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Volume 17 No. 28

July 11, 2025

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The Review

Hamtramck

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Quick Hits

City looking for youths to join YAC

By Charles Sercombe

The city is looking for young people to be a part of its Youth Advisory Council (YAC).

Here's what the city is pitching:

Are you a Hamtramck teen who wants to make a difference in your city? Join the Hamtramck Youth Advisory Council, a leadership opportunity for youth to work directly with city officials to create change and represent the voice of young people in our community.

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<https://hamtramckcity.gov/boar.../apply-for-a-board-vacancy/> And you can submit your application in person to the city clerk or email it to: rfaraj@hamtramckcity.gov.



— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

A longtime favorite chili dog is now on the prowl again

By Alan Madlane

Short story (foot-)long: We recently spotted a Genie's Wienies food truck around town; we remembered; we were hungry.

We went to the source to find out more about this most-excellent resurrection of a Hamtramck icon, a long-gone, late-night hot dog palace.

This is what we learned, from Adam Serafinas who has taken over the brand.

The Review: Adam, you're now running a food truck biz called "Genie's Wienies on Wheels." Possibly the first thing people who have lived in, or visited, Hamtramck regularly since the 70s or before may think of, when they think of this town, is the old Genie's Wienies restaurant.

It's a legendary moniker here in town, a still-open-after-bar-time eatery formerly located on Conant Ave. until 2006 – but when I look them up now, they seem to be headquartered in central coastal Florida, and just producing their chili only, without the hot dogs.

So – do you have any relation to them, or are you able to reference the name because of the addition of the "on Wheels" part?

Adam Serafinas: We aren't related to the original owners, but, like everyone else from Hamtramck, (Genie's Wienies has) been a favorite of mine since childhood. My wife, Kara, and I are buying the name and recipe from the original owners, and hope to continue their family tradition.

The Review: What made you want to resurrect the name? Do you have a personal history that includes, perhaps, downing a dog or three at the old Conant place? I know I can still taste them – they lingered that way.

Serafinas: I ended up with a back injury, and wasn't sure what I wanted to do next. I was scrolling (through) Facebook and

saw a post looking for someone to start a Genie's Wienies food truck.

I couldn't stop thinking about how awesome it would be, and the thought of it brought back so many great memories. I talked to my wife, and we decided to go for it!

The Review: Food trucks are hot right now – what are some of the advantages of doing it this way? And – are there any disadvantages that you hope to overcome?

Serafinas: We're excited to bring back the classic Genie's Wienies that so many know and love. We've loved seeing how the nostalgia of it all has made people so happy!

Our goal is to make the food, especially the chili, as close to the original as possible, and, with the food truck, we are able to spread the Genie's Wienies name all around the Metro Detroit area.

A disadvantage of being a food truck is definitely that we are not a full-service kitchen, and (therefore) not able to serve everything long-time customers once got at the restaurant.

We (do) make and bring as much product to each event as we can – but once we're out, we're out!

The Review: Briefly, how did you go about putting the business together, once you decided to do it?

Serafinas: With the help of our friends and family, we were able to build our food truck from scratch.

I was lucky enough to work with, and start learning from, (a friend of mine), who owns the Twisted Street BBQ food truck, and he really helped me learn the ins and outs of the food truck biz.

He was my Mr. Miyagi!

The Review: Do you just have the one truck in operation right now? Any plans to expand, if

Continued on page 2



August election is coming up

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck's election season is now officially off and running.

Absentee ballots have already been sent out, which has prompted a number of observations among residents on social media.

As usual, there are some unique quirks among some of the candidates – namely: "Who the hell is Mister Bangladesh? Is this for real and legal?"

That question was posed on social media by Joni Sobczak.

For the record, yes, there is a Mister Bangladesh, and he's for real and, yes, he answers to Mister. But how did he go from being named Tuhin Chowdhury to being Mister Bangladesh?

We'll let Chowdhury, er, Mister Bangladesh explain:

"I changed my name after becoming a USA citizen, which was at the time I lost my Bangladeshi passport," he told The Review. "I always respect my USA identity, and I believe that I am American."



Mister Bangladesh

And I am ready to sacrifice my life for America."

So, that's the answer to that.

Mister Bangladesh is one of four candidates running for the position of mayor in the upcoming Aug. 5 Primary Election. So far, he seems to have attracted the most attention, likely because of his moniker.

Fellow mayoral candidate Khan Hossain took issue with that a little in his reply to Sobczak, saying:

"I am surprised you haven't heard of the three of us," in reference to the three other mayoral candidates.

