FOR MAYOR

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Adam Alharbi, 9338 McDougall St. Hamtramck Mi, 48212

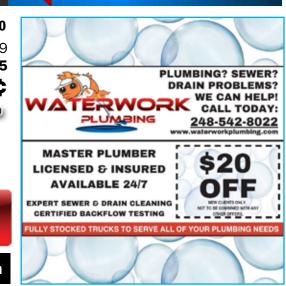








www.hamtramckreview.com • e-mail news@thehamtramckreview.com



FOR UNITY.

FOR PROGRESS.

ADAM ALHARBI.



Quick Hits

Famed ballplayer is focus of a new memoir By Alan Madlane

Summer is baseball time, and the Tigers are giving us a great summer so far - that Seattle series just before the All-Star break notwithstan-

A big name from the game's past, a local hero who played local fields, was Norman Thomas Stearnes - better known by his sobriquet, "Turkey."

Turkey Stearnes was a heck of a player, all right, but was forced to play his entire 20-season career in the racially segregated "Negro Leagues."

He played at Hamtramck's historical baseball stadium in the 1930s. The stadium's field is named after him in recognition of his outstanding record and historical significance.

Major League baseball finally acknowledged some of the greats from that league and era by putting them into the Hall of Fame.

Turkey Stearnes made it in, finally, in the year 2000 - an exact quarter century ago, to the month. Unfortunately, he had already passed away, in 1979.

One wonders if the Hall would have even put him in at all, but for the persistent work of Stearnes' widow, Nettie, who campaigned for years to get him his due.

Now comes daughter Continued on page 2

BANQUET HALL

HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD

Finally, the Caniff repaving is complete and open for traffic

By Charles Sercombe

Time to celebrate, and if you have wheels whether it's a car, bike or scooter test out the newest portion of Caniff.

That's because it's now smooth driving all the way through town on Caniff – one of the city's main roads.

And you can once again enjoy that new road fragrance while you can - as well as a newly-cleaned street (which, in this town, lasts about 15 minutes).

The last segment of the years-long Caniff repaving is complete, and the street is now fully open for traffic.

The last leg of the repaving and infrastructure replacement of Caniff was between Gallagher to Conant, and was scheduled to be completed this week, after allowing the freshly poured concrete to cure for the past couple of weeks.

In all, Caniff has now had its water and sewer



The last segment of Caniff has been repaved, and is now open for traffic. Caniff has been completely reconstructed and repaved from the I-75 service drive to Buffalo, thanks to a federal and state grant.

lines (which run underneath the street) replaced from the I-75 service drive to Buffalo, and then the street repaved with concrete, to the tune of about \$6 million for the entire stretch.

The project was funded through a federal and state grant, and it was started a few years ago beginning with the first of three sections, from I-75 to Jos. Campau.

This last stretch of work on Caniff began back in April, and finished – as estimated – this month.

replaced during process.

Department of Public Works Director John DeAngelis said there are still "little pieces here and there" to finish up,

but the important thing is that it's open to traffic and pedestrians.

It is not known when Caniff was last repaved. What is known is that the Sidewalks were also street had long been plagued by potholes and numerous buried water line repairs that required sections of the street to be repeatedly torn up, and later repaved - which

Continued on page 4 Historical Museum

gets nearly \$100,000 in state grant

By Alan Madeleine

The State of Michigan recently announced the annual awardees of their Community Museum Grant Program - and the Hamtramck Historical Museum (HHM) has benefitted.

The grants, originating from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO), provide a total of up to \$9 million annually to support

Michigan museums and non-profit foundations in stabilizing, growing or thriving.

This year's 20 awardees included some big names, such as the Detroit Zoological Society, the Henry Ford Museum, and the Detroit Public Schools Foundation, each maxing out at \$819,200. In total, 7 of the 20 awardees got

Continued on page 2

City job raises questions

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck is once again seeking an assistant to the city manager.

But for anyone interested in applying, the job posting on the city's website has already been taken down - after being on the city's website for only about three weeks.

According to various sources, this hiring could be the first step in the eventual attempt to fire current City Manager Max Garbarino, who is on paid administrative leave.

Garbarino was suspended at the urging of Mayor Amer Ghalib, who insisted on hiring a private investigator to look into allegations made by the police chief about wrongdoings committed by Garbarino.

Garbarino has denied any wrongdoing, and has said the chief's allegations are false, and were made in retaliation for Garbarino suspending the chief for allegations of wrongdoing.

And those aren't the only suspensions: a police investigator with the department, David Adamczyk, is also on paid administrative leave for initiating the internal investigation into the police chief.

The FBI is reportedly now looking into the matter involving the police chief, while a private investigator separately looks into all three people involved: Altaheri, Garbarino and Adamczyk.

If that sounds confusing, you are not alone. as city hall has been in turmoil for the last few weeks.

In the meantime, the interim city manager is

Continued on page 2



The Hamtramck Historical Museum now has over \$95,000 to continue building repairs thanks to a state grant.

