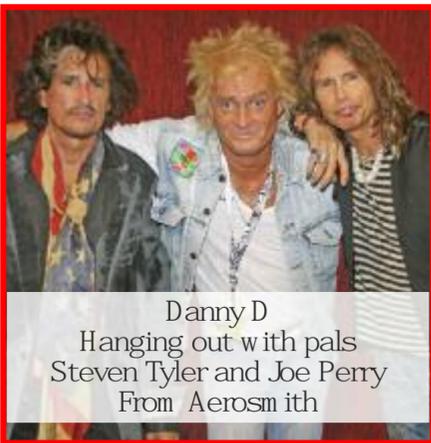


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— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

A celebration of culture and Krishna

By Ian Perrotta

The Labor Day Festival wasn't the only party in town during Labor Day weekend. The community's Hindu population also took it to the streets of Hamtramck on the Saturday of that weekend with a parade to celebrate the birth of their god Sri Krishna.

The celebration – Suvo Janmastari, a birthday ceremony of Lord Krishna – was sponsored by the Durga Temple, located just outside of the city at McNichols and Ryan. It kicked off with a ritualistic offering that included fruits, delicacies and coconut milk, the last of which came from members of the temple and Mayor Karen Majewski breaking coconuts on the street to

mark the start of the parade. Majewski's work wasn't quite finished there, however. Keeping in line with Bengali tradition, as the de facto "mother" of the city Majewski was asked to sweep the street for the first few steps of the parade as a sign of respect.

The parade then proceeded to make its way through the neighborhoods of Hamtramck, where it was met by residents who brought more offerings of fruits and sweets. Afterward, everyone headed back to the Durga Temple to worship and party throughout the night.

(Ian Perrotta can be reached at ian@thehamtramckreview.com)



Officials dodge a bullet

By Charles Sercombe

Some city councilmembers got to experience what it's like to be a target during Tuesday's meeting.

Several police officers and their supporters spoke out against a proposal by Councilmember Tom Jankowski to require officers to pay for half the cost of new bullet proof vests. The cost for the officers would come out of their clothing allowance.

That prompted Police Chief Mark Kalinowski to fire back: "That is absolutely ridiculous. It's a safety item. I resent you would even think it's an article of clothing."

Others in the audience had even sharper comments.

"You should be ashamed," said Kelly Casper to Jankowski.

The proposal has been roiling in the community for the past two weeks. Jankowski has had an issue with the unions representing police officers for refusing to accept wage concessions in light of the city's looming \$3.3 million deficit.

Continued on page 2

Slight uptick in violent crimes

By Ian Perrotta

Despite a national trend that has seen violent crime decline over the past three years, in Hamtramck it was on the rise in 2009. But fortunately, its rate of growth was slower than in years before.

In 2009, Hamtramck reported 378 instances of violent crime, which is comprised of four types of offenses: murder & non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault.

The figure comes through the FBI from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, a program started in 1929 by the International Association of Chiefs of Police in order to meet a need for reliable and uniform crime statistics for the nation.

Continued on page 2

Mutual aid or communication break down?

By Charles Sercombe

The smoke has cleared from last week's fires in nearby neighborhoods in Detroit, but criticism of how the city handled the fires is still raging.

Detroit Mayor Dave Bing was almost immediately scorched by critics after he claimed the fire department handled the crisis well.

One of those critics was the union representing firefighters, which said Bing's cuts and layoffs in the department have compromised the city's fire service.

Fire department officials said they did everything they could to contain the 85 fires that broke out, from the east side to the west side, including calling other communities

to help out.

But curiously, no one called Hamtramck's Fire Department, despite the fact that the two communities have a mutual aid agreement and that some of the fires were located just minutes away from the Hamtramck border.

One of the people wondering why Detroit never called is Hamtramck Fire Chief Steve

Paruk.

"I don't know why they didn't call us," Paruk said. "We would have done something."

According to a spokesman for the Detroit Fire Department, Detroit expected Hamtramck to call and offer its help.

"In normal conditions we

Continued on page 8

Quick Hits

Wouldn't you know it. Next Thursday (Sept. 23) is not only the first day of fall, it's also when there will be a Harvest Moon, which is also a full moon.

The two happening on the same day doesn't occur often, so consider this a rare treat.

Also, this Saturday (Sept. 18) is Yom Kippur, one of the holiest days of the year for Jews. We wish our Jewish friends health and happiness.

This week in history

• Today, Sept. 17 in 1987, Pope John Paul II motorcaded down Jos. Campau and spoke to a fairly large crowd at Jos. Campau and Holbrook about the importance of keeping to keep in touch with your ethnic roots.

• Just one year after the Pope's visit the Pope monument on Jos. Campau and Belmont was officially dedicated to him.

• Liberty State Bank at Jos. Campau and Holbrook was founded in 1918. The bank is now called Huntington Bank.

Source: Hamtramck Historical Commission

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Slight uptick in violent crimes

Continued from front page

According to the UCR, violent crimes are defined as those offenses which involve force or threat of force.

When taking the most recent population figures into account, the violent crime rate in Hamtramck is about 1.8%. The rate increased slightly from 2008, when it was at 1.7%. However, between 2007 and 2008, the rate jumped from 1.4% to 1.7%. But despite the continual rise, Hamtramck's violent crime rate is still below the rate of nearby Detroit, which has an overall violent crime rate of about 2%.

