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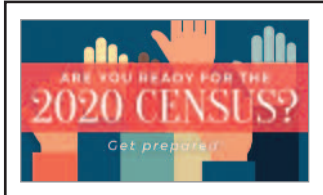
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Quick Hits

Get counted Hamtramck

By Alan Madlane

Several of Hamtramck's local community organizations could benefit from grant money currently being made available under a state program.

The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan has announced the grant opportunity in a targeted press release. The foundation sponsors an initiative they call "Southeast Michigan Counts," aimed at trying to insure an accurate census count for the state.

This is always an important issue for the state, as well as for counties and cities, as larger numbers of residents translates to increased financial aid from the federal government in any number of areas.

Any organization in the tri-county (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb) area who has, as part of their mission, the notion of helping to insure an accurate census reportage, is encouraged to apply.

The stated goal is to

Continued on page 5

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Fundraiser for baseball stadium reaches its goal

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck's historic baseball stadium scored a big win.

The online fundraising effort to raise \$50,000 was met on Wednesday – a week before the fundraiser was scheduled to end.

That \$50,000 will now be doubled, thanks to a matching \$50,000 grant promised by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

The fundraiser was sponsored by both The Friends of Historic Hamtramck Stadium and the Piast Institute.

Hamtramck Public Schools Superintendent Tom Niczay, who has been a supporter of the stadium renovation, was



The volunteer grounds crew at the Hamtramck Baseball Stadium will now have a new turf to take care of – thanks to a successful online fundraiser.

overjoyed.

In an email he wrote: "It sincerely warms my heart that people care about the future of Hamtramck for both young and old."

On a blog site for the stadium, the Friends of Historic Hamtramck Stadium (FHHS) had this to say:

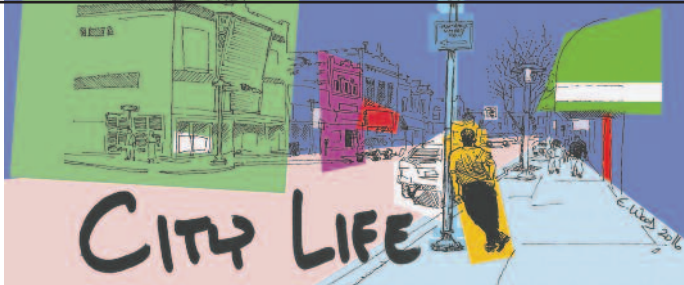
"We are very gratified by the groundswell of

support for our cause, and we look forward to beginning the restoration of the historic field for baseball, soccer, and cricket usage.

Continued on page 2



There are several clever ways to slow down traffic, such as this 3-D crosswalk painting that gives the illusion that there are obstacles in the way.



Traffic safety solutions are out there

By Walter Wasacz

How important are highly visible crosswalks in helping make city streets safer?

Judging by a trend beginning to emerge

around the world: very important.

In article after article I keep seeing new innovations in crosswalk design that benefit not only

Continued on page 4

Budget woes deepen

By Charles Sercombe

Are Hamtramck's police and fire departments too big? Too small?

As city officials tackle the upcoming budget shortfalls, the state told City Manager Kathy Angerer it will pay for a study to find out if those departments are "right-sized."

At a recent city council meeting regarding the upcoming budget, Angerer said the study will "help create options for us."

The city has already put out bid requests for the study, and the deadline for companies to respond is a couple of weeks away. The cost of the study is not known yet, but state officials have assured Angerer they will pay for it.

It's also unknown how long the study will take.

The way things are going for the city – budget-wise – it needs options.

Now.

The city is facing some devastating blows to its budget in the coming year.

On top of the list is the likely closing of GM's Pontiac Plant, which provides about \$850,000 a year to the city in lieu of paying property taxes.

And as we have reported before, here is a list of what else is looming:

- Next year's budget will not include a federal grant that currently covers the salaries of firefighters. The

Continued on page 2

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Fundraiser for baseball stadium reaches its goal

Continued from front page

“Our campaign was launched on March 4 through Patronicity.com, and will continue until Tuesday, April 2, at 6 p.m. ...

“FHHS and Piast would like to individually thank our most generous donors: Jack White of Detroit, whose \$10,000 kicked off the campaign, and Detroiters Dr. Kerry Ann Rockquemore and William Haupricht, whose \$10,000 donation put us over the top.

“Abdallah Sheik, CEO of Captain Jay’s Fish & Chicken restaurant

chain, graciously donated \$2,500 this week to get us closer to our goal. Debra Williams of Sterling Heights also donated \$2,500 on Day 2 of the campaign.

