893-5633.

Jeans: As they say, characters are welcomed. 12002 Jos. Campau; (313) 892-9689.

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Motor City Sports Bar: Great burgers and beer – \$1 domestic beers every Tuesday, draft beer \$1 every day, \$2 well mixed drinks every day, best char-grilled burgers, hands-down put us to the test, karaoke every Thursday, 9122 Jos. Campau (313) 875-4710.

Painted Lady: Mondays – \$1 beer night w/ Todd. Tuesdays – B-movie Night. Wednesdays – Opium Den; Thursdays – Honky Tonk/Ladies Night, \$2 wells; 2930 Jacob; (313) 874-2991

Paycheck's Lounge: 2932 Caniff, (313) 874-0909 – Live music every weekend, cheap drinks, open all day, Johnny Starr hosts open mic night every Thursday, 8 p.m., \$2 cover.

Small's: Sundays - Nurse your weekend hangover with Dave and Melody, \$1 off everything. Acoustic performances on select nights. Mondays - Karaoke with Squid and Jared! Tuesday - Trivia Night! Game starts at 9 p.m. with tons of great prizes and cheap drinks; 10339 Conant, (313) 873-1117. Free WIFI.

7 Brothers Bar: Hamtramck's hippest hangout for actors, 11831 Jos. Campau; (313) 365-6576.

Skipper's Hamtown: Hamtramck's newest neighborhood "almost dive" bar. Skipper's offers a wide selection of bottled beer as well as six non-alcoholic beverages. Stop by for a good drink and a great time!; 9735 Conant at Evaline.

Suzy's Bar: Chat with owner Suzy – one of the best local bar owners; 2942 Evaline; (313) 872-9016; Free WIFI.

Turtle & Inky's Place: Small and cozy 2656 Carpenter; (313) 365-9863.

Coming Events

SEPT. 8, WED., 11 a.m. – Daughters of Isabella Mystical Rose Circle 736 will meet at Q of A Activities Center, entrance on Harold St. Fenced parking.

SEPT. 14, Tuesday, 5:30-8:30 p.m. – The Hamtramck School-Based Health Center Children's Hospital of Michigan, 11410 Charest, will celebrate its 10-year anniversary with a community celebration, featuring an inflatable slide, balloon animals, pizza and ice cream. For more information, call (313) 891-9473.

SEPT. 15, Wed., 7 p.m. – The Hamtramck Downtown Development Authority (DDA) will host a community vision session for the Downtowns of Promise program. A consulting firm will be on hand to talk about creating a development plan for the Jos. Campau business district. The meeting will be at the Hamtramck Public Library and is open to the public.

SEPT. 22, WED., noon – Daughter of Isabella Mystical Rose Circle 736 will hold a "September Card & Bunco Social," featuring door and table prizes, raffle and share the wealth. Admission is \$7 and includes a lunch, at the Queen of Apostles Activities Center, entrance on Harold St. Fenced parking.

The Hamtramck Drug Free Community Coalition meets the second Thursday of every month from 11 a.m.-noon at the Piast Institute, 11633 Jos. Campau. To allow for summer planning sessions, the next meeting will be held on Thursday, Sept. 9. Meetings are open to the public.

SECOND MONDAY of each month, through Dec. 13, 12:30-2:30 p.m. – A Wayne County program, food program for low-income families, at People's Community Services, 8625 Jos. Campau. To qualify you must be a Hamtramck resident and had picture ID and proof of income. Volunteers are needed to unload supplies, etc. To volunteer, show up at 10:30 a.m.

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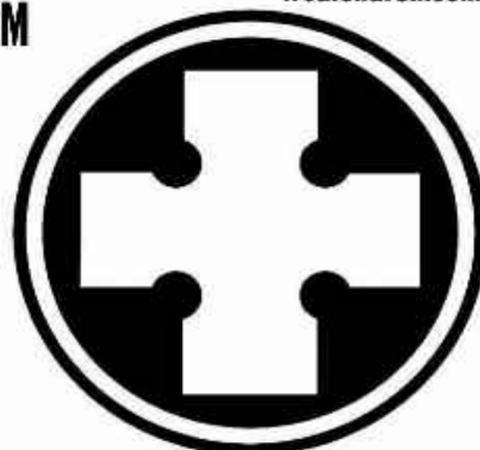
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Review: Opinion Page

Hamtramck's 'homegrown' feeling will be contagious this weekend

Hamtramck, this is your weekend to shine.