One reason for the slowed-down rate of growth for violent crimes may be the proactive law enforcement of Hamtramck's Police Department, which underwent a change in leadership last year when Mark Kalinowski took over as Chief of Police.

Though he declines to take credit for anything – he says the officers are the ones out there doing the real job – he does say that increased police presence may contribute to the relatively low crime rate.

"Our guys are out there on traffic patrols more, and they're more visible," says Kalinowski. "There have been studies that show the area surrounding a squad car after it has pulled over a vehicle is safe from crime for about a thousand-foot radius, so that may have an effect."

As far as other crimes go, Hamtramck has actually seen a decline in some cases. Robbery rates fell in 2009, as did the number of burglaries, regular larcenies/thefts and vehicle thefts. But on the converse, the number of arsons, aggra-

vated assaults and forcible rapes were all up. The number of murders remained the same, although due to a slight decrease in population the murder rate also declined slightly.

Though it's too early to tell, Kalinowski says he hopes that 2010's statistics will also decline. However, because budget cuts loom large over the department, it is uncertain whether officers can maintain their current level of staffing through the rest of the year. Regardless of that fact, Kalinowski says his officers continue to perform in a professional and purposeful manner.

"It's the guys out there that are making the difference by doing their jobs," he said. "And for whatever reason, they're doing their jobs better than I can remember."

Crime Statistics for the City of Hamtramck					
Crime/Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Violent Crime	308	296	321	372	378
Murder	2	1	3	1	1
Forcible Rape	13	7	7	7	12
Robbery	165	172	123	146	137
Agg. Assault	128	116	188	218	228
Burglary	438	272	328	446	435
Larceny/Theft	442	430	418	480	356
Vehicle Theft	664	534	455	443	361
Arson	11	11	18	15	23
Population	22,259	21,939	21,448	20,722	20,255

Source: FBI

Officials dodge a bullet

Continued from front page

lion deficit.

He apparently wanted to extend this debate by turning down a proposal by the Police Department to tap into a federal grant that will pay for half the cost of the vests.

The other half would be paid from the city's drug forfeiture fund. That plan was presented two weeks ago by Police Chief Mark Kalinowski.

The deal, however, had to be acted on quickly. The federal grant requires that the vests be in possession of the department no later than Sept. 29. Jankowski got Councilmembers Cathie Gordon, Kazi Miah and Mohammed Hassan to delay a vote on the purchase until Tuesday.

Councilmember Catrina Stackpoole objected to the delay. (Councilmember Shahab Ahmed was absent.)

At Tuesday's meeting, Jankowski backed off from his previous position, saying he delayed the purchase so he could make sure the finances were in place.

He said it was the duty of the council to be sure about the finances, "or we're not doing our job."

There was never a question of doubt from the city manager about the financial

arrangement when the proposal was first presented to the council.

Jankowski said the police unions are still going to have to pitch in or face cuts elsewhere because of the projected deficit.

At the end of the discussion, Jankowski and the rest of the council voted unanimously to allow the purchase to go through as originally proposed. But before that vote was taken, Councilmembers Gordon, Hassan and Miah explained why they voted to delay the purchase.

The three said they did so to make sure there was money to cover the cost.

Mayor Karen Majewski, who was not required to vote on

the issue unless there was a tie, said it sounded more like Jankowski and the three councilmembers were trying to save face in light of the public outcry.

"There was a lot of backpedaling going on," Majewski said.

(Charles Sercombe can be contacted at cs@thehamtramckreview.com)

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This week at the library...

Computer Class for ESL Beginners - Friday, Sept. 24 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.

Summer Reading Awards Program - Saturday, September 18 at 1 p.m. Participants of the Childrens, Teens, and Adult Summer Reading Program will receive their certificates and prizes in a special program held on Saturday.

ESL Class for Beginners - Monday, Sept. 20 at 10 a.m. Christine Templin is the instructor for the ESL class for beginners. Free to the public.

Reading and Conversation for ESL Students - Tuesday, Sept. 21 at 3 p.m. Jide Aje is the instructor for the reading and conversation ESL classes.

Math Club Meeting - Tuesday, Sept. 21 at 4 p.m. Mr. Nuo is the new instructor for the math club and math tutoring.

Movie Wednesday - Wednesday, Sept. 22 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. 23 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.

Computer Classes for Intermediate Users - Thursday, Sept. 23 at 11:30 a.m. Adults with basic computer skills can enhance their computer literacy each Thursday at the library. Number of participants is limited to available computers.

Dealing with Diabetes - Thursday, Sept. 23 at 6 p.m. Learn how to control your lifestyle to help manage your diabetes. Free to the public.

Meeting of the Library Board - Thursday, Oct. 14 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, Oct. 21 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, Miroslawa 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.

Mobile Flu Shot Clinic - Registration now for flu shots are accepted at the library. All registered individuals will be notified by American HealthCare Service when they can come to the library for their seasonal flu shot. (Flu vaccine approved by the C.D.C.)

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Second Front Page

Next year's Labor Day Festival a go

By Charles Sercombe

City Manager Bill Cooper said he would welcome the organizers of this year's Hamtramck Labor Day Festival to work their magic again next year.

"Hell yes I'd bring them back," said Cooper on Monday, the first day back on the job after taking a vacation last week.

Festival organizers Kathleen Bittner and Rachel Karpinski Srodek have been praised by city officials and residents for stepping up to

save the festival after the city abruptly announced it would cancel the event just nine weeks before it was to take place.