Enjoy Our Polish Classics:

Stuffed Cabbage, Pierogis, Crepes, Potato Pancakes, City Chicken, Pork Chops, Vegetarian Plates and

Homemade Soups: Dill Pickle & Cabbage. Don't forget to try our

homemade sausage.





2934 Yemans • Hamtramck • 313-873-8432 www.polonia-restaurant.net Find Us on Facebook!

Continued from front page

Quick Hits

Cont. from front page

Rosilyn Stearnes-Brown with her new book, "Fans Called Him Turkey, I Called Him Dad: A Daughter Remembers Baseball Hall of Famer Norman Thomas Stearnes."

Ms. Stearnes will be giving a reading from that book this Thursday, July 24 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. at the Hamtramck Historical Museum (9525 Joseph Campau, between Norwalk and Poland).

She'll discuss what motivated her to write the book, and what she learned in the process; discuss how her

We are an Active

Parish Serving the

Community

Celebrating 102 Years of

Traditional, Catholic, and

Democratic Church

was as a husband to her mother, and as a father; and give a few examples of some stories from his time with the Detroit Stars, one of several teams he played for in his long and exemplary career.

The reading is sponsored by the Association of Women in Communica-(AWC's) Detroit tion's Chapter.

The cost for this special event is \$25 for adults, or \$50 with a signed copy of the book included. Student tickets will be \$10, or \$35 including the signed book.

Learn more, or register, on the AWC website: womcomdetroit.org.

It's Time to Pray, Please Join Us

We are a Multicultural Parish Family Sunday English Mass 9 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Everyone is Welcome to Worship with Us

Sunday, July 13 Holy Mass 9:00 am Fifteenth Sunday in **Ordinary Time**

July 16 – Solemnity of the Lady of Mt. Carmel Holy Mass 9 am

> July 12 - Take-out Only Soup Kitchen 2-4 pm **Everyone Welcome!**

Holy Cross Parish Polish National Catholic Church 2311 Pulaski, Hamtramck • Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak, Pastor 313-365-0218 www.HolyCrossPNCC.com



586-879-8058 Call for Appt.

City job raises questions

preferred.

Syed Aamir Hassan, who is also the city's finance director.

The requirements for the assistant city manager position include:

· Having a bachelor's degree with a "concentration in public administration or a related field," with a master's degree Having five years'

experience "working in municipal, county, or state government, or with a large public organization."

 Having prior experience as a supervisor.

 "The preferred candidate will be bilingual in Arabic and/or Bengali."

The job pays \$84,000 a year, plus offers health insurance and a retirement

It was not immediately known how many total applicants there were.

The last time the city hired an assistant city manager, that didn't work out well.

In that instance, at the insistence of the city council, a position was created, only to end up with that person leaving in less than a year after being in disputes with other city employees, and being paid \$60,000 in a settlement.

Historical Museum gets nearly \$100,000 in state grant continued from front page

that maximum figure.

The Hamtramck Historical Museum got the next-to smallest award given this year, at \$95,558 - but then, it is a smaller museum with a relatively small budget, payroll and

We were able to catch up to Joe Kochut, the current president of the HHM, and learn a bit more about this latest windfall for the museum.

The Review: Let's start introducing those among our readership, who may not know you, to you - specifically, how you came to be involved with the Hamtramck Historical Museum, and then came to be in the position you are now with them now.

Joe Kochut: My name is Joe Kochut, I am a lifelong Hamtramckan, and I am the board president at the Hamtramck Historical Museum.

I got involved with the museum 11 years ago, after coming into the museum looking for clarification on some old family documents that I had found. One of our other board members asked if I would be interested in being Mr. Paczki (in what was then called the Polish



Joe Kochut

Day Parade); I said yes, and the rest is history.

I came into the position I am in through years of mentorship by our Executive Director, Greg Kowalski. Six years ago, the members of our board elected me to be the board president.

The Review: You were one of the 20 recipients of the Community Museum **Grant program this year.**

Let's talk a little history on that first: is this the first time the museum has been awarded one of these grants, or, if not, what is the museum's history of receiving these CMGs (or any other important ones)?

Kochut: This is the first time we have received a Community Museum Grant directly from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO).

Actually, though, we have received numerous grants in the past from both the State of Michigan and private entities. In fact, we received an initial start-up grant from the Michigan State Housing Authority.

Through the years, we have received private grants from corporations such as GM and Fiat Chrysler. The Motor Cities National Heritage Area has also provided grants for displays and exhibits.

The two most consistent sources of grants we have received have been from the Michigan Art and Culture Council (MACC) and Michigan Humanities Council, now called MIHumanities.

MACC is a division of the State of Michigan Economic Development Corporation, which is a unique autonomous quasi-governmental agency within the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO). So, the museum has received funding from LEO in the past, but not directly.

