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— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Cannabis outlets are feeling the pinch of oversaturation

By Charles Sercombe

Michigan's budding cannabis business has hit an interesting snag.

While sales are expected to increase from \$1.7 billion last year to \$2.5 billion this year – according to a study by Headset, a cannabis market research firm – a number of dispensaries are struggling.

Why is that?

There's so much "product" that the market is now oversaturated. That, in turn, has resulted in about a 75 percent drop in consumer prices.

An ounce of flower has gone from around \$160 to about \$60 an ounce.

On top of that, a number of people now grow their own marijuana plants at home, since it is legal, and thus they don't need to go shopping for the product.

That's good news for consumers, obviously, but it could spell the death knell for some dispensaries.

In Hamtramck, this oversupply has resulted in the closure of 3Fifteen dispensary. A sign on its Jos.



Cannabis outlet 3Fifteen on Jos. Campau has closed temporarily, but it's possible that might be permanent. The Michigan marijuana business is oversaturated with product, which has resulted in declining revenues for outlets.

Campau door says it's a temporary closing, but the buzz around town is that it's not likely to re-open.

If so, that would leave only three other dispensaries operating.

The Review reached to all four for comment, but no calls were returned.

The City of Hamtramck has benefited financially from the four outlets. Last year, the dispensaries generated over \$200,000 in tax and fee revenue for the city.

If 3Fifteen does not re-open, that leaves a ques-

tion of what happens to that license. The city has limited the number of dispensaries to just the current four, and according to the city's rules, the licenses cannot be transferred to new owners.

The city could change that rule, but it's highly unlikely, as many in the conservative Muslim community were vehemently opposed to the industry to begin with.

The city council and mayor are all of the Muslim faith.

If the 3Fifteen license

is not allowed to be transferred, that will mean a loss of about \$50,000 in revenue for the city.

While there has been significant opposition to the cannabis business in Hamtramck, another benefit to the city, besides tax revenue, is that all four dispensaries located in long-vacant commercial spaces.

In the case of Pleasantrees on Holbrook, that dispensary revitalized a dilapidated building that had long stood vacant.

City Manager contract finalized

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck officially has a new city manager in place.

Last week, the city council agreed to an employment contract with Max Garbarino, who had been interim city manager for several months before being selected as the new city manager.

While the posting for the job called for a salary at \$110,000 a year, Garbarino will earn \$120,000 – down from an earlier contract proposal that would have given him slightly more than \$139,000.

But, Garbarino has a chance to earn an additional \$20,000, according to terms in the contract. The contract initially called for the mayor to have sole discretion on whether Garbarino can receive the extra \$20,000, depending on whether the city remains at "continued top-level performance".

But there was push-back from some on city council, and even from the public, about this arrangement. Garbarino agreed to allow a council sub-committee to decide ultimately, along with the mayor, about the pay raise.

Not everyone was supportive of the contract.

Former City Councilmember Carrie Beth Lasley is opposed to his salary, since it is higher than what the city initially said it would be in its job posting.

"If he didn't want the job at the advertised rate, he should not have applied," Lasley said.

Lasley also said the new salary proposal "stinks of corruption."

Quick Hits

Spring into a healthy season

By Alan Madlane

Everyone knows they could probably eat a little bit healthier.

Or, in some cases – ahem – a whole lot healthier.

Bearing that in mind, the healthcare organization CCA Health Michigan has been offering up some tips to get that plate looking more like the experts say it should, while still keeping your budget in mind.

Taken from their press release, those tips are:

- Make a list of meals you want to eat during the week, including breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks. For ideas, visit myplate.gov/my-plate-kitchen.

- Leftovers can save you time and money. Pick meals that you can make in batches and save in the fridge for several days.

- Take stock. Before you go to the grocery store, check your fridge, freezer, and pantry. Working with the ingredients you already have at home can go a long way toward saving time and money.

- Whole grains: For healthier, budget-friendly grains, choose whole-grain rice and pasta. They cost the same!

- Bulk up the protein. For meat and poultry, buying a family or value size can help you save money — you can freeze what you don't

Continued on page 3

TOAST of the TOWN

A night of local story telling and so much more

By Alan Madlane

Toast of the Town found our way to Planet Ant's Ant Hall this past Saturday for a low-key short evening of oddball amusement.

Local writer and 'zine scribe/publisher Steve Hughes, he of "Stupor" 'zine fame, was on hand, overseeing a sort of monolog or Moth-storytelling style evening of

some of his greatest collection of short story hits from various writers.

Ten actors plied the various tales. Most of the tales were brief. Props to them for being off-book, although in one or two places it got a little touch-and-go for a second here or there.

Which, really, just added to the overall lo-fi vibe charm of the evening.

What Toast really missed were some title intros, either by signage (title cards silently walked across the stage, like boxing ring round markers or silent movie chapter bumper cards) or by belloyed announcement, for all we cared.

See, the titles were half of the draw on the intrigue meter.

