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The Review

Hamtramck

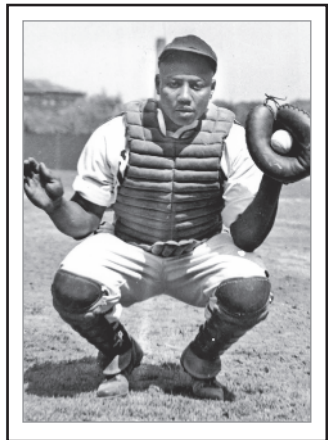
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Quick Hits

Culture fans, this Saturday (May 5) evening was made for you.

Hamtramck is getting a rare treat in the form of the Michigan Opera Theatre, which will host a free night of music at the Hamtramck High School Auditorium (11410 Charest), starting at 6 p.m.

The MOT will be teaming up with HHS band members and the school's choir to perform a selection of music from the 1920s era. It's all in celebration of the MOT's production of "The Summer King," which is a fascinating story about the Negro National League back in the 1920s and 1930s.

"The Summer King" is specifically about one of the legendary players from that era, Josh Gibson, who likely played at Hamtramck's own historic baseball stadium in Veterans Park.

That's Josh Gibson in the photo above this column.

The stadium is one of only a few surviving stadiums in the country that hosted teams from the Negro National League.

The HHS performance is free, but get there early to guarantee a seat.

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —



St. Florian Parish

1968 50th 2018

St. Florian Strawberry Festival celebrates its 50th anniversary

By Alan Madeleine

This weekend's St. Florian Strawberry Festival is a little more sweet and juicy.

The festival marks its 50th anniversary.

Ever since it started in 1968 parishioners and residents have welcomed the festival and the warm weather it usually brings along with it. Well, you can count on warm weather almost every year.

The festival starts this Saturday, May 5 and continues through Sunday.

St. Florian is considered one of the Historical Patron Saints of Poland (among a dozen others, and not counting the three primary and two secondary major saints), having been so canonized by Pope Lucius III during his short four-year reign way back in the late 12th century.



Hamtramck's favorite party band, The Polish Muslims, will once again be a highlight at this weekend's St. Florian Strawberry Festival. The Polish Muslims play on Saturday at 6:30 p.m. The festival is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

St. Florian is also the patron saint of firefighters, who will hold a special march to the church and a Mass on Saturday afternoon to kick off the festivities.

Familiar staples will be the order of the weekend. For example, Polish food and cold Polish beer will be served. Likewise, Polish dance ensembles will do their thing. Well-known local musical combos the Polish Muslims – Hamtramck's hometown favorite party band – and Kielbasa Kings will entertain, among others.

Continued on page 2



is a proud sponsor of the 2018 St. Florian Parish Strawberry Festival



Towing company under fire

By Charles Sercombe

If you park in the CVS parking lot at night during the weekend – after the store is closed – there is now a good chance your car will be towed.

The owners of Bumbo's Bar, Tia and Brian Krawczyk, say their customers who park in the lot have been targeted in recent weeks.

The bar is located at Holbrook and Mitchell, across the street from CVS. Posted on the bar's entrance door is a warning for customers to not park in the CVS lot.

But apparently not everyone notices the warning.

Last Saturday night, witnesses say five tow trucks from a Detroit company called Breakthrough Towing were lined up waiting to hook up cars and tow them away.


In some instances patrons at the bar were alerted before their car was towed out of the lot and for about \$250 they could pay the tow driver to unhook the car and allow them to park somewhere else.

For those not lucky enough to catch the tow driver before leaving the lot, it cost them anywhere from \$400 to \$500 – in cash only – to retrieve their cars from the tow company's lot.

It is unclear if this towing activity is legal.

The tow company has two signs on the back wall of the parking lot and one on the fence surrounding the CVS dumpster stating that those who park in the lot who are not doing business at

Continued on page 2



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St. Florian Strawberry Festival celebrates its 50th anniversary

Continued from front page

The Polish Muslims' slot on Saturday, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., is not only fun, it also serves as a homecoming for St. Florian High School students. While the school is no longer there, the Florian spirit carries on.

Oh, but did we mention that there will be strawberries? Glorious strawberries. A Strawberry Bakery, in fact, which will serve up its fresh wares.

For those of you who love your worldly goods, the church is promoting \$2,250.00 in prizes, to be raffled off at 9 p.m. Sunday night. Of course, it will take some money to (maybe) make some money.

