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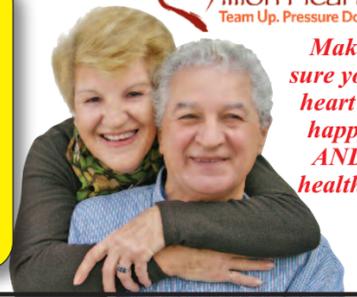
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The Review

Hamtramck

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Quick Hits

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

While our local bars are always busy, you can bet folks will be out in force celebrating St. Pat's this Saturday, March 17.

Trust us, you can find plenty of blarney at our local pubs.

Also coming up this week, spring is right around the corner – although it doesn't feel like it.

The first day of spring, also known as the vernal equinox, is next Tuesday, March 20.

Winter weather is stubbornly clinging on, and a look at the weather forecast shows there is no let up. For the next week, temperatures will be in the 40s during the day and back down to the chilly 20s at night.

The only good thing happening is more sunny days.

For you youngsters out there, vernal equinox means our days and nights are the same length of time – for just a little while. That phenomenon happens again during the autumnal equinox – the first day of fall, which will be on Sept. 22.

In the spirit of St. Patrick's Day, let's raise a pint of Guinness (make ours a black and tan) to warmer days.

HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD

'It's time to take a stand and use our voices'

By Charles Sercombe
Hamtramck High School students joined students nationwide in a walkout on Wednesday morning.

The event, called a "controlled walkout" started at 10 am. and lasted for 17 minutes – one minute for each person killed one month ago at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

It was there that a former student came into the school and killed 17 students and adults with an assault-styled weapon.

The purpose of the walkout was two-fold: to push lawmakers to adopt gun control laws and to memorialize those who died in Parkland.



Hamtramck High School students participated in a national student walkout on Wednesday morning to memorialize those who were killed a month ago at a high school in Florida. They also called for the end of gun violence.

Hamtramck students massed around the high school's flagpole, with some students holding a poster with the name and photo of each person killed in Parkland.

Mahnaz Begum, an 11th grader, spoke at the gathering, saying that since the 1999 Columbine school shooting, 122 students have died in gun massacres.

(According to FBI statistics, the number is actually higher at 144.)

"Why are we still having this problem?" Begum asked. **Continued on page 2**

Baseball won't be the only game at historic stadium



The public was recently invited to the Hamtramck Public Library to share their ideas and requests for what activities to include at the city's historic baseball stadium when it gets renovated.

By Charles Sercombe
If things go the way city and school officials hope they will, it's likely the city's historic baseball stadium is in line for major renovation.

Both city councilmembers and school boardmembers have joined forces to apply for a multi-million dollar grant to improve our parks and expand opportunities for young people to become

active. The city-school partnership has begun a grant application through the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation. The foundation is offering communities in southeast Detroit millions of dollars to get kids more motivated to be physical.

It is an attempt to combat a growing problem of obesity among youths. **Continued on page 3**

CM search clouded in secrecy

By Charles Sercombe
Some 38 people recently applied to become Hamtramck's new city manager.

Out of that field, only three met the qualifications set by the city charter. The city's search firm, GovHR, recommended only one candidate to be interviewed.

So who were these two candidates as well as all the others who did not meet charter qualifications?



The search for candidates to fill the position of city manager was paid by taxpayers, but we may never know everyone who applied for the job.

Before that is looked at, it should be noted that Hamtramck's requirements to become a city manager are considered by many to be too limiting. The charter requires a candidate for the position to have the title of city manager or assistant city manager for at least three years in a city with a population of at least 10,000.

If the city did not have those strict requirements, the city's search firm said there were 17 candidates who were of "interest" – and presumably possible **Continued on page 6**

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Letters • Letters

Local World War II veteran is remembered and honored

My name is Edmund Rusinek. I grew up in Hamtramck since I was 9 months old. My parents bought a store, which was called a Polish Bazaar, in 1927.

It was located in the middle of the block on Jos. Campau between Yemans and Belmont. We lived in one room, behind the stock room. It was supposed to be tempo-

rary. But the Depression hit us and the bank closed our savings.

The temporary stay lasted 14 years. Growing up, I met the Miekstyn family living around the corner on Yemans and grew up with the youngest of five sons, Edward.