The pair managed to not only save the festival but also bring in more vendors. They have also shocked city officials by announcing the festival actually made a whopping \$30,000 profit.

The one subject that Cooper and Bittner and Srodek differ is whether the profit will be used to offset

police overtime costs.

Bittner told The Review last week that since the city had already budgeted for police overtime there was no need to reimburse the city.

Cooper said that's open for interpretation and said it's likely that at least half the cost of overtime will be paid by festival profits. Cooper said he did not know the final cost for OT.

The remainder of the money will be placed into the city's special events fund.

Bittner said she and Srodek are already planning for an "Oktoberfest" on Oct. 16-17. Cooper said the pair has his blessing.

"Go for it, it's worth a shot," Cooper said.

Cooper added that Bittner and Srodek have already volunteered to organize the city's annual Paczki Day celebration.

"If we can get something every two or three months in town, that would be tremendous," Cooper said.

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One school route that's not so safe

By Charles Sercombe

The school year is now entering its third week but there is still a waiting game to finish up the city's sidewalk repairs.

The sidewalk at the southwest corner of Caniff and Gallagher – one of the most heavily traveled corners for students – is still not repaired. There is an exposed area that's waiting to be filled with cement.

Public Services Director Martin Ladd said a work crew had scheduled to fill the corner during Labor Day weekend but they were told to hold off because parking was needed for the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival.

Ladd said the corner should be fully repaired within a week.

Until then, the corner is still a trip and fall waiting to happen.

The city underwent an extensive sidewalk repair program in the last couple of months, thanks to a \$900,000 federal grant called "Safe Routes to Schools." The sidewalk at Caniff and Gallagher actually wasn't part of that program.

Wayne County installed new traffic lights at the intersection but had to keep access to the light's electrical wiring until all the bugs were worked out with the timing mechanism.

Hamtramck public housing will wait on drug testing

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck's public housing tenants won't have to go through drug testing – yet.

Flint's public housing authority is proposing annual drug testing for its tenants in an effort to curb rampant crime. The proposal is modeled after one being used in Indianapolis.

Tenants in Indianapolis must take a drug test once each year, and if they test positive, they have 30 days to test negative.

Flint's proposal, however, has already hit one road-

block. The Michigan Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union said it will file a lawsuit to block drug testing, saying it assumes public housing tenants are guilty of being criminals.

Hamtramck Executive Director of Public Housing Kevin Kondrat, a former chief of detectives in Hamtramck, said he will wait for the court and HUD, the federal agency that oversees public housing, to decide on the issue before proposing drug testing here.

"It's an issue where you measure twice and cut

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Gardener's Corner ...

By Kathleen Wojcinski

The Easiest way to preserve summer's bounty is to freeze or dehydrate it.

A good electric dehydrator can be purchased at K-Mart, ABC Warehouse or any where small kitchen appliances are sold. They come with recipes, tips and instructions. Thin slices of tomatoes, mushrooms, apples and lots of herbs and meats can be dried, keeping all the nutrients intact.

Fall flowers can be dried for their seeds. Dry herbs, like chives, sage, parsley, oregano, etc., by bundling the stems and hanging in a cool, dry and dark place, like a pantry or attic.

Freezing preserves the vitamins and freshness.

Some veggies like green beans and cauliflower need a one minute parboil bath before freezing in clear plastic freezer bags.

Of course, the time-tested

method of canning could be intimidating for first-timers, but it's not too difficult and can be quite fun. A canning cookbook is great, but if you "Google" the Internet, look under "canning foods" for a wealth of information and recipes.

Try your hand at homemade relishes and salsa with your tomatoes. Did you know there are even recipes for tomato jelly? Yum!



Henry Ford HEALTH SYSTEM
Diabetes: Head off foot problems with expert care
By Jason Kurek, DPM

For people with diabetes, foot care is essential to good health. Diabetes often causes nerve damage, known as neuropathy, which makes it difficult to feel pain, heat or cold. When there is a problem with the skin or nails on the feet, a person with diabetes may not realize it because they can't feel it. Even ordinary problems like blisters, calluses and ingrown toenails can lead to serious infections and health problems.

As a podiatrist, I specialize in care of the foot, but my medical training involves the entire body. I recognize how different medications and treatment will affect overall health and wellness, and care for my patients from head to foot. When needed, I refer patients to a family physician or specialist for additional care.

For individuals with diabetes, prevention is key. I work with my patients to manage current problems and medications, but also show them how to care for their feet, select proper shoe gear, recognize potential problems, and protect feet from injury.

Today, 16 million Americans have diabetes, and one in four will experience foot problems. If you have diabetes, see a podiatrist to ensure your foot health.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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Friendship House hosts golf outing fundraiser

Golf season still has several weeks to go, and now you can get a game in and help out a worthy cause.

Hamtramck's Friendship House is hosting its 5th Annual Friendship House Golf Outing on Saturday, Sept. 25 at Fox Creek Golf Course (near 7 Mile and Newburgh) in Livonia.

The annual fundraiser costs only \$85 and that fee includes greens fees, cart, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn and buffet dinner. The event is a four person scramble and begins sharply at 9 a.m. with a shotgun

start.

Sponsorship opportunities include hole sponsorships, and for \$100 per hole, the sponsor's name is placed on a colorful sign at a tee box. The "Recharger" sponsorship for \$550 underwrites lunch, and "The Great Send-off" for \$2,000 underwrites the buffet dinner.

Seizert Capital Partners is underwriting the breakfast, and Morgan Stanley is underwriting the beverage cart.