The hours for the festival are relatively short, so



The Strawberry Festival offers homemade Polish meals, cold beer and plenty of Polish folk dancers.

don't miss out. The festival kicks off Saturday evening at 5 p.m. and runs to 11 p.m. The longer hours are on Sun-

day, May 6, from 1 p.m. until the fest's close at 10 p.m.

For those who don't know, the church's address is 2626 Poland St., at the southeast corner of Latham – just north of Holbrook.

The festival is free to attend. So let's all get jammed up and jelly tight! Altogether now: Strawberries ... Mmm.

Contact the church at (313) 871-2778 or the Festival Director at (313) 770-9349, or email them at stflorianparishevents@hotmail.com, for more information.

Towing company under fire

Continued from front page

CVS will get their car towed at any time.

CVS also has signs warning people not doing business there that their cars can be towed.

But just who authorized Breakthrough Towing to install their signs and tow away cars is unclear.

The store manager of CVS, Mike Rayner, told The Review he did not authorize Breakthrough to tow away cars.

"They have nothing to do with us," Rayner said.

Rayner, who has worked at the Hamtramck store for two years, even said he was unaware that Breakthrough has signs on the CVS lot.

The Review attempted several times to reach a manager for Breakthrough but was unable to contact him. Each time we called the people who answered told us to call back at a specific time, but the manager was never there. At one point a recorded message said the phone number was not in service.

The Review left a phone number for the manager – who was only identified as John – but he never called back.

Bumbo's Bar owner Tia Krawczyk said the issue is about CVS being a good corporate neighbor.

"Our biggest concern is for everyone's safety," she said.

Krawczyk also says there is an issue with the placement of Breakthrough's warning sign. According to state law, she said, a sign needs to be at all entrance ways, which they are not.

"We're at the mercy of corporate CVS to hire an



Three tow trucks from Breakthrough Towing surround a car to apparently prevent the owner of the car from moving his car out of the CVS lot on Holbrook and Jos. Campau. Photo by Tia Krawczyk.

ethical tow company that will provide proper signage and follow the laws," Krawczyk said.

Acting City Manager Kathy Angerer said she has asked Police Chief Anne Moise to look into the matter.

The parking lot issue is even more clouded.

Rayner insists the parking lot is actually owned by the city and that CVS pays the city rent to use it. But Acting City Manager Angerer says that CVS is the owner of the lot.

The Review reached out to CVS headquarters via email but no one replied.

The behavior of Breakthrough drivers has also become an issue. Krawczyk took a photo of three tow drivers apparently

blocking in a car to prevent the owner from driving away.

The company has received scathing reviews from Yelp.com, an online site that consumers use to rate their experiences for a wide variety of companies and services.

Breakthrough has a rating of one star out of five. One person said they wish they could give the company five negative stars.

Another accused the company of being "a total scam" because the company towed a car whose owner had permission to park in a lot.

The company has also been aggressive in towing away cars from a McDonald's restaurant on Woodward in Midtown Detroit.

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This week at the library...

ESL Class – Monday, May 7, 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

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

ESL Class – Thursday, May 10, 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

Spring toddler time – EVENTS SCHEDULE:
Thursday – May 10 at noon, celebrate Mother's Day with us.

Food for fines – Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeast Michigan is once again

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

City Wide Poets Are you a writer? Join City-wide Poets – Every Tuesday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. At the Hamtramck Public Library, free and open to all teens. For more information, contact: justin@insideoutdetroit.org

troit.org or visit www.insideoutdetroit.org

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

Ask your library staff for more details.

Michigan Activity Pass – The pass will enable Library card holders to obtain a one-time free entry into any Michigan State park or recreation area, and free entry into over 100 participating cultural institutions. Ask at the circulation desk for more details.

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

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Second Front Page

This Saturday offers a lot to do for volunteers and culture fans

By Charles Sercombe

Get plenty of rest because you will need it for this Saturday and Sunday.

Saturday, in particular, will be busy, busy.

You can start the morning out early by volunteering to help plant trees throughout the city. Bring a shovel, if you have one, and meet up at 8:45 a.m. at 2360 Caniff.

The event is sponsored by ReLeaf Michigan and several other agencies, including the city. Some 28 trees will be planted, and volunteers can also learn something.

The ReLeaf folks have this to say about the day:

“ReLeaf Michigan tree experts will be there to help volunteers learn the proper way to plant and maintain trees and to oversee the event. Families are welcome.