“More than 300 individuals have contributed to our campaign so far, including all members of the Friends board of directors and all Piast employees.

“Thanks again to all of you for your continued support of the restoration of historic Hamtramck Stadium.”

Budget woes deepen

Continued from front page

city had received this grant for the last several years. Angerer said the city received \$575,000 for the 2018-19 budget year from this grant, but she noted the amount changed from year to year.

Angerer said the city no longer qualifies for the grant because the award is only for cities with volunteer departments or cities that are adding additional employees.

- A long-standing Community Development Block Grant has been reformat- ted, which will result in a loss of \$100,000 per year that went to pay for code enforcement.
- In three years, Wayne County is expected to transfer prisoners from its Hamtramck jail to the new one being built in Detroit. The upshot: A loss of \$1.1 million a year.
- Over the next seven

years, city employee payroll will increase by 7 percent, and the total cost of their health insurance will go up by 30 percent. That will cost the city hundreds of thousands of dollars more.

• According to Angerer, if the city does not make adjustments to its budget, there will be an \$11 million deficit by 2023. The city’s annual budget is about \$16 million.

The city currently has a

budget surplus of \$6 million, but in order to get next year’s budget to balance, the city will have to dip into that. Next year’s budget begins July 1.

Hamtramck has a history of falling into financial trouble. The state has twice stepped in and appointed an emergency manager to take control of the city’s finances.

Local control was returned four years ago.

State marijuana sales racking up millions in revenue

By Charles Sercombe

A bare majority of city councilmembers are still expected to outlaw the sale or production of recreational marijuana.

The same councilmembers, Anam Miah, Abu Musa, Saad Almasmari and Fadel Al-Marsoumi, have blocked the sale and production of medical marijuana.

The four councilmembers recently asked the city attorney to draft an ordinance that would allow Hamtramck to “opt out” of allowing recreational marijuana sales.

Without adopting that opt-out ordinance, the city could not prevent a certified sales outlet from operating.

Opposition to the sales came mostly from the Bengali and Yemeni communities. That opposition arrived late to the process of the city forming regulations on the sale and grow operations of medical marijuana.

A plan had been in the making for a few years.

No one on the council voiced any objections until members of the Bengali and Yemeni community jammed into council meetings and town hall meetings to oppose the adoption of an ordinance regulating marijuana sales and production.

Councilmembers were on the verge of adopting the ordinance, but quickly backed down when opposition arose.

City officials may want to pause, though, for a moment before proceeding.

According to a recent Detroit Free Press story, Michigan is now the sec-

ond largest medical marijuana sales state in the country.

According to the Free Press, marijuana sales exceeded \$42 million in the first four months since the first retail outlets began operation.

That sales amount generated over \$3 million in sales tax to the state.

But the story also noted that it generated much more than that. According to a spokesman with the Michigan chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), the new industry means more jobs, as well as more investment in buildings.

If Hamtramck opts out of sales and allowing production/grow facilities, it will lose out on income taxes, job creation and economic investment, proponents here say.

Opponents say the money is not worth it be-

cause they believe marijuana outlets will attract crime, and that marijuana will get into the hands of minors.

There have been conflicting reports and studies on the link between crime and legal marijuana.

Those in favor of allowing the sale of legal marijuana point out that not only is the city losing out on an economic boost, local medical card holders are being forced to travel outside the city to make their purchase.

For some residents without transportation, this is an inconvenience.

Proponents also say marijuana sales pose no greater risk than party stores or pharmacies (which sell a variety of controlled substances).

There are about two dozen pharmacies in the Hamtramck area.

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This week at the library...

ESL Class - Monday April 1st, 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.
ESL Class - Tuesday April 2nd, 12:00 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required
ESL Class - Wednesday April 3rd, 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.
ESL Class - Thursday April 4th, @ 12:00 pm. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required
Toddler Time - April 4th-May 9th, Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Children up to age 5 and their parents and caregivers are invited for songs, storytelling and playtime.
Movie Night - Tuesdays at 4 p.m. Family friendly movies, snacks provided.
Talking is Teaching - Monday, April 15th at 11:30 am. Do you love and care for a child who is a baby, toddler, or preschooler? Join us for this discussion and information meeting with guest presenter: Greatstart.org