MACC has been incredibly helpful, and has assisted with grants for furnace installations, new window installation, carpeting and flooring. MIHumanities is an independent non-profit organization, based in Okemos, and has supported the Museum with grants for programming.

One of its most outstanding grants so far received is the grant it gave the museum to commission muralist Dennis Orlowski to paint the museum's lovely "Coming to Hamtramck, the History of Hamtramck Immigration" mural.

We also need to add (a word about) the incredible assistance we received from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 58. Over a period of several years, the volunteers from Local 58 completely redid the museum's electrical and lighting systems.

The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades also came, and restored our lovely antique tin ceiling in the main exhibit hall. Both unions made a real difference (for us).

The Review: The amount you received was modest, in comparison with that of many of the other recipients' - in fact, only one Continued on page 3

A COMMUNITY OF CARE! 800-241-4949



ভ ব্যায়ামাগার হ্যামট্রামিক হাউসিং কমিশন (এইচ্ এইচ্ এস্) বর্ণ, গোত্র, ধর্ম , জাতীয় উৎস, লিঙ্গ, বিকলাঙ্গ বা পারিবারিক অবস্থানের ভিত্তিতে কারেও অবজ্ঞা করেনা । সেকশান ৩ এর যোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন আগ্রহীদের র্মিয়ঁফ মড়া এ নিবন্ধন করতে অনুরোধ করা যাচেছ ।

২৬২০ হলব্ৰুক স্ট্ৰীট, হ্যামট্ৰামিক 🔻 ৩১৩ ৮৭৩ ৭৭৮৭ ^{basis of race, color, religion, nauonal}

Hamtramck Housing Commission (HHC) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national

This week at the Library

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 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 consists of a performance on September 25th at 3 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. inflatable planetarium,

Learn about the night sky in a huge 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

Dog Man Movie: On Wednesday, August 13, at 2 pm, all children are invited to the showing of "Dog Man Movie", presented in a theatre setting with a serving of refreshments.

Summer Reading Party and Prizes: On August 20th at 2 pm, the last program of the summer will feature and party and award of prizes for reading books. The library staff is putting together some great items that will be raffled off to the young readers.

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.

First Step on Moon: On July 20, 1969 a global audience watched on television as Apollo 11 astronaut Neil Armstrong took his first step onto the moon. As he stepped onto the moon's surface he proclaimed, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind" - inadvertently omitting an "a" before "man" and slightly changing the meaning.

Earnest Hemingway: This author was born on July 21, 1898 in Oak Park, Illinois. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1954.

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

Crossing the line of their authority

At a recent city council ne of them committed meeting, Mayor Amer Ghalib made an interesting comment that caught our attention.

Speaking on the internal investigations into background checks on candidates, the mayor lashed out, saying those investigations were not authorized.

"This body decides who gets investigated here or not," Ghalib said, in reference to himself and the city council.

Let that statement sink in for a moment.

According to Mayor Ghalib, it would be up to him and the city council to decide whether anyoelection law violations, or may not be a resident, or whether there is wrongdoing in any city depart-

What do you think the police chief and the chances are that the mayor and council members would OK an investigation into themselves?

pretty much, zilch.

That's a preposterous claim by the mayor, and clearly reveals his lack of understanding of the limits of his authority, as well as that of the city

In the past, city managers have conducted internal investigations into

department heads and employees without anyone's prior knowledge.

It is ludicrous to think that city managers need to get a green light from elected officials in order to investigate them.

We point this out only because the mayor and council have continued to redefine their roles Yeah, the chances are, as the managers of city affairs.

And that's just not the

Clearly, this city needs a reset on the subjects of authority and control. Otherwise, Hamtramck could grind to a halt in dysfunction.

Our advice? Stay in your lanes, people.

Odds & Ends

Apology?... A couple of weeks ago an attorney for police investigator Dave Adamczyk demanded that Mayor Amer Ghalib issue a written and verbal apology for saying that Adamczyk has a criminal conviction in his past.

That is a false statement. Adamczyk has no past or current criminal conviction, and it's unknown where the mayor got that idea from.

The deadline for Ghalib to issue an apology was last week.

As you might guess, there was no apology.

So what's next? Our guess is that Adamczyk's existing lawsuit against the mayor and city council will now inclu-

de defamation.

Bagged... It took awhile, but the city finally got around to placing bags over the now non-functioning parking meter pay stations.

It's been two weeks since the city council decided not to renew its contract with the parking meter company. In that time, we've seen a number of people attempt to pay for parking only to be



Above: The city's now defunct parking meter pay stations have been covered and will soon be removed. Below: On Saturday, Kelly's bar on Holbrook hosted a motorcycle show.



confused and frustrated.

As the saying goes, better late than never.

Rumble... It wasn't a scene out of the cult movie favorite "The Wild Ones" last Saturday, but it offered a look into biker culture at Kelly's Bar on Holbrook.

The bar hosted a mo-

torcycle gathering that offered folks, at the price of a \$10 admission, a change to gawk at various show bikes.