Being interpreted from stories with titles like "The Slobber of Lava and American Cheese" (is it a Primus song?!), "My Sister's Nipples" and "Spits Out a Wasp," Stupor's tales — often created from out of the inspirations of overheard bar

conversations and the like — deserve as much.

At just over a brisk hour, the show certainly didn't overstay its welcome. As with most variety shows, which this essentially was, it ran hit or miss, with some bits landing well and others engendering but a shrug.

But we were glad we came — and we always enjoy the space, which, unlike the Ant's former black box (which we REALLY liked), is now a more-formal stage reminiscent of a small high school auditorium's, but — and this is critical — with a good sound-and-

Continued on page 2

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Easter Schedule

Holy Thursday - 5:00pm
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
(English and Polish), Adoration After
Mass

**Good Friday Services - 3:00pm -
5:00pm** (Gorzkie Zale, Stations of the
Cross, Choir Tribute), Liturgy of the
Lord's Passion will take place at 5:00pm.

**Holy Saturday - Blessing of Food
baskets - 11:00am & 12 Noon**

**Solemn Vigil Mass of Easter -
5:00pm** (English/Polish)

Easter Sunday - 7:00am Resurrection
Mass & Procession (English)
9:30am Easter Mass (Polish)

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A night of local story telling and so much more

Continued from front page

light set-up, and an on-site bar.

So kudos to Hughes and his merry troupe of interpreters for giving us something well-outside the box.

It's good to know some artists are still willing to reside there, however briefly.

When it comes to good food and great times, Hamtramck has plenty to offer. In this column, we'll talk about what's happening at our bars, restaurants and other events throughout the city.



Stupor publisher Steve Hughes (left) poses with the actors and director of a recent production at Planet Ant Hall of his collected stories.

Covid update: nationwide, covid has set back many students

By Charles Sercombe

Covid has affected more than just our health.

According to the National Center for Educational Progress, math and reading scores for 4th and 8th graders nationwide decreased significantly both during and after the pandemic.

While students are now back in class, there was about a year or so where they were being taught at home via laptops. A number of Hamtramck parents complained that their children were not focusing on lessons, and were falling behind.

The Review reached out to Hamtramck Public School District Superintendent Jaleelah Ahmed

for comment about the district's situation, but the district was closed for spring break.

One suggestion being considered nationally is to retain students who fell behind by one grade. But there is also debate on how effective that could be.

According to the Brookings Institution, a non-profit public policy organization based in Washington, D.C., grade retention works best for younger students.

For older students, according to Brookings, the effect of holding them back often results in those students doing worse as they progress.

The field of education is just one of many things affected by covid. There is ongoing research on the long-term effects to those who came down with covid, and there is significant evidence that there has been significant cognitive impairment in some cases.

Shifting to the economic effects of covid: store owners are facing dwindling in-store shoppers, as many people have continued to resort to online purchasing even after the pandemic has abated to some extent.

That fact has resulted in more and more brick and mortar businesses closing up.

However, in Hamtramck that trend has been bucked with the opening of several stores in recent months – most re-

cently, a clothing store, popular among musicians and younger folks, called Showtime.

In the meantime, the number of new covid cases in Michigan is trending down.

And in Hamtramck, the number of new cases for the past week is 22, bringing the total number of cases for the past three years up to 6,038.

The number of deaths resulting from covid during this period remains at 82.

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This week at the Library . . .

March 31, 2023

Zoom Presentation: For those interested in doing their own research, the Library of Congress without a doubt has tons of materials that would come in handy. Well, our very own Library of Michigan will be showing folks how to find what they might be looking for amongst the nation's digital collections. Tune in to this ZOOM presentation Thursday, April 6th at 6:30 pm. Please visit www.michigan.gov/lmpublicprograms for more info and a link to register.

Together we read: It is an online book club. See a preview of the upcoming book chat title "River Woman, River Demon" by author Jennifer Givhan before the discussions set for March by giving the website www.togetherweweread.com/us/ a visit.

Story Time: Get you kids together and drop in on our Monday afternoon Story Time at 4 pm. It will put a smile on everyone's face, including yours. Presented by guest readers from Hamtramck Federation of Teachers.

Game Night: Join us for Game Night at the library. We are serving up something fun each Friday's at 4 pm. Stop by and let us know that you have come to play.

Shetan Noir: Join us on Wednesday, April 19th at 6 pm as we welcome Shetan Noir of Squatch GO Magazine for something else that makes our BIG MITTEN great. We will be diving into the cryptozoology of the Great Lakes region. Attend this presentation

& discover what is out there.

Monthly Meeting of Library Board: The next meeting of the Library Board will be held on Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 6:00 pm. in the library's main hall.

Sean Gaskell Concert: This music event is scheduled for May 10th, 2023 at 5:30 pm. in the library's main hall. This acoustic style music experience showcases the kora (African harp).

Popular Elections: On April 9, 1913 the 17th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified requiring direct popular election of U.S. Senators. Previously, they had been chosen by state legislatures.

Civil War: On April 9, 1865, after over 500,000 American deaths, the Civil War effectively ended as General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant in the village of Appomattox Court House. The surrender occurred in the home of Wilmer McLean. Terms of the surrender, written by General Grant, allowed Confederates to keep their horses and return home. Officers were allowed to keep their swords and side arms.