Continued on page 2



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A longtime favorite chili dog is now on the prowl again

Continued from front page

it goes as you hope?

Serafinas: We just have the one truck right now. If all goes well, we definitely plan on expanding. Bigger, and more, trucks – I’ve got plenty of ideas!

The Review: Do you operate just within Hamtramck, or get out into Detroit – or even, for example, into Oakland or Macomb or Washtenaw Counties? Are there licensing concerns, going from place to place?

We plan on traveling all around the metro Detroit area. We are licensed to serve food anywhere in the state of Michigan, but each city does have its own set of rules and regulations.

We’re willing to travel if the “want” is there!

The Review: Is there anything currently on the menu that we might not expect to find, or are there plans for anything, maybe, unusual for a hot-dog-based food truck?

And, as for the hot dogs themselves, how many different ways can you get them served from your truck?

Serafinas: We’ll always serve our dogs the “Genie’s Wienies way,” with steamed dogs and buns. We have loose burgers, chili burgers and classic burgers, too.

Down the line, we plan on expanding our menu to include more of the

same items the original restaurant had!

The Review: What if somebody else starts a rival hot dog food truck in town – how will you “take them out”? Will it be vicious – or delicious?

Serafinas: There are plenty of other hotdog food trucks around, but we hope to stand out because of our chili, and our name being familiar to so many people already.

The food truck community has been so welcoming, so we would welcome any others that come to town. Any food truck that wants to bring business to Hamtramck is (a) good business!

The Review: Add anything to this “shaggy dog” story that you’d like – and thanks for your time.

Serafinas: It has not been easy getting this food truck off the ground. Physically (or) financially.

We definitely had some doubters, but, like many others, Genie’s Wienies means so much to me, I knew I had to do this. I know we aren’t the original owners, but we hope to do the name justice, and carry on this family tradition!

You can contact them at genieswieniesonwheels@gmail.com, or through their website, <https://genieswieniesonwheels.godaddysites.com>.

August election is coming up

Continued from front page

didates on the ballot.

He continued: “Because Mr. Bangladesh seems to be the least active with his campaign.”

And, with this being an election year, Hossain stirred things up further by claiming this about his opponents: “One doesn’t live in the city. One doesn’t pay taxes. One doesn’t speak English. I wish I made this up.”

Fellow mayoral candidate Adam Alharbi – who appears to be the favored candidate, and is being endorsed by Mayor Amer Ghalib (who is not seeking re-election) – responded to that accusation, by saying:

“Khan Hossain, I don’t know which one is me in your 3 opponents, but none of them apply to

me. When you can’t beat an opponent with qualifications, experience and vision for the city, you’ll have no other option but to spread lies.”

Whether Alharbi expected this or not, Jo Tomaszewski then questioned him about the display of pride flags – which has been a flash point in the city’s growing cultural divide with the conservative Muslim community here.

“Adam Alharbi will you be willing to let the Pride flag fly again at City Hall? Will you be welcoming to new Council members who may disagree with you? Just 2 of the questions I have off the top of my head,” Tomaszewski said.

Alharbi replied: “Jo Tomaszewski I believe

Hamtramck should be a welcoming and inclusive city for everyone. While I know this has been a deeply debated issue, I support finding ways to show that all residents belong and are valued. I am committed to working together with the community to ensure that Hamtramck reflects our diversity while respecting the values of one another.”

The pride flag issue stems from the mayor and city council, a few years ago, banning the display of the flag on public property, saying that it offends some in the community, and that banning it was an act of “neutrality” on the issue.

That ban drew national and international media attention, and spurred

state Attorney General Dana Nessel, who is gay, to condemn the mayor and council, saying that they are a “national embarrassment.”

(Mayor Amer Ghalib is not seeking re-election in hopes of having the U.S. Senate confirm him as the next ambassador to Kuwait. He is President Trump’s nominee for the position.)

In other quirky aspects of this year’s campaign season, critics on social media have pounced on some of the campaign literature issued by candidates.

Take city council candidate Motahar Fadhel, who describes himself as a “virtuous sanitizer.”

That prompted former

Continued on page 5

This week at the Library . . .

