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Quick Hits

A fun week ahead for families

By Charles Sercombe

There are two family-oriented events coming up next week.

First up is a "Family Fun Fair" being hosted by the Hamtramck Public School District next Tuesday, Aug. 17, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hamtramck High School Community Center (11350 Charest St.).

This promises to be a fun way for students and their families to meet district teachers and staff, and receive free school supplies – including backpacks.

Also on hand will be free henna face painting, balloon animals and a visit by "Jazzy the Clown."

And then Wednesday, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Zussman Park, it's the annual Safety Night.

You can see police and fire trucks on display, and participate in games and activities.

Who knows, there might even be a tug-of-war between firefighters and officers.

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Students will return to school this fall – but with conditions

By Charles Sercombe

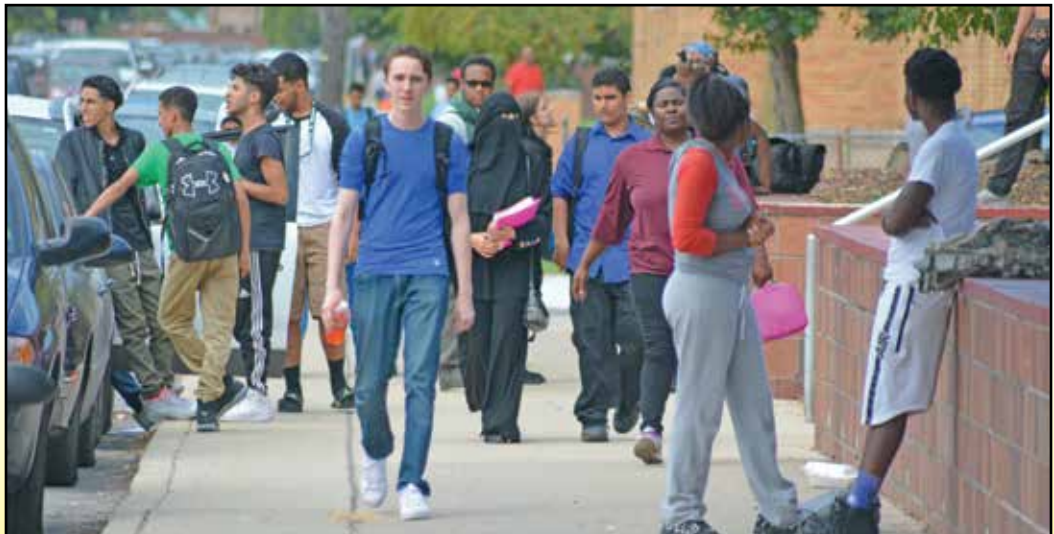
Mask up, students.

That's the word from the Hamtramck Public School District about what to expect with the return of in-classroom learning.

All students and staff will be required to wear masks while inside school buildings.

In a letter to HPS families, posted on the Facebook page "Jaleelah Ahmed, Superintendent of Hamtramck Public Schools," the conditions for the return to schools were outlined.

For those parents who wish to continue having their children learn remotely via virtual lessons, the district is requiring you to sign up – and make a commitment.



Hamtramck Public School District students will be returning to in-person classroom learning this year. The district is taking several safety measures to protect students and staff from being infected by Covid. File photo

"We're all about choice," said Superintendent Jaleelah Ahmed at Wednesday's school board meeting.

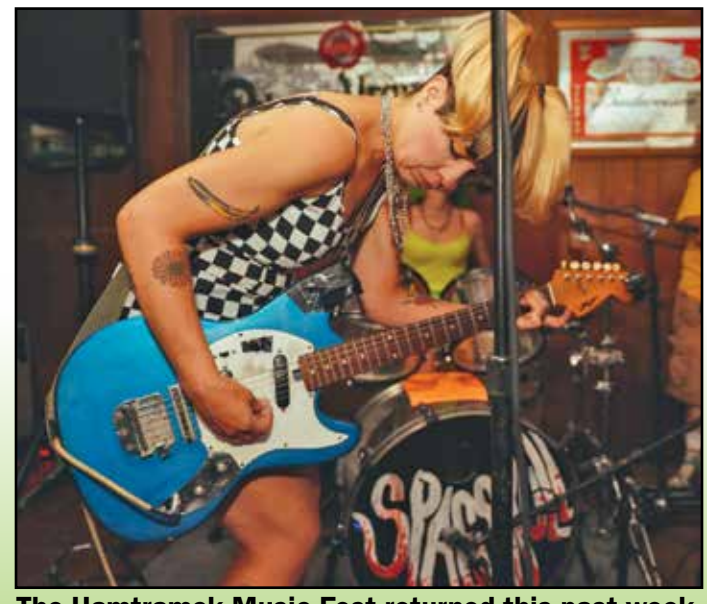
The HPS school year resumes Sept. 7, and enrollment is going on now.

