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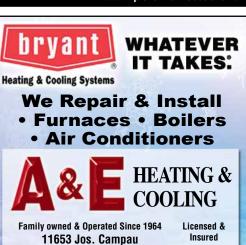
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- HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD





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# **Quick Hits**

# Film Lab is back

**By Alan Madlane** 

Those fine, fun folks at Film Lab are back at it, and here's hoping they can continue to pull it off.

Closed on and off since the pandemic ground everything to a halt in the Spring of 2020, the venue is reopening with a flourish this month. And they've redone the place, and shifted some

of the focus. Per a press release, they tout their "restored, art-deco(-era) cocktail bar," their expanded outdoor patio area, and their "rebranding," focusing in part on an expanded list

of social events. More on those in a mo-

ment. Titles screening this weekend include the 1990 NYC drag queen documentary "Paris is Burning" Friday and Sunday, both at 9 p.m., and the 1999 comedy satire "But I'm a Cheerleader," also at 9 p.m., wherein the titular heroine gets sent to a gay conversion camp in an attempt to undo her "troubling feel-

**Continued on page 5** 

# of the TOWN

# Celebrating the Fourth of July at **Hamtramck Stadium**

**By Charles Sercombe** 

Is there a better way to celebrate the Fourth of July weekend than watching the national pastime?

For those not of a certain age, we're talking about baseball.

And specifically, vintage-style baseball, which plays by the rules of the 1860s, which means the players do not use gloves. And it was also a time when it was spelled as "base ball" – two words The Hussars won 26-7. instead of one.

Hamtramck once again hosted a vin- in sight, and temps still tage game last Saturday.

This game featured the Hamtramck Hussars versus the Detroit Base Ball Club.

What is a "hussar" you

Out crack team of researchers (OK, we used Google) said that it refers to a Hungarian calvary soldier from long ago. Apparently, they looked fierce in their get-ups.

The name seemed to work its warrior magic:

The weather cooperat-Stadium ed, with not a rain cloud bearable before the heat-



Scenes from last Saturday's vintage "base ball" game held at Hamtramck Stadium.



wave descended on Michigan. Two food trucks were also on hand.

The only thing missing

was beer, of course, but that would have been against park rules.

**Continued on page 2** 

# A talk with 'Hamtramck, USA' documentary makers

**Bv Alan Madlane** 

Justin Feltman and Razi Jafri have a short film streaming right now, all about the last big general election held here in the city for mayor, city council and so forth.

We emailed some questions through their public relations firm of Cheryl Duncan.

Here are their respons-

The Review: So let's start with this: How does Razi know Justin? How does Justin know Razi?

Justin Feltman: We met during the 2016 election. I came to Michigan to work on a project based around underrepresented voices in American democracy. I met Razi in his

Metro Detroit, and he

role as an activist around

# **City settles** lawsuit

**By Charles Sercombe** 

Hamtramck city officials wasted no time in settling an election lawsuit that was filed just several weeks ago.

The city did not receive a copy of the lawsuit until three weeks ago. The lawsuit was co-filed

by a Hamtramck voter, Rahima Begum, who alleged:

- That Hamtramck failed to provide accurate ballot translations in Ben-
- That the city has not translated into Bengali any part of the city's election website.
- · That the city failed to recruit, train and assign a "sufficient number of Bengali-speaking poll workers and interpreters to provide effective Bengali-language assistance."

The lawsuit, filed in federal court, says the city was notified of these shortcomings in 2020, but failed to take corrective action.

The other co-plaintiff in the lawsuit is Detroit Action, an organization that "promotes the involvement of black and brown community members in the electoral process."

Mayor Karen Majewski and the city council recently met in a special meeting, which was closed to the public, to discuss the lawsuit and settlement terms.



The Review recently corresponded with the makers of a documentary called "Hamtramck, USA."





# HAMTRAMCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# **State of the District Address**

Thursday, July 15, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Facebook Livestream @hamtramckpublicschools

Join the Hamtramck Public Schools' State of the District Address to learn about the 2021-2022 school year. Six district department heads will discuss a variety of topics, including:

Jaleelah Ahmed, Superintendent

Where are we now, where do we want to be and how will we get there?