Apollo 13 Space Shuttle: On April 11, 1970, Apollo 13 was launched from Cape Kennedy at 2:13 pm. Fifty six hours into the flight an oxygen tank exploded in the service module. Astronaut John L. Swigert saw a warning light that accompanied the bang and said, "Houston we have a problem here".

Library is located at 2360 Caniff Avenue, Phone (313) 733-6822
Or visit its website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> for on line catalog
Attachments for printing, faxing or scanning send to hamtramcklibrary@gmail.com

Second Front Page

School Bell

Ramadan

During the spring season, many in the Hamtramck community will celebrate Ramadan. Tau Beta staff members decorated for the occasion!

We value the time we get to spend learning about and celebrating the many cultures and backgrounds of our students and look forward to continuing to grow our knowledge through school-wide activities.

Spring break

Sorry students – and teachers – your break ends next week. On Monday, it's back to school.

Board of Education

The next meeting for the board is April 26 where they will have a

Committee of the Whole Meeting.

The meeting starts at 6 p.m. in the Administration Building, 3201 Roosevelt. The public is invited to attend.

April's regular board meeting was canceled due to the observance of Ramadan. The next regular board meeting is May 10, at 6 p.m. in the Administrative Building.

Education in the news

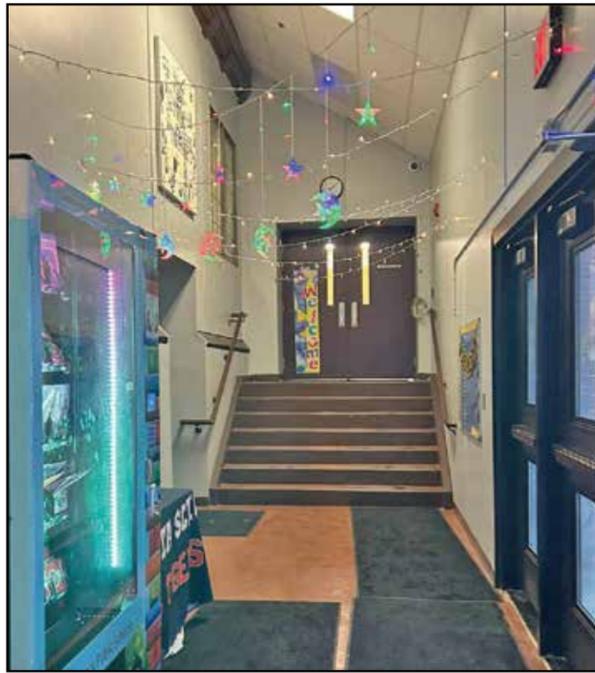
Recently, Gov. Whitmer signed a bill into law that repeals a rule that required students who can't read at grade level by 3rd grade must be held back.

Whitmer said that choice should be made by parents.

"Getting this done will

offer parents more flexibility and ensure educators can focus on doing what they do best —

helping students reach their full potential," Whitmer said.



Tau Beta staffmembers decorated the building for Ramadan.

Quick Hits

Cont. from front page

use and save it for a different meal.

- Extend the shelf life. Buy canned foods — they last longer than fresh foods (but be sure to read labels for added fat, sugar, and salt).

- Match the season. Check what's "in season" when buying fresh produce; it will be less expensive and have more flavor. Be sure to buy only what you can use before it spoils.

- Expiration dates: Check the sell-by date and make sure you are getting the freshest products.

- Drink more water. Avoid soda and other sugary drinks; water is more budget-friendly — and it's healthier!

- Bargain shop. Check flyers for coupons or

deals on the ingredients you need.

- Substitute, when possible. Look for less expensive alternatives. For example, when baking, you may be able to substitute eggs with ¼ cup of mashed banana or ¼ cup of applesauce.

- Organization is key. Make a grocery list of everything you need before you leave your house and stick to it.

- Don't go to the store hungry. Eat before you shop. Going to the grocery store on an empty stomach can lead to impulse buying and unhealthy food choices.

- Use your network. Ask your friends and family where they get bargains! Dollar stores and wholesale clubs may offer good deals.

- Check in with your healthcare providers and health plan. These organizations may be able to

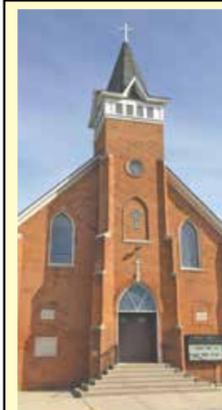
connect you to information, benefits, and programs that fit your nutritional needs.

"At CCA Health Michigan, we are on a mission to help our members who struggle with food insecurity because we know that consistent access to nutritious food is absolutely critical to long-term health and well-being," said Brian Keane, General Manager for CCA Health Michigan, as quoted in the release.

"Our team works one-on-one with members," he continued, "connecting them to the resources and services they need."

"As food prices continue to rise, and as many individuals turn to less expensive but unhealthy food options, we wanted to share practical tips that can support both our members and their communities."