July 11, 2025

Summer Reading: The program will continue through August. Participants will have a chance to win great prizes just for reading books. Programs will include entertaining topics, arts and crafts, music, NERF battles, festival and parties. The schedule will include:

July 16 - D.J. in the mix 2 at 1:30 pm

July 23rd - NERF battles at 2 pm

July 30th - Star Lab at 2 pm

Aug.6th - Japanese Bon Festival 2 pm

Aug. 13th - Dog Man Movie at 2 pm

Jazz Youth Masterclasses: Library is holding preservation of jazz youth masterclasses every Thursday in July, August and September from 3 pm to 5 pm. Classes are conducted by Jazz vocalist, Sky Covington and are free to Hamtramck residents. To register for classes sign up at the library or call 248-383-3385 to speak with the instructor. The final meeting will consist of a performance on September 25th at 3 pm.

D.J. in the Mix Program: This program presented on Wednesday, July 9th at 1:30 pm is the first part of two where children can learn how to record and mix songs with help from a professional DJ. It is presented by the North End Woodward Community Coalition and WNUC 96.7 FM station. Part two of the program will follow on Wednesday, July 16th at 1:30 pm.

NERF Blaster Battle: On July 23rd

at 2:00 pm the NERF battles begin. Join one of the teams and take cover while blasting the other side with foam darts.

Star Lab: This popular program for children is coming to the library on Wednesday, July 30th at 2:00 pm. Learn about the night sky in a huge inflatable planetarium,

Early Japanese Bon Festival: This beautiful and informative program is coming to Hamtramck Library on Wednesday August 6th at 2 pm. It is free to the general public, children and adults. For your enjoyment, you will see presentations of Japanese traditions, complete with music, dance and crafts.

Game Night: We are moving to Wednesdays. Join us for Game Night at the library. We are serving up something fun each Wednesday at 4 pm. Stop by and let us know that you have come to play. Everyone invited.

Line of succession: On July 18, 1947, President Harry Truman signed an Executive Order determining the line of succession if he president becomes incapacitated or dies in office. Following the vice president, the speaker of the house and president of the Senate are next in succession. This became the 25th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, ratified on February 10, 1967.

Women’s Rights: On July 19th to 20th of 1848, a convention started the women’s rights movement.

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

Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

City parking meters are gone, but what next?

Hamtramck is back to square one when it comes to choosing a parking meter system for the city's main business district.

Recently, the city council decided not to renew its contract with the company that ran the city's parking meters on Jos. Campau and in the municipal parking lots.

In other words, it's free to park everywhere – for now (where it's legal). Of course, don't park where curbs are painted yellow, or signage otherwise forbids it.

We think it's safe to say that these meters were universally loathed. For many, the meters' instructions were difficult to understand, and in at least some instances, that appears to have resulted in tickets being issued by mistake.

This so-called "hi-tech system" was a failure, and Hamtramck isn't alone in getting rid of this particular system, operated by the company Municipal Parking Systems.

Other communities that suffered with this system complained about the same issues: hard-to-understand meter directions, and a corresponding drop in the number of people patronizing their local businesses.

Now, it's a question as to whether local businesses will be able to recoup their lost customers who have stopped showing up.

While the free parking will come as a relief to many, another huge question lingers: What will the city do to make up for the lost revenue the meters produced (albeit, mostly through tickets).

That lost revenue amounts to roughly \$200,000 a year – no small chunk of change for a city this size.

Unfortunately, the city has not planned on what meter system to use as a replacement to make up for that lost revenue, which is baffling.

The city council and administration have their work ahead in figuring out a new meter system, because Hamtramck cannot afford to lose this yearly revenue

Mayor continues to wait to be confirmed by Senate for ambassadorship

By Charles Sercombe

So far, there is still no date set for Hamtramck Mayor Amer Ghalib's Senate hearing on his confirmation to be the U.S. ambassador to Kuwait.

President Trump nominated Ghalib to be the next ambassador to Kuwait back in March, an apparent reward for Ghalib supporting him for president, and for convincing many others in the Arab-American community to ditch the Democratic Party and vote for Trump.

In the meantime, the U.S. State Department issued a background statement on Ghalib that described him as being a farmer from Yemen who emigrated to the U.S. when he was 17 years old, and finished his senior year at Hamtramck High School in 2000 while at the same time working in an auto parts factory.

The State Department bio went on to say that Ghalib earned a bachelor's degree in Biological Science at Wayne State University, attended the Ross University School of Medicine's Doctor of Medicine (MD) program between 2006 and 2011, and received a B.S.N. from Indiana Wesleyan University in 2020.