Sherry Lynem, Director of Finance

Fiscally sound reports

Nabil Nagi, English Language Development Director

Serving students, families, and the community

Rebekah Brewer, Executive Director of Student

Catering to our stakeholders

Michelle Imbrunone, MA, Ed.S., Executive Director of Human

Setting high expectations

Menhem Aouad, Director of Student Services

\*Masks are required for in-person attendance

To watch the address, visit https://www.facebook.com/hamtramckpublicschools/

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# Celebrating the Fourth of July at **Hamtramck Stadium**

**Continued from front page** 

(Hopefully, down the road an exception will be carved out for just the stadium area, or, that could be our wishful thinking.)

There was a crowd of about 100 on hand to enjoy watching players catch the ball barehanded, and also dressed up in oldtimey uniforms – well, for the most part.

Perhaps the highlight of the day was taking in the ongoing restoration of the stadium, and its rebuilt infield. It's truly an amazing transformation from just last year - especially considering just how bad the old stadium had deteriorated.

Word is that renovation of the grandstands will soon start.

Hamtramck Stadium was built in the 1930s for the Detroit Stars, a team that was in the old Negro League. The Hamtramck Stadium infield is named after one of the Stars' best players, Turkey Stearnes, who was from Detroit.

Phone (313) 874-2100

His daughter, Rosilyn, was in attendance at Saturday's game.

There is plenty of historical information out there about the stadium and the league, largely thanks to the Friends of Historic Hamtramck Stadium. Check it out.

There will be another vintage-style game on July 25, starting at 1 p.m. The games are free to attend.

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







City settles lawsuit

# Two injured in early morning shooting

**By Charles Sercombe** 

A dispute between multiple people erupted into gunfire at about 2:20 a.m. Saturday.

No deaths have been tails. reported.

According to a press release issued by the Hamtramck Police Department, gunshots were fired in the area of Yemans and Conant in what is being called "an altercation

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**The Review** 

**Today** 

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between parties."

Two people were injured, and are in the hospital.

There are no other de-

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to call (313) 800-5281.

There have been two shooting fatalities this

### **Continued from front page** She said there was no

point in dragging out the matter.

"... Both sides were committed to a fair voting process, and because we both wanted the same outcome for the voters. we were able to reach a quick an agreement that worked for both sides," Majewski told The Review.

She said the agreement requires that, for the "next four years, our elections will be monitored by a five-person advisory group, headed by a paid coordinator of our compliance efforts."

Although the lawsuit did not seek monetary punthis obligation.

Majewski said it is estimated that the city will pay \$20,000 to \$30,000 a year to finance the settlement terms.

The plaintiffs did, however, seek reimbursement for attorney fees, but that is not included in the settlement.

The city relies on state election officials to do translations. but the state was not named in the lawsuit.

Former City Clerk August Gitschlag, who supervised Hamtramck elections, said he received only a handful of complaints about the Bengali translations.

He said there have been ishment, there will be a differences of opinion on cost to the city to meet which Bengali dialect to use for those translation.

July 9, 2021

# This week at the Library.

It Happened Again: In July 2 edition of the Review Newspaper, wrong library column was printed again. Instead of information submitted for the week July 2 to July 8, Review reprinted an old library column written for June 25. We apologize for the incident.

Register Young Readers: Our "Tails and Tales" Summer Reading Program is in full swing. Stop by to have the little ones register and receive their very own Reading Checklist for tracking their book count. Not only will it help keep their reading skills sharp during the carefree days of summer, they can also earn tickets for a prize raffle just by reading books. Pretty cool. We hope to see you soon.

**<u>Virtual Concert:</u>** The Library invites you and your family to enjoy a special, virtual musical performance by Ara Topouzian in concert with Jerry Gerjekian and Tom Zakarian. Available to stream freely from your device July 11 to July 17th. The trio offer an exceptional exploratory experience of American and Middle Eastern soundscapes. Couple that with their historical insights and you will begin to feel a deeper appreciation for the lively melodies and soulful ballads which are part of their musical tradition. Visit the website at ww.hamtramck.lib.mi.us and click the Programs tab for access to this wonderful presentation.

**Henry David Thoreau:** July 12 happens to be the birthday of naturalist, poet, essayist and philosopher Henry David Thoreau (1817). While making a living by working in the family pencil and ground lead business, surveying land, and teaching, Thoreau sought out a deeper connection to the underlying truth that lies hidden in all things, be they social interactions, governing principles, or the natural world itself. He was best known as a Transcendentalist philosopher.