Our favorites were the 1970s-era choppers.

The event was sponsored by the Motor City Mad

Other Voices: Guest Editorial

Hamtramck students promoting a greener future

By Deja Parker

This summer, students from the General Motors Student Corps are stepping up to support the environment and their city.

partnership with the City of Hamtramck, Hamtramck Parks and Conservation, and Grow Hamtramck, the team is promoting tree planting in public right-of-ways throughout the city.

The goal is to improve air quality, regulate flooding about the benefits of

Place an

Ad in

The Review

Today

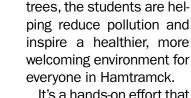
Call



corps general motors

waters, & beautify neighborhoods by encouraging more green space.

By raising awareness



It's a hands-on effort that blends community service, environmental education, and student leadership all rooted in making a lasting impact.

("Help us Help you!"-General Motors Student Corps, Class of 2025. For more information about requesting a tree, go online to: hamtramckcity.gov/ grow-hamtramck)

(Deja Parker is a Tennessee State University/ Student Corps Program Specialist/Early Career Talent. Intern.)



(313) 874-2100

3020 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212 Phone: 313-874-2100 Fax: 313-874-2101

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

Editor: Charles Sercombe Sales Manager: Dave Sweet

Publisher: John Ulaj • (248) 866-1110 • julaj@thehamtramckreview.com Copy Editor: Alan Madlane

Published every Friday

The Hamtramck Review

Office Manager: Jean Ingenthron

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

FUNERAL DIRECTORY

When the need arises, these caring professionals are ready to help.

Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home

MICHAEL A. WILK, DIRECTOR ROBERT A. WILK, DIRECTOR

2396 Caniff at Brombach | 313-365-9600

Historical Museum gets nearly \$100,000 in state grant continued from page 2

institution received less. Still, it's approaching \$100,000, and that's nothing to sneeze at.

Did they explain to you how they arrived at the amount? Some kind of loyees, etc.?

Kochut: We are indeed thrilled with this grant award, and are very grateful.

Our original proposal request for renovation funds was for \$116,000; that was \$21,000 more than we received. To be frank, we are unsure how LEO decided on the final amount.

Generally, in many cases, a funding source will numerically rate the proposals, and those that achieve a certain rating will be put in a pool, and (then) the available funds prorated across the various applicants' requests. However, again, at this

stage, the museum is not aware of the final funding formula.

The Review: Are there

any stipulations on how the funds can be spent or, for that matter, how they can't?

Or, if there are no restrictions, do you have any concrete plans yet for where it might be

earmarked; at least, any that you can discuss? Kochut: The grant specifically was for capital;

that is, renovation to our

100-year-old facility. We asked for funds for specific renovations, and they must be used for these items.

These include roof replacement, repair of formula involving space, the elevator, repair of the budget, number of emp- access stairs to the basement, abatement of asbestos in the presently unused basement, wall and plaster repair and painting, floor repair, and replacement of the large upper windows on the front façade of the museum.

> We want to make the museum a place that the Hamtramck community can (really be) proud of. After all, in a real way it belongs to the whole community.

> The Review: Is there a plan to apply again next year, or would you even be eligible? Or for any other grants, that you're able to speak about? Kochut: The museum

> tries to apply for any grant that is appropriate, and fulfills either a programming, or a building renovation, need. The LEO Community Mu-

seum Grant is on a five-year grant cycle, so I am not sure there will be another round next year.

The Review: One of the strange things about receiving a grant like this, when it's made public, is that the public might assume that all your financial needs are now covered for a while, and then they (maybe) back off of

donating. But this grant money, substantial as it is, is really only a partial fix that

goes just so far, right? Kochut: This grant is purely for renovation funds. It will not be used for operations in any way, shape or form. So, we sure hope that the community continues to support us in the generous manner they have (been).

The continued support is crucial to continue to operate and "keep the lights on," so to speak. In fact, this grant - and others - show that we are fastidious stewards of the community's donations, and try, in every instance, to leverage the support they give us.

In 2012, the museum's board of directors was donated the present facility, which was the former Wisper and Swartz Department Store, and which was in need of substantial repair. People may also remember it as a barber college or a dollar store.

For the past 13 years, we have been slowly renovating the building - as funds and grants become available. Through the years, the community has been very kind, and it has (also) donated funds for renovation - and substantial progress has been made.

In addition, the museum was granted \$50,000

Continued on page 4

ROOM FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FOR RENT

YOUR AD HERE (313) 874-2100

Commercial property. 13504 Joseph Campau, Detroit, for lease, \$2000/ mo., call Peter, 313-790-5946. 8/15

APARTMENTS AND FLATS FOR RENT

1 to 2 adults, no pets, free heat and water, bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, washer/dryer, call 313-402-4488. 7/25

YOUR AD HERE (313) 874-2100

Deadline for classifieds for next week is Thursday at Noon

Call (313) 874-2100 to place your ad Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. The newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad, for a typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day's insertion. Adjustments for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. We reserve the right to classify, revise or reject any classified advertisement.