Sounds like sound advice to us.



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We are a Multicultural Parish Family
 Sunday English Mass 9 a.m.
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April 2nd, Holy Mass at 9:00 am
 Palm Sunday- Blessing & Distribution of Palms

Apr 1 – Holy Mass 9 am
Apr 4 – The Stations of the Cross 7 pm
Apr 6 – Holy Mass & Holy Thursday Liturgy 7 pm

Apr 7 – Good Friday Liturgy of the Passion of Our Lord 9 am

Apr 8 – Holy Saturday Liturgy 9:30 am
 Blessing of Food Baskets 11:00 only

Apr 1 – Take-out only Soup Kitchen 2-4 pm
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HOLY WEEK and EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

- April 2 **Palm Sunday** Blessing & Distribution of Palms **9 am**
- April 4 **Wednesday** - The Stations of the Cross **7 pm**
- April 6 **Maundy Thursday** Holy Mass and Holy Thursday Liturgy **7 pm**
- April 7 **Good Friday** The Liturgy of the Passion of our Lord **9 am**
- April 8 **Holy Saturday** Holy Saturday Liturgy **9:30 am**
 Blessing of Food Baskets **11 am only**
- April 9 **EASTER SUNDAY** Resurrection of our Lord, Procession and Holy Mass **8 am only**
- April 10 **Easter Monday** Holy Mass in Polish (Msza Sw. w j. Polskim) **10 am**

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EASTER HOURS:
 Monday, April 3 • 8am-5pm
 Tuesday, April 4 • 8am-5pm
 Wednesday, April 5 • 8am-5pm
 Thursday, April 6 • 6am-5pm
 Friday, April 7 • 6am-5pm
 Saturday, April 8 • 6am-4pm
 Closed Easter Sunday
 Closed Monday, April 10

Happy Easter to All!

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Crime Watch...

As weather warms up, so do auto thefts

By Charles Sercombe

Now that winter has pretty much faded away, except for those few stubborn days, there's something new happening each week, crime-wise, in Hamtramck.

With the warmer weather, more criminally-inclined folks are out looking to, well, do crime.

That includes stealing cars.

Take a look at this week's Crime Log, on page 7, and you'll see the recent uptick in auto thefts and attempted thefts.

So, what can you do to prevent your car from being stolen?

No matter what is suggested, crooks are usually a step ahead – except for the amateurs. For what it's worth, follow these tips:

- Keep the vehicle locked, and remove expensive valuables.
- Never store keys inside the vehicle.
- Park the vehicle in the driveway/garage.
- Park in a well lit area.
- Use an anti-theft de-

vice.

• Be watchful of suspicious activity or vehicles, and report any such thing to the police, if seen.

And what should you do if your auto is actually stolen?

Allstate insurance recommends taking these steps:

Contact the police immediately. You may need to provide the following information to the police:

- The year, make, model and color of the car
- The license plate number
- The Vehicle Identification Number (also called the "VIN")

Most of this will be listed on your driver's registration; consider keeping one of the copies in your wallet.

Also, contact your insurance company as soon as possible, and definitely within 24 hours.

The most important thing to remember: be aware of what's going on outside, and report any suspicious behavior to the police by calling 911.

Obituaries

BABICZ



Kathleen Babicz (nee Morris), 79, died March 29, 2023.

Kathleen was the wife of the late Kenneth and loving mother of Dawn (Charles) Tomaszewski, Donna (Thomas) Sintkowski, and Ken (Courtney). Grandmother of Amanda, Kathleen, Kennedy, Schyler, and the late Joshua. Sister of Daniel, Kim and the late Michael, Dorothy, Vincent, and David. Kathleen is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Visitation is Tuesday, April 4, from 2 – 8 p.m. at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, Hamtramck MI. Mrs. Babicz will lie in state at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday until the time of the funeral Mass at 10 a.m. at Saint Florian Catholic Church.

STOKES



Cecelia Stokes (nee Olkowski), 75, died March 21, 2023.

Cecelia was the wife of the late Ronald Bujak and James Stokes. Loving mother of Ron (Scott) Bujak and Sandra Bujak; sister of the late Chester (Fran), Kenny (Glenda), and Wally (Pat). Cecelia is also survived by many nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Cecelia was born and raised in Hamtramck and was a graduate of Hamtramck High School. She moved to Belleville with her second husband Jim, and they loved to travel

all over the place. Private services will be held by the family. Arrangements were entrusted to Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home.

VANG



Bao Vang, 67, died Tuesday, March 21, 2023.

She was a resident of Hamtramck, MI since 2013, and previously lived in California as a refugee from Thailand. Bao Vang was born on December 31, 1955, in Laos and was of Hmong descent. She was married to Pa Nou Lee, a highly decorated Vietnam War veteran, who preceded her in death on February 5th, 2022.