The annual Hamtramck Labor Day Festival almost didn't happen this weekend. The city is so broke it had to lay off its special events coordinator, who, by the way, was considered a part-time employee.

But thanks to two volunteers – and several other supporters – the event will be held. There's going to be a lot of finger-crossing this weekend in hopes that the turnout will be at least as good as last year and that the weather cooperates.

Now that Oakland County's Arts, Beats & Eats has moved down from Pon-

tiac to Royal Oak there is some concern that Hamtramck's party won't attract as many people.

Well, from what we can tell, Hamtramck's entertainment schedule blows away the Beats & Eats, which it usually does anyway. And if you like a more hometown feeling, well, Hamtramck has that in spades.

But more important than the number of people who are attending, the festival is a way for our residents to celebrate all things Hamtramck. And it's fitting that this year's theme is "Homegrown." Hamtramck has always had to rely on itself to survive, so celebrating that

spirit is especially timely considering the economic pressures facing us.

This weekend, it's time to kick back and enjoy. We also open our city this weekend to many visitors, some who will undoubtedly be coming here for the first time.

Let's make a good impression.

And what better way to celebrate Hamtramck and our hospitality than to have our very own native son, Mitch Ryder, perform Monday evening. Rock on Mitch and thanks for giving Hamtramck special consideration in your busy schedule.

Odds & Ends

Convening ... Our friends with the Daughters of Isabella Rose Circle recently participated in an international convention held in Montreal, Canada. The Order of the Daughters of Isabella was founded in 1897 and is celebrating its 113th anniversary. Its members are Catholic women of at least 16 years of age and older. There are local circles all over the globe.

Our local members participated in workshops and renewed old friendships. Hamtramck was well represented.

Lights, camera, action ... Hamtramck was once again the backdrop to a television production on Wednesday

and Thursday nights. The crew from the yet-to-be-aired cable series, "Detroit 187," filmed an action scene in the former Clock Restaurant and outside on Jos. Campau.

The series is described as a fictional documentary following a Detroit homicide



squad. The number "187" is police code for a homicide.

One scene that was filmed on the street involved a shootout.

Hamtramck has become a Hollywood favorite for filming scenes. Word is, production companies love the city because there is very little governmental red tape.

Just say no ... Annoyed about those flyers being thrown onto your porch? The City Clerk's Office is now selling stickers saying "No Handbills" for only \$1. Get 'em while their hot.

Letters • Letters

Festival Committee is working to make sure city is reimbursed

The Hamtramck Firefighters decision not to accept our vendor contract and participate in the 2010 Labor Day Festival is unfortunate. Their presence will be missed by residents and visitors alike who looked forward to meeting and supporting "Hamtramck's Finest."

As volunteer festival organizers our mission was not only to put on the best event ever, but to do so without further burdening the city financially. Last year's festival

was not a financial success and cost the city over \$19,000 after all the bills were paid. The Council and Mayor made a brave decision to support our effort this year given what they knew about festival costs in 2009. We certainly did not want to disappoint them after receiving their overwhelming endorsement of our plans.

With this in mind our first strategy was to review the 2009 financial statement before planning anything. After

examining vendor contracts, sales revenues, financial sponsors and costs for security, insurance and the like it became obvious some things had to change if we were to at least break even. As a result we had to break tradition by making changes to our vendor contracts in order to create a financial win-win for both our vendors and our city.

Overall the new contracts have been very well received as you will see in both the quality and quantity of vendors both new and old that have chosen to participate this year. Copies of the new vendor contracts are posted online for all to see at the festival website: <http://hamtownfest.com/vendors.html>.

We especially welcome the Hamtramck Police Reserves as our designated non-profit organization and hope you will support them as strongly as you have the Hamtramck Firefighters in the past.

**Kathleen Bittner and Rachel Srodek
Hamtramck Labor Day Festival Committee**

St. Joe's sister nursing home gets an uplift

The Ambassador Nursing & Rehabilitation Centre, located just 10 minutes away from Hamtramck, recently announced it has made some major improvements.