Friendship House is an 81 year old nonprofit in Hamtramck which provides food to an average of 1,200 peo-

ple each month. Other services include rent and utility assistance, community baby showers, a monthly soup kitchen, school supply giveaway day, holiday food baskets and classes in basic financial literacy. More information can be found at the website: www.detroitfriendshiphouse.com.

To sign up for the Golf Outing, send a check for \$85 with "golfer" in the memo line and mail it to: Friendship House, 9540 Conant Street, Hamtramck, MI 48212.

For more information, call (313) 871-7443.

Block Club Corner ...

First Thursdays, 4 Cs Neighborhood Watch (if you live or have a business between Carpenter, Conant, Caniff, and Campau), 7 p.m. Hamtramck Recreation Center, 1135 Charest, lower level

Second Mondays, Eastside Block Club (if you live or have a business East of Conant) 7 p.m. Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church, Activity Center, entrance on Harold Street

Second Wednesdays, 3 C7 Neighborhood Watch (if you live or have a business between Carpenter, Campau, Caniff, and I-75) People's community Services Senior Center on Caniff, across from the Public Library

Third Wednesdays, Midtown Neighborhood Watch (if you live or have a business between Caniff, Campau, Holbrook and I-75) 6:30 p.m. in the Convent of St. Florian's Church, on Florian Street

Fourth Thursdays, Southend Neighborhood Watch 6:30 p.m. in the People's Community Center on Joseph Campau and Danforth, for all residents and businesses south of Holbrook.

The Central Neighborhood Watch (Caniff, Conant, Holbrook, Campau) will soon set up regular meeting dates. For more information, go online to hamtramckCBC@gmail.com. Facebook: Hamtramck Central Block Club group page.

The Hamtramck Housing Commission Neighborhood Watch is not meeting at this time. If you would like to help start these groups, call the Weed and Seed office at (313) 281-8150.

Neighborhood Watch meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend. If additional information is needed contact the Weed and Seed office at (313) 281-8150.

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Review: Opinion Page

What was the point in delaying purchase of vests?

The issue of seeking concessions from the unions representing police officers is a legitimate one.

Hamtramck's two police officers' unions have refused to concede so much as a nickel to help with Hamtramck projected \$3.3 million deficit, which could lead to a state takeover.

But to draw a line in the sand with threatening the safety of individual officers is not only nuts, it's political suicide.

Such is the case with City Councilmember Tom Jankowski who held up the purchase of 59 bullet proof vests and demanded that officers be required to pay for half the cost of the vests with their clothing allowance budget.

Two weeks ago the Police Department said it had only until Sept. 29 to tap into a federal grant that will pay for half the cost. The other half would be covered by the city's drug forfeiture fund. In other words, at no cost to the city.

Free money. Free vests. Incredibly, Jankowski said no. Well, that's his busi-

ness and we're sure voters will be made aware of this come election time.

But more disturbing was the blind acceptance of Councilmembers Mohammed Hassan, Cathie Gordon and Kazi Miah to postpone the purchase agreement on the request by Jankowski.

That postponement will now put added pressure on the Police Department to hurry up before the Sept. 29 deadline to have the vests custom-fitted and delivered by the date, or face losing the federal grant.

At Tuesday's City Council meeting, the three councilmembers did some fancy footwork to rationalize their delay.

Let's be upfront about this: Not all requests for a postponement of an issue have equal value. Jankowski was clearly against the deal. We don't know what his motive was in delaying the purchase, but that's his problem.

This deal was as simple as it gets, yet the councilmembers in question claimed they wanted to

know for sure the finances were in place.

Hogwash. The money was clearly there two weeks ago and if there had been a problem our city manager would have spoken up. That's what we pay him to do.

If Councilmembers Gordon, Hassan and Miah can't even distinguish a ruse to stall the deal and overcomplicate the issue, we have to wonder whether they can truly serve the city.

The delay of the deal caused a lot of needless anguish and grief in the community. Councilmembers, get your act together and start thinking about what's good for the community instead of what you perceive to be the courteous thing to do when a fellow councilmember decides to derail an issue.

You serve the community, not fellow councilmembers with a political ax to grind.

And, by the way, kudos to Councilmember Catrina Stackpoole who voted against any delay in the purchase and standing up to Jankowski.

Letters • Letters

Festival organizers did a great job

Kudos to Hamtramck's Dynamic Duo of Kathleen Bitner and Rachel Karpinski Srodek.

They got the job done in a most timely manner. In the 30 years of Hamtown Festivals this year's has to be in the top five.

The big loser: The Hamtramck Fire Department. Wow, talk about clueless!!

Victor Jiomkowski
Hamtramck

This year's festival was 'one for show'

Congratulations Hamtramck for a job well done celebrating in hometown style at the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival. It was heartwarmingly pleasant to see a great number of our citizens and visitors to our fair hamlet enjoying that sense of community which galvanizes this 2.1 square mile city.

Now that it's over I want thank The Festival Planning Committee for sending summer out with a classy smack on the dupa, or I should say Okicim. The pitchers, places to sit and eat, and colorful music line-up were thoughtful touches.

I don't know about you but I particularly noticed the cleanliness of the street during the event which reminded me of my busia's "this one's for using and that one's for show" rule. Even though there was a garbage can in every room of her house that rule would send me over to the kitchen garbage can only.

I mention this only because I believe that as far as events go, in regards to planning, execution, and quality, "This one's for using and for show."