Before retiring in 2012, she was a Shaman and worked as a Chef for many years. Bao Vang enjoyed cooking for family and friends and was an avid gardener and played the Hulusi, a gourd and bamboo flute as a hobby. She leaves behind her sons, daughter, sisters, and other family and friends who greatly loved her and will miss her dearly. Visitation is Friday March 31, 2023, from 6 – 9 p.m. and the Funeral service is Saturday, April 1, 2023 at 2 p.m. at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, 2396 Caniff Hamtramck MI 48212.

**SUPPORT
LOCAL
BUSINESS**

Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Hamtramck, you're looking trashy lately

This is not so much an editorial but, instead, a call to action.

Look around your neighborhood and the city streets. What do you see?

Litter everywhere. A ton of litter. Layers of litter.

Every year, at this time of year, when winter's snows retreat, we are suddenly faced with approximately four months of litter accumulation.

Right now, Hamtramck looks awful, or as City Councilmember Nayeem said recently, "really trashy."

In the coming weeks, there will likely be a number of citywide clean-ups. There have even been a few dedicated souls who have taken it upon themselves to perform their own neighborhood clean-ups during the past few

months.

To those folks, we say thank you.

If you can't attend an upcoming community clean-up, the next best thing to do is clean around your residence – the yard, the front curb and sidewalk and your portion of the alley.

Having an ongoing community litter awareness campaign helps too.

Unfortunately, litter in Hamtramck has been an ongoing problem, creating an ugly blight for many years.

Often, once you clean up your part of Hamtramck, hours later it can look you didn't do a thing.

Why is that?

Take a quick search on Google and you can find some answers, such as:

People litter because there isn't a nearby trash

can, or the can is overflowing.

People under the age 30 are most likely to be litter culprits.

Here's one quote on who litters and why: "juvility; narcissism; a penchant for not wanting to be inconvenienced; and a strong, unreasonable, selfish belief in personal freedom. Narcissists believe it is the job of janitors and maintenance workers to pick up after them (from montpelierbridge.org)."

Seeing litter can affect how we feel too. Just like clutter at home, litter can make you feel anxious.

Well, you get the drift.

Let's all keep fighting the good fight, and make Hamtramck a welcoming place to live.

Odds & Ends

Welcome aboard... Recently there have been some new hires in the police and fire departments.

New on the police force are officers Momina Ahmed and

Coming on board the fire department is Majd Nakad.

And also, Hamtramck's own Michael "Mickey" Pokoj is now on the Police Reserves.

Thinking about a job in police work?

The City of Hamtramck has this message for you: "The City of Hamtramck is hiring police officers, both full and part time. You don't have to be young to do this job. Older candidates come with lots of life experiences and wisdom that serves them well in this line of work.

"It's true that you need to be in good shape physically, but the job is about using your mind and experiences to best protect and serve your community."

For more information, call (313) 800-5281.

Help wanted... Speaking of jobs with the city. Hamtramck has launched a "Youth Employment initiative by welcoming our first youth city workers to city hall," said the city on its Facebook page.

Here's what the city has to say about the program: "In collaboration with MiWorks, Hamtramck youth are offered the opportunity to develop professional experience, learn about the inner works of city management, give back to their community, and earn money."

One of the recently hired youth workers is Eyanat Chowdhury, a senior at Hamtramck Public Schools.

The city said that Eyanat speaks four languages, and that if you help with translations while at

city hall, he speaks Bengla, Urdu, and Hindi.

Interested in the program? Email the Deputy City Manager at mluqman@hamtramckcity.com for more information.

The program is open to those who are 16 to 24 years old. You'll be working in city hall.

Correcting the correction... Something went haywire last week in a correction regarding the location of the port of Gdansk in Poland. We incorrectly said it was near the Black Sea.

The answer to where it is located was chopped off.

So for those wondering where it's located, it's near the Baltic.

Driver restoration... Recently, the state lifted suspensions for drivers who failed to pay tickets or court fines or failed to appear in court for certain non-moving and other violations.

While the new laws removed suspensions for more than 150,000 Michiganders, many must still take further action to get

their license restored. At each clinic, residents meet one-on-one with expert staff to learn what they need to do to get back behind the wheel and complete as many steps as possible on site.

The clinics do not provide DUI/OWI expungement services and license reinstatement is not guaranteed.

To get more information, call 211 about clinics and any other questions.

The nearest clinics for Hamtramck residents will be held in Detroit:

Oct. 4 at LA SED Senior and Youth Center, 7150 Vernor Hwy.

Registration closes on Oct. 2, or when at pre-registration capacity.

Clinic hours: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Walk-ins: Accepted from noon - 5 p.m.

Also, June 21, at Goodwill Industries, 3111 Grand River Ave.

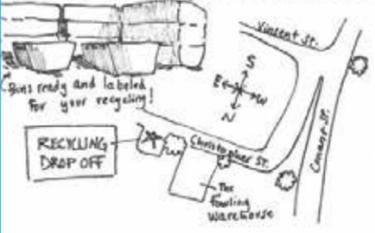
Registration closes: June 19 or when at pre-registration capacity.

Clinic hours: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Walk-ins: Accepted from noon - 4 p.m.

RECYCLE IN HAMTRAMCK

24 Hour Drop off
3900 Christopher St., Hamtramck MI, 48212



The recycling bins are located just before the entrance to Priority Waste. It's bright yellow, you can't miss it.