Prime Time Family Reading - Thursdays, March 28th-May 2nd, 5:30-7 p.m. Join us for a six-week reading experience for families with children 6 to 12 years old. Adults and children will participate together, sharing a meal, reading excellent books, discussing big ideas and learning tips for reading at home. Pre-registration is required.
Community Garden Clean-up Day - Saturday April 6th, 10 a.m.-Noon. Meeting in the garden next to the library. Register your plot and prepare for the growing season.
Cut The Cord - 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 9th. Cut your cable bill by \$500 or more each year (bring your cable bill). Watch all your channels, but cut the cost. Presented by Meteorologist Chris Edwards & Tech Expert Chuck Eglington
Spring Break @ HPL - Monday 4/1 1:00 pm Kitchen Chemistry Tuesday 4/2 1:00 pm Movie Showing Tuesday 4/2 4:30-6:30

pm Hands on 4-H Information Night
Wednesday 4/3 2:00-4:00 pm Drop-in Lego Building
Thursday 4/4 11:30 am Money Smart Week Toddler Time
Friday 4/5 3:00 pm Money Smart Week: Making Cents Family Finances Workshop with Guest Presenter Motor City Credit Union
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 30, 2019 The Hamtramck Public Library will be accepting non-perishable food donations on behalf of Gleaners as they 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.)


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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Thank You
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Second Front Page



School Bell

All District Student Art Exhibit

Hamtramck public school students' art talent was on full display Tuesday evening.

Artwork from the all the schools was shown in the High School Community Center.

Music students from the schools also performed.

Hamtramck High School News

Graphic Arts students from Mr. Katopodis' classes participated in the 2019 Society of Automotive Engineers-Detroit Section High School Poster Contest.

HHS had 37 entries in the contest, and four of our students were winners (out of 10 prizes).

This is the largest number of winners HHS has ever had in this contest.

Prizes included a scholarship and cash. The following students were winners: 1st Place - Cristian Rodriguez, who received a \$1,500 scholarship that will be paid to his college of choice; 6th Place – Fahd Hezam, who won \$100; 8th Place – Sayma Islam, who won \$100; and 9th Place – Nayema Begum, who won \$100. Congratulations to these students!

Dickinson East Elementary School News

Four students from Dickinson East Elementary and two students from Kosciuszko Middle School competed on March 20 in the annual Optimists of Downtown Detroit oratorical contest.

Sixth grader Stella Hughes won the top spot with a nearly flawless delivery at 98%!

Tarik Custovic (KMS-grade 8) thwarted his rival Al-Khalil Mashrah (KMS-grade 8) from continuing his winning streak. It was extremely close, with a matter of a few points separating them into second and third places.

Other competitors who amazed the judges included Dickinson East sixth graders Mehreen Wardah, Shayera Chowdhury and fifth grader Taufiq Islam.

The judges remarked that it was extremely difficult to judge the students, and they were truly impressed by their level of insight and depth.

The Club's Oratorical Chair, Jason Fligger, said that it was the best con-



Above: Scenes from the recent All-District Student Art Exhibition. Below: Winning poster designs produced by Hamtramck High School graphic arts students.



tent he had ever heard. The topic assigned was: "Is there a fine line between optimism and reality?"

Rahiel Housey-Johnson has been working with the students since October. Stella Hughes and Tarik

Custovic will proceed to a district level competition next month.

On March 20, Rahiel Housey-Johnson, teacher at Dickinson East, was recognized by Jason Flig-

ger, Oratorical Chair, for her 17 years of volunteer work to promote youth service projects with the Optimists of Downtown Detroit.

She was installed as a member, and presented with an official pin by club president Greg Schindler. She renewed her commitment to supporting public speaking opportunities for Hamtramck Public Schools students.

Enrollment Information

Hamtramck residents may enroll their children in Hamtramck Public Schools at the HPS Business Office, 3201 Roosevelt. School of Choice applications will be accepted during the following dates: Kindergarten: Unlimited, March 14 through September 5; grades 1st through 12th: Unlimited, March 14 through June 28.

Late school of choice applications cannot be accepted. School of choice applicants may be denied based on the student's attendance and/or discipline record.

You will need to bring with you: an original birth document (raised seal birth certificate, passport, green card, visa), an up-to-date immunization record, a final 2018-2019 report card/transcript, parental identification, two current proofs of residency (utility bill, mortgage statement, formal signed lease, pay stub, etc.) and proof of income (required only for preschool applications).

Kindergarten Roundup Dates:

Dickinson East: April 11 at 4 p.m.; Dickinson West: April 17 at 3:30 p.m.; Tau Beta: April 18 at 1 p.m.