It's wonderful to see a relatively small group of fresh volunteers put together such an event with just a hint of help from our elected officials. I applaud their hands-off approach and their, "That sounds like a great idea, let's try something new" attitude.

How wise they are to have recognized the raw power and

boundless energy of the next generation of Hamtramckans. This year's planners weren't befuddled with old-boy networks, not keeping records or losing money. They didn't trip over their own feet or drive over anyone else's. They came out of the blocks with lightning on their heels, and bolted across the finish line proving that with commitment and good coaching (thanks again elected officials) great things can happen.

Now that the dust has been swept and numbers are being crunched, hopefully to all of our delight, I wonder what the next challenge will be for our young up and comers. Will they throw another party? Will they build a park or a monument? Will they put a Hamtramckan on the moon in the next decade? Who can know these things, but whatever it is I'm sure we will all look forward to it. BRAVO! STOLAT! GOOOOAL!

Thank you Col. Hamtramck. Thank you, and bless you.

Sincerely, Bill Graham and the Family Dog;
care of Shannon Lowell

Odds & Ends

Get healthy ... Our State Sen. Martha Scott – and soon to be our new Wayne County Commissioner – is once again hosting a Health Fair through her M.G. Scott Foundation.

It's this Saturday (Sept. 18) at the Hamtramck Community Center, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., located at 11350 Charest.

The theme this year is "You Are What You Eat: Healthy Eating for Healthy Living." The Health Fair will feature health screenings and healthy cooking demonstrations as it reminds attendees that we are what we eat.

Forty vendors will offer attendees information on healthy lifestyles. At least

two vendors will provide cooking demonstrations, while others offer screenings for blood pressure and blood sugar. Many of the vendors will have free giveaways for attendees, and the event features a free raffle drawing.

Sponsors for the event are DTE Energy, Spectrum Human Services, State Farm Insurance, Total Health Care, Molina Healthcare, Adult Well Being Services, Identity Theft Protection and Rosemond Chiropractic Health Center.

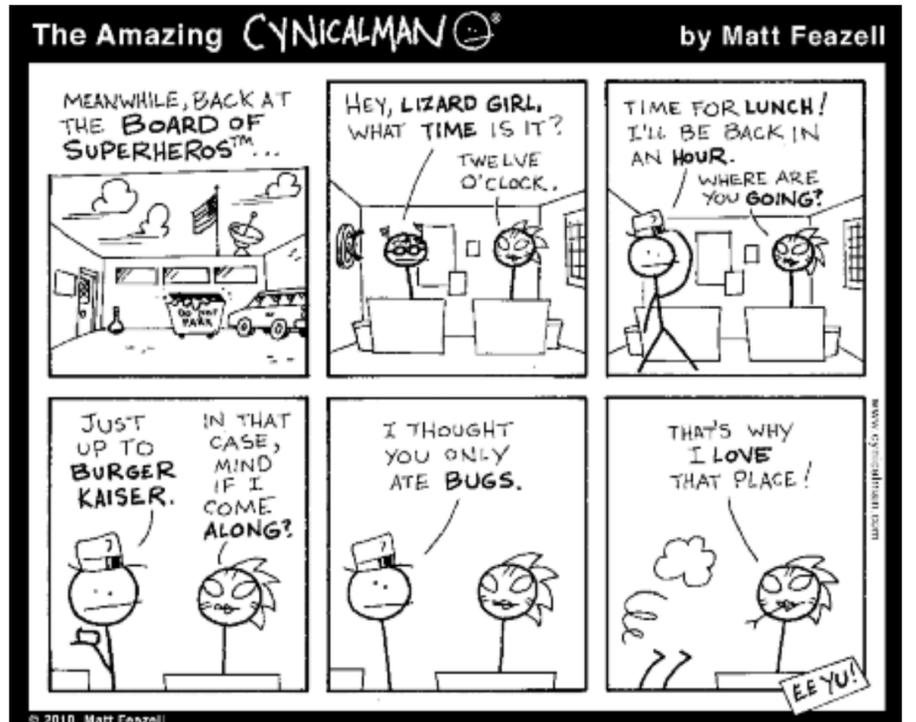
The annual health fair is the Foundation's largest event. In 2009, nearly 200 people attended, many of whom did not have health insurance or access to reg-

ular medical care. More than 40 vendors offered free health screenings and access to medical information.

Also of special note is a "Town Hall" meeting Scott is hosting on Oct. 18. She and others will discuss speed traps, driver responsibility fines/fees, and the loss of driving privileges based on unpaid parking tickets.

Hamtramck has been singled out for having several speed traps in town.

The meeting will be held at the Freedom Missionary Baptist Church, 2228 Lakeview in Detroit. The meeting is scheduled from 6-8 p.m.



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It's festival fever in Hamtramck

By Ian Perrotta

Well, it didn't take long for another festival to crop up. On Oct. 16 and 17, Hamtramck will host its first-ever Oktoberfest.

The idea for the event came from Kathleen Bittner and Rachel Karpinski Srodek, who helped organize this year's incredibly successful Labor Day

city to the rest of the area," she says. "People are shocked to find out that people are still living in Hamtramck and having fun. This will help show them why."

The Oktoberfest will be similar to other area Oktoberfests. It's slated to be held in a tent in the parking lot between Polish Village Café and

to display it for sports fans.