Some of the renovations taking place over the past few months include an updated fresh look to the patient rooms with flat screen

TVs, new over-bed lights, which will be much brighter, bigger and lower for the convenience of the patient. The rooms are also getting new color-coordinated wallpaper,

along with new window treatments, new furniture, new tile floors, new paint and built-in drawers. The bathrooms were also renovated

with new sinks, new light fixtures, ADA-approved toilets, new handicapped mirrors, new wallpaper and new tile floors.

A state-of-the-art gym has also been installed.

The corridors will be updated with new vinyl flooring,

Continued on page 7

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PRETTY HANDY.
BUT WHAT ABOUT YOUR BROTHER, FRED? HIS BIRTHDAY IS IN APRIL.
THAT'S WHY WE CALL HIM FRED.

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Street Life

A look back at Hamtramck's party of all parties

(Editor-at-Large Walter Wasacz writes a weekly column on life in Hamtramck.)

By Walter Wasacz

If Hamtramck street life is one of your primary interests, as it is for me, then Labor Day weekend is the motherlode.

The streets and sidewalks fill up with festivalgoers both local and regional, former residents and new ones, hip rock

'n' rollers and ladies and gents who've been around long before one of the metro area's best parties was launched in 1980.

To whet my appetite for this year's event, I looked through some of my photos from the last few festivals and parades. Music, food, carnival rides, adults and kids having fun. Here are some of my favorites:



This year's festival overcame a huge obstacle

Continued from front page

tectural gem, another building designed by the master of that art, Albert Kahn.

Bittner, whose parents own and operate the Polish Art Center, says it was Kozaren's "love and hope for the city that became contagious and was felt throughout the community. He wanted to show that even without Dodge Main Hamtramck could still survive."

It did indeed, 30 years later still a dynamic, bustling enclave made up of first-, second- and -third generation immigrants, families originated in Poland, Bangladesh, Yemen, Somalia, Bosnia, Kosovo and elsewhere from around the world. Add to that fine artists, musicians, writers, graduate students, college professors, urbanists and other unclassifiable hipsters (or not) and you've got a pretty good start on a sustainable global vibe. It's definitely here, and visible, on a daily basis.

Srodek is also from a Hamtramck family with a record of business success in the city. Her in-laws started Srodek's Campau Quality Sausage in the early 1980s and she now works in the store with her husband, father- and mother-

in-law. Her dad, a former Hamtramck council member, also has promoted bands at the neighborhood club the Polish Sea League, managed by the family for decades.

"We want to bring back the community feel to the Hamtramck Festival," Srodek says. "To go back to the beginning and get people involved who feel passionate about the city."

Perfectly said. We like the blueprint. Add performers like 1960s garage rock-soul giant Mitch Ryder (factoid: he was born in Hamtramck's St. Francis Hospital in 1945), the Luddites, Howling Diablos, Polish Muslims, Swinging Chopin and the Displays; not to mention some straight polka and polka-rock hybrids, and you've got the start of a pretty good party. Plus food, beer, a parade on Labor Day itself, carnival midway rides and people of all colors and creeds and - bingo! - it'll be hard to leave once you get on the pedestrian-only grounds, on Jos. Campau north of Caniff. Look for the premium Sobieski Vodka - one of the festival sponsors this year.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF HAMTRAMCK

Notice is hereby given that the City Council will hold a Public Hearing on
Tuesday, September 14, 2010
7:00 p.m.

in City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 3401 Evaline
Pursuant to Federal guidelines, the City of Hamtramck is announcing its objectives and possible uses for development projects using Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

The City's allocation for 2010 is approximately **\$394,000.01**

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

Repayment of Jos. Campau Section 108 Loan	\$ 83,571.49
Repayment of Grand Haven/Dyar Section 108 Loan	\$ 90,184.29
Countywide Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 32,000.00
Code Enforcement	\$ 38,000.00
Administration	\$ 39,271.15
Downtown Façade Improvement	\$ 15,000.00
Business Start-Up Grant	\$ 25,000.00
Targeted Neighborhood Clean-Up Program	\$ 70,973.08

The public is invited to attend and comment on the proposal during the Public Hearing or to make written comments on or before September 14, 2010. Written comments should be made to the attention of the Community & Economic Development Director, 3401 Evaline, Hamtramck, MI 48212.