### Hamtramck Library is operating as "Grab and Go" until further notice: -

This service includes book pick-ups, remote printing, faxing and scanning. Computers will not be available for use until further notice. Please send attachments you want printed to hamtramcklibrary at gmail.com. Browse our catalog at home, If we have the title, please call 313-733-6822, and we will set it aside for you to pick up.

For more information about events at the library call (313) 733-6822 Or visit its website at http://hamtramck. Lib.mi.us When you can also access the online catalog. The library is located at 2360 Caniff Avenue.



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tional origin, sex, handicap or familial status

# Second Front Page

# 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 May 25, and all councilmembers were present.

During public comment, Bill Meyer said he supported a resolution to rename Jos. Campau, from Caniff to Hamtramck Dr., in honor of Dr. Abdul Algazali.

(Algazali was a former member of the city council. He died several years ago.)

Meyer said Algazali "worked for all the people of Hamtramck."

But, Meyer noted, Algazali was "treated very disrespectfully" while on the city council.

The resolution read, in

"Dr. Algazali noticed that the Muslim community in Hamtramck was growing tremendously yet the lack of representation in government remained

the same.

"This fueled him to rise to the challenge of becoming a politician. In 2005, he became the first Arab American ever to be elected to the city's council.

"As a member of the board, he understood the needs of the community and worked to ensure that the residents were all treated fairly. Dr. Algazali was instrumental in the creation of town's noise ordinance that gave permission for the broadcast of the mosque daily calls to prayer."

Later in the meeting, the council decided to shorten the distance of the honorary naming of Jos. Campau. Instead of extending all the way up to Caniff, the honorary name will apply only from Holbrook to Hamtramck

In another proposed

matter, Nasr Hussain said he is opposed to term limits for the council and

On the resolution to appoint Carrie Beth Lasley to fill a council vacancy, Councilmember Fadel Al-Marsoumi questioned Lasley on whether she owed the city money, prior to her being cleared for appointment.

Lasley said she was not a defaulter. She did say, however, that when she first moved here, an outstate tax preparer did not file Hamtramck income tax forms for three years, but the matter was later cleared up.

Lasley was then successfully appointed to the council, and her term ends Dec. 31 of this year. She replaces former Councilmember Ian Perrotta, who had resigned. Moving on, the council agreed to have two ballot proposals go forward to voters in November. One would limit council and mayoral terms to three terms.

The other proposal would require candidates for council and mayor to have lived in Hamtramck for at least one year in order to qualify to run for

Councilmember Lasley was the only councilmember opposed to the resolutions.

Councilmember Al-Marsoumi said that, by living here for at least one year, candidates would have time to become more familiar with local issues.

In a review of the city's budget, several adjustments were made. It was noted that there was an increase in federal grants, but revenue from the Wayne County Jail was reduced.

The city remains, overall, in deficit spending, which requires dipping into the city's budget surplus to cover bills and salaries.



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# Mayor: Get a Covid shot and maybe win some money

### **By Charles Sercombe**

Hamtramck continued to record just a handful of new COVID-19 cases, for the second week in a row.

In Mayor Karen Majewski's weekly Facebook talk with the community on Monday morning, she said that Wayne County health officials reported 11 new cases for the past week.

That's up slightly from the eight cases that were reported the prior week.

"but not alarming though."

That brings the total number of cases for last year and up to now to 2,706, which is a little over 10 percent of the city's population.

Hamtramck's Covid numbers have drawn the attention of Wayne County health officials. Majewski said that the county is concerned that we have a low number of residents who have received their Covid vaccination.

As a result, the county will be sending people out to go door-to-door, in order to urge more residents to get vaccinated, Majewski

OK, if that isn't enough of an incentive, how about this? The state is sponsoring a sweepstakes called "MIShotToWin."

You have to have had at least one shot, and be at least 18 years old, to enter. There are several drawings, one worth \$2 million and others worth \$50,000.

Now that could go a long way toward paying bills.

To register, go to mishottowin.com, or you can call (888) 535-6136 (and then press 1).

"Let's get everybody reg-

istered for that," Majewski said. "Let's see if somebody here can win some

You can get a vaccine at any of the following locations:

- FRD Sav-Mor Pharmacy, 9811 Conant
- CVS Pharmacy, Jos. Campau and Holbrook
- Health First Medical Center, 9324 Conant.