Also going on during the weekend will be the first Hamtramck Volksmarch. In Germany, volksmarches are non-competitive walks that typically span a distance of 10 kilometers, often through a forest or other scenic route. While the Hamtramck Volksmarch won't be that long, it



Festival. Bittner said that after working on the festival, she realized how rewarding it was for not only for herself but the city as a whole. By organizing this festival, she hopes to add to Hamtramck's already well-known portfolio of worthwhile events.

"By having these types of events, we can showcase our

Polonia, and you can expect beer, bratwurst and other standard fare. However, it will also feature food and fun for the whole family, including a hayride, apple games, pumpkin carving and face painting. And for those who don't want to miss the football game on either Saturday or Sunday, a projector screen will be there

will offer an award to those who complete the entire walk. It looks like this year's award will be a commemorative beer mug.

As for entertainment, the Oktoberfest has a line-up that is second to none. In addition to polka and German dancers, there will be a number of musical acts — many that are Hamtramck favorites. The Polish Muslims, Howling Diablos, and, yes, Danny D will all be there. Also slated to play is the Duane Malinowski Orchestra as well as the world famous Eddie Blazonczyk.

"Every one of these bands is headlining band," says Bittner. "It's kind of crazy that they'll all be playing."

Street Life

Away from the festival, Hamtramck's teeming nightlife

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

By Walter Wasacz

Hamtramck was off the

I took some photos of a unique event held at the Public Pool art space on Caniff on Friday, Sept. 3. The performance featured Chris Pottinger (Cotton Mu-



lation called the Quantum Field, which was up at the gallery for the past six weeks. Incidentally, Brumit, now based in Chicago, purchased the famed "\$100 House" on Lawley St. in NoHam and will be moving there in January. We will pick up on his story later.

In the pics, Pottinger is rocking out at a table filled with electronic gear; Brumit is tweaking his installation on a ladder and playing an amplified sewing machine. Pottinger has lots of hair; Brumit doesn't.

If you like what you see, check out a completely different show opening this Saturday at Public Pool. The group show called



hook on Labor Day weekend. The festival and parade — as you've no doubt already seen on the front page of the last week's Review, if you weren't one of thousands of people in attendance — were filled with live energy and big fun.

What I'd like to do is take you behind those scenes to some other cool stuff that happened in town that weekend, away from the mainstream. Hamtramck is so rich with cultural life (ethnic, creative), it's hard



to keep track or keep up. But that's one of the reasons we're here.

seum, Slither, Odd Clouds) and Jon Brumit, who created the sight-sound instal-

"Erasure" features artists Mira Burack, John Corbin, Andrew Davis, Tim Hailey, Scott Hocking, Kathy Rashid, Gilda Snowden and Graem Whyte. The opening reception is 7-11 p.m. at the gallery, 3309 Caniff.

There will be an after-party at Skipper's (9735 Conant), featuring a complimentary taco bar courtesy of John Lopez (formerly of Union Street, Atlas Global Bistro and other fine Detroit kitchens).

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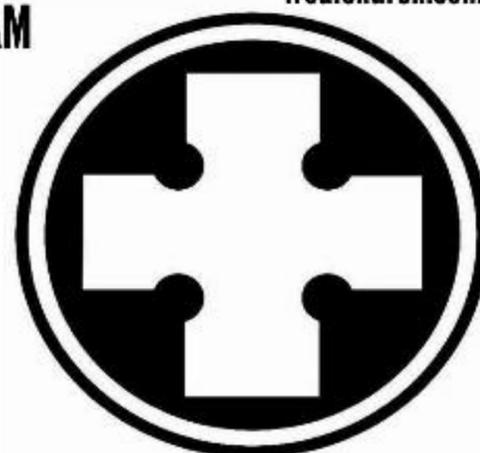
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City officials say pot raids won't affect zoning proposal

By Charles Sercombe

Despite the recent crack-down on marijuana clinics in Ferndale by Oakland County Sheriffs, Hamtramck officials are rolling ahead with a zoning law regulating where marijuana can be grown here.

City Manager Bill Cooper said the arrests in Oakland County had to do with marijuana clinics distributing to people who are not qualified to use it for medical purposes – not whether the clinic was zoned properly.

"It was a sting operation," Cooper said of the Oakland County action.

The new state law allows for registered caregivers to grow marijuana for people who qualify to use it for medical reasons. The problem

with the law, Cooper said, is that its language is open to interpretation.

"Which means it will be left to the courts," he said.

The law allows, however,

eration being located in residential areas.

"We block all types of commercial operations locating in residential areas. Why would we not block

overwhelming those living nearby. He also said since the plants require moisture there is concern what the growing operation would do to the houses.

The City Council is still fine-tuning its zoning ordinance. A final version is expected to be adopted in the coming weeks. Residents are permitted by law to grow up to 12 plants for themselves at home per year as long as they are registered with the state.

Cooper said he would not rule out having the Hamtramck Police Department

conduct periodic sting operations on commercial pot growing facilities to make sure they are following the law.



this?" Cooper said.

And why would the city want to block it?

Cooper said there are issues of odor from the plants

Obituaries

ORZECZOWSKI

Anthony J. Orzechowski, 42, died August 28, 2010.

Mr. Orzechowski was a Hamtramck resident. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Norman Mergelwski; and grandparents, Raymond and Mary Orzechowski.

He is survived by his grandmother, Lorraine Mergelwski; stepfather, Connie James Hines; father, Stephen; mother, Norma Hines; brother, Stephen Michael Orze-

chowski.

Funeral arrangements were made by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, and funeral services were held on September 4 with Pastor Scott Roberts officiating. Cremation was at Meadowcrest Cemetery.