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Finally: Recycle when you cannot use those materials anymore.

The Hamtramck Review

Published every Friday

3020 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212

Phone: 313-874-2100 Fax: 313-874-2101

www.hamtramckreview.com • email news@thehamtramckreview.com

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This newspaper is not responsible for mistakes in advertising beyond the cost of the space involved.

Other Voices: Guest Editorial

A need for more women in local politics

(Editor's note: Recently, former Mayor Karen Majewski spoke at the Hamtramck Historical Museum regarding a presentation on "Women of Hamtramck." Here are her comments.)

By Karen Majewski

You know, when I was first asked to run for elected office, for City Council in 2003, I was recruited exactly BECAUSE my colleagues were looking for a WOMAN to add to the slate. I won the most votes in that election and became city council president, then two years later ran for mayor and became our first WOMAN mayor.

But the only reason I achieved those offices was because there was already a recognition that WOMEN did well in Hamtramck politics—and in the days since Mary Zuk paved the way, there was an existing legacy of women serving on city council, and especially as heads of city council – I myself learned from former President Kathy Kristy.

In fact, as soon as the women of Michigan earned the right to vote – by a state constitutional amendment in 1918, The Women of Hamtramck Civic Committee was formed, to register women to vote.

So although women candidates tended to do well in Hamtramck, at least from the 1930s on, it's worth remembering that women make up 50% – or slightly more – of our population, yet I never served with more than one other woman in elected office, and often was the ONLY

woman in elected office in the city (not counting school board).

There were many meetings of organizations in which I was the only woman on the dais, the only woman given a speaking role, and sometimes the only woman in the room, period, including the audience. We see now a city council made up entirely of men.

So when we talk about diversity, and when Hamtramck is celebrated for its so called diversity, we ought to be pointing out that diversity can be parsed in different ways, and when 50% of the population is NOT part of the public face of the city, there is a gap that we should be making it a priority to fill.

(And that's not even considering other categories of diversity like African American political representation—a subject I touch on in my 2022 article on the history of Polish politics in Hamtramck in Polish American Studies)

In order to fill that gap, I also want to stress that I never would have run for office if I hadn't been recruited, if I hadn't been begged, in fact. And that's an issue I see with women in general when it comes to elected office. We often don't imagine ourselves in that kind of leadership role.

We're very good at community organizing, at creating local structures to address particular community needs, at making the machinery work behind the scenes.

There is evidence for that in the many local women's organizations that came and mostly went over the years, organizations like the African American Women's Civic Club of Hamtramck of the 1930s.

We see their legacy in today's Concerned Women of Hamtramck. And there's no shortage of contemporary examples in Hamtramck: the weekly food kitchen at Queen of Apostles church, Friendship House, J&E Community Relief, Hamtramck Mutual Aid, the Piast Institute, Plaguedoctor Trashman, and so many more. (And I'd be remiss if I didn't mention my hope that for a future discussion on Hamtramck women business owners throughout our history.)

As women we need to become comfortable with being the public face and the voice of our communities. As Greg (Kowalski, director of the Hamtramck Historical Museum) pointed out in the case of Mary Zuk, that can mean particular, misogynistic and sexist scrutiny of our personal lives.

It can mean dismissal of our political stances, especially when we speak forcefully and unapologetically – in other words, when we're more than smiling tokens on the stage. But if women have shown anything over the generations, it's that we can be fearless, and that we can fight, behind the scenes or at the front, subtly or stridently.

There's lots more I

Continued on page 8

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4-3	Hamtramck vs. H.O.D. (D.H., away)
4-6	River Rouge vs. Hamtramck (home)
4-13	L.K.A. vs. Hamtramck (home)
4-17	Hamtramck vs. UPSM/ABT (away)
4-20	Star vs. Hamtramck (home)
4-24	Hamtramck vs. Ceaser Cheavez (away)
4-27	Arbor Prep vs. Hamtramck (D.H., home)
5-1	D.C.H. vs. Hamtramck (home)
5-4	Hamtramck vs. River Rouge (away)
5-8	UPSM/ABT vs. Hamtramck (home)
5-11	J.R.L.A. vs. Hamtramck (D.H., home)
5-15	Make Up Days
5-18	Semi Finals
5-20	Finals/Conf. Games

Head Coach: Dave Farver
Assistant Coach: Daniel Gubin

Lady Cosmos Girls Soccer Schedule

All Games Start Times Are 4:30 p.m.

4-3	Lady Cosmos vs. Renaissance (away)
4-5	Renaissance vs. Lady Cosmos (home)
4-10	Hamtramck vs. Cass Tech (PAL/Corner Ball Park, away)
4-14	Lady Cosmos vs. Dearborn ATA (away)
4-19	River Rouge vs. Lady Cosmos (home)
4-21	Cass Tech vs. Hamtramck (home)
4-26	Taylor Prep vs. Lady Cosmos (home)
5-3	Lady Cosmos vs. River Rouge (away)
5-10	Dearborn ATA vs. Lady Cosmos (home)
5-17	Lady Cosmos vs. Taylor Prep (away)



City Hall Insider ...