Besides updates about offered. "A little more than last Covid, the mayor once week," Majewski said, again talked about the ongoing flood clean-up in

> For the past two weeks, garbage trucks have been "combing" the alleys, the mayor said, looking for flood-damaged debris that has been thrown out.

It's unclear if there will be more special pick-ups this coming week. But no matter, you can haul your junk to a dumpster located on Christopher St. any day and any time of the

If you still need to sanitize your possessions or your basement, the city has a new supply of free clean-up kits, known as "muck kits," at city hall. You can get one at the front window of the police station.

The kits contain gloves and bleach.

If you haven't done so already, document your losses, and then submit that documentation to the city. You can find the form to fill out on the city's web-

If President Biden declares Wayne County a Federal Disaster Area, there will be financial aid for residents via FEMA (The Federal Emergency Management Agency).

You can also call the city's Public Services Department at (313) 800-5233, extension 817, and they will take down your claim.

Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence, whose district includes Hamtramck, was in town last week. and got a rundown of what happened here.

She will be helping the city if FEMA assistance is

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is also offering up to \$1,500 if you lost a furnace or hot water heater or other appliances, and damages to your home – things that are not

You can contact the Hamtramck branch of the department by calling (313) 892-0180, or go there at 12140 Jos. Cam-

covered by your insurance.

You must be low-income to be eligible.

For those who have had a hard time paying their property taxes, Wayne County has suspended foreclosures for the rest of the year - as long as the house in question is occupied.

It's not all bad news out there.

The mayor was happy

to report that, after a long wait, HenriettaHaus Coffee Roasters had a soft opening last weekend. For those who have

been here for a while, it's located in the old Kopytko market, at 8609 Jos. Campau. From the photos we saw on Facebook, this is a stunning renovation.

The business is open only on weekends for now, but its hours of operation will expand in the near fu-

In closing, Majewski noted the Fourth of July weekend, and what it means to live in a democracy.

"Remember, democracy is a process, and it's not always a linear process," she said. "Sometimes we move forward, sometimes we move backwards, unfortunately. But it is a movement forward, and we're all part of it."





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# As always, campaign signs can say a lot about a candidate

### **By Charles Sercombe**

The Aug. 3 Primary Election is less than a month away.

And Hamtramck candidates have been busy participating in various Zoom debates; campaigning door-door, sometimes

Eric R. Sabree

as a group; holding various clean-ups; and being active on social media.

There are eight candidates seeking one of the three open seats on city council. There are also four mayoral candidates, including the incumbent,

Mayor Karen Majewski, off then, as well. seeking that position.

The primary election will whittle the council candidate field down to six for the general election in November, and narrow the mayoral field down to two candidates squaring

**Wayne County Treasurer's Office** 

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treasurer.waynecounty.com in order to:

Campaign signs, a staple in any election, are, of course, everywhere to be seen throughout the neighborhoods.

As usual, some of those signs caught our attention.

Take, for example, mayoral candidate Asm "Kamal" Rahman. His slogan is "Change is at your hands."

Hmmm... That phrase is not quite right. It's the preposition "at." The saying is actually "Change is in your hands," or you could even say "Change is at hand."

We will admit that we are also prepositionally-challenged at times.

Another mayoral candidate, Saad Almasmari (who is currently a city councilmember), signs that boast of the candidate's following qualities: "Honesty, Bravery, Experience."

Bravery?

Well, it does take a bit of bravery to sit through two-hour-plus city council meetings that should take only 20 minutes.

Seriously. though. Almasmari told The Review that "It means for you to be brave to take action for the good of this community."

Council candidate Muhith Mahmood modified a slogan from President Joe Biden's campaign last year, saying

"Build back a better Hamtramck."

Council candidates Armani Asad and Khalil Refai went for more economical signs. Asad's simply say "Elect Armani Asad for city council." Refai's likewise tout him in simple terms.

Also opting for the lessis-more approach are Cody Lown and Amanda Jaczkowski. Lown's sign says "Vote Cody Lown, Hamtramck City Council."

Jaczkowski's "Amanda Jaczkowski for city council."

Mayor Majewski has taken the economical approach to another level. Her signs are not out at all yet - but she always starts her promotion closer to the election date.

Mayoral candidate Amer Ghalib has come under question for why some of his supporters refer to him as a medical doctor.

The state of Michigan has him licensed as a nurse – not as a doctor.