Curiously, his biography does not say that he gra-



Mayor Amer Ghalib is still waiting for a date to be set for his confirmation hearing with the U.S. Senate on his nomination to be the next ambassador to Kuwait. File photo

duated from Ross, which confirms an earlier Detroit Free Press report that the school, located in Barbados, does not have a record of him graduating.

The Review also called the school to confirm whether Ghalib ever graduated or attended the school, but was told that his records could not be released without Ghalib's permission.

The Review asked Ghalib for permission to confirm his attendance there, but he did not respond, nor has he responded as to whether he graduated from the school.

In the past Ghalib has said he has a medical degree from the school.

Even President Trump has referred to Ghalib as a graduate with a medical degree.

"Amer (Ghalib) earned his M.D. from the Ross University School of Medicine, and continues to serve his community as a

proud healthcare professional," Trump said in a statement.

Whether Ghalib has a medical degree or not, one thing is for sure: he is a registered nurse with the state of Michigan.

According to the State Department, Ghalib "organizes educational health sessions, focusing on screening, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of the most common medical illnesses in the community."

His biography concluded with:

"His multi-cultural experience, deep regional knowledge, and demonstrated success as a politician, leader, and community organizer, make him a well-qualified candidate to serve as U.S. Ambassador to the State of Kuwait."

While there is strong support from the Trump administration, there has

Continued on page 5

Odds & Ends

Cited... St Joseph's Nursing Home on Conant is one of six Detroit area homes that has been accused of mistreating residents.

The owners of the nursing homes, Villa Financial Services LLC and Villa Olympia Investment LLC, have agreed to a settlement to pay \$4.5 million.

The U.S. government will received about \$3.4 million and the state will get more than \$1 million.

The settlement was announced recently by state Attorney General Dana Nessel who issued a press release saying:

"Chronic neglect of nursing home residents is absolutely unacceptable, yet sadly all too common."

State and federal investigators talked with employees at the nursing homes who confirmed that some patients were left to lie in their own waste, bed sores not being treated and the facilities not being properly staffed.

This investigation was part of a nationwide investigation conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice's 2025 National Health Care Fraud Enforcement Action.

The department said in a press release that its investigations "resulted in criminal charges against 324 defendants for their alleged participation in health care fraud and illegal drug diversion schemes that involved the submission of over \$14.6 billion in intended loss and over 15 million pills of illegally diverted controlled substances."

Condolences... A 24-year-old Hamtramck man, who has not been identified at the time The Review went to press Thursday, drowned at a lake in Sanilac County.

According to media reports, he was playing catch with his girlfriend when he fell into a deep end of a lake in North Port Huron Jellystone Park on July 6 and never emerged.

He was one of about a dozen people who drowned over the July Fourth holiday week here in Michigan.

Reminder ... Summer festivities will be ongoing this month.

On Saturday, July 12,

there will be two events for residents to enjoy – and both are free to attend.

For motorcycle fans, Kelly's bar will host a showcase of all types of bikes, especially vintage/custom ones.

The bar is located on Holbrook, right across the street from the Kowalski Sausage factory. The side street Dubois will be closed for the event all day and into the evening.

No doubt there will be a live band playing in their backyard, and we also expect a barbecue of some sort along with cold, cold beer and drinks.

Later in the day, from 4-9 p.m., the city's Community Economic Development Department is hosting its monthly Night Bazaar in Pope Park.

What's that you say?

That's where business and craft folks set up booths and sell their wares – all sorts of interesting things.

Usually a band performs.

Check it out and support your local crafts folks.

Hatching... Those arty rascals over at Hatch Art, 3456 Evaline (right near City Hall) have a new installation going live to the public this weekend.

In fact, tomorrow night, Saturday, July 12, there will be an opening reception for the show, at the gallery from 6-9 p.m.

The show, being given the name "WOW POP BANG," will be left up through August 10, and will feature the work of four artists: Anita Andersons, Mary Fortuna (who also curated the show), Brigitte Neal, and Scott Northrup.

Fortuna, speaking on the work it took to put it all together, had this to say: "Curating this show has been a little like sitting down to start a collage or an assemblage.

"You start gathering tools and materials that appeal to you, start playing and putting things together, and trust that something interesting and beautiful will emerge."

The normal hours for the gallery are Thursdays and Fridays, 6-9 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays, noon-5 p.m.

Hatch is a local gal-

lery that, among other things, helped to restore (and currently preserves) the remarkable, almost 2,000 square foot backyard installation dubbed "Hamtramck Disneyland" that Ukrainian resident Dmytro Szylak, who is now deceased, created out of found objects, as well as his own creations of unique items with a wonderfully skewed sense of whimsy.