“Please wear closed-toe shoes and bring a shovel if you have one. Event occurs rain or shine (we’re a hearty group!) and light refreshments will be served. No planting experience is necessary.”

Moving on, at 3:30 p.m. Hamtramck firefighters will once again host their annual St. Florian March and Mass. This year there is a change in the march route. Firefighters from the Detroit area and Windsor will gather at the fire station and then march on Caniff to Jos. Campau then to Florian, ending at St. Florian Church.

After the Mass, enjoy the Parish’s Strawberry Festival, featuring live music and Polish folk dancers.

The festival also continues on Sunday.

Saturday is not done yet.

In a rare treat, the Michigan Opera Theatre will put on a performance at 6 p.m. in the Hamtramck High School Auditorium.

The MOT will be teaming up with HHS band members and the school’s choir to perform a selection of music from the 1920s era. It’s all in celebration of the MOT’s production of “The Summer King,” which is a fascinating story about the Negro National Baseball League that existed back in the 1920s and 1930s.

That was an era when African-Americans were not allowed to play in the all-white Major League Baseball teams.

“The Summer King” is specifically about one of the legendary players from that time, Josh Gib-

son, who likely played at Hamtramck’s own historic baseball stadium in Veterans Park.

The stadium is one of only a few surviving stadiums in the country that hosted teams from the Negro National League.

The HHS performance is free, but get there early to guarantee a seat.

That’s it for Saturday, but on Sunday enjoy some homemade Polish meals and cold beer at the St. Florian Strawberry Festival.

Election season is off and running for Hamtramck candidates

By Charles Sercombe

As expected the open races for state representative and state senator for Hamtramck is crowded.

In the 4th District State Representative race, in which incumbent Rose Mary Robinson is being termed out, 14 Democratic challengers have filed and one Republican candidate is also on board.

Robinson’s son, Isaac, is seeking to follow in her footsteps and keep the position in the family.

There are five Hamtramck residents running for the office, including City Councilmember Saad Almasmari, who is still in his first term on

council.

Councilmember Anam Miah is also seeking to climb up the political ladder by seeking to become the new state senator in the 2nd District, which includes Hamtramck.

In the state representative race the following residents are running: MD Rabbi Alam, Justin Jessop, Michele Oberholtzer and Syed Rob.

A few years ago Alam made national news when he falsely claimed that no Jews died in the 9/11 attacks. Critics accused Alam of being anti-Semitic.

In the state senator race, two Republican candidates, both from the

Grosse Pointe area, will square off in the August Primary.

Also in the Aug. 7 Primary will be 12 Democratic candidates. The other Hamtramck resident in the election, besides Councilmember Miah, is Abraham Aiyash.

The other candidates include: Brian Banks, Tommy Campbell, George Cushingberry, Jr., Lawrence Ganna, Adam Hollier, LaMar Lemmons, John Olumba, William Phillips and Regina Williams.

The seat is currently vacant. Bert Johnson was serving in the position until he was convicted of a felony for hiring a ghost employee and paying that employee a salary to cover a debt he owed her.

His former aide is Adam Hollier, who is seeking the job.

In both races the Democratic challengers in the November election are virtually guaranteed to win.

Also facing election for the first time is Hamtramck 31st District Court Judge Alexis Krot, who will face a challenger, John Fitzgerald Gorniak, an attorney who recently moved into the city.

Krot was appointed to the position several months ago by Gov. Rick Snyder after Judge Paul Paruk resigned.

Krot is the first female to run for the judgeship in Hamtramck.



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Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Hamtramck candidates line up for this year’s election season

Election season is officially on.

Last week the deadline for candidates to file came and went.

There are several candidates from Hamtramck in the running, including two city councilmembers, Anam Miah and Saad Al-masmari.

Miah is running for state senator while Al-masmari is seeking to become a state representative.

Both seats are up for grabs.

This is going to be one very interesting election.

Both races will require a run-off in the Aug. 7 Primary Election.

From our vantage point, Hamtramck candidates face an uphill battle. There are a number of familiar and longtime political figures who are vying for the seats. While we wish Hamtramck candidates good luck, they have a formidable challenge ahead.

But having said that, in politics anything can happen.

If both councilmembers are lucky and win their respective races, a major shake-up would occur in city council.

Also up for voters’ consideration is electing a district court judge. Alexis Krot was appointed by the governor to fill the judge’s role several months ago when longtime judge Paul Paruk resigned to take a new job.