We asked Dr. Ghalib, er, Ghalib to clarify this issue.

Here is what he said **Continued on page 5** 



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### **Summer fun**

The public school district has some tips on what do during summer to keep your student ac-

According to the HPD Facebook page:

"Turn that T.V. off and head outside! Here are a few COVID compliant activities you can do with friends: go on a bike ride. swim at the beach or

community pool, find a spot to hammock, host a baking competition, have a water balloon fight.

"On rainy days, curl up with a book or even host a book club. The possibilities can be endless!

For more ideas, the district recommends checking out this online site:

www.chicagotribune. com/.../sns-bestreviews-misc...

# HANLEY INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

## HANLEY INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY PRINCIPAL'S AWARD RECIPIENTS STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED ALL "A's" FOR THE 4th QUARTER - 2020-2021

## FIFTH GRADE

Ms. Pearson's Class Ranen Alameri Malak Alhalmy Rana Anakeeb Adham Hizam

**Marion Morris** 

Merjanah Omasan Tahrina Rahman Farhanul Rajin

# Ms. Parrish's Class

Mohamed Abrar **Ghazal Abazzed** Sam Al-Kablani Shima Almasmari Naima Mojammel Oliver Hopper Omar Mokrzan Khadeegah Mosleh

## Ms. Tucker's Class

Zainab Abdulla Laiba Ahmed Ayesha Alshaibah Ibtehal Balwi Noor Fadhel Kamirah Mims

## **SIXTH GRADE**

Ms. Rakowski's Class Sarah Aldahan Khadejah Alghim Salsabel Al-Gahim Ramsey Ali Khattab Alzaeem Ishika Chowdhury

Mrs. Motyl's Class

Sveda Tarannum

Reem Fadel Najib Al-Kablani Rafeq Al-Zamzami

### **SEVENTH GRADE** Mrs. Palimino's Class

Jamil Fadel

## **Dr. Girdwoods Class**

Ahmed Dhifullah

## Ms. Gray's Class

Walleed Abbas Hamdan Alagbari Ekhlas Balwi Rahmah Osmani Ella Thabet

## **EIGHTH GRADE**

Mrs. Fowke's Class

Adam Abdullah Hayat Alhalemi Nyasha Hurt Ne'Vaeh Ona

## Mrs. Patterson's Class

Mohammed Haidar Nayla Alhariri Manal Alriyashi Jana Rageh

# Ms. Miller's Class

Nadeen Algaadi Ahmed Alhaiga Ayah Allaw Jomana Alnamer Autumn Brown Rifat Chowdhury Mohammed Haidar Mohamed Hassan Malek Mehtar Ruqaya Qara Syeda Tabassum

Doaa Thabet



# Review: Opinion Page

# In Our Opinion

# **Welcome back Labor Day** Festival, so long Polish Parade

As you read in last City of Warren. week's issue of The Review, the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival is back in business this year.

After spending a year or so in a pandemic lockdown, that's music to our ears.

It will be exciting to once again see friends and neighbors for our end-of-the-sumyearly mer party.

The downside, though, is that the annual Polish Day Parade will not return this year, nor will it ever come back to Hamtramck. Parade organizers have decided to relocate the parade to the

That's been a move discussed and anticipated for years.

and did it.

The parade and festival served each other but not at it is usual well these many years at least 30 or more.

We get it that Ham-

tramck is no longer associated with being a predominantly Polish-American town. Well, the Labor Day

wish the parade folks See you festival week-

Festival will survive. We

end, which is Sept. 4-6.

Oh, by the way, there

will be one more party coming up in the next few weeks (and by few, we mean: these sum-Well, they finally gone mer weeks fly by).

> The Hamtramck Music Fest is also returning, time of the year.

> Instead of being held in March, the festival will be held during the first weekend in August at least for this year.

> From what we hear, there will be a variety of performances, both inside and outside.

Looks like a fun summer ahead.

# As always, campaign signs can

### **Continued from page 4**

about the matter:

"People call me doctor because I finished medical school in an American foreign medical school, and I'm still working on equivalency to obtain full certification. ...

"In the meantime, while I'm waiting for residency, I'm working on another route to obtain certification as a DNP Doctor Nurse Practitioner, which is done online these days, especially someone with strong medical background like me.

"That's why I did accelerated nursing degree to be the key for continuing the DNP route. I am working on both routes, and whichever comes first to obtain full certification, I'll use it for independent medical practice."