After Pearl Harbor, the fourth son, Ladislaus (I swear we used to call him Wladzio), enlisted in the

Army Air Force at 18 and became a gunner on a B-24 bomber. His plane was shot down coming out of Italy and he was killed early in the war.

Returning from the Service in 1947, I enrolled at the University of Michigan in the Engineering School and graduated in 1951 with a degree in aeronautical engineering.

I was hired by North American Aviation, purchased a car and drove out to California to build airplanes. When I got here, I was assigned to a newly formed Division in Downey, California as a Stressman involved in Aerospace Projects.

It was a 49-year adventure involving missiles, spaceships and shuttles. Out of Downey, I had assignments at Edwards Air Force Base and the NASA at Johnson, Marshall and Kennedy Space Centers with two two-week trips to Russia to coordinate docking the Space Shuttle to the Russian Space Station Mir.

When I retired in 1999, I volunteered as Editor of the North American Aviation Retirees Bulletin, a 20-page quarterly. Several years ago, one of our retirees called me to inform me that the USAF Museum in Dayton, Ohio had a wall of plaques with

Continued on page 8

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'It's time to take a stand and use our voices'

Cont. from front page

many lives have to be lost before gun laws are changed?"

Begum added that teenagers have easy access to guns.

"It's time to take a stand and use our voices," she said. "We stand with Parkland. Do you?"

With that closing remark the 200 students who gathered, despite the chilly 20-degree temperature, cheered.

A moment of silence was then held and after students returned to their classrooms.



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This week at the library...

ESL Class - Monday, March 19, 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

ESL Class - Wednesday, March 21, 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

ESL Class - Thursday, March 22, 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

Food for fines - Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeast Michigan is once again teaming up with The Hamtramck Public Library for the annual Food for Fines/Food for Thought campaign. Between March 20 and April 28 the library will accept non-perishable food donations on behalf of Gleaners as we work together to help our hungry neighbors in need. To thank you for your donation, you will receive library fine forgiveness for each item you bring! (See Library personnel for details. Fine forgiveness cap may apply.)

New Video Release - Dr. Martin Luther King Breakfast Program 2018 held at the Hamtramck Community Center and organized by The Concerned Women of Hamtramck has been made into a movie featuring a talent show performed by students from the Hamtramck Public Schools. It can be viewed on the Hamtramck Public Library website and on

youtube.

March is reading Month - "March to the beat of your own drum". Please join us every Wednesday in March after school for stories, singing and crafts. We will also be making musical instruments to use during the program. Tell a friend.

Hamtramck Recreation Department Senior Easter Egg Hunt - Easter Egg Hunts aren't just for the young, they are also for the young at heart! Lots of eggs, goodies, and prizes! No registration required. **Friday, March 23, 10-11:30 a.m.** For more information call the Community Center (313) 892-2635.

Easter Special Toddler Story Time - Celebrate Easter with us at the Hamtramck Public Library and make your own Easter egg basket! **On Thursday, March 29, at noon.**

Exhibit - The Hamtramck Public Library & The Creative Spirits Art Collaborative presents the 2018 Black American Art & History Exhibit

(The Black Explosion), "We No Longer Have To Be Silent." **February 1 - March 31. Opening Reception February 8, 5-7 p.m.** For exhibit hours call (313) 733-6821. ART BY LOCAL BLACK ARTISTS, Shirley Woodson Lolles, Creative Spirits Artistic Director.

City Wide Poets: Are you a writer? Join Citywide Poets - Every Tuesday from

4:30 to 6:30p.m. At the Hamtramck Public Library, 2360 Caniff. Free and open to all teens. Sessions Begin January 30. For more information, please contact: justin@insideoutdetroit.org or visit HYPERwww.insideoutdetroit.org

2018 Free Tax Services - Free service for those whose annual household income is less than \$54,000. **Mondays through March 26, 10 a.m.- 4p.m. Closed February 19.** Call (734) 284-6999 for an appointment.

ABCmouse.com - Now available at the Hamtramck Public Library, ABCmouse.com is a free digital learning resource for children ages 2-8+ with more than 8,500 Learning Activities and 850 lessons, ABCmouse.com is the most comprehensive early learning curriculum available online. Ask your library staff for more details.