Krot is facing a challenge from an attorney who recently moved here.

In the coming months The Review will publish our conversations with candidates. Stay informed, folks.

Other Voices: Guest Editorial

City’s recycling program is in need of volunteers

The Recycling drop-off program for the city of Hamtramck is at a crisis point.

It may have to stop after the August 11 drop-off day unless more adult volunteers participate and a few more folks accept some of the responsibilities for overseeing the program.

But before we tell you about that, let’s go back to the beginning of Hamtramck’s modest Second Saturday drop-off recycling program.

The Hamtramck Recycling Commission (HRC) was created by city resolution in 2009, and that group organized the program with the first drop-off occurring on Saturday, December 26, 2009.

The cost of the bin was funded by the City of Hamtramck until the fall of 2010 when the financial crisis in the U.S. left the city government with no choice but to stop funding the program.

At that time the HRC appealed to the community through an article in the Hamtramck Review and word of mouth.

The response was encouraging.

A local business, Sterling Oil, stepped up and offered to pay for the cost of the monthly bin drop-off and pickup. This arrangement went on for a number of years until the cost of the bin was taken over by Hamtramck Recycling & Transfer Station.

For a number of years the program has continued with a core group of five to eight volunteers with one of the volunteers taking responsibility for everything that happens on the actual drop-off day.

But this arrangement is not sustainable.

We are at a point that two things must happen for the program to continue:

(1) Unless more volunteers agree to help with the handling of the drop-off, the HRC will stop the program after the August 11 drop-off day.

(2) And unless one or two people agree to take over some of the drop-off day responsibilities, the HRC will stop the program after the August 11 drop-off day.

We invite you to consider these facts and to decide what can be done to keep the program going. For more information or to volunteer email us at: wwiitala@sbcglobal.net

Hamtramck Recycling Board Commissioners
Joan Barrios
Jason Eddleston
Veronica Richards
Sarah Terrien
Bill Wiitala

School Bell

Kosciuszko Middle School News

Congratulations to KMS students Al-Khalil Mashrah and Farisa Zarin, who competed in the Area 5 District Level Optimists Oratorical Competition on Saturday, April 28.

The event was held at The Tower Center, on Detroit’s west side, which featured the top contestants from the area’s 10 participating clubs.

Al-Khalil Mashrah and Farisa Zarin performed very well and exhibited stellar skills and style. They did a fabulous job and many in attendance came up to congratulate them and their advisor, Mrs. Rahiel Housey-Johnson, a teacher at Dickinson East, after the competition.

Congratulations to Al-Khalil and Farisa for representing Kosciuszko so well.



KMS students Al-Khalil Mashrah and Farisa Zarin recently competed in an oratorical competition sponsored by a local Optimists club.

Concert: Tuesday, May 8 at 6 p.m. in the Auditorium.

• Hamtramck High School Spring Concert: Tuesday, May 22 at 6 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

• Early Childhood Elementary Spring Concert: Tuesday, May 22, time has not been set yet, ECE Gymnasium.

• Dickinson East Spring Concert: Friday, June 1 at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

All Schools

• Friday, May 11 – End of



Above and below: Holbrook Elementary School students recently cleaned up Veterans Park in observance of Earth Day.

Holbrook Elementary School News

The kindergarten, first and second grade classes from Holbrook held their second annual Earth Day clean-up of Veterans Memorial Park on April 27.

The students learned about the need to keep our environment clean. After picking up papers, plastic, leaves and other debris the students experienced how nice it is to play in a clean, litter free park.

The students did a wonderful job and filled many garbage bags full of trash. The students learned a valuable lesson and helped to make their environment better.



Hamtramck Public Schools Pre-K – 12th grade enrollment for the 2018/2019 school year

Please bring the following documents to the HPS Enrollment Office located at 3201 Roosevelt: Original birth certificate, up-to-date immunization record, parent ID, two proofs of residency (utility bill, mortgage, etc.) and proof of income (preschool only.)

An unlimited number of Kindergarten School of Choice applications for the 2018-2019 school year will be accepted through

September 4, 2018. No late applications for School of Choice can be accepted.

School Board meeting

The May 9 School Board meeting will not be held at the Administration Building. Instead, the board will meet at the Early Childhood Elementary School, 11680 McDougall at 6:30 p.m.

Hamtramck Recreation Department News

Open Basketball: For students ages 13- 18 with student ID for high school students, April 23-June 7, 3:15-5 p.m. Free.