What is our City Council up to these days?
We have the highlights of the latest council meeting.

By Charles Sercombe

The city council met on March 21, and all councilmembers, except for Khalil Refai, were in attendance.

Councilmember Mohammed Alsomiri urged residents to clean their portions of their alleys, and also have their address posted in the rear of their properties, next to the alleys.

(Addresses are required to be posted near the alley, in order to allow emergency responders to locate your address.)

He said city code inspectors will soon be out looking for violations.

The annual reports for the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals were presented to the council.

The Planning Commission met seven times during 2022. The ZBA met only twice.

The ZBA made several amendments to the city's zoning laws.

During public comment, former City Councilmember Carrie Beth Lasley submitted an email regarding three issues.

She said the council's consideration of purchasing street sweepers is a "waste of money, and aggravates your constituents" unless the city can

get people to move their cars on the day that their street will be swept.

Regarding a proposed employment contract for City Manager Max Garbarino, Lasley is opposed to his salary since it is higher than what the city initially said it would be in its job posting.

The city had posted the job's salary as \$110,000 a year. The proposed contract calls for paying him \$120,000, with an option of allowing the mayor to give him an additional \$20,000 within the two years of the contract.

"If he didn't want the job at the advertised rate, he should not have applied," Lasley said.

Plus, she said, had the increased salary been posted, it could have attracted more qualified candidates.

Lasley said the new salary proposal "stinks of corruption."

Lastly, she questioned whether Abu Musa, who was about to be appointed to a vacated council seat, actually lives in the city.

Councilmember Refai also submitted an email comment. (Refai has been absent from council meetings for about three months.)

Speaking on a number

of topics, he commended former Councilmember Amanda Jaczkowski, who resigned recently for health reasons, for being a "team player since day one."

He said he hopes she still remains active in the community.

As for her replacement, Abu Musa, Refai said he "will be a great asset."

Refai also said he supports the employment contract for Garbarino.

Lynn Blasey said she, too, is concerned about Garbarino's contract where it says that it's up to only the mayor to decide whether he should be awarded a \$20,000 raise during the course of the two-year contract.

She said this lacks transparency in how the mayor reaches his decision.

Later in the meeting, the council OK'd the contract, but also agreed to add a subcommittee to the decision process on whether to give Garbarino a pay raise.

Mayor Amer Ghalib said that it was always his in-

tention not to make that decision alone.

Moving on, the council OK'd a resolution to have city code enforcers issue warnings, at first, to residents about such things as overgrown grass, overgrown weeds, or trash in their yards.

There was no time period mentioned for how long residents would have to correct these issues, but City Manager Garbarino said code enforcers would use their discretion.

Councilmember Hassan, who co-sponsored the resolution, said the council is taking this action because "We are for the people here."

Councilmember Nayeem Choudhury warned, however, that if residents don't heed the warnings, "We'll take it (the resolution) back."

Hamtramck, he said, looks "really trashy" at the moment.

The council next approved allowing the city administration to look into a street sweeping program.

The council also cleared the way for a developer to construct a carwash on Buffalo at Norwalk, where one also used to exist.

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City of Hamtramck Notice of Public Hearing

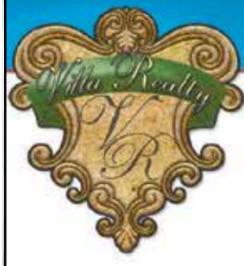
Zoning Board of Appeals

NOTICE is hereby given that the city of Hamtramck Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing in the 2nd Floor Council Chambers of Hamtramck City Hall (3401 Evaline Street, Hamtramck, MI 48212) on **April 18th, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.** Public comments will be limited to three minutes. Public comments may also be heard by submitting a written comment to CED Coordinator at afarrell@hamtramckcity.com.

The subject of the hearing is: Zaher Murray is requesting a variance to the zoning ordinance section 155.066 (F)(6)(j) for address 9701 Joseph Campau, Hamtramck. Parcel # 41-003-04-0251-000. New security gate fencing that was installed violated the requirement that it be placed inside the building.

The City of Hamtramck will provide necessary and reasonable auxiliary aids, and services for individuals with disabilities at the public hearing upon advance notice by writing or by calling the Clerk's Office at 313-800-5233 x343. Please contact the Clerk's office at least 10 days in advance.





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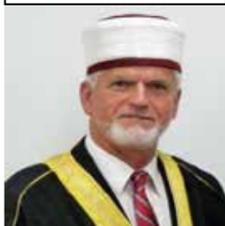
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Topic: Peace and Healing through Interfaith Perspectives

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Deadline for classifieds for next week is Thursday at Noon

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Polonia Restaurant now hiring kitchen & wait staff, Great, fun environment. Experience preferred, 2935 Yemans, Hamtramck, contact Andrew 313-873-8432.

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March 31, 2023

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What's on this coming week?