Upcoming Events:

- March 30-April 7 – No school for students and staff. Spring Break.
- April 8 – School resumes for all students.
- April 9 – Hamtramck High School and Horizon High School, SAT test for 11th and 12th grades (SAT seniors); PSAT 10 for 10th grade. No school for 9th grade and 12th grade seniors who previously took SAT.
- April 10 – Hamtramck High School and Horizon High School, WorkKeys 11th grade and 12th grades (WorkKeys Seniors); PSAT 9 for 9th grade. No school for 10th

Continued on page 5

Evaline Street Food Co.

Upcoming Dinners

3/29 Michigan Theme Lenten Dinner
Menu: Fried Perch, Salmon & Shrimp Ravioli, Vegetarian Pasties, Fish Tacos & Vernor's Cake

4/5 Michigan Theme Lenten Dinner
Menu: Crispy Walleye, Vegetarian Shepherd's Pie, Yiddish Cheeseburger, Pierogi & Bumpy Cake

4/12 Asian Seafood & Stir Fry Night
Menu: Steamed Fish, Shrimp Pad Thai, Sichuan Noodles, Crab Rangoon, Hong Kong Dumplings

4/19 New England Seafood Dinner
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April 13 – Soup Kitchen 2-4 pm – Everyone Welcome

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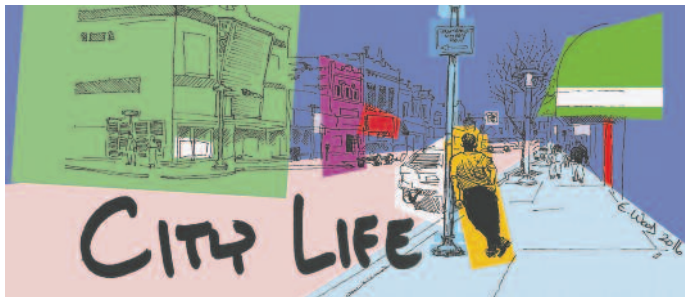
Annual 40 Hours Lenten Devotion

Friday, March 29 8:30 AM Mass (Opening), Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration until Noon

Sat., March 30 Communal Penance Service 11:00 AM, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 4:30 until 5:30 PM Mass, Healing Mass-5:30 PM

Sunday, March 31 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM Masses, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration, Parish Choir Tribute-2:30 PM, Closing of 40 Hours Devotion with procession-3:00 PM

Some of the services will be in Polish and English
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— All Are Invited —



Continued from front page

pedestrians who use them, but also motorists that can see them from afar, providing a clear signal to slow down ahead.

A friend recently sent me an article about a crosswalk in Iceland painted in what appears to be a 3D design. White and black stripes alternate to create the illusion that the walkway is floating above the ground.

Never mind that it is a cool looking design. More importantly it is a serious attempt to improve the relationship between pedestrians and motorists with immediate visual information useful to both.

The article mentions that this idea was first used in New Delhi, India. I recall seeing that story too and was excited that it was being applied across the planet in a tiny island nation in the North Atlantic.

Surely, we can do much the same in Hamtramck. Modern cities are safely walkable 24/7. This should be the goal here.

I came across another innovative design done in South Bend, Indiana, where artists and students worked together to create crosswalks painted with vivid colors. Our community assets include artists, many, in fact, that can be sourced for a project like this.

For too long crosswalk design has been a perfunctory afterthought. The two long white parallel bars we usually see are the bare minimum in satisfying community standards or state requirements (everywhere, not only Hamtramck or Michigan).

Instead of seeing the issue from the point of view of those who walk the streets, regulators have long favored the perspective of road engineers whose aim is to move motor traffic most efficiently.

The trend worldwide is now to see urban streets as pedestrians experience them. A brief has already been written by the mayor of London on how to reduce car ac-

cess to core parts of the city where people walk and cycle, a plan he hopes can be implemented by 2029; and New York is proposing a “pay-to-drive” plan that aims to limit the amount of motor traffic congestion in the borough of Manhattan.

Cities in Europe and Asia – London, Milan, Stockholm, Singapore – already do this.

Incredibly, like those much bigger cities Hamtramck may be close to reaching its threshold for motor vehicles. In addition to problems with moving traffic, parking on nearly every residential street is an escalating concern. We are near or perhaps even at critical mass for cars, trucks and buses in a city only 2-square miles wide.

From my window overlooking Gallagher and Edwin, I witness a bad daily diet of reckless driving, poor judgments in making turns into traffic, cars creeping or accelerating through the crosswalk with children from Dickinson East Elementary School still in them.