Michigan Activity Pass - The pass will enable Library card holders to obtain a one-time free entry into any Michigan State park or recreation area, and free entry into over 100 participating cultural institutions. Ask at the circulation desk for more details. For more information about events at the library call (313) 733-6822, or visit its website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> where you can also access the online catalog. The library is located at 2360 Caniff.

For more information about events at the library call (313) 733-6822, or visit its website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> where you can also access the online catalog. The library is located at 2360 Caniff.

Second Front Page

Friday fish fry is a Hamtramck favorite



Friday fish fries in Hamtramck is a long-held tradition. You have two more Fridays to find out what all the fuss is about.



By Charles Sercombe

For food lovers Lenten season in Hamtramck means one thing:

Friday fish fries.

The city offers three places in town specializing in the tradition: Kelly's Bar, PLAV Post 10 and the Moose Lodge.

All of them have their own particular take on their fish fry, and all of them are terrific.

Here's a rundown on what they have to offer:

Let's start with the Moose Lodge on Conant just north of Holbrook (9421 Conant). Doors open at 4 p.m. and you can enjoy a pierogi dinner, shrimp Po'Boy sandwich, breaded shrimp dinner or a Lake Perch dinner.

Carryouts are available. Call them at (313) 871-9115.

At PLAV Post 10 at 11824 Jos. Campau, some familiar faces will be serving up specials.

Rodney Srodek and Hippo Jr. are manning the kitchen and they offer every Friday, from noon to 8 p.m. during Lent the following: A combo platter featuring walleye, perch, shrimp and pierogi (for \$17).

You can also choose from breaded lake perch and breaded walleye, jumbo butterfly shrimp dinner, potato cheddar pierogi diner, French fries and Mac and Cheese.

Carryouts are also available. Call them at (313) 893-1355. Proceeds go to veterans who are hospitalized and those who are homeless.

And over at our favorite dive, Kelly's Bar (2403 Holbrook) has all-you-can-eat walleye. They'll be open every Friday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and lunch and dinners are served.

Also on the menu: Lake perch and cod dinners. Kelly's, by the way, is

home to the original taco and Reuben pierogies. There are great beer specials, too. Carryouts are also available. Call them at (313) 872-0387.

Of course you can catch a good fish meal at the regular restaurants in

town all year round, including Maine Street, Polish Village Café and Polonia.

There are just two more weeks remaining in the season, which ends on March 30.



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Baseball won't be the only game at historic stadium

Continued from front page

City officials and residents are already making plans on what to do with the baseball stadium in Veterans Park. The stadium has been deemed historic because it is one of only a few standing stadiums that served the National Negro Baseball League back in the 1930s.

Recently, the city held a public forum to collect ideas on what activities to offer at the stadium once it is renovated.

The overwhelming response was for a cricket pitch to be included at the site.

Other proposals called for the space to be used for entertainment activities.

A study is now underway to find out what needs to be done to renovate the almost 90-year-old stadium. Baseball won't be the only sport played there. City officials plan to make it a multi-purpose stadium that will host a variety of activities.

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Hamtramck Recreation Department

senior Easter egg hunt

Easter Egg Hunts aren't just for the young, but also the young at heart! Lots of eggs, goodies, and prizes!
Registration not required.

Friday, March 23
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

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School Bell

Hamtramck High School News

Congratulations to HHS FIRST Team!

The following information is from John Stofflett, one of the the FIRST Team's coaches:

The FIRST Team competed Friday and Saturday, March 9 and 10, at the Center Line First Robotics District Competition.

After 12 qualification matches, Team Cosmos seeded 8th in a strong field of 40 teams.

In the alliance selections for elimination matches Saturday afternoon, we were asked by the Number 2 ranked team to join their alliance and accepted the offer.

In the quarter finals, we defeated the Number 7 alliance and moved on to the semifinals.

In the semifinals, we continued our winning streak and beat the Number 6 alliance. It was then on to the finals. We

fought a good battle, but in the end, after two exciting matches, we fell to the Number 1 alliance.

We know that we did our best and represented Hamtramck High School and our gracious sponsors with a positive attitude and are proud to have ended the weekend as the 2nd place alliance.