Public Notice Wayne County Residents

The Wayne County Treasurer's September public auction of tax foreclosed properties* will be conducted ONLINE. The auction will begin on **September 17 and conclude on September 23, 2010**. For more information about how to register and participate in the September auction, please visit:

www.bid4assets.com/wayne

Potential bidders *without access to a computer* should **contact Bid4Assets at 1-877-4-Assets** for more information about how to register and bid. Special procedures are in place to accommodate these bidders and will require completion of an Offline Bid Form.

All bidders must register with Bid4Assets by submitting a \$1,000.00 deposit and \$25.00 processing fee, a total of \$1,025.00, in the form of a Cashier's Check or bank wire in U.S. funds, to Bid4Assets, Inc. prior to September 10, 2010.

NO AUCTION ACTIVITIES WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE OFFICE OF THE WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER.

RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ
Wayne County Treasurer

*The Wayne County Treasurer, as the foreclosing governmental unit, under Public Act 123 of 1999, reserves the right to remove any property from the sale and to reject any and all bids. The Terms and Conditions of Sale and a list of the properties offered are available online at the Wayne County Treasurer's website: www.treasurer.waynecounty.com

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Obituaries

FILIP

Stanley F. Filip, 74, died August 31, 2010 at Mt. Clemens Regional Medical Center in Mt. Clemens.



He was a longtime resident of Sterling Heights. Stanley was born April 22, 1936 in Detroit, Michigan. Loving father of Daniel and Susan. Dear grandfather of Nicolas and brother of Mitchell.

A graduate of De La Salle High School, he was all catholic league in basketball, track, and baseball.

Mr. Filip retired from plant security at General Motors Corporation in 1997. Funeral services will be held Friday, September 3, 10 a.m. at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Catholic Church with Rev. Zbigniew Grankowski officiating.

Interment will be at Mt.

Olivet Cemetery, Detroit. www.resurrectionfuneral-home.com

LYON

Larry E. Lyon, 61, died September 1, 2010.

Mr. Lyon was retired from the City of Detroit Sanitation Department.

He is survived by his wife, Sandra; daughters, Amie and Shelly (James) Rhey; father, Larry N. Lyon; sisters, Carolyn (Paul) Crisp and Cheryl McKay; brother, Timothy (Pam) Lyon; grandson, Daniel.

Funeral arrangements were made by Krot Funeral Home, and funeral services will be held on September 3, at 7 p.m. Visitation is 5-8 p.m.

OAKLEY

William G. (Bill) Oakley, 77, died August 12, 2010 after a year-long battle with lung cancer.

Mr. Oakley was born July



22, 1933 in Pontiac, Michigan. Mr. Oakley was a florist for over 50 years (Dave Novak Flowers, Detroit, Flowers by William and Flowers by Us, Hamtramck).

He is survived by his sisters, Noreen (Tom) Pierson and Marsha (Marty) Bettinger; dear friends, Jim Broyles and Mark Minard; many nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews and friends.

Mr. Oakley was preceded in death by his father, Charles, and mother, Vera (Farley); step-father, Norris Groves; brother, Lawrence, Jerry and Bobby; and dear friend, David Novak.

Funeral arrangements were made by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, and funeral services were held on August 17 at Sweetest Heart of Mary Church. Internment was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery with a police

escort provided by the Hamtramck FOP and Hamtramck Reserves.

Donations in memory of Mr. Oakley may be made to the Karmonis Hospice or with the family.

WIECEK

Victor Wiecek, 28, died August 28, 2010.

Mr. Wiecek was employed at Milliken Millworks.

He is survived by his mother, Teresa Wiecek; sisters, Angela and Julia (Miguel Rodriguez); brother, Leo; niece, Luciana; nephew, Miguel; and many cousins.

Funeral arrangements were made by Krot Funeral Home, and funeral services will be held on September 3 at 11 a.m. Burial will be at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.



St. Joe's sister nursing home gets an uplift

Continued from page 5

which has a simulated wood-like appearance, for ease in transporting wheelchairs, along with new wallpaper, new handrails, new crashrails, new ceilings and light fixtures, new artwork and the latest technology in call-light systems.