A question has also come up as to what happens when he is offered a residency, which could be anywhere, meaning that he might well have to move away.

Ghalib cleared that up as well.

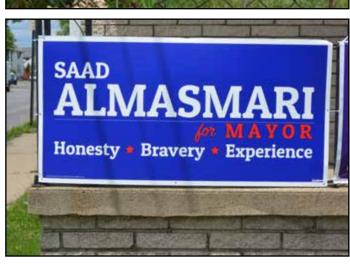
"I'll make sure that I only apply to nearby hospitals from now on. I'm adjusting many of my plans, including buying a new house; I was about to buy one in Dearborn Heights last year, but when I decided to run for mayor, I cancelled that plan."

Want to throw your hat in the ring for either posi-

To qualify as a write-in candidate, you have until July 23 to file a Declaration of Intent form.









# The Hamtramck Review Published every Friday

3020 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212 Phone: 313-874-2100 Fax: 313-874-2101 www.hamtramckreview.com · email news@thehamtramckreview.com

Publisher: John Ulaj · (248) 866-1110 · julaj@thehamtramckreview.com Editor: Charles Sercombe Office Manager: Jean Ingenthron Copy Editor: Alan Madlane Sales Manager: Dave Sweet

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

# Odds & Ends

On the trail... This morning, Friday (July 9), Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence held a news conference in Hamtramck to announce that \$4 million in federal funding is coming this way.

Well, sort of.

The money will be used to construct the Joe Louis Greenway, which will hook up to Hamtramck.

The funding comes from the "INVEST in America Act," the transportation and infrastructure bill the US House recently passed.

Congratulations... The Hamtramck Football Club celebrated its championship win last Saturday with a motorcade throughout town.

The team played in a series held in Atlanta.

Yay, Hamtramck!

Reminder... The Yemeni American Public Affairs Council will be hosting a candidate get-together on July 10, at 4 p.m., at the Golden Gates Hall at 3826 Holbrook Ave.

According to a promotion for the event, YAPAC said:

"We hope to have conversations with all of the candidates, to better understand their platforms and visions for Hamtramck. Therefore, we are inviting you all to meet with YAPAC leadership, to discuss your particular vision for Hamtramck."

Sale... The Hatch Art collective is hosting another book and music sale, this Saturday (July 10) from noon to 6 p.m.

From what we have heard, there is a really good selection. And get this: There are no prices on the items. Instead, you donate what you can.

The studio is located at 3456 Evaline St.

Breaking news... As we went to press Thursday, the Hamtramck Public School District announced that it will host a State of the District Address next Thursday, July 15, from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. on the district's Facebook page.

District officials will talk about expectations for HPS's 2021-22 school

Topics include safety, school curriculum, staff and family support, and budgeting. Six HPS depart-

ment heads will discuss their specific focus areas.

· Jaleelah Ahmed, Superintendent of Schools where are we now, where do we want to be and how will we get there?

 Michelle Imbrunone, Executive Director of Human Resources - setting high expectations

· Sherry Lynem, Director of Finance – Fiscally sound reports

 Rebekah Brewer, Executive Director of Student Achievement - Catering to our stakeholders

· Nabil Nagi, English Language Development Director - serving students, families and the commu-

· Menhem Aouad, Director of Student Services exceptional services for all learners



Above and below: A motorcade was held last Saturday in celebration of the Hamtramck Football Club's recent championship victory.



Cont. from front page

ings" for a squad mem-

The outdoor film area is bigger, the press release says, and now also features a correspondingly larger screen, new seating, and a fire pit.

Self-defined as a "Detroit-bred, cinematic craft cocktail experience," the

venue now seeks to serve a secondary purpose as a sort of hub for the local cinephile community.

To that end, they will be having "filmmaker happy hours" every night from 6-8 p.m. (note that they're only open Thursdays through Sundays), writing workshops that include silent time for film and other writers, an open projector night where you can screen your short film that you made, and more.

We suggest you go, assuming that you love film, and hobnob with these owner Lara Sfire and the other friendly and film-savvy persons you are sure to bump into. Have a cocktail, talk some shop, stay for an indie film.

Now that's what we call

a mise-en-scene. The Film Lab is located at 3105 Holbrook Ave., east of McDougall. Their website is: thefilmlab.org.