Metro Sales and Service Inc. is holding an abandoned vehicle auction on July 25, 2025, at 11 am. located at 1785 Southfield Rd, Lincoln Park, MI, 48146, featuring the following vehicles: 2010 GMC ACA

2012 Dodge TK 2021 Dodge Durango 2001 Cadillac STS Chrysler 300 2015 2018 Jeep Cherokee 2019 Dodge Challenger 2014 Chevrolet Equinox 2005 Nissan Murano 1996 Jaguar

Chevrolet Cruze 2016 2019 Ford Fiesta 2015 Ram 1500

2010 Ford Focus Chevrolet Equinox 2019 Harley Davidson

VIN: 1GKLRMED0AJ119205 VIN: 3C6TD5CT8CG229859 VIN: 1C4SDHCT4MC760602 VIN 1G6KY549X1U289229 VIN: 2C3CCAAGXFH735888 VIN: 1C4PJLCB3JD618286 VIN: 2C3CDZAG1KH524830 VIN: 2GNALAEK3E6203840 VIN: JN8AZ08W75W419068 VIN: SAJKX6242TC778196 VIN: 1G1PC5SH2G7174359 VIN: 3FADP4EJ7KM106165 VIN: 1C6RR7LG9FS604343 VIN: 1FAHP3GN0AWZ61655 VIN: 2GNALCEK1E6299785

VIN: 1HD1YAJ27KB065985

Historical Museum gets nearly \$100,000 in state grant

Continued from page 3

from the sale of the former People's Community Services building on Joseph Campau Ave. to the Hamtramck Public Schools. These funds will be added to the LEO grant to leverage as much renovation as possible.

It should be added that, while the grant will make a substantial dent in our renovation efforts, the facility will still need additional renovations.

But, this grant will take care of the most pressing needs.

The Review: Is there anything else you would like to add at this point? The floor, as they say, is yours ...

Kochut: Again, we want to thank the Hamtramck community, our Museum Memberships, and other partners (like the City of Hamtramck, and Wayne State University) for all their wonderful support.

State Senator Stephanie Chang was also very supportive of this proposal at the state level.

As I noted previously, this museum is a museum for the whole community a museum for everyone.

(The Hamtramck Historical Museum is located at 9525 Jos. Campau Ave. The museum is open Friday through Sunday. Call them at (313) 262-6571 for more information.)



www.TheHamtramckReview.com

Service Directory



HEATING & COOLING

We Repair & Install Furnaces

Boilers

Air Conditioners

 Licensed & Insured **Financing Available**



HEATING & COOLING

Heating & Cooling Systems

WHATEVER IT TAKES:

Family Owned & Operated

11653 Jos. Campau 313-892-2122

PAINTING



Painting and Drywall Repair

Free Estimates

Vince

586-838-7598

HOME IMPROVEMENT

BROTHERS HANDYM SERVICES

ALL HOME REPAIRS Interior • Exterior **TOP QUALITY WORK AT LOW PRICES**

 Handyman Services
 Roof Repairs Sidings & Gutters
 Chimney Work
 Porches



PLUMBING, HEATING & COOLING

Serving our community for over 100 years since 1904.

* Senior Rates available *

BISAGA **PLUMBING & HEATING** (313) 365-8630



Hamtramck Public TV-19

Broadcasting on Comcast Channel 19 in Hamtramck area

What's on this coming week? Interview with Adam Alharbi, mayoral candidate

Interview with Ross Gordon, council candidate Interview with Muhith Mahmood, mayoral candidate Interview with Khan Hossain, mayoral candidate Interview with Joseph Strzalka, council candidate Primary Election Candidate Forum 2025 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) <u>Google "Hamtramck Public</u> TV", and click on link "Hamtramck Public TV" Or go to YouTube; Hamtramck Public TV; Hamtramck Public Library; Videos, or Live

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

CRIME LOG

By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers July 8-14.

Tuesday, July 8

- At 2:30 a.m., a complaint was made about trespassing in the 9200 block of Conant.
- A vehicle was reported stolen in the 3800 block of Oliver.
- Following a traffic stop, a male suspect was arrested for assaulting an officer, and for obstruc-
- A male was arrested in the 2000 block of Caniff for trespassing, and for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.
- Officers, responding to a call about a business in the 9300 block of Jos. Campau having trouble with a customer, arrested a male suspect for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.
- An illegal dumping was reported in the 11400 block of Sobieski.

Wednesday, July 9

- A male was arrested in the 12000 block of Oklahoma for domestic assault.
- · At a little after 3:30 a.m., a male suspect was arrested during a traffic stop for being wanted on a weapons warrant, for possessing "dangerous drugs," as well as for driving on a suspended licen-
- Officers, responding to a property damage report on Caniff, arrested a iuvenile.
- An assault was reported in the 2300 block of Whalen.