The Olympia Group Healthcare Network consists of four other facilities, Imperial Healthcare Centre in Dearborn Heights, Regency Healthcare Centre in Taylor, St. Joseph's Healthcare Center in Hamtramck and Westland Nursing & Rehabilitation Centre in Westland.

The Ambassador is a 176-bed facility located in Detroit, near major expressways and the beautiful Belle Isle. The Amba-

sador provides a wide variety of services to promote recovery from: orthopedic injuries, including fractures, dislocations and hip/knee replacements; surgery; acute onset of medical condition; neurological disorders, such as stroke, traumatic brain injury, Parkinson's and ALS, as well as neuromuscular disorders and other complex diagnosis. Whether the need is for short-term intensive therapy or for an extended stay, the dedicated and compassionate staff at Ambassador helps each resident feel at home.

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24301 Kelly Rd., Eastpointe - 2 BR condo, w/ appliances & furniture. \$28,500 Cash Only - New Price!

3105 Holbrook, Hamtramck - 2-Story, 7000 sq. ft., Full Commercial Building w/ parking lot. \$175,000

2323 Pulaski, Hamtramck - 5 BR, 2 Family w/ custom updates. By appointment. \$69,900.

2060 Norwalk, Hamtramck - "Portage Garage" - 3 bay auto repair facility, including the 2 family home at 2054 Norwalk. \$65,000 - New Price!

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2348 Zinow - Hamtramck - 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, completely remodeled. \$39,900

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2759 Hickory Lawn - \$159,900

Royal Oak:

*5029 Thomcroft - \$159,800 NEW PRICE!

Shelby Township:

*49135 Conway Ct. - \$74,900 Condo

Sterling Heights:

*38122 Jamestown - \$39,900 short sale/3 BR condo. PENDING!

Utica

*45420 Brownell - 2 bedrooms \$500/mo.

Warren:

4340 Frazho - \$39,800 - Bank Owned PENDING!

24862 Rosalind, Eastpointe- \$21,900



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*11613 Charest - \$99,900

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12043 Moran - \$35,000 NEW PRICE!

11358 Nagel - \$40,000 NEW PRICE!

11372 Nagel - \$32,900 NEW PRICE!

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2250 Wyandotte - \$39,900

2256 Wyandotte - \$29,900 PENDING!



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NOTICE

To all property owners, agents and occupants, notice is hereby given to all persons owning or occupying property within the City of Hamtramck, pursuant to Ordinance No. 2008-5 of the City Code, it shall be the duty of the owners or occupants to keep all grass, weeds and vegetation cut below a height of eight inches on properties and free from noxious weeds, between April 1 and October 31.

All properties shall include the abutting street right-of-way lying between the curb and sidewalk or the drainage course paralleling the street where there is no curb abutting the properties.

If the provisions of this ordinance are not complied with, the city shall cause the grass and weeds to be cut or destroyed, and the actual cost of cutting or destruction plus 25% for inspection and/or other additional costs incurred shall be charged to the property owner and, if necessary, collected as a tax lien against the property.

'Kustom' car show celebrates a way of life

By Charles Sercombe

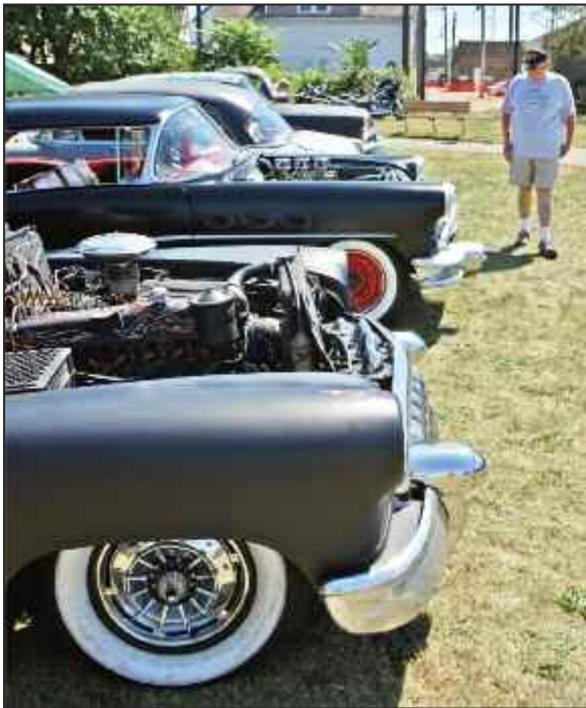
Veterans Memorial Park never looked cooler than on last Saturday.