Coming Events

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 Act ivies 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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St. Ladislaus Parish celebrates its 90th anniversary

Time to light up 90 candles. On Sept. 26, St. Ladislaus Parish will celebrate its 90th anniversary as a parish starting with a special Mass at noon celebrated by Episcopal Vicar, Msgr. Donald Hanchon. All parishioners, former

parishioners, and fellow Catholics are invited to attend the Mass, which will be said in English and Polish at the church located at 2730 Caniff.

Following the Mass, a banquet will be held at the

Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren. Tickets for the banquet are available at the parish rectory until Monday, Sept. 20. The cost for the banquet is \$40 per person.

Mutual aid or communication break down?

Continued from front page

would have called them," said Katrina Butler, Chief of the Communications Department. "But this was not a normal condition and we were overwhelmed."

A source in the Detroit Fire Department, who asked not be directly quoted, said Detroit didn't consider Hamtramck because Hamtramck failed to participate in a meeting last year with other communities to prepare for Halloween coverage.

Hamtramck's Chief Paruk said that is not true. He said he received a call about the meeting on the day it was being held but not before.

Paruk said he went to the meeting and was given special radios to be able to talk with Detroit firefighters on their radio frequency.

Paruk said as far as responding to mutual aid, the policy is for the city in need to call for assistance.

A case in point, he said, was the huge fire at Sterling Oil last year. He said Detroit did not show up until he called for their assistance.

Paruk stressed that there have been numerous times his department has spotted fires in neighborhoods across the Hamtramck-Detroit border and responded to it without

waiting for a call from Detroit.

In addition to policy matters, there is also the reality of union politics. In some cases, mutual aid is no guarantee for assistance. A few years ago, Hamtramck had to lay off firefighters while at the same time there were labor issues simmering between the firefighters' union and city officials.

During the period, a major fire broke out at the former site of the Polish Market on Jos. Campau and Commor. A Detroit crew arrived, all suited up, but refused to help out because of the labor disputes happening in Hamtramck.

Hamtramck public housing will wait on drug testing

Continued from page 3

once," he said about waiting to propose a drug testing policy to the Hamtramck Housing Commission.

Kondrat said that compared to other public housing agencies, there is little crime on the grounds of the Col. Hamtramck Apartments complex, located on Dequindre, west of

the I-75 divide. Kondrat and the Housing Commission have already instituted a strict policy of one strike and you're out when it comes to tenants.

If tenants are arrested for a non-traffic offense or cause problems in the housing units they are immediately kicked

out.

In the past month eight tenants have been evicted for various offenses, including non-payment of rent.

There is a five-year waiting list to get into Hamtramck's public housing and a six-month waiting list to get into the senior apartments.

St. Lad's has a long history serving Hamtramck

(Editor's note: This year is the 90th anniversary of the founding of St. Ladislaus Parish. Here's an overview of the history of the parish, written by Hamtramck resident Joseph M. Sobota.)

By Joseph M. Sobota
Special to The Review

On Sept. 25, 1920, some 300 Polish Roman Catholics gathered at Eckert's Hall on Jos. Campau near Caniff and participated in a Mass celebrated by Fr. Boleslaus Gdaniec.

Those 300 people were the foundation of an unnamed parish that grew and prospered over the next 90 years. Not until June 1, 1921 did Bishop Michael Gallagher choose the name of St. Ladislaus as the official name of the church. For that matter, the late naming of the parish coincided with the late founding of the parish; in May of 1919, Fr. Francis Baweja was initially given the assignment of organizing the parish, but was soon reassigned to other duties.

St. Ladislaus Parish grew quickly. Fr. Gdaniec, noticing a need to educate the youth of the parish, opened an elementary school which held its first classes at Eckert's Hall in 1921. He requested that the Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, Ohio staff the new parish school.

Unfortunately, Fr. Gdaniec would not lead the parish for long, because on March 24, 1922, for health reasons, Fr. Gdaniec resigned.

His replacement was Fr. Anthony Majewski who would lead the parish as pastor for the next 36 years until his death in August of 1958. During Fr. Majewski's pastorate, he oversaw the construction of three church buildings and one school. Existing structures were purchased for a rectory and a convent.

In 1929, St. Ladislaus opened a two-year commercial high school. Then in 1934, St. Ladislaus became the first parish in Hamtramck to open a four-year Catholic high school. Until June of 1982, thousands of teenagers were educated at St. Ladislaus High School, at which time the High School consolidated with St. Florian High.

The elementary school remained open for another 10 years when it closed due to decreasing enrollment. On May 9, 1954, nearly 6,000 people attended Marian Day

rites on the church parking lot before a special altar that was set up in the front entrance of the church; this was the largest religious demonstration held in Hamtramck at that time.

Following Fr. Majewski was

for his excellent homilies that were usually accompanied by visual aids. After overseeing the consolidation of the high school, Fr. Kosicki asked to be reassigned to another parish in October 1982 when Fr. Stanley Ulman, a Ham-



St. Ladislaus Parish is celebrating its 90th anniversary of its founding this year. The church recently had a float in the Polish Day Parade to promote upcoming celebrations.

Fr. Edward Miotke who served as pastor until 1971. During Fr. Miotke's pastorate, the high school became one of the five largest high schools in the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Fr. Miotke oversaw the construction of the school cafeteria and a new convent in 1964. He also implemented many of the changes as a result of the Second Vatican Council. On Nov. 29, 1964, the first English Mass was celebrated with the priest facing the people. Not until April 27, 1969 was the permanent altar turned around.