Mr. Szylak passed away in 2015, leaving the future of the installation in doubt until Hatch was able to step in.

Hatch also sponsors an Artist-in-Residence program and, for a time, collaborated with Dr. Sketchy's Anti-Art School for outside-the-box life drawing pop-ups or classes.

They are an art collective whose mission is "Education, Expression and Exhibition."

Check them out at hatchart.org.

American pastime... Retired Hamtramck Public School District Superintendent Tom Niczay and his wife, Linda, recently took in a baseball game at New York's Yankee Stadium, and were given a Yankee welcome.

There are on the huge electronic Fan Marque out above the outfield stands it gave a welcome message saying: "Yankees welcome, Tom & Linda Niczay from Hamtramck, MI"

For those keeping score, no, the Tigers were not playing there that evening. And Tom and Linda remain loyal Detroit fans.

Ticking time bomb... The Center for Disease Control (CDC), while it still exists, is issuing a warning to the public about ticks.

July, so far, is seeing the most emergency room visits for tick-related illnesses nationally since 2017.

Some friends who go birdwatching through the fields have verified that last year and this year have been quite bad for the nasty critters, who are best-known for carrying the nefarious Lyme disease, but also harbor Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Heartland virus, and Bourbon virus.

They are also respon-

Continued on page 5

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Coming Events

SATURDAY, July 12, 2-4 p.m. – Take-out only Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. Everyone is welcome!



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Hamtramck Public TV-19

Broadcasting on Comcast Channel 19 in Hamtramck area and YouTube Live world wide (Hamtramck Library Channel)

What's on this coming week?

Interview with Muhith Mahmood, Mayoral Candidate

Interview with Khan Hossain, mayoral candidate

Interview with Joseph Strzalka, council candidate

Primary Election Candidate Forum 2025

Hamtramck High School Graduation Program

Common Word Alliance Eid Al-Adha Celebration and more

BECOME A LOCAL REPORTER: If you know how to take photos or make film clips on your phone, you can download them to Hamtramck TV along with a news story, to be aired the same day. Send in event announcements, comments to city officials, facts you want to share with the community, etc.

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"

Or go to YouTube; Hamtramck Public TV; Hamtramck Public Library; Videos, or Live

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Will go on air the same day (evening)

To upload video files go to (bit.ly/hamtramcktv)

CRIME LOG

By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers the dates of July 1-7.

Tuesday, July 1

- An assault was reported in the 3500 block of Caniff.
- A suspect was arrested for assault at Jos. Campau and Caniff.
- An incident of fraud was reported in the 3200 block of Lehman.
- A vehicle was reported stolen in the 2200 block of Yemans.
- A complaint was made about an animal in the 2300 block of Andrus.
- A theft was reported in the 2600 block of Holbrook.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the area of Faber and Jos. Campau.
- An assault was reported in the 2400 block of Denton.

Wednesday, July 2

- At a little after 2 a.m., an assault was reported in the area of Holmes and Jos. Campau.
- An arson was reported on Burger.
- A suspect was arrested for fraud on Conant.
- A fight was reported on Grand Haven.
- A stolen vehicle was recovered in the 11400 block of Grand Haven.
- An attempted theft of a vehicle was reported in the 11400 block of Klin-ger.
- A suspect was arrested after ramming a patrol car with a stolen vehicle.
- A business in the 9300 block of Jos. Campau reported an incident of fraud.

Thursday, July 3

- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 8700 block of Jos. Campau.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 2300 block of Caniff.
- Officers, investigating a disorderly person complaint in the 2400 block of Holbrook, arrested a male suspect for assault.
- Officers, assisting an ambulance crew in the area of Gallagher and Caniff, arrested a male suspect for drunk driving.
- During a traffic stop, a male driver was arrested for driving without a license, for having an improper license, and for obstruction.
- A stolen vehicle was recovered at Circle Dr. and Selfridge.
- An incident of trespassing was reported in the 2000 block of Caniff.
- A complaint was made about an animal in the 11600 block of St. Aubin.
- An assault was reported in the 3900 block of Edwin.
- Possible gunshots were reported in the area of Dequindre and Commor.

Friday, July 4

- A fight was reported in the 8700 block of Jos. Campau.
- A vehicle was reported stolen in the 9800 block of Jos. Campau.
- A reckless driver was reported near Pulaski

Park.