At the awards ceremony following the event, we received the "Entrepreneurship Award." This award was sponsored by Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers.

The award celebrates entrepreneurial spirit and recognizes a team that has developed the framework for a comprehensive business plan to scope, manage, and achieve team objectives. This is what the judges had to say about Team Cosmos: "Their ability to recognize strength in community support has led this team to develop a symbiotic partnership within its local universe. By sharing their robot with their community spon-



Above: The high school's DECA Team recently received the "Outstanding Chapter" award. Below: the HHS Robotics team also won state awards.



sors, they provide a unique opportunity to generate foot traffic for local businesses and promote an increased interest in STEM education. With an astronomically positive attitude and a dynamic plan that is out of this world. ..."

There are 508 FIRST Teams in the State of Michigan. With our strong performance we feel confident that we will be one of the top 160 teams invited to the state championship. We will know at the end of the 6th week of district events for sure, and will keep you updated.

Here is a link to a video

of our matches: <https://youtu.be/nzXl-aYAXfYk>

We are the red robot on the bottom right. Thank you for your support. Without your help, it wouldn't have been possible.

Congratulations to the students. Also, thank you to the FIRST team coaches, Mr. John Stofflett, Ms. Laura Baugh, Mr. Timothy Closs, Mr. David Preston, Mr. Marv Kreska and Mr. T from Ford Motor Company. Go Cosmos!

Congratulations to HHS DECA Team!

The following information is from Mr. John Rostek, one of the DECA coaches:

The HHS DECA Team sent 42 students to compete at the State Competition at Cobo Hall on March 9, 10 and 11.

Hamtramck High School was recognized as a chapter 24 times at the State Competition.

On Friday, March 9, Hamtramck High School received the "Outstanding Chapter" Award recognition for raising \$900 for

MDA, "Gimme 5" award for increasing chapter membership for five consecutive years, and received the "School Based Enterprise" Bronze Award based on a written report by Anthony Bist, Emil Melkic, and Fuad Ghaleb.

On Saturday, March 10, Ihsan Akhtar received the "Math" award for obtaining the highest math score at the State conference.

On Sunday, March 11, Naila Saric, Sanela Mujic, and Ema Melkic won the "Chapters Award Program" presentation (National Qualifier-Atlanta, Georgia), Arman Hossain received 4 medals for "Financial Consulting" presentation (National Qualifier-Atlanta, Georgia), Amer Gunic received two medals for his "Professional Selling" presentation, Rudra Barua received two medals for "Principles of Business Management" case study, Ermina Karasuljic received one medal for "Principles of Finance" case study, Emil Melkic received one medal for "Principles of Finance" case study, Zubaeer

Akhtar received one medal for "Finance Team Decision Making" case study, Ihsan Akhtar received two medals for "Finance Team Decision Making" case study and Naila Saric received one medal for "Hospitality Team Decision Making" case study.

Congratulations to the DECA team and the DECA coaches, Mr. John Rostek, Ms. Rula Bilbeisi and Mr. George Hloros for all their hard work and time throughout the year and this past weekend. Good luck in Atlanta and Go Cosmos!

Early Childhood Elementary School News

Rhonda Walker from WDIV Channel 4 News came to ECE Friday, March 9 to share her love of reading with the Mrs. Rosemary Haacke first grade class and Ms. Janice Rakoczy's first grade class.

As part of Reading Month, she is visiting different schools to read books and reinforce why reading is so important. Ms. Walker read to the

Continued on page 6



Above: WDIV Channel 4 news anchor Rhonda Walker recently read to ECE kids. Below: Scenes from the HHS First team completion.



Hamtramck Moose #1670 presents the:
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Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Now that the state has pulled out, time to roll up our sleeves

We're not surprised that state officials abruptly returned local control to the city.

We speculated earlier in the year that this would be the year the state ends Hamtramck's receivership. What we are surprised about, though, is it took so long for the state to take this action.

Hamtramck has been under the financial supervision for about four years. Some 18 months of that period the city was under the direct control of a state-appointed emergency manager.

That EM took some corrective actions, but the biggest job was left un-

done by her and the state.

The EM failed to take on the heady challenge of figuring out how the city in the near future will come up with funding for its ever-increasing pension costs. In a few years, Hamtramck is likely to face another financial crisis.