Upcoming Music Concerts by School

• Dickinson West Spring

Progress Report Period 4.

• Thursday, May 17 – Progress Report #4 Distributed.

• Friday, May 25 – Half day for students and staff.

• Monday, May 28 – No school for students and staff. Memorial Day.

• Thursday, May 31 – Last day for Hamtramck High School and Horizon High School Seniors.

Athletic Events

• Friday, May 4 – KMS Girls’ Soccer vs. Dearborn Academy at 5 p.m. Home.

• Monday, May 7 – KMS Girls’ Soccer vs. Huda School at 5 p.m. Away.

Compiled by Janice Gandelman

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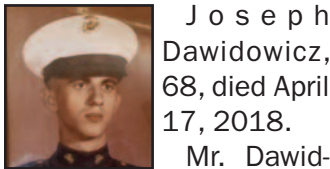
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This newspaper is not responsible for mistakes in advertising beyond the cost of the space involved.

Obituaries

DAWIDOWICZ



Joseph Dawidowicz, 68, died April 17, 2018. Mr. Dawidowicz was predeceased by his parents, Boleslaw and Eufemia; brother, John. Mr. Dawidowicz was the father of Brian (Carol); brother of Adam, Mirka Matenka, Renata Rzepcki, Bill, Annie (Ryan) Collonnello, Frank, Pete (Amy); brother-in-law of Joyce; grandfather of Amara, Sage; uncle of Jason (Heather), Carrie, Tressa (Ian), Connie, Samuel,

Jack, Andrew, Lilla, Adam, Eva, Donica Kulwicki, Jason, Heather. Joe proudly served in Vietnam with the United States Marine Corps. He loved and will miss all of you. Joe was cremated and a private interment will be at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Detroit, MI. Arrangements were made by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home.



Record Store Day spins around once again at local shops

By Charles Sercombe

By all accounts this year's Record Store Day was, let's just say, record breaking.

That's at least what national reports say about attendance and sales at locally, independent-owned record stores two weeks ago on Saturday.

In Hamtramck, Detroit Threads and Graveyard Records experienced a steady stream of record fans.

At Detroit Threads a steady rotation of DJs spun records all day and into the night. Owner Mikel Smith also offered free hotdogs that were grilled outside the store.

Smith said he was pleased with the turnout. "It was good, roughly the same as last year, which was the busiest day ever," he said.

Over at Record Graveyard, owner Jeffery Garbus didn't participate in the official side of the special promotions being



Scenes from Record Store Day at Detroit Threads and Record Graveyard. Both stores are located in Hamtramck.



offered nationwide, but he did give a 20 percent discount on all sales.

When The Review stopped by a dozen crate diggers were combing through the store's massive collection of 45s.

Nationwide vinyl record sales are making a huge comeback. Music lovers are increasingly discovering – or perhaps rediscovering, depending how old you are – the joys of handling and listening to an actual record instead of something streamlined.

As the old saying sort of goes: What goes around spins around.



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By Charles Sercombe
This week's Crime Log covers April 24-May 1.
Tuesday, April 24
• A resident was arrested in the area of St. Aubin and Faber for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.
• A resident in the 3200 block of Lehman was arrested for domestic abuse.
• A Trowbridge resident reported a car break-in and the theft of several items. Another Trowbridge resident reported his car had been ransacked.
• A Caniff resident was arrested for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.
• A Grand Haven resident reported she was assaulted by her boyfriend.
• A resident in the 5100 block of Belmont reported the theft of their city-issued trash can.
• A Detroit resident was arrested for cashing a stolen check at a business in the 12100 block of Conant.
Wednesday, April 25
• Four Detroit residents were arrested after a traffic stop for carrying concealed weapons and being wanted on warrants.
• A Dearborn resident

was ticketed for careless driving after being caught going 79 mile per hour on his motorcycle on a residential street.
• A resident in the 2900 block of Berres reported four males were shooting a BB gun at his privacy fence and damaged it. The resident chased the four males who were last seen running into Veterans Park.
• Officers responded to a disturbance in the 9300 block of McDougall involving a man and two women. Gunshots were reported but by the time officers arrived the suspects were gone.
• An agent for a business in the 11300 block of Conant reported someone cut a lock on a storage unit and stole \$900 worth of propane tanks.
Thursday, April 26
• A Hanley resident reported a break-in.
• A resident in the 12000 block of Grand Haven reported she was assaulted by her ex-boyfriend.
• A resident in the 2000 block of Belmont reported being assaulted by her ex-husband.
• A Shelby Twp. man was