Stories for children
Public Comments to City Council,
Daily ESL classes at 4 pm, Local events,
Library programs, Interviews, Council meeting highlights, Event announcements, Evenings with authors, Citizen's Comments, and more.....

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Hamtramck Public TV is broadcasting from Hamtramck Public Library On Comcast Channel 19 and streaming on YouTube Live (24/7) Google "Hamtramck Public TV", and click on link "Hamtramck Public TV"

To place community announcement call the Library at 313-733-6822 Or email: HamtramckTV@gmail.com Announcements submitted by 10 am Will go on air the same day (evening)



By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers March 21-27.

Tuesday, March 21

- A suspicious situation was reported on Jos. Campau.
- A complaint about an animal was made in the 2400 block of Andrus.
- A break-in was reported in the 2700 block of Florian.
- A theft was reported in the 8300 block of St. Aubin.
- A noise complaint was made in the 2700 block of Florian.

Wednesday, March 22

- A noise complaint was made in the 11400 block of Lumpkin.
- A complaint was made about a disorderly person on Casmere.
- An assault was reported in the 2400 block of Andrus.
- An assault was reported in the 11400 block of Charest.
- Officers responding to a report about a fight on Gallagher could not locate the fight.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 2700 block of Yemans.

Thursday, March 23

- Property damage was reported in the area of Conant and Miller.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported at Dequindre and Carpenter.
- Officers assisted court officers with an eviction.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 2300 block of Yemans.
- Customer trouble was reported at a business in the 9100 block of Jos. Campau.
- Property damage was reported in the 2300 block of Yemans.
- A neighbor dispute was reported in the 3100 block of Belmont.
- A juvenile, in the 3900 block of Edwin, was reported as a runaway.

Friday, March 24

- Officers investigating a report of two males looking into vehicles in the area of Lehman and Conant arrested two suspects.
- A Gallagher St. resident was arrested during an investigation.
- A loose dog was reported in the 11300 block of McDougall. The dog later returned home.

- An erratic driver was reported on Buffalo.
- A neighbor dispute was reported in the 2300 block of Poland.
- A disorderly person was reported in the area of Comstock and Conant.

Saturday, March 25

- No incident report was available for this date

Sunday, March 26

- Officers responding to a report of two males attempting to steal a Dodge Charger in the 3100 block of Holbrook located the Dodge being driven and began to chase it. The vehicle managed to get away.
- A disorderly person was reported in the 9100 block of Jos. Campau.
- Neighbor trouble was reported in the 3800 block of Holbrook.
- Animal complaints were made on Poland, in the 2400 block of Andrus, and in the 11800 block of Jos. Campau.
- Assaults were reported in the 3000 block of Goodson, the 3000 block of Trowbridge, and in the 12000 block of Dequindre.
- A fight was reported on Jos. Campau.

Monday, March 27

- A vehicle was stolen in the 2600 block of Holmes.
- A break-in was reported in the 11000 block of McDougall.
- Attempted auto thefts were reported in the 11000 block of Charest, and in the 2600 block of Pulaski.
- Neighbor trouble was reported in the 3100 block of Hanley.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 12100 block of Fleming.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 2600 block of Pulaski.
- A reckless driver was reported on Roosevelt, near Gallagher.
- A suspect was arrested for a domestic assault that happened in the 2700 block of Florian.
- A disorderly customer was reported at a business in the 10300 block of Conant.
- A noise complaint was made on Edwin, near Conant.
- Livonia police turned over a suspect wanted on a Hamtramck felony warrant.

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Coming Events

SATURDAY, April 1, 2-4 p.m. –Take-out Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. Everyone is welcome!



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A need for more women in local politics

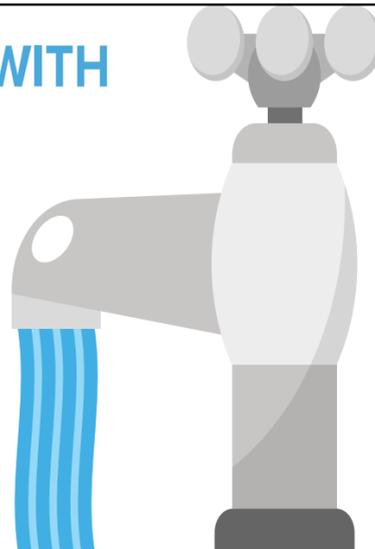
Continued from page 5

could talk about, including the article I published in 2021 on instances of abortion in Hamtramck before Roe v. Wade – a hidden part of women's and family history. But I think I'll leave you with the playful but empower-

ing words of the song the city FATHERS tried to ban in 1940, "Hamtramck Mama":
 "YOU CAN TELL HER NOT TO DO IT BUT SHE'LL DO IT JUST THE SAME SHE'S A HAMTRAMCK

BABY THAT NO MAN CAN TAME SHE'S A HAMTRAMCK MAMA AND SHE SURE DOES KNOW HER STUFF"

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200% Federal Poverty Chart

Number of Household Members	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Income Limit (\$)	27,180	36,620	46,060	55,500	64,940	74,380	83,820	93,260	97,980	102,700	107,420	112,140	116,860	121,580



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