By not tackling this issue – and using the political muscle that the state carries – Hamtramck is being set up for failure.

On top of that, there is a good chance that the federally-funding SAFER grant that offsets the salaries of firefighters will

end sometime in 2019. That will be a \$1 million yearly hit to the city's budget.

Obviously, city officials need to have a serious talk about finances and how in the world we are going to continue to fund the fire department as it presently exists.

Like it or not, city officials have to rise up to the challenge. That's why they were elected.

If we don't solve this financial challenge, we can guarantee that if the state has to intervene for a third time, well, as the saying goes, the third time won't be the charm.

Odds & Ends

Out of here... State Sen. Bert Johnson recently pled guilty to felony charges centered around his hiring of a "ghost employee" who was on the senate payroll.

The employee in question had loaned Johnson money, and was given a job title and salary on Johnson's staff but didn't have to actually work.

That was his way of repaying the loan. As part of a plea deal, he will serve six to 12 months in prison.

This is the second felony conviction in his life, the first being an armed robbery incident when he was young. Johnson also resigned from his seat in the senate.

Johnson's senate district includes Hamtramck, and he paid regular visits to city events and city council meetings.

He was being termed out of office this year. With his seat wide open, there are already several candidates lined up. That field, so far, includes Hamtramck City Councilmember Anam Miah.

Another councilmember, Saad Almasmari, is

also seeking higher office this election year. He is running for the state representative seat now occupied by Rose Mary Robinson.

Robinson is also being termed out. A number of candidates, including her son, have also lined up for her seat.

Should be an interesting election year. Stay tuned.

On the road... The PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers are going to have a fun summer.

The group recently announced it will be performing at the 10th World Children's Folk Festival in Iwonicz Zdrój, Poland, this July.

The festival is held once every three years. Back in 2015 the festival featured ensembles from the United States, Canada, Belarus, the Czech Republic, Ukraine, Russia, Lithuania, and Latvia.

"To say that Gwiazda is excited is an understatement," said Jessica Wendt, Gwiazda's director. "We are so excited to provide this opportunity for our dancers to per-

form and celebrate their heritage at an internationally recognized festival in Poland. This would not be possible without the support of the entire community of Hamtramck and beyond, the Polish Roman Catholic Union of American, as well as the commitment of the parents and the dancers to hours of practicing and exceptional fundraising."

Fundraising... A crowd-funding effort is underway to raise money to pay for a mural that celebrates the Bangladeshi community here in Hamtramck and nextdoor in Detroit.

Here's the deal: If organizers can raise \$22,000, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation will match it dollar for dollar.

The mural is proposed to be created on a vacant wall on Bridge Academy West School. The large mural will be painted by world-class Mexican muralist MARKA27.

To help in the effort, go online to: www.Patronicity.com/BanglaMural.

Other Voices: Guest Editorial

In Wayne County, officials are working to lower home foreclosures

**By Phil Cavanagh
Assistant Deputy Treasurer, Wayne County**

No matter which side of an issue you may be on you have to respect passion and hard work.

There are many individuals and organizations who have dedicated themselves to reducing the number of property tax foreclosures, especially by assisting homeowners.

The numbers have been so staggering there is plenty blame to spread in Wayne County if that is what you want to focus on.

I personally have been passionate about stemming the tide of the tsunami of foreclosures. As a former State Representative, I introduced a bill to grant relief for homeowners by lowering the state-mandated 18% interest rate on properties in delinquency.

Almost four years the bill languished until Mayor Mike Duggan, who recently praised this effort in his State of the City Address, and Wayne County Deputy Treasurer came to Lansing to support it.

With this effort the bill passed allowing for Interest Rate Stipulated Payment Agreements (IRSPAs) reducing interest rates to 6% for struggling homeowners.

The Wayne County Treasurer's Office has offered these plans for three years now and it has made a difference – over 36,000 households encompassing over 100,000 residents have successfully utilized IRSPAs to remain in their homes in the last three

years. A total of 50,000 households have avoided foreclosure.

This is just one example of how government leadership is working together. Treasurer Eric Sabree and Mayor Mike Duggan have both stated publicly that they want zero occupied homes in Tax Foreclosure Auction this September.