Houses have been hit (including my own) by cars careening out of control after a collision. I recently spoke with the director of the Detroit Zen Center who told me

its properties at Mitchell and Casmere have been struck by cars five times in recent years; and that the nearby building that now houses Woodward Throwbacks has been struck in recent months.

Buildings and houses being hit by motor traffic constitutes a public safety crisis. It is unacceptable. Of course, we are not alone in this. Traffic crashes happen every minute across the world. But it is our challenge as a community to create solutions here not everywhere.

Speeding is a daily issue on residential north-south through streets like Gallagher, Brombach and Lumpkin. Speed limit signs are too few and traffic enforce-

ment by police in the neighborhoods is lacking.

I have sat down with the city manager and police chief who assure me they are aware of the problems and appear sympathetic to some of the solutions that are out there. To her credit the chief has done in-services at the high school to remind students that the speed limit on all city streets is 25 MPH unless posted.

The public schools have been strong advocates for implementing safety measures around schools. I believe a partnership between the Hamtramck Board of Education and the City of Hamtramck along with community buy-in and support can lead to a safer and better place to walk, cycle and drive for all of us.

As another friend said to me, the future is here now, as are solutions to problems like these. They are just a click away, whether they are initiated in India or Iceland. We just need to be aware of them, start making smart decisions and get it done in Hamtramck.

Images of crosswalk design in Iceland courtesy of Gusti Productions.

Walter Wasacz is a Hamtramck-based journalist and consultant who writes about walkable discovery for the Review

Book with ‘Hamtramck’ signature raises a number of questions

By Alan Madlane

One wonders if there’s a “colonel” of truth in it.

The “it” in question here is a book, currently being offered on eBay at the lofty price of a \$400 starting bid, billed as being owned by a “Col. Hamtramck.”

It is an 1841 copy of the “General Regulations of the Army” that appears to have been signed by the colonel himself. Our little town’s very namesake?

It seems not. Read on.

Here’s the kicker: Col. Jean Francois Hamtramck died in 1803. By elemental math, that means he couldn’t have signed this book, since he’d have been dead for 38 years by the time it was published.

This leads to the basic supposition that it may have belonged to some relative with the same initials.

Enter his son Jean Francois, one of only two children (out of the five that Sr. had with first wife Marie-Anne Bertin) to survive infancy. Did the son also serve as a Union colonel in the military?

Seemingly so.

Local historian Greg Kowalski said the city’s Historical Museum “definitely will NOT bid” on the volume.

“That is Hamtramck Jr.,” he said.

Confusing, because both father and son had attained the same rank and were in the Virginia Regiment, apparently, judging from the signature on the book.

An internet search turns up another John Francis Hamtramck –presumably a grandson, since he was born in 1840, but who is unlikely to have been conscripted before he could walk. That Hamtramck, incidentally, was killed in a duel as a teenager.

The initial auction on the book ends tomorrow



A book with a signature claiming to be that of Col. Hamtramck is up for bid on eBay.

evening (Saturday, March 30), and as of Thursday, the day The Review went to press, had no bids.

The bidding rules of eBay allows the seller to relist the book if it goes

unsold, more than once even, and can make changes to the price, for example.

The item certainly won’t sell based on any kind of esthetic value. Its cover is stained purplish-brown, and the only word on it is “Hamtramck,” written in what looks to be dark ink. It is signed again on the inside of the cover, and a third time on the title page.

That page also bears another man’s signature, possibly a “Jas. S. Billinger,” who presumably owned the book also at some point in its 178-year history.

Interesting? Perhaps. Just not quite our man.

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Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Hamtramck will have to face likelihood of losing GM plant

At this point it appears General Motors really has no plan to keep the Poletown Plant open.

At a town hall meeting last Saturday, Mayor Karen Majewski basically said so.

In a Detroit News story, she was quoted as saying:

“In the end, it’s only going to be an economic decision, not one that takes into consideration our families, jobs, schools and safety.

“They did this in 1980 when they destroyed homes to build the facility. Did GM care? No, they sacrificed little old ladies, their churches and homes for that plant.

“They did not care, and I don’t think there’s any reason they do now. Hamtramck is an after-thought.”

The mayor and the city manager have been talking with GM about what it will do with the plant – especially if it is closed. It appears those talks have gone nowhere.

There is a lot at stake for the city.

GM has been paying about \$850,000 per year to Hamtramck in lieu of paying property taxes.

Hamtramck will now be forced to take drastic steps in whittling down its budgets, and that means some unpopular budget cuts will be

made.

The state has had to step in twice before, to help Hamtramck climb out of financial problems by appointing emergency managers. Funny thing, though: those managers never addressed the city’s long-term financial problems.