That was the scene of the annual "Hamtramck Hustle" – which featured "kustom" cars, ratrods and choppers.

It was a day to celebrate outside culture with a soundtrack of rockabilly, punk and hillbilly. Unlike most owners of classic cars, these owners live the life: Levis blue jeans, greased back hair, pin-up worthy busty babes and guzzling beer.

Yeah, the afternoon sun was insanely hot, but that just greased the wheels for hell raising at the Painted Lady Lounge and Belmont later in the evening.

Roll on Hustle. Can't wait for next year.



A few questions with Rapper HUSH

By Ian Perrotta

A lot has been said about the musical acts playing at this year's Labor Day Festival who have already made it to the top, but what about the rising stars still on the ascent?

One of them is local rapper HUSH, a National Hip-Hop/Rock Artist that is best known for his work on the NBC show "The Contender."

Right now his new album, "The Open Book," is receiving critical acclaim for its rough, edgy production and very personal lyrics. And while you can hear HUSH almost anywhere on TV and in movies, his performances are definitely a must see. We recently caught up with HUSH to get to know a little more of the man behind the music.

What got you into rapping in the first place?

"I was big into Hip-Hop music first – Planet Rock, Boogie Down Bronx, etc. – as a breakdancer. Then I saw Ice-T perform Reckless on Breakin' and started writing parody rhymes (taking a famous Pop hit and changing the words). I was 12."

How does it feel to have your songs played on national TV?

"It's great! It's recognition for the work. I am really appreciative. When studio execs dig it and can give it a bigger stage it really helps promote the sound and get my words to listeners across the globe."

What separates you from the rest of the game?

"I front a Rock band without



HUSH will be performing at this year's Hamtramck Labor Day Festival. Check out his performance on Saturday night at 8 p.m.

losing the Hip-Hop element, and right now I think the game is really watered down. There is a formula that everyone seems to be using, but I think they are so caught up in the game that they don't realize it's damaging their credibility.

"There was a time when there were artists and groups trying to merge this hybrid sound of Hip-Hop and Rock. For the most part it sucked. There weren't any real emcee's fronting a rock band. Rage Against The Machine was probably the closest – their sound was a lot harder. Fred Durst was never a rapper, and Linkin Park turned into this watered down version of U2. I've battled; I freestyle; I came up with the best of 'em – Eminem, Slum Village – in Detroit's underground.

"That's what will always give me a leg up on my competition. When I combine the two worlds of Hip-Hop and Rock it's organic and not created. It's progressive and a transition of maturity in my music."

What does performing at the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival mean to you?

"It's great to have fans from Hamtramck and friends that I went to school with (Our Lady Queen of Apostles 1-6 grade) pushing me to be a part of it. The girls who put this together [Kathleen Bittner and Rachel Srodek] have done a tremendous job and their tenacity is going to bring Hamtramck back to where it needs to be.

"It needs work as does every community, but that takes time and patience and throwing a weekend Festival and performing for the people helps ease the pain for a couple days."

Why should people see your show, and what can they expect?

"The biggest response I get from people who have seen my show, they walk up to me and 99% of the time say 'I hate rap but I love what you do.' So I guess that's what they can expect. It's the per-

Continued on page 9

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HealthChoice Providers – Community Care Associates, Inc., Midwest Health AKM, Pro Care Plus, Inc.

YOUR CHOICE: Making affordable health coverage a reality for businesses located in Wayne County.

Why HealthChoice is the Right Choice for You

HealthChoice keeps employees healthy. Keeping medical conditions under control cuts down on sick days - and the long absences that come with serious illnesses - which results in a reduction in operating costs for your business. Health benefits make a workplace work better. By offering HealthChoice, you can reduce employee turnover and lower your training costs. Employees think twice before leaving a job with health care coverage.

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- Are located in Wayne County
- Employ at least two people who are eligible for coverage
- Have more than half the employees earning \$14.50 per hour or less
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Business owners throughout Wayne County have taken advantage of the HealthChoice program to provide affordable health care coverage for themselves and their employees.