A few years ago this may have seemed impossible, but since Mr. Sabree became Wayne County Treasurer two years ago, tax foreclosures in Wayne County are down 72%. And foreclosure of owner occupied properties are down 83%!

This decrease is because of his leadership in bringing together non-profits, advocacy groups, the business community, the State, the County and all municipalities – including the City of Detroit – coming together. It is making an impact.

The fact is we all must follow the law and to suggest government can wave a magic wand and place a hold on all foreclosures is not lawful. Further, it would be unfair to every non-delinquent taxpayer in the County (95%) if Treasurer Sabree just pulled from the foreclosure list all the occupied properties whose owners have not paid requisite taxes due.

Not just unfair to those current on their property taxes but also a disservice to those delinquent taxpayers if we don't address the underlying problems that lead to foreclosure.

What we are doing – expanding outreach, holding

neighborhood workshops, providing free credit counseling, pushing Principal Residence Exemptions (PREs) and Poverty Tax Exemptions (PTEs), and even raising private dollars to help pay property taxes for the most impoverished.

There is a very successful pilot program designed to help good tenants whose landlords just took their rent but ignored the property taxes. This program is helping to make rent paying tenants into homeowners. Its success may result in program expansion.

With these small victories comes the willingness to help and do more.

The McGregor Fund also sees the progress and has given nonprofits \$500,000 to help struggling homeowners stay on their IRSPAs.

Quicken Loan Community Development Fund (QLCDF) gave \$350,000 last year to the Renters to Homeowners pilot program. Without the support of Detroit and County Treasurer, the program would not have happened. Now, QLCDF has challenged that if matching funds are raised, it would donate \$1 million.

The Wayne County Treasurer's Office is also working with the City of Detroit, J.P. Morgan Chase, the Bloomberg Foundation and Cities for Financial Empowerment on creating a permanent Center for Financial Empowerment to offer financial coaching to every resident of the

Continued on page 8



Easter is all about resurrection, rebirth, new beginnings, hope and renewal. We mark the special times of our lives with traditional celebrations. And Easter is a special time for families to gather together.

We feel the spirit of renewal, and the hope for our children's future in communion with our families as we share a traditional meal together.

But hundreds of families in Hamtramck cannot afford that special meal. There's no room in their already over-stretched budget to buy a ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, dinner rolls, corn or green beans, mac & cheese, and dessert.

So, instead of renewal and hope, they feel the very stark reality of living in poverty. They think special celebrations are really not meant for them.

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Obituaries

MANKO



Carol Mae Manko, 77, died March 8, 2018.

Carol was born May 21, 1940, in Hamtramck, MI. She was a homemaker much of her life and loved caring for those around her. Above all, she was a beloved friend, mother and grandmother.

Mrs. Manko is survived by her former husband, Albert Manko of Shelby Township; daughter,

Roxanne Manko of Shelby Twp.; granddaughter, Jordan Ana Manko of Clinton Twp.

Church services for Carol will be at 10 a.m., Saturday, March 17, at St. Anne Catholic Church, 32000 Mound Rd., Warren, MI 48092. Arrangements were entrusted to Krot Funeral Home in Hamtramck, MI.



School Bell

Continued from page 4

two classes, "You Can Do It Stinky Face" and "Oh the Thinks, You Can Think."

The students made a big card thanking her for reading and also gave her a gift card. The morning was filled with smiles and laughter for the joy of reading.

Horizon High School

• Thursday, March 29 – Half day. Final exams.

All Schools

• Friday, March 30-April 8 – No school for staff and students. Spring Break.

• Monday, April 9 – School resumes.

Kindergarten Round Up Dates

• Wednesday, April 11 – Early Childhood Elementary School from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

• Friday, April 13 – Holbrook Elementary School from 1-3 p.m.

• Wednesday, April 18 – Dickinson West Elementary School from 3:30-5 p.m.

• Thursday, April 19 – Tau Beta Elementary School from 1-3 p.m.

• Thursday, April 26 – Dickinson East Elementary School from 4-6 p.m.

Compiled by
Janice Gandelman

CM search clouded in secrecy Cont. from front page

contenders for the job.

But 14 of them did not meet charter qualifications. Here's the breakdown on the backgrounds of those unqualified candidates:

- Four of the candidates had the title, but they worked in cities with populations of under 10,000.