They made the easy cost-cutting measures, and then coasted for several months collecting a paycheck from taxpayers.

Let’s hope with a new governor now in office, some real constructive and creative thinking can be done to permanently keep Hamtramck financially sound.

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The Review Hamtramck

Quick Hits

Continued front page

get the word out among chronically underreporting communities – given as “communities of color, low-income households, immigrants, and young children” – that being counted helps them in the long run.

One study posits that states lose, on average, \$1,800 in federal aid per each unreported citizen. Roughly 40% of Michigan’s overall funding comes from the feds, according to the organization

Grassroots Solutions.

The current harsh federal stance on immigration can be seen as having a two-fold effect on immigrants. One, it can make them less likely to report their whereabouts, even if they are here legally, out of fear of deportation over not knowing some minor system legality. Two, this underreporting then gets the feds off the hook for paying the states more money for more people.

Grants applications can be found at <https://cfsem.org/se-mi-accounts-application/>.

School Bell

Continued from page 3

grade and 12th grade seniors who took WorkKeys.

April 19 – No school for students and staff.

Recreation Department News

For more information, give us a call at (313) 892-2635. Follow us on Facebook for the most up-to-date information: www.Facebook.com/HamtramckRecreationDepartment

Compiled by Janice Gandelman

Four students from Dickinson East Elementary and two students from Kosciuszko Middle School recently competed in the annual Optimists of Downtown Detroit Oratorical Contest. Below right: Teacher Rahiel Housey-Johnson was made a member of the Optimists of Downtown Detroit for her volunteer work with students for many years.



Hamtramck streets play feature role in music video

By Alan Madlane

JP (John Panich) is a local rapper and musician. Andrew Miller helped him film the video for his song “Hamtramck Beach.”

The kicker is, they filmed it along the route of the Hamtramck Labor Day Parade in a sort of guerilla filming tactic, having borrowed a boat to allow them access as members of the parade.

We checked in with them on just how they managed to pull off this artistic “coup.”

The Review: I have to confess, I love the guerilla tactics of just sneaking into the parade. Very “Animal House.” How were your nerves? I mean, I guess the worst thing that would’ve likely happened is that they would have bounced you out, unless they would have also tried to fine you... Were you guys prepared to ante up if it came to that, or sacrifice the boat float to the next police auction?

Andrew Miller: When we finally decided to make the video, it was about two weeks away from the parade date. So, we tried our best to officially enter, but it must have been too

late to register because we couldn’t get a solid answer or find the right person to talk to. I did find a post from a few years back that contained the rules of the parade, and we did our best to adhere to them.

We had been reaching out to our more connected friends in Hamtramck, and one friend (who will not be named, but who I will call “Jeff”) told me one night at the Painted Lady, “I would bet that if you just pulled up with a float, they would let you in.”

We knew where all the floats had gathered before the parades in years past, so we decided to dress up our boat with the most cost-effective decorations we could find, and then try our best to blend in.

JP: The whole morning leading up to the parade, I couldn’t help but think it wasn’t going to work. I didn’t think of the possibility of fines; I was more concerned with achieving a rare act of mischief. It was a toss-up whether or not it would work until when breached the Holbrook threshold. I’m glad we didn’t get busted, because we had no back up plan.

Once we were in the actual parade, I was so happy and excited that I could not stop laughing. So, most of the footage of me smiling in the music video was essentially candid.

Review: I’ve been coming to this town a long time, and I have to say I’ve never heard the term “Hamtramck Beach.” Is it just something you came up with for the song and video, or is there a creeping subculture folks should know about, the quicker to shutter their windows and bolt their doors?

What gets one into the HB mindset best? And is there an SPF in the whole wide world that can protect a soul from its harsher rays?

Miller: Obviously there’s no body of water close to the Hamtramck city limit. So, Hamtramck Beach is more of a state of mind rather than specific place. When things are positive, when you’ve found good people in your life, when you’re driving down Campau and the sun hits you just right: welcome to Hamtramck Beach.

JP: The producer of the track is also a Hamtramck

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Obituaries

DUFFNER



Edith Duffner, 66, died March 14, 2019.

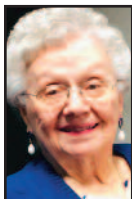
She was a Navy veteran.

Ms. Duffner is survived by her significant other of 29 years, David Sylvester.

She is also survived by: Charlotte Yakemonis, Melanie Gresham, Melanie Yakemonis, Michael Yakemonis, Harley Schrade, and AnnMarie Yakemonis.