# — PUBLIC NOTICE —

Please note that the Hamtramck Health Center on

9021 Joseph Campau is providing the FREE Covid 19 vaccination services for those 65+.

Exceptions can be made if under 65, but you need to call first.

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# **Coming Events**

SATURDAY, July 10, 2-4 p.m. - Take-out Only Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. Everyone is welcome.

MONDAY, July 26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. - American Red Cross will host a blood donation drive at the Hamtramck High School Community Center (11350 Charest St.). Those who donate will receive a complimentary Doner sandwich from The Balkan House. Register for your appointment online, www. redcrossblood.org (sponsor code: hamtramckhrc), or call 1-800-733-2767.

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# A talk with 'Hamtramck, USA' documentary makers continued from front page

introduced me to many community leaders. We got along really well, and formed a great working

relationship.

It didn't take long before we started talking about making our own film.

Review: The What made you decide to put together this film about Hamtramck?

Razi Jafri: Election night, 2016. Justin and I watched at the Arab American National Museum as the results came in.

It kind of left us all with the thought, "What do we do now?" We threw around a few ideas, but as soon as we discussed making a documentary about Hamtramck, following an election after a national one so filled with Islamophobia and xenophobia - the discussion ended, and the work be-

The Review: How many hours of footage did you first end up with? Also it sounds like the editing process was difficult? Was it just the sheer amount of footage that you had to go through?

RJ and JF: I couldn't tell you an exact figure, hours-wise, but we've got almost seven terabytes worth of footage. Hamtramck is just such an easy city to shoot; there's always so much going on, and we wanted to shoot

It was a tough process going through all of our footage, and creating a coherent narrative, while still including so much about the vibrant celebrations and daily life that draw so many to this city.

couldn't have brought it all together if it wasn't for our editor Luther Clement-Lam. and

Phone (313) 874-2100

The Review: It appears that some of the more controversial bits were eventually left out during the editing process, for

its way onto WORLD channel (formerly PBS WORLD)?

RJ and JF: We conducted a few test screenings and work-in-progress screenings once the edit

started coming togeth-

er. We were fortunate

enough to be able to con-

duct one in Brooklyn with

American Documentary,

the organization that pro-

duces POV and America

We always knew we

wanted to end up on pub-

lic television, so once the

film was completed, we

reconnected with them

and were able to submit

it for their consideration,

and they decided that

America Reframed on

WORLD Channel would be

the perfect fit for the film.

The Review: How has

the film been received

overall? What else is

happening with it at this

RJ and JF: It's been

a hectic process, going

from SXSW's cancellation

last March to ending up

with a national broadcast

this year, but it's been a

The reception has been

quite warm. We have got-

ten strong reviews, and

have conducted a series

country and have plenty more upcoming. Beyond

great experience.

point?

Reframed.

the national broadcast with WORLD Channel, we are also going to be released digitally with Grasshopper Film later this year.

The Review: Any plans for a follow-up, or if not, will you work together again on another project of a different type?

RJ and JF: We aren't planning any sequels for Hamtramck with this mayoral election. Content to watch this one from afar, but we are definitely fascinated to see how it goes.

We do have a grant Doha Debates which helped us create an educational curriculum around the film and epilogues, following up with our main candidates, which we will be releasing

The Review: Add anything else that you'd like

RJ and JF: Just wanted to say "Thank you, Hamtramck!'

to add?

Throughout the production, Hamtramckans were generous with their time, and opened their lives, businesses, and homes to us.

We also had many collaborators from Hamtramck, including Petter Dahlgren, one of our camera operators; and our very talented composer Colleen Burke, who wrote and produced the score for the film.

We couldn't have imagined a more generous community as we made our first film. We hope we have made this city proud!

"Hamtramck, USA" by Razi Jafri and Justin Feltman is available to stream of educational impact for free at worldchannel. screenings around the org and on the PBS app.



example, some of the more intense city council parts where there was loud arguing.

Has anyone accused you of "white-washing" the film in order to make Hamtramck seem more idyllic, or "less scary," or what-not?

RJ and JF: We talk a lot about how we have footage for about 15 short films, beyond the one that (has been) released.

There are so many stories you can tell about this city, but we focused on the election itself more than city hall.

We found the campaigning, going door to door, connecting with residents on a person-to-person basis really special. You can't win without connecting with every community in this city.