Thursday, July 10

- A juvenile was reported missing on Moran.
- · A business in the 9300 block of Jos. Campau reported an incident of fraud.
- A complaint was made about an animal in the area of Klinger and Carpenter.
- An assault was reported in the 3500 block of Caniff.
- A vehicle was reported stolen in the 2300 block of Hewitt.
- A child was reported lost in the 3900 block of Dorothy.

Friday, July 11

- · An assault was reported at Caniff and Mackay.
- · A home invasion was reported in the 12000 block of Dyar.
- · A theft was reported on Edwin.
- Following a traffic stop, a suspect was arrested for a felony offense.
- A missing person was reported on Norwalk.
- · A stolen vehicle was recovered at Caniff and Fleming.
- · A domestic assault was reported in the 3800 block of Norwalk.

Saturday, July 12

- · Officers assisted a person in locating their vehicle after it had been removed from a construction zone.
- · Officers responded to a call about a dispute in Veterans Park.
- A complaint was made about a juvenile in the 2300 block of Pulaski.
- · A complaint was made about an animal in the area of Yemans and Conant.

Sunday, July 13

- · A theft was reported in the 12000 block of Dyar.
- · A vehicle was reported stolen in the area of Casmere and Charest.
- Officers, responding to a call about a domestic assault on Klinger, arrested a suspect.
- · Officers assisted a person in locating his stolen vehicle on Dyar.
- A suspicious person was reported on Jos. Campau.

Monday, July 14

- · A hit-and-run accident was reported on Jos. Campau.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported on Neibel.
- · A hit-and-run accident happened on Sobieski.
- · A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 2100 block of Trowbridge.
- A child was reported lost in the area of Commor and Dequindre. A lost child was also reported in the area of Dyar and Circle
- · An assault was reported in the 12000 block of

Finally, the Caniff repaving is complete and open for traffic

Continued from front page

often resulted in bumpy surfaces. During the reconstruc-

tion, a number of businesses suffered a dropoff in customers because of the street closures.

In other updates, the sewer line replacement under Jos. Campau, south of Holbrook, has closed off that street for the past couple of

months, but the south

open for traffic, said DeAngelis. That work is expected

lane should soon be

to be fully completed in the next several weeks. Hamtramck has not

seen major street and infrastructure repairs on this scale until the past several years, when federal and state grants for this project were funneled into the city.



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 June 24, and all councilmembers were in attendance.

City Clerk Rana Faraj gave an update on changes in voting precincts. The city recently reduced the total number of precincts, from seven to five.

There is now one less precinct in the Community Center and one less precinct in the Senior Plaza.

registered voters have received updated voter cards, and voters who have been voting in the Community Center and the Senior Plaza will continue to do so.

A lengthy discussion was held on whether to continue a contract with the company that operates the city's parking meters in the central business district.

The president of Yemerican PAC, Alhassan Ashabi, said the meters have been a "source of frustration for many residents and business owners."

He said that, at the very least, the city should reduce the cost to the public of using the meters.

Jonathon Marko, an attorney for police investigator Dave Adamczyk, de-

a public apology for saying his client has a criminal conviction.

Mayor Ghalib, he said, has "on repeated occasions publicly labeled officer Adamczyk a criminal despite the undisputed fact that he has never been charged with, let alone convicted of, a crime."

Attorney Marko went on to say that the mayor continued to make that accusation out of "malice." The accusation, he said, has "already damaged officer Adamczyk's personal and professional reputation, and lacks any factual legal foundation."

Marko demanded the mayor issue a public apology both verbally at the next council meeting, and posted on the city's websi-

(To date, the mayor has not done either.)

City Attorney Odey Meroueh said the city "denies those allegations, and we will deal with them in due

Mayor Ghalib had earlier criticized Adamczyk for conducting an investigation into some of the actions of the police chief. He said only the council "has the authority to OK

He added: "For outsiders to come and absorb our resources in the city, that's unacceptable, especially those with criminal backgrounds."

Hamtramck Review

Regarding the parking meters, a man said he collected 200 hundred signatures from business owners and residents "whom have expressed deep dissatisfaction with the sys-

Former Councilmember Nayeem Choudhury, who is a candidate for council in the upcoming Aug. 5 primary election, urged the council not to renew its contract with the parking meter company.

Later in the meeting, after a lengthy discussion, the council agreed not to renew the contract. Councilmember Mohammed Hassan said some business owners told him that they would donate money to the city to help make up the loss of \$200,000 a year in meter revenue.

Hassan said he will personally visit the businesses to collect the donations.

Councilmember Khalil Refai said:

"The company came here to make money. They been getting complaints like crazy. It's time to say 'adios.'"

Mayor Ghalib, who was also in favor of eliminating the meters, said the city will have to come up with a new metering system in order to offset the loss of \$200,000 a year in reve-

He said that eliminating the meters will have a positive impact for potential business growth in the city's main business district on Jos. Campau, where most of the meters are located.