One of the highlights of Fr. Miotke's pastorate was hosting then Cardinal Karol Wojtyla when he visited St. Ladislaus Church on September 22, 1969. Cardinal Wojtyla placed flowers on the main altar and spoke to the parishioners. Cardinal Wojtyla would return to Hamtramck in 1987 as Pope John Paul II and would look upon St. Ladislaus Church as his motorcade passed south on Jos. Campau.

Upon Fr. Miotke's retirement in June of 1971, Fr. Leo Kulinski became pastor. Fr. Kulinski's tenure was faced with many financial challenges complicated by the need to have major repairs done to parish properties. On September 7, 1980, Fr. Kulinski suffered a stroke and would never return to full service to the parish. He was replaced by Fr. Bohdan Kosicki in September of 1981. Fr. Kosicki was known

tramck native, was named pastor.

Fr. Ulman remained at St. Ladislaus until June 2004. During Fr. Ulman's pastorate, St. Ladislaus sought greater outreach in the Hamtramck community. A soup kitchen was started in 1983 and continues to serve dinners every Thursday. After Fr. Ulman left, Fr. Jacek Brewczynski was named pastor, but six weeks into his pastorate, Fr. Brewczynski resigned.

Since August 2004, St. Ladislaus has been placed under the leadership of three administrators, Fr. Andrew Czarnecki, Fr. Tomas Sielicki, and Fr. Andrew Wesley, who leads the parish today.

Over the years, over two dozen priests have assisted the pastors, 233 nuns educated the children of the parish, 36 young women joined the Sisters of St. Francis, 11 men were ordained to the priesthood, and another five graduates of the high school were ordained.

Thousands of children received the sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation. Nearly 3,500 couples were married in the church.

St. Ladislaus Parish, located on Caniff between Jos. Campau and Brombach, has impacted the lives of thousands of people in Hamtramck since 1920 and continues to serve the Polish-American Roman Catholic community today.

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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 modeldmedia.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:

The Midwest's largest art mecca, the Russell Industrial Complex, will now be sporting the state's largest spray paint mural.

Artist Kobie Solomon is hard at work painting the

4,000-square-foot piece, which he conceptually describes as a "Chimera composed of elements of each of the four major sports teams, aspects of Detroit industry and at least some graphic representation of the majority of the creative activities going on at the Russell on a daily basis among the artists there. His mane is made out of brushes, pencils, files, x-acto knives, chis-

els, pens...the whole shebang. His tail ends with a glass blowers' torch."

Eric Novack of the Russell Industrial says the mural will act as "a big welcome sign to Detroit." He also points out that the Russell Industrial Center's somewhat unlikely fate as an auto parts manufacturing facility retooled into a creative arts incubator makes it the perfect home for a Chimera, the

meaning of which is "impossible dream" or "foolish fantasy."

Solomon kicked off the commissioned work at the People's Art Festival and expects it to take two months to complete. The artist is currently working to open a tattoo parlor in River Rouge.

Writer: Kelli B. Kavanaugh

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Family remains loyal to their school district

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck's public school district has a snappy recruitment slogan these days: "Start here, Stay here, Succeed here."

It's been in effect for the past couple of years and so far it's helped increase the number of new students enrolling into the district.

And if there was ever a family that has lived up to that motto, it's the Djoka and Linda Dedvukaj family.

We met up with Djoka (or "Joe" as he prefers) and his wife, Linda, and their four kids at The Review's photo

booth during the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival. They were excited to have a family photo taken with the district's superintendent, Tom Niczay who was working the school district's booth nearby.

Joe said he started in Dickinson East Elementary School when his family emigrated here in 1976 from Montenegro. His wife, Linda, who is younger, also started off in Dickinson East in 1984.

Dickinson East is where Tom Niczay had been principal. Niczay, who has always



The Dedvukaj family pose for a photo with Hamtramck Public School District Superintendent Tom Niczay (middle) during the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival. The family is a living embodiment of the district's slogan: "Start Here, Stay Here, Succeed Here."

been popular with students, must have made a strong impression on Joe and Linda.

Flash forward to 1998 and Joe and Linda are married and starting a family. When it came time for their first-born to go to school, Linda thought about enrolling him in one of the charter schools here. It was just a passing thought.

But Joe is a traditional

sort of guy and, together they both decided to have their son, Mark, "Follow our footsteps and be a part of the public school system."

Not only did young Mark become part of the Dickinson alumni, he also was placed in Ms. Shipman's class – just where his dad, Joe, started 30 years ago.

"When my son Mark had his first open house it was such a great feeling to go to

Dickinson East after 30 years," Joe said.

Mark's two brothers, Gjon and Josef, also eventually started out in Ms. Shipman's class. Ms. Shipman even sent Josef a postcard before he started this year, saying: "Wow!! Another Dedvukaj brother. Can't wait."

Sofia, the youngest of the family, has one more year to go before ... you guessed it ... starts her schooling at Dickinson.

Joe proudly boasts that unlike other Albanian-American families who used to live here and have since moved to Sterling Heights, he has decided to stay in Hamtramck.

"We are the only Dedvukaj family to "start here, stay here, succeed here," Joe said. "It is such a great experience for our kids to go to the same grade school as my wife and I."

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By Danette Lee, CNM, MS, and Tish Roeske, CNM, MS,

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