We believe it's important to see a place like Hamtramck – and those hoping to represent its many communities - on screen, working together, and exploring what a representative democracy

The Review: How did our entire post-production the film come to find

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11693 Gallagher, single family house, living, dining, kitchen, bath on first floor, 3 BRs w/balconies on second floor, full basement with 2nd bath, garage, driveway, privacy, in a safe and clean neighborhood, 313-674-0303. 6/25

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# **By Charles Sercombe**

This week's Crime Log covers June 29-July 5.

### Tuesday, June 29

- · An incident of fraud was reported in the 12000 block of Conant Ave.
- Norwalk St. resident reported that they were receiving harassing communications.
- · A resident was arrested for being disorderly.

### Wednesday, June 30

- A Selfridge St. resident reported being assaulted.
- A hit-and-run accident occurred at Holbrook and Lumpkin.

### Thursday, July 1

No incident report was available for this date.

### Friday, July 2

- At a little after 1 a.m., a Fleming St. resident reported an attempted break-in by a person they know.
- At about 1:20 a.m., a Grand Haven resident reported that a juvenile was missing. The juvenile later returned home.
- · At 1:30 a.m., a Botsford St. resident was ticketed for being disorderly.
  - A resident reported

an incident of malicious destruction of property.

- A resident said that their car was stolen as they attempted to sell it while at Jos. Campau and Hewitt.
- A resident reported an assault that took place in the 3200 block of Belmont St.
- · A resident was arrested in the 2600 block of Pulaski St. for assault.

### Saturday, July 3

- · A Poland St. resident reported a theft, as well as property damage.
- A Nagel St. resident reported a domestic assault that took place in the area of Lumpkin and Caniff.
- Officers responded to a call about gunshots in the area of Conant and Evaline. Two people were found to be injured.
- Officers responded to a complaint about someone's pet on Botsford St.
- Officers responded to a call about a lost child. Shortly after officers arrived on the scene, in the 2700 block of Caniff Ave., the child was returned to his parents.
- A Klinger St. resident reported an assault.
- A hit-and-run accident occurred at Edwin and Lumpkin.

**Continued on page 8** 







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Sunday, July 4 · A Norwalk St. resident was arrested for do-

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# CRIME LOG rituaries

Continued from page 7

The owner of a rental

property on Dorothy St.

reported that someone

· A resident of Wyan-

dotte reported that their

children were assaulted

while in Veterans Memo-

· A Mitchell St. resi-

· A stray dog was recovered in the area of Goodson and Jos. Campau. The dog was taken

dent reported a suspi-

to Westland Humane So-

 At about 10 p.m., two people were arrested in the area of Jos. Campau and Holbrook for possessing a replica firearm and for being disorderly. · At 10:40 p.m., a pedestrian was struck by a car at Jos. Campau near Hewitt. The driver of the

mestic assault.

damaged it.

rial Park.

cious situation.

car sped off.

St.

Conant.

Monday, July 5

· Officers took a report of a suspicious situation

that happened in the

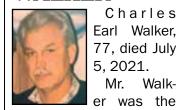
12000 block of Mitchell

· A resident of Milan reported that their car

was stolen while parked in the area of Evaline and

# WALKER

Phone (313) 874-2100



Charles Earl Walker, 77, died July 5, 2021. Mr. Walk-

father of Craig, Charles, Tracey, James, Kimberly, Laura, Erica, and Jeanne; brother of Joe (Fey), Gail Wierszewski, and the late Harry (Carolyn). Charles was predeceased by his longtime partner Judy Hayes. He is also sur-

vived by twelve grandchil-

dren and many nieces and nephews.

Charles was honorably discharged from the United States Air Force and served during the Vietnam War.

Visitation was Thursday July 8, 2021 at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, 2396 Caniff, Hamtramck MI 48212. Graveside Service and Military Honors are Friday July 9, 2021, at 10 a.m., at Cadillac Memorial Gardens East, 38425 Garfield, Clinton Township, MI 48038.





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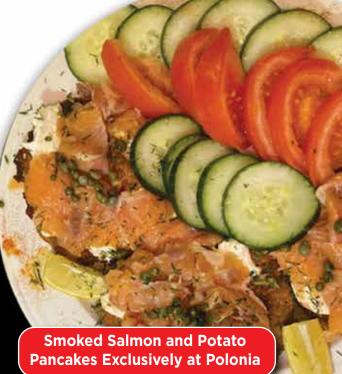


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