Continued on page 8

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^{5/11}

Coming events

WEDNESDAYS, 7 p.m., every second Wednesday of the month – The 3C7 and Midtown Block meets at 2339 Caniff PCS Senior Day Center. This block club includes all residents and businesses west of Jos. Campau and north of Holbrook.
FRIDAY, May 4, 4-8 p.m. – Taco and Nacho Night, sangria special \$2, margaritas \$3, tequila specials, all you can eat, dine-in only, Hamtramck Moose Lodge, 9421 Conant.
SATURDAY, May 12, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. – Hamtramck's Recycle Center is open at Caniff and McDougall. Drop off your recyclables for free.





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Continued from page 7

found extremely intoxicated and on the ground after falling off his bike. He was taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital.

- The parents of a child were ticketed for neglect after their child came home from school and no one was home. The child was taken to the police station until their parents arrived. This was the second time the child came home from school when no one was there.

- Four juveniles were arrested in Pulaski Park for throwing eggs, cans and bottles at people.

- Multiple gunshots were heard in the 3800 block of Evaline. Officers recovered a number of spent shell casings.

Friday, April 27

- A resident reported someone stole items out of their car while it was parked in the 3900 block of Edwin.

- A resident reported someone she knows stole

her purse while in the area of the 9000 block of Jos. Campau.

- Three Evaline residents reported items were stolen out of their cars.

Saturday, April 28

- A Detroit resident reported her purse was stolen out of her car while it was parked in the 2000 block of Caniff.

- A resident reported the theft of his 2009 GMC Yukon.

- A resident was arrested in the 3200 block of Hanley for being disorderly, destruction of property and obstructing officers.

- A Dyar resident reported her 16-year-old son was missing. The boy was found several hours later.

Sunday, April 29

- At about 3 a.m. a person was arrested for drunk driving.

- At about 3 a.m. a resident reported that while parking his car in the 2600 block of Belmont a man

wearing sunglasses attempted to enter his car.

- A resident reported someone stole paperwork from his car while it was parked in the 3800 block of Comstock.

- A resident in the 3000 block of Belmont reported a break-in.

A Trowbridge resident was arrested for obstructing officers.

Monday, April 30

- A Hamtramck juvenile reported being kidnapped while in the 12000 block of Fleming.

- A Gallagher resident was arrested after being pursued by officers for assault, possession of narcotics and theft.

- An Ypsilanti resident reported his backpack was stolen from his car while it was parked in the 3400 block of Caniff.

- A resident reported the theft of \$1,500 from her purse while in the 12000 block of Conant.

- A resident was arrested for possessing narcotics and obstruction while on Holbrook.

Metro news...

It's said that whatever happens to Detroit, so goes Hamtramck. Our friends over at modelmedia.com have been reporting on fascinating development projects for the past several years.

With their permission, here is an edited version of this week's story:

It's once again time for small businesses in the cities of Detroit, Hamtramck, and Highland Park to vie for one of 26 prizes in the NEIdeas Small Business Challenge. Businesses that have been established for at least three years or longer are being encouraged to enter the contest, which awards \$10,000 to each of the 26 winners.

Businesses have until June 1 to enter the challenge, and can submit their applications online. Nearly 700 businesses entered last year's contest.

This is the fifth year for

the NEIdeas Small Business Challenge. The New Economy Initiative launched the program in 2014, which has since awarded \$1.9 million to 118 local businesses.

According to the organization, more than 70 percent of winning businesses have been minority-owned, and 60 percent have been woman-owned.

"We are incredibly proud of the diversity of neighborhood businesses and owners that this challenge celebrates," said Pamela Lewis, NEI's director. "These small business owners create vibrancy in our neighborhoods, city, and region."

The purpose of the contest is to help existing businesses in their expansion efforts, awarding small business owners the capital for growth. To be eligible, businesses must have existed for at least three years, gross

less than \$750,000 annually, and be located in Detroit, Hamtramck, or Highland Park.

All that's required for businesses to enter is a 400-word application explaining their idea for growth.

Several information sessions will be held throughout the city to help businesses in the application process. In Hamtramck, a session will be held at Oloman Café (10215 Jos. Campau) on May 21, 6-8 p.m.

For more information on the application process, visit NEIdeas online at neideasdetroit.org.

By MJ Galbraith

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