A tribute service will be held April 5, 12:30 p.m. at Great Lakes National Cemetery, 4200 Belford, Holly, MI.

TYLENDA



Jane Tylenda (nee Stachowski), 93, died March 22, 2019.

Mrs. Tylenda was the wife of the late Frank; mother of Francis (Mary Ann), Thomas (Sharon), and Susan (Larry) Lankowsky; grandmother of Jason (Kevin), Paul (Karen), Lindsey

(Jared), Christopher, Michelle, Evan (Natalie), Bradley, Jeffrey, and Michael (Mary).

Mrs. Tylenda is also survived by great grandchildren, Lily, Lucas, Jack, Noah, Julien, Langston, Maxwell, and Miles.

Jane was a member of PNA Lodge 1758 and Council 122 for many years. She served as Treasurer for the Lodge for 25 plus years and held various offices for Council 122 and PNA District X. She was also a member of St. Theresa's Guild as a member of St Florian Parish.

Visitation was Sunday and Monday at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home. Her funeral Mass was held on Tuesday, at St Florian Catholic Church. Interment was at Mt Olivet Cemetery next to her beloved husband Francis.



Hamtramck streets play feature role in music video

Continued from page 5

resident named David Pietrusa, who goes by "pettycash." He is the live DJ for most of the "JP from the HP" performances. He sent me the file named "hamtramck-beach.mp3" and my imagination went nuts. He named it that because he's a sick artist. I just ran with it and never stopped.

Review: That ship is a beauty, every bit the rival of the S. S. Minnow made famous in that stellar TV series "Gilligan's Island." Where did "she" come from, and what is "her" history? Where is "she" moored now? And what do you see as "her" eventual fate? And why do I keep doing "this"??

Miller: I'm pretty sure JP borrowed that boat from a generous friend. And I'm not sure if they had any



Hamtramck's streets played a role in a recent music video.

idea of what we were using it for. But we'll see how the video is received, and maybe we'll bring her back for another trip next year.

JP: I asked the internet for a boat and didn't receive one. I asked my friends who live on canals if anyone would let us borrow a nice boat. No such luck. One thing led to an-

other, and I was led by my friend Lily to a local underground venue, "Phony Island" who had apparently just "found" a boat.

They were happy to lend it for our stunt. I returned it after. I think they have aspirations to restore it to its original beauty.

Review: On an only slightly more serious

note, how did the song evolve? How long did it take to write it? How about to record it, and where was this done? Who were the musicians involved?

JP: David Pietrusa ("pettycash") arranged the percussion and keys. Mike Troost (Boogie) played guitar. Joseph Pelione ("Joe Average") sang the chorus. And I sang the raps.

Pettycash has a studio in Hamtramck that was sort of beach-themed at the time. He and Boogie laid this down and sent it to me as an mp3 entitled "Hamtramck beach."

I wrote the lyrics with my headphones on at Cafe 1923 in about two hours. Then "Joe Average" came over to my house a week later and helped me write the chorus, and we recorded it.

Continued on page 8

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Continued from page 7

• At a little after 4 a.m., a Detroit resident was also found passed out and slumped over his steering wheel in the area of Dequindre and Caniff. He was arrested for possessing an open intoxicant.

• A Detroit resident reported his van was stolen while it was parked in the 3100 block of Caniff.

• A hit-and-run accident occurred at Jos. Campau and Andrus.

• A business owner in the 10000 block of Conant reported an incident of illegal dumping.

Sunday, March 24

• Officers did a check on the well-being of a resident in the 5000 block of Belmont and found the man had died.

• A resident in the 3500 block of Caniff reported her child had run away from home. The juvenile was later found and taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital.

• At about 2:30 a.m., a Warren resident was arrested for drunk driving after getting into a crash at Caniff and Lumpkin.

• At 4:30 a.m., a resident was arrested in the 12000 block of Selfridge St. for drunk driving.

• Officers responded to a break-in alarm at a business in the 2600 block of Caniff. Officers located an open window.

Monday, March 25

• At 8:30 a.m., a Holbrook business was robbed. Officers arrested the suspect minutes later.

• A Norwalk St. resident reported someone damaged her vehicle while it was parked in front of her residence.

Hamtramck streets play feature role in music video

Continued from page 6

I always wanted to work with (Andrew) Miller on a video project, and so we decided we were gonna do it. I sent him a few songs and this is the one he liked the most.

The Review: Was this a one-off, or are there more musical (or parade) shenanigans in the works?