"More visitors will come; more investments will come to the main street, and hopefully there would be benefits and revenues for the city when this happens," he said. "Hopefully, we can make up for the loss. ... We don't need to punish people to make money."

In new business, the council agreed to spend \$94,639 to reconstruct the roof of a building that will house police reserve vehicles. Funding will come from the city's general fund.

Hennessey Engineers gave a recap of the infrastructure work performed in the city last year, saying that over 700 water service lines had been replaced throughout the community, and that the city had received \$44 million in infrastructure grants.

In 2025, the company said over 1,000 water lines will be replaced, and the city received \$3.5 million in infrastructure grants for alley repaving and repaving a parking lot in Veterans Park.

Councilmember Refai questioned why it's taking so long to open Jos. Campau from Holbrook down to Veterans Park. That part of the street has been torn up to replace water and sewer lines, as well as getting repaved.

Hennessey Engineers, which is overseeing the project, said Wayne County has held up the project. Jos. Campau is owned and controlled by the county. Mayor Ghalib questio-

ned when street potholes are going to be filled. John DeAngelis, the director

washed out in rains and by road wear. He said the city has already spent \$50,000 this year filling the potholes.

In his report, Mayor Ghalib said the city has made significant improvements with construction projects, such as repaving alleys.

"The city hasn't been under so much improvements in the past, and the city is gaining more residents," he said.

Ghalib said "it's not true when you hear some newspaper saying that people want to leave Hamtramck. That is not true, even though you can hear negative publicity in the media, but that's being weaponized against our community and it's not true."

Ghalib did not identify which newspapers have said this.

As for the upcoming election on Aug. 5, Ghalib said he doesn't want voters "to be intimidated and not to go out and vote because of the negative publicity about voting in the city."

While advising voters to vote in "legal ways," he said: "Don't panic and stay home and decide not to go out and vote. ... Because that's what some people try to intimidate you, not to go out and vote."

Ghalib also encouraged residents to "be involved in the city issues, to educate yourself. We want people to have institutional knowledge of the city so they can work in the city when we need people to apply for positions in the Councilmember Muhith

Mahmood said the council and mayor "are for you not for us. This is what makes us benefit and make us happy because we come to service you, and not our own purpose." Mahmood also said that,

without parking meter revenue, the city collects enough money through taxes from businesses to make up for the loss. "We don't even have

to look for alternate or anything, they make for the city," he said. "So we don't have to rush. Let's get in another year at least to see how things goes, and if we need to find alternate idea and of course the pre-

sident can input their own ideas as well."

Councilmember Hassan said he will donate his next council paycheck back to the city in light of the loss of \$200,000 a year in parking meter revenue.

He said the public should appreciate the work that councilmembers do because they are not paid much.. But, he conceded that, "We choose ourselves to be a public servant. That's why we never complain about the money."

Hassan also asked the media to wait for the results of the various investigations happening involving elected officials and some city employees.

"Please be patient," he said. "The truth will come out."

He said his reputation has been destroyed with the various accusations he may be facing.

"There's an opportunity we can sue them who disclose, who discuss us wrongfully. We are coming after them, too."

Mayor Ghalib said the council should look into what the governor is currently being paid to make sure they are getting the correct amount in compensation for serving on council.

The council's yearly stipend is based on 2 percent of the governor's salary, according to the city charter.

The mayor is paid 4 percent of the governor's salary, and the mayor pro tem receives 3 percent.

governor ves a yearly salary of \$159,300. That translates to councilmembers receiving \$3,186 per year, the mayor pro tem (Councilmember Refai) \$4,779, and the mayor \$6,372.

During public comment, Bill Meyer said council meetings could be shortened if the council, mayor and city manager do not give their reports of what they did.

"This was never on the agenda originally," Meyer

As for deciding not to renew the city's contract with the company that operates city parking meters, Meyer said: "What took you so

Continued on page 6



YOUR RECREATION MILLAGE DOLLARS AT WORK

#BuildTogetherPlayTogether



Suspended school superintendent re-appointed to state commission

By Charles Sercombe

Suspended Hamtramck School District Superintendent Jaleelah Ahmed still has influence with Gov. Gretchen Whit-

Whitmer recently announced over a dozen appointments to various commissions and boards, including re-appointing Ahmed to the Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs another four-year term.

In the description of Ahmed, the governor's press release announcing the appointment said:

"Jaleelah Ahmed, of Dearborn Heights, the superintendent and ESL director for Hamtramck Public Schools. Ahmed holds a Bachelor of Science in education from the State University of New York, Master of Arts in education from the University of Michigan-Dearborn and is currently pursuing her Doctor of Education with a concentration in curriculum, practice, and educational leadership. Jaleelah Ahmed is reappointed for a term commencing July 10, 2025, and expiring April 19. 2029."

Ahmed's tenure with the district has been rocky ever since she started as

Not long after she took over the post, a number of teachers accused her and some of her administrators of creating a "toxic" work environment. Many veteran teachers and staff members subsequently left the district.