YOUR CHOICE

Making affordable health coverage a reality for businesses located in Wayne County.

Call 800-WELL NOW (800-935-5669)

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Employer Premiums

2008 Rates

The basic cost per month for each covered employee is:

\$58 paid by the employer + \$58 paid by the employee + Up to \$67 paid by HealthChoice (depending on hourly income)

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Rentals and Real Estate Classifieds

APARTMENTS & FLATS FOR RENT

Hamtramck, 1975 Trowbridge, 2 Br. upper, stove-refrigerator, new carpet, new windows, utilities separate, \$550/month + one month security, move-in ready, 248-506-8821. 9/17

9337 Charest, 2 Br. lower, quiet neighborhood, fresh paint, new carpet, \$450/month, 313-999-9177. 9/3

Hamtramck, 3125 Caniff, 3 Br. with formal dining room, newly remodeled, a real gem, \$550/month, 313-893-4782. 9/3

Hamtramck, beautifully remodeled, 2 Br. upper, utilities separate, \$550/month + security deposit, credit check, Section 8 OK, 313-590-1000. 9/10

Hamtramck 2 Br. lower, kitchen, living, stove-fridge, pets OK, 313-550-9205. 9/10

Beautifully remodeled, Hamtramck, 3 Br. upper, utilities separate, \$600/month + security deposit, credit check, Section 8 OK, 313-590-1000. 9/10

7386 Mitchell, upper + lower, new paint & carpet, heat and water included, 734-671-2902. 9/17

Hamtramck, 2 Br. lower flat, \$525/month + security deposit, references required, 313-801-4001. 9/3

Hamtramck, 3224 Evaline, 2 Br. lower, no pets, open house on Saturdays 12-2 p.m., 586-264-0493. 9/3

1 Br., includes everything, no pets, 313-632-5566. 9/17

APARTMENTS & FLATS FOR RENT

Hamtramck, 3444 Yemans, 3 Br. upper, living, dining, ceramic floor, new windows + carpet, appliances available, remodeled, \$400/mo. 313-641-0334. 9/10

Hamtramck, clean, 5 room lower, carpeted, utilities separate, \$550/month + security, 248-892-7257. 9/3

Hamtramck, 2 Br. upper, very clean. Also, 1 Br. upper, 586-943-8814. 9/3

Hamtramck, Caniff, 2 Br. lower, water + basic cable included, stove-refrigerator, \$500/month, 586-531-9722, 313-418-8791. 9/17

Hamtramck, 1 + 2 Br. flats, with appliances, from \$400/month, no pets, 248-321-8661. 9/3

Hamtramck, 3200 Lehman St., 2 Br. lower, kitchen, dining, full basement, no pets, employed preferred, 313-893-2972. 9/3

Hamtramck, 3 Br. upper, \$474/month, hardwood floors, 313-444-5638. 9/10

Hamtramck, Faber St., 2 Br., close to Autozone, 313-615-1735. 9/3

Detroit, 13720 Sparling, near Mound, 4 Br., full basement, \$595/month, 586-634-5593. 9/3

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3-5 Br., single-family house, rent with option to buy, no pets, 313-369-1654.

Hazel Park, 3 Br. brick, living room, kitchen, \$700/month \$700 security, Section 8 or working folks, 586-945-0317. 9/3

Hamtramck, single-family, 3 Br., prime location, \$600/month + security, 248-723-6984, 248-953-7858. 9/3

Hamtramck, Belmont St., completely remodeled, 2 Br., new carpet, very nice, appliances, call after 11 a.m., 313-368-9326. 9/17

2 Br., appliances, clean, senior citizen or couple preferred, \$550/month + one security, 313-580-3771, 313-871-0189 9/17

Hazel Park, 3 Br. brick, living room, kitchen, \$700/month + \$700 security deposit, Section 8 or working folks, 580-945-0317. 9/3

Detroit, 12404 Klinger, 2 Br., fresh paint, remodeled kitchen, \$525/month, 313-523-5851. 9/24

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3237 Holbrook, upper, 1 Br., living, kitchen, hardwood floor, vacant, \$385/month
3436 Holbrook, lower, 2 Br., dining, living, remodeled, \$585/month
3146 Holbrook, upper, 3 Br., living, remodeled \$595/month
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Classifieds

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Metro news ...