- Family trouble was reported on Selfridge.
- A business on Jos. Campau reported an incident of fraud and obstruction.
- A suspect was arrested, on Conant near Carpenter, for trespassing.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 3000 block of Trowbridge.
- A male suspect was arrested for domestic assault in the 3300 block of Norwalk.

Saturday, July 5

- At about 1 a.m., a complaint was made about fireworks in the area of Carpenter and Mitchell. Complaints about fireworks were also made on Moran, Conant and Caniff.
- Officers, responding to a call about a domestic assault on Selfridge, arrested a suspect.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the area of Jos. Campau and Holbrook.
- A complaint was made about a juvenile in the 11600 block of Fleming.

Sunday, July 6

- At a little after 11:30 p.m., a complaint was made about noise in the 2600 block of Carpenter.
- At about 12:30 a.m., a female suspect was arrested in the 11300 block of McDougall for domestic assault.
- A complaint was made about fireworks in the area of Jos. Campau and Commor, and in the 2300 block of Denton.
- A vehicle was reported stolen in the 3800 block of Dorothy.
- A trespassing complaint was made in the 9100 block of Jos. Campau.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported on Lumpkin.
- A domestic assault was reported on Poland.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 9400 block of Jos. Campau.
- A stolen vehicle was reported in the 11300 block of McDougall.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 12000 block of Selfridge.
- A stolen vehicle was reported in the area of Commor and Grand Haven.

Monday, July 7

- Gunshots were reported in the area of Conant and Caniff.
- An assault was reported in the 2200 block of Poland.
- A complaint was made about trespassing in the 9500 block of Conant.
- A hit-and-run accident happened on Lumpkin.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 2700 block of Holbrook.
- A break-in was reported in the 3500 block of Caniff.
- A theft was reported in the 11800 block of Jos. Campau.
- A stolen vehicle was reported in the 2300 block of Alice.
- A fight was reported at Grand Haven and Circle Dr.

August election is coming up

Continued from page 2

city councilmember Philip Kwik to ask: “What does he sanitize virtuously?”

All we can guess is that something got lost in translation.

And there are some candidates who definitely could benefit from using the aid of a proof reader to look over their campaign literature.

Step right up, Mahfuzur Rahman, who spells Hamtramck as “Hamtramick,” and not once but three times. He also spells the name of his street campaign address as being on “Canif.”

Sorry, Rahman, but it’s

spelled Hamtramck and Caniff.

He also committed questionable syntax by saying, “My vision is work together to make Hamtramck more better, more best and more loving.”

As for the curious spelling that prompted Malgorzata Sokolowska to comment on social media:

“Don’t want to be rude but if someone is advertising themselves for a city position, they should check their spelling.”

And, as for the “more better, more best and more loving” slogan, that reminded Joni Sobczak

of a certain presidential First Lady, and her campaign for all of us to “Be Better.”

“Sounds like Melania Trump,” Sobczak said.

Just to recap, here’s the candidate lineup for the Aug. 5 Primary election:

The following candidates are seeking the city’s top job of mayor:

- Adam Alharbi
- Khandaker Showkat Hossain

- Mister Bangladesh
- Muhith Mahmood

And, for city council, the ballot includes the following candidates:

- Joseph Strzalka
- Diane Frkan
- Rezaul Chowdhury
- Nayeem Choudhury
- Motahar Fadhel
- Yousuf Saed
- Abdumalik Kassim
- Abu Musa
- Luqman Saleh
- Russ Gordon
- Mahfuzur Rahman
- Khalid Al Qsaimi

In the mayoral race, the primary election will whittle down the candidates to the two top-vote getters, who will go on to battle it out in the November General Election.

In the council election in August, the top six finishers will advance to the General Election, where the final three candidates will be selected by voters.

There are no other election items on the ballot.

Odds & Ends

Continued from page 3

sible for something called “alpha-gal syndrome,” a potentially life-threatening food allergy to red meat.

Now, here in Hamtramck, we don’t have a great deal of fields or areas of longer grass; certainly not like even our Detroit neighbor.

But they can find their way to you via other paths, crafty as they are.

So, what to do?

- Remove leaf litter, which can serve as a prime tick hiding area.

• Store firewood on elevated surfaces, to prevent rodents (rats, for example, or squirrels, common carriers of ticks) from finding shelter.

- If you do plan to go into a field, wear long, light-colored trousers, rubber banded at the cuff or tucked into boots or socks, and long sleeve

shirts – and have someone check you for hard-to-see areas when you get home.

- Create a backyard barrier with “moats” of gravel, stone or wood chip beds around the perimeter of your home.