- One candidate had the title but only worked in that capacity for two years.

- Nine candidates held city administration positions in communities with populations over 10,000, and in most cases around 100,000. One of these candidates was a director in a position of state government.

All of those candidates, it could have been argued, had the experience that would have fit Hamtramck.

So who were they?

We will likely never know – even though public tax money was spent on the search.

The Review filed a Freedom of Information Act re-

quest with the city and the state Treasury Department to get copies of all the applications.

Both the city and state said they could not supply that information because the applications were not in their possession.

Instead, we were told the applications are being held by the search firm, GovHR.

The search firm contracted with the city for \$19,000 to conduct the search, but according to Acting City Manager Kathy Angerer the state Treasury Department agreed to reimburse the city for the contract.

Public bodies can reject a FOIA request if the requested documents do not exist.

But what happens if the documents exist but are not in their possession?

That raises a thorny issue.

Having a private entity be the keeper of records is a new and apparently growing trend that has not yet been challenged in court, says Michigan

Press Association Attorney Robin Luce Hermann.

The search firm promised candidates they could apply knowing their applications would not be made public – except for the final candidates recommended for an interview.

Attorney Hermann said this trend in having a private company hold documents that would otherwise be considered public is fast becoming "standard operating procedure."

"It's a way to circumvent from the public knowing," she said.

So far, the trend has been largely limited to

people applying for public jobs – or at least high-profile jobs.

The attraction to keeping those applications out of public view offers candidates safety from having their employers – if they are employed – knowing they are looking for a job.

For some candidates that confidentiality prevents them from possibly losing their current jobs. A search firm like GovHR would argue that without that privacy, fewer candidates would apply.

That still doesn't answer the question about who owns the documents that taxpayers paid for.

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Rochester Rd., Dryden Twp.- 3.62 acres - \$34,899

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All positions chef, cook, dishwasher, driver, Maine Street Restaurant ask for Mario 313-368-0500.

Person needed to clean apartments in Hamtramck (for those who called before, please call again). Flexible hours, all supplies provided, just need your labor, call Julie, 313-570-4242. 3/16

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East-side Detroit company hiring rough carpenters, \$12 to \$15 per hr., depending on level of experience, opportunity for overtime, fax resume to 313-822-1110, email to Greatlakesexport.com, or call 313-822-6162. 3/30

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By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers March 6-12.

Tuesday, March 6

• At about 2:30 a.m. a missing juvenile was located at Evaline and Jos. Campau and reunited with his family.

• A resident in the 3400 block of Doremus reported the theft of their 2007 Dodge Ram.

• A resident in the 11600 block of Moran made a domestic violence report. The suspect was already gone when officers arrived.

• A resident in the 12000 block of Grand Haven reported a break-in and the theft of the following items: two couches, two tables, a 42-inch television and a HP laptop computer.

Wednesday, March 7

• A Macomb County resident was arrested for drunk driving, which was their 10th time for this offense.

• A resident reported her wallet was stolen while she was at a Conant business.

• A McDougall resident reported someone damaged her water shut-off valve with a snow plow.

• The fire marshal reported an arson.

• A Detroit resident was arrested for drunk driving and driving without a license, which was his 27th time being ticketed for this offense.

• A resident reported receiving harassing telecommunications.

Thursday, March 8

• A resident was arrested in the 5000 block of Yemans for assault.

• Two Detroit residents were arrested after a traffic stop for being wanted on warrants.

• A Danforth resident was arrested for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.

• A Holbrook resident was arrested for domestic violence.

Friday, March 9

• A Clinton Twp. resident was arrested after a traffic stop for driving without a license.

Continued on page 8

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Continued from page 7

• A resident made a report of fraud.

• A resident in the 11700 block of McDougall was arrested for domestic violence.

Saturday, March 10

• No incident report was available for this date.

Sunday, March 11

• At about 1:30 a.m. a Detroit resident was arrested after a traffic stop for drunk driving, driving

without a license and being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.

• Officers responded to a domestic dispute in the 3900 block of Trowbridge.

Monday, March 12

• A Detroit resident was arrested for possessing a stolen car and driving without a license.