Miller: We only had plans for the one video, but there's definitely been talk of more Hamtramck Beach-related work. One project that is actually going down is our collaboration with artist Emily Jane Wood.

She is creating a Star Wars/80's-inspired, full-scale movie poster for "Hamtramck Beach." She's almost finished, and it's incredible. The plan is to put 20 posters up all over Hamtramck, with hints of their location on Instagram.

Then anyone can go grab them. Another fun way to celebrate Hamtramck, and other artists in this town.

The Review: Here's your space to let fly with anything else you want to trumpet.

Miller: There's one event I feel worth mentioning. As we slowly entered the parade, just kind of keeping our heads

down and acting like we were supposed to be there, we were directed to "pull up behind (a) Mustang."

At this point, I thought we were in. But there was a huge storm coming, and so they decided to delay the start of the parade, and let the storm pass. And it rained hard. Road signs were blowing over; I mean, it was a storm. After it settled, everyone gathered what they could of their floats and got back in line.

A nice woman with a clipboard was walking toward us, obviously checking to see that everyone was in the right place. I thought the storm had washed away our disguise and it was over.

But we were so close. As I kept my head down, acting like I was adjusting

the camera and tripod in the back of the truck, she approached our driver Clancy and said "Are you really 'Friends'?" And Clancy said "Yup," as cool as can be, and she made a checkmark and moved on.

Now, I wasn't sure what she asked him or why; I had met the crew and float over at the parade starting-point because I was running with the Painted Lady team for the yacht races. Earlier, when Clancy and JP were picking up the boat stashed at Trixie's, JP lost some keys, or something that made them start searching around the lot and also inside Trixie's.

That's when JP found the Friends of Hamtramck Stadium yard sign, and decided in a moment of clarity to attach the sign

to the front of the truck towing our float.

That sign is why the woman asked Clancy "Are you really Friends?" I believe that sign is how we were let into the parade. I'm not sure if she would have asked about us or wanted to know more info had that not been on the front. But I know that was what sealed the deal.

And that's why there's a special thank you to The Friends of Hamtramck Stadium in the video's description.

The Review
Hamtramck

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Coming events

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

SATURDAY, April 13, 2-4 p.m. – Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. Everyone is welcome.

FRIDAY, April 26, 9 a.m. – Wayne County Commissioner Martha Scott hosts a free Community Coffee Hour every fourth Friday of the month at Maine Street Restaurant, 11650 Jos. Campau.

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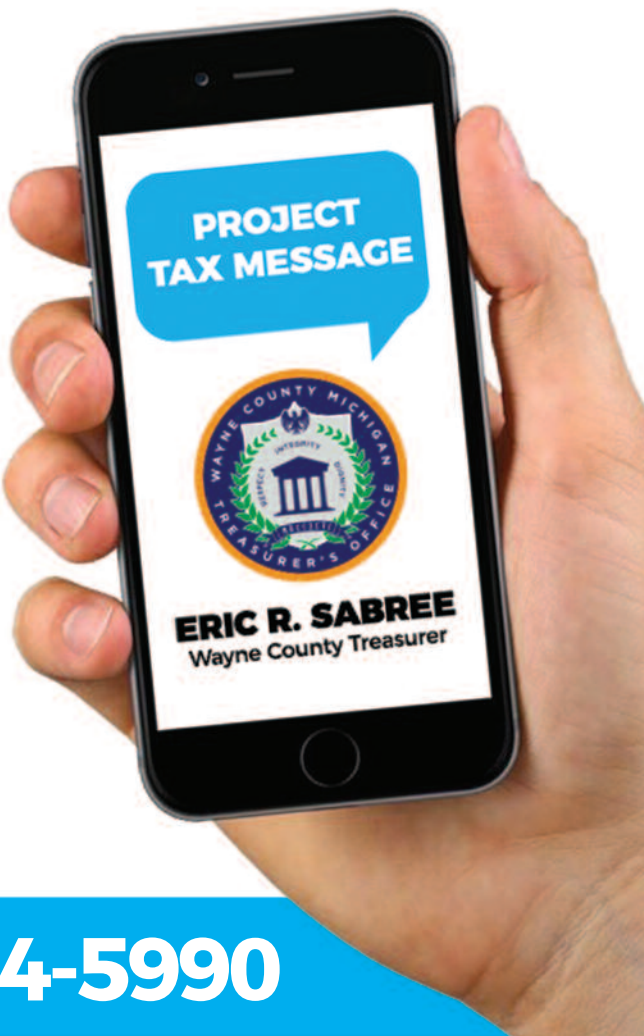
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