• Meanwhile, educate yourself on the symptoms of tick-borne diseases and, if you do find a tick on you, consult your doctor immediately on the safest way(s) to remove it, and whether they recommend you seek any follow up.

Mayor continues to wait to be confirmed by Senate for ambassadorship

Continued from page 3

been some opposition to Ghalib’s appointment from Jewish organizations.

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) has been the most prominent critic of Ghalib, and accused him of “routinely trafficking in antisemitism.”

The ADL has further said, in a statement:

“As ADL’s recent Global 100 poll revealed, Kuwait has the second highest levels of antisemitic attitudes in the world, at 97%, and having Ghalib represent U.S. interests in Kuwait could further fuel antisemitic beliefs in the country and across the region.”

The ADL also criticized Ghalib “for supporting the BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) movement, attempted to justify the 10/7 massacre, and refusing to take disciplinary action against an appointee who attempted to justify the Holocaust.”

(The “10/7 massacre” refers to an attack by Hamas militants who on Oct. 7, 2023 invaded Israel and killed about 1,400 Israelis.)

BDS refers to a pro-Palestinian movement, formed in 2005, that calls for the “Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions” of, from and against Israel in response to their treatment of Palestinians.

In 2019, President Trump condemned the movement, saying:

“My administration will never tolerate the suppression, persecution or silencing of the Jewish people. We forcefully condemn this anti-Semitic campaign against the state of Israel and its citizens.”

Under the direction of the city’s all-male and all-Muslim city council, and with the support of Mayor Ghalib, Hamtramck was the first Michigan city to withdraw any financial investments involving Israel.

Ghalib justified taking that action, saying that a Jewish attorney urged the council to adopt this measure.

(The attorney in question is Matthew Clark, who is a member of Jewish Voice for Peace.)

“It was Jewish activists who came here to ask us to take that resolution,” Ghalib said. “It was a

Jewish lawyer who drafted that. So, there is no way you can call this antisemitism.”

Ghalib also noted that, in 2022, the council passed a resolution condemning antisemitism – one of the few cities to take that action.

“So you can’t believe the media – especially those yellow media,” Ghalib added. “They have political goals to publish these things at this time.”

At a pro-Palestinian rally at Zussman Park, Ghalib justified Palestinian violence against Israel for its brutality against Palestinians, and denied that sexual violence happened against Israelis when Hamas militants invaded Israel on Oct. 7 in 2023.

At the pro-Palestinian rally in 2023, Ghalib said:

“If you start killing my

children in front of my eyes, then I will use every means available for me to resist. I don’t care what names you would call me.

“If you classify a person as a terrorist, other people in different parts of the world consider him as a freedom fighter. So not everyone agrees with our government. ...”

The U.S. government classifies Hamas as a terrorist organization.

President Trump has previously called for anyone who is not a citizen and who speaks in favor of Hamas to be deported. Trump’s administration has also cracked down on pro-Palestinian protests on college campuses, and said it will deport foreign students who participate in the protests.

In Memoriam

A gathering will be held in honor of Korean War veteran Gil McDonald at Port Bar, 9420 Jos. Campau, Hamtramck, on Sunday, July 13 (2-6 p.m.).

“He ran a million miles,” says good friend Eddie Banko, a fellow Korean War veteran.



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Our Pantry Program is a testament to our community's strength and resilience. Together, we can help our community members in finding their path towards stability and self-sufficiency.

FOOD ITEMS NEEDED:

- Canned tuna
- Peanut butter
- Fresh fruits and vegetables (share your garden surplus!)
- Water
- Pantry staples: oil, salt, spices, flour, sugar

DROP OFF TIMES:

- Monday- 10am-1pm
- Tuesday,Thursday and Friday- 9am-4pm
- Saturday - 9am-12pm

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Crime Watch...

Police catch armed robbers after violent assault

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck’s police department had a busy week. The fast work of Hamtramck police detectives is being credited for the arrests of two armed-robbery suspects after they allegedly robbed three victims coming out of Gold and Glitter Jewelry on Jos. Campau.

In a press release issued by the Hamtramck Police Department, it said that on Monday, June 30, at a little after 1 p.m., as three customers left the jewelry store, suspects in a white Nissan Rogue pulled up.

As they were leaving, according to the police department, one suspect got out of the passenger seat with a gun and “then ripped a chain off the neck of one victim, chased another victim that was on crutches and took his glasses that he had just purchased, before then pointing the gun at a female victim and (stealing) her purse.”