Ahmed eventually filed a lawsuit against the district, as well as the Hamtramck teachers' union, citing her civil rights being violated, among other accusations. Federal District Court Judge Gershwin Drain dismissed both lawsuits.

Ahmed essentially failed to present evidence, and the judge felt that the board's decision to put her on paid administrative leave was allowable since there was a belief that she might have committed misconduct.

The court said placing an employee on paid leave is "a reasonable carve-out in employment discrimination law.

"Her job and status did not change. And her finances and benefits were not impacted," Drain

In early 2024, Ahmed was brought back on the

job and, not only that, the school board gave her a contract extension and pay raise. But a couple of months after that, Ahmed was once again suspended without explanation. The board had just given her a poor job performance rating - again, also without explanation.

She has now been on this second paid suspension for going on two years, all the while continuing to draw her salary of over \$200,000 a year, plus benefits.

Her contract with the district expires in 2027.

The commission that Ahmed has been appointed to has the following duties:

"The Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs advises the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity and the Governor on issues relating to the Arab and Chaldean communities in Michigan, and promotes awareness of their culture and history. They also work to empower, promote, and advance the Middle Eastern American community in Michi-



Eric R. Sabree



he "more or less campaigned, 'We're going to get rid of the meters', and how long has it been now?"

"So thank you for doing it, but it took too long," Meyer said.

As for the city's local newspaper "rag," Meyer said the "writer" of the paper "went after our mayor once again in the editorial,

saying he doesn't know Robert's Rules, and he was way out of order. ... The paper is not working on our side."

(Editor's note: The Review did not say that the mayor doesn't know Robert's Rules of Order. The paper did criticize him for likely violating the state's Open Meetings Act (OMA) for deman-

ding that City Manager Max Garbarino leave a recent council meeting because he felt "intimidated" by him. The city manager, who is on paid suspension, attended a council meeting as a member of the public and did not speak out or act up. The state OMA does not provide an elected official feeling intimidated as grounds to exclude a member of the public from attending a council meeting.)

()bituaries

STANKIEWICZ



Sonia Marie Stankiewicz, beacon love and joy, was born on

August 28, 1945, and departed from this world on July 15, 2025.

Her life was a beautiful tapestry woven with cherished memories, deep-rooted traditions, and a selfless spirit that touched the lives of countless individuals.

Sonia dedicated much of her working years to her family's restaurant, the Belmont Restaurant, where she cultivated an environment of warmth and hospitality that mirrored her own caring nature.

Later, as a paraprofessional in the Hamtramck Public School System and for an incredible 40 years as an AVON representative, Sonia showcased her

ASSISTANCE

commitment to serving others in every role she embraced. Her infectious laughter and unwavering support made her a beloved figure in her communities.

Sonia's love for Christmas was unparalleled; it was a season she adored and anticipated all year long. She kept a countdown that reflected her enthusiasm for the joy and togetherness the holiday brought.

Family traditions flourished under her influence, particularly during Christmas when she would expertly make perogies and bread, filling their home with warmth and the tantalizing aroma of

Many fond memories were created during family trips to Oscoda, Michigan, where she and her husband, Chester Stankiewicz, shared a special tradition of taking photos on their favorite swing, capturing moments that would last a lifetime.

Her bubbly personality left an indelible mark on all who knew her. Sonia made friends wherever she went, always willing to lend a helping hand, and her great sense of humor, often expressed through playful jokes, brightened the lives of many.

She had a comfortable way of conversing that made others feel valued, reflecting her genuine interest in connecting with

people. The countless Christmas cards she sent out each year were a testament to her commitment to fostering those connections.

Above all, Sonia was proud of her roles as a devoted wife, a loving mother, and a cherished grammy. She is survived by her beloved husband, Chester, her daughter Tanya (Michael) Benincasa, and her granddaughter, Mikayla Benincasa. Sonia was also preceded in death by her loving mother, Jennie, and her fathers, Anany and Enge-

The legacy Sonia leaves behind is one filled with love, laughter, and the gift of friendship. Her memory will continue to live on in the hearts of her family and the many friends she made throughout her remarkable life.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, July 20, 2025, from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Wysocki & Wilk Funeral Home, located at 29440 Ryan Rd, Warren, MI 48092. A Funeral Service to honor her life will follow on Monday, July 21, 2025, starting at 10:00 AM, concluding at 11:00 AM.

Though Sonia Marie Stankiewicz may have departed from our world, her spirit will forever shine brightly in the memories and hearts of those she loved.

> Celebrating 56 Years

of Service

BING & HEATING

(313) 371-3766

(586) 649-6300 **★ Fast Same Day Service ★**

Proudly Serving Hamtramck Since 1969 • Licensed & Insured

superintendent in 2019. From the Office of Wayne County Treasurer



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!

www.Treasurer.WayneCounty.com 313-224-5990



Air Conditioning

Service Call