• A business manager reported being threatened outside of his business in

the 9200 block of Conant.

• A Prescott resident reported someone stole his vehicle.

• A Taylor resident reported being assaulted while at a bar in the 2100 block of Holbrook.

• A business in the 12100 block of Conant reported it cashed three checks for a customer that later turned out to be forged.

• Officers responded to a call about a gunshot in the 5200 block of Belmont. Officers recovered one shell casing.

In Wayne County, officials are working to lower home foreclosures

Continued from page 5

County.

Today there is a new spirit of cooperation in Wayne County. We are all meeting, coordinating resources and working together to solve the tax foreclosure crisis. The 2018 goal is clear – zero owner occupied foreclosures.

There is a lot of proactive action being done to

stop foreclosures and preserve homeownership including but not limited to: expanding poverty tax exemptions (PTEs), getting a retroactive PTE bill passed in Lansing, “common sense payment plans”, talking to MSDHA about Step Forward requirements, utilizing the first Right of Refusal (RoR), coordinating with the Detroit

and Wayne County Land Bank and many other programs.

Government can help stop tax foreclosure, but it must be done in a legal, common sense, non-reactionary manner, to solve the problem. Working together, I have no doubt that we can solve the problem of foreclosures in Wayne County.

Local World War II veteran is remembered and honored

Continued from page 2

every aerospace company represented except North American Aviation.

I took this up with the museum and was informed there was no more space for an NAA plaque. I then convinced the museum to accept a black granite NAA memorial bench. They finally agreed and now the bench stands at the entrance to the museum.

Since then, we have placed similar benches at the Naval Air Museum in Pensacola, Florida and the NASA Space Center at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Recently we had two more benches added at the entrance to the Air & Space Museum in San Diego, California. The first is similar to the others with photos engraved of NAA aircraft that drew enemy blood with the words “Providing the Weapons to Match the Courage.”

The second bench is a Memorial Bench in Memory of the 41,800 American Airmen killed bringing Freedom to the Enslaved Peoples of Occupied Europe. To add a personal memory, I had the initials LMM added to the end panel of the bench. Two more similar benches with the initials will be

added to the USAF Academy in Colorado Springs this summer.

Hence, my purpose for this letter. I am seeking Miekstyn family members to inform them that their young man's final sacrifice will be remembered forever with these benches and if they should visit California to stop at San Diego.

It was a large family and members are scattered. Your help in this request would be greatly appreciated.

Edmund Rusinek
(562) 431-6960
kenisure@socal.rr.com
11291 Wembley Road
Rossmore, CA 90720

Notice of Public Hearing

Hamtramck Plan Commission

Notice is hereby given that the Hamtramck Plan Commission will hold a public hearing on April 4, 2018, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 3401 Evaline, Hamtramck, Michigan, 48212 regarding:

Case ZOTXT 18-01: An ordinance to amend Ordinance 497, being the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Hamtramck, by amending Article XI, Sign Regulations, Section 1 through Section 7 of the Zoning Ordinance. Proposed changes include, but are not limited to, wall and ground signs, window signs and temporary signs.

A copy of the proposed amendment is available for review at the Building Department, 3401 Evaline, Hamtramck, MI 48212, and online at www.hamtramck.us on the Community Development page. Written comments may be sent to the same address prior to the meeting, or comments will be heard at the public hearing. For further information, please contact the Building Department at (313) 800-5233 x296.

City of Hamtramck

Jack Williams
Building Official

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Coming events

WEDNESDAYS, 7 p.m., every second Wednesday of the month – The 3C7 and Midtown Block meets at 2339 Caniff PCS Senior Day Center. This block club includes all residents and businesses west of Jos. Campau and north of Holbrook.

THURSDAY, March 22, 6 p.m. – In celebration of Women's Month, the Hamtramck Public Library (2360 Caniff) will host: “Saluting the past, reflecting on the present. State Rep. Rose Mary Robinson will be the guest speaker.

FEBRUARY-MARCH 23, every Friday, 4-9 p.m. – Fish Fry at Hamtramck Moose Lodge 1670, 9421 Conant, proceeds to benefit local charities.

SATURDAY, April 14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. – Hamtramck's Recycle Center is open at Caniff and McDougall. Drop off your recyclables for free.

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