The department said that detectives arrested one of the suspects 30 minutes later, and then found the other suspect in a house in Detroit, where there was a brief standoff.

The suspects, Leon

Devonte Richardson and Michael Edward-Martell Campbell Jr. were later arraigned in Hamtramck 31st District Court on 19 felony charges combined, including: armed robbery, larceny, carrying a concealed weapon and being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Both suspects are also being charged with being habitual offenders. A conviction on that charge alone carries a maximum prison sentence of life.

Both were given the option of posting \$500,000 cash bonds, along with conditions that would

include house arrest and wearing tethers.

Neither suspect posted their bond.

In other crime news, the department reported on a number of vehicle drivers who fled during traffic stops, including one suspect who was allegedly driving a stolen vehicle and had been involved in a shooting.

Police say that James Edward Kennedy Jr., 36, of Detroit, was arrested after being involved in an accident, and is charged with fleeing and eluding, reckless driving and being a habitual offender.

Notice of Public Hearing

City of Hamtramck – City Council

The City of Hamtramck City Council will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, August 12, 2025, at 7:00pm. The meeting will be held at Hamtramck City Hall, 3401 Evaline St, Hamtramck, Michigan 48212. The public is invited to attend and comment at the public hearing or to make written comments before the date of the hearing. Written comments should be made to the attention of Rana Faraj, City Clerk at rfaraj@hamtramckcity.gov before 12:00 p.m. on August 12, 2025.

The subject of the public hearing is: New parking provisions updated in Central Business District and Multi-Use District ordinances. The proposed ordinance changes would allow for non-city owned parking lots on C2 and CBD parcels (subject to special land use) and allow administrative approval of nonconforming parking lot setbacks in C2 and CBD districts for good reason based on site restrictions.

This second reading and public hearing is contingent upon City’ Council’s approval of the 1st reading on July 22, 2025.

Please note: This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.71 a (2) (3) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The City of Hamtramck will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the Meeting to Individuals with disabilities at the Meeting or Public Hearing upon 10 day notice to the City Clerk’s Office. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Hamtramck City Clerk by writing or calling the Clerk’s Office at 313-800-5233 x 821.

From the Office of Wayne County Treasurer Eric R. Sabree



PROBATE ASSISTANCE

If you are facing foreclosure and need assistance in starting a Wayne County Probate Court Case because a property is in the name of a deceased family member, please contact one of the following community partners for assistance:

Michigan Legal Services: 313-774-1527 | 313-725-4890

United Community Housing Coalition: 313-405-7726

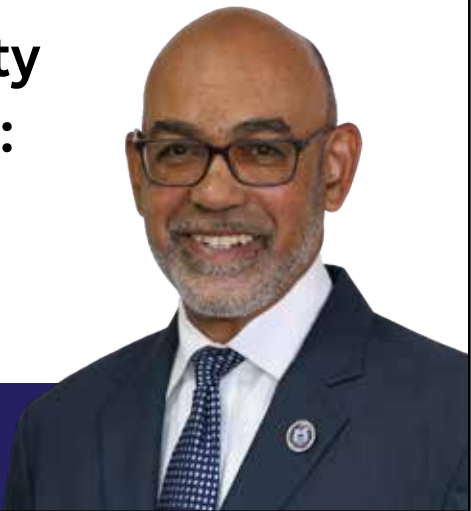
Legal Aid & Defender: 313-967-5800

Contact the Wayne County Probate Court by calling: 313-224-5706



We are here to help!

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313-224-5990**



School Bell

Summer activities

With summer in full swing, some parents might be running out of ideas on how to keep their students busy during this down time.

So, here are some things you can try, to keep them out of trouble for the next several weeks:

Go to a playground: Hamtramck has two parks (Memorial and Veterans) where there are plenty of activities for kids.

Summer camp (at home): You can turn your backyard into a mini-camp by providing games, and even have a tent-over.

Splash around: Hamtramck does have a splash pad at Memorial Park,

which opens in the late afternoons for free.

Picnic: Take your kids to our parks, not only to play, but also to enjoy a picnic there.

Scavenger hunt: Keep your kids on the move. All it takes is a little imagination to plan it out. Try using age-appropriate trivia for clues.

Be a tour guide: Hamtramck has a rich historical history. Take them on a tour of the city’s historical locations.

Need to get a quick history lesson? Arrange a visit with the Hamtramck Historical Museum (go to hamtramckhistory.com to find out more).

A little imagination goes a long way in the summer.



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