It's said that whatever happens to Detroit, so goes Hamtramck. If you were to rely solely on the local mainstream media, you'd think Detroit is no more than a crime-infested wasteland. Well, we're here to say that isn't so. Our friends over at modeld-media.com and metromode.com have been reporting on fascinating development projects for the past few years. With their permission, here is a round-up of their reports from

the past week:
Last weekend was the inaugural Pop-Up Detroit, an initiative that aims to take over unused commercial space in Detroit with gallery happenings. On Friday, Aug. 27, the spot was The Shops in the Kresge Building on Woodward. Over 30 artists were represented, and organizers William Singer, Michelle Tanguay and Nina Marcus-Kurlonko saw enough foot traffic to make them hopeful that this would be a recurring event, possibly every three months. It was announced on Aug. 26,

that Coca-Cola awarded \$25,000 to Milliken State Park for an indoor-outdoor youth park that would include a rock climbing wall, playscape, archery range and obstacle park that would make use of the Globe Building on Atwater Street. The Auburn netted \$1.7 million in Michigan Business Tax (MBT) Credits, a form of brownfield tax incentives. The new-build project calls for 58 units of apartments and 9,100 square feet of retail space at Cass and Canfield. Total project investment is estimated at \$8.6 million.

The Book House, located at 8469 E. Jefferson, will be the home of the Ars Poetica Chamber Orchestra, offices, a conservatory, an apartment and a retail music store. The redevelopment of the building, designed by Louis Kamper and completed in 1911, will cost \$1.5 million and has been deemed eligible for \$300,000 of MBT credits. We've covered both projects in the past - Auburn here and Book here - and will continue to do so. **Writer: Kelli B. Kavanaugh**

A few questions with Rapper HUSH

Continued from page 8
fect fusion of pure Hip-Hop/Rock and high energy."
Anything else we should know?
"Look for us opening the Ludacris show at The Sound Board inside Motor City Casino September 10. Add

us on Facebook www.facebook.com/mchush. Pick up our album "The Open Book" under HUSH on iTunes."
See HUSH perform at this year's Hamtramck Labor Day Festival on Saturday, Sept. 4 at 8 p.m. on the south stage at Caniff and Jos. Campau.

Former Gandhi restaurant has a new name and new look

By Ian Perrotta
Good news for anyone who missed their favorite flavors from

aged and labeled with the restaurant's information, they're a great way to incite a friend to

make the trip to Hamtramck if they're not from the city. And if security is a question, tell them it's covered – cameras monitor the entire restaurant and its parking lot.

"It's a nice quiet place and we have quality food at less expense, and excellent customer service," says Kasham. "If you're not from Hamtramck it's worth the trip."



the former Gandhi restaurant on Conant – it's back (sort of) and better than ever. Rechristened ZamZam, the business celebrated its grand re-opening on Aug. 3.

The establishment takes its name from the ZamZam Well, which is located within the Masjid al-Haram in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. Revered for its uniqueness, Hamtramck's own ZamZam is no different and well worth the pilgrimage.

Owned by former Ghandi partner Kolloi Ahmed, the restaurant retains much of its past in terms of the food offered, but the similarities end there. With an all-halal menu, ZamZam features lower prices yet a higher-class dining experience. Patrons can choose between two completely remodeled seating areas – a casual café and a formal dining room – the latter of which can serve as a banquet hall that can accommodate all occasions. But in both areas, you'll be waited on by pleasant servers in classy uniforms.

Though it's currently Ramadan, ZamZam is still running its buffet special Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The buffet varies each day, but it always offers a wide assortment of both meat and vegetarian dishes that are sure to please the most discerning palette. Manager Abul Kasham, who often greets customers with a smile as they walk through the door, says the buffet is a great deal.

"People can eat for less but it's still good quality," he says. "It's the same food we regularly serve."

In addition to serving appetizers, soups, salads and breads in the traditional styles of Bangladeshi, Indian and Pakistani cuisines, ZamZam has seafood specialties, lamb, chicken & rice dishes, vegetables and desserts. The eatery also serves up Shan E-Tandoori, which is food grilled in a clay oven on charcoal and, at ZamZam, served with Basmati rice.

Also on the menu at ZamZam is a variety of appetizers and desserts to go. Individually pack-

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