In addition to wearing masks, social distancing will be enforced, and students will have assigned seats in each class.

While vaccinations are not being required for those eligible to receive one, the district is encouraging students and staff to get them.

Students 12 years and

Continued on page 2



The Hamtramck Music Fest returned this past weekend after taking a year off due to the pandemic. Photo by Brian Rozman.

Music festival makes a big comeback after a year off

By Charles Sercombe

The sound of music could once again be heard in the streets of Hamtramck this past weekend.

After taking a year off because of the Covid pandemic, the Hamtramck Music Fest made its return. The festival is usually held in March, but the pandemic prevented that from happening once again this year, as with last year.

With more events now being allowed, and more public gatherings too, organizers decided to shoot for a summer version of the festival.

Although there were fewer venues to host the annual event this year, there

Continued on page 2

Mayor is in for a challenge

By Charles Sercombe

Could Hamtramck have a new mayor?

Mayor Karen Majewski has faced tough challenges in the past, but her second place finish in the recent primary election might prove to be one hurdle too many.

The top vote-getter in the mayoral primary election, which featured two others as well, was Amer Ghalib.

Ghalib has never run for elected office in Hamtramck, and he won 1,417 votes to Majewski's 1,053 – a whopping margin of 364 votes.

The mayor last came in second place during a primary in 2013, when Abdul Algazali, who died in 2015, beat her 731-670 – a margin of 31 votes.

Majewski closed that gap in the November General Election of 2013, and ended up beating Algazali by 98 votes.

So, now the question for Majewski is: Can she once again make up for her latest primary setback?

It seems nearly impossible, but the mayor is confident she can.

"I'm confident that we can make up the deficit and win the general," Majewski told The Review.

Ghalib was more talkative when he was asked whether he was surprised,

Continued on page 4



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Music festival makes a big comeback after a year off

Continued from front page



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More scenes from this past weekend's Hamtramck Music Fest. Upper left and upper right photos by Brian Rozman. Photo below by Tim Meeks.

were enough to accommodate well over 100 bands and performers. A couple of locations even hosted outdoors performances. And, as usual, it was nice to see people walking the streets during the weekend – it made Hamtramck look like a bustling city. As for this coming March

(2002), one of the event's co-organizers, Eugene Strobe, told The Review that there are tentative plans to return the festival to its traditional slot in the calendar year. “We are looking forward to having future festivals in March, as well as special editions, when need be,” Strobe said. And as usual, there were some snags, Strobe said, but nothing worth noting. “Every event always has hiccups and bumps, but everyone came together to make this year work,” he said. “Hats off to the tech crews, volunteers, performers, and patrons of the arts.”

Proceeds from the event will go toward the Hamtramck Public School District, which usually equates to a donation of instruments and art supplies worth a total of \$10,000. Next up: another weekend of music during the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival, which runs from Sept. 4-6. Keep your dancing shoes ready for another music blast.

Students will return to school this fall – but with conditions

Continued from front page

up are eligible for a vaccination, and there may be vaccinations for those younger in the near future. The normal school immunizations are still required for those enrolling, unless parents have a waiver. Schools will continue to be cleaned and disinfected daily, and students and staff will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently during the day. Bus transportation will still be offered, and students will have assigned seating there as well. Buses, just like the school buildings, will be cleaned and sanitized each day. Masks must also be worn on buses. School food service will continue, but it will be up to each school to come up with their own schedules. For those who do not feel well during the school year, they are encouraged to stay home, and get tested for COVID-19 if those symptoms are present. As for athletics, those programs will continue. The district will follow safety guidelines for sports participants. While the Hamtramck Public School District is mandating masks, a number of other districts in the state (and in other states) are still debating whether to require them. In some districts, there have been pushbacks from parents, to the point where board meetings have turned into angry confrontations. In Hamtramck, where board meetings are still held via zoom only, there have been no objections raised – at least, not as of yet. Superintendent Ahmed commented on this controversy at Wednesday's school board meeting, saying masking has “come to the point of being politicized.”

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Rock & Roll Animals Concert: Wednesday, August 18th, kids can join us virtually for a Rock & Roll Animals Concert. Show begins at 2 pm on ZOOM. Please visit www.hamtramck.lib.mi.us and click the Programs tab for the link to this event.

Prize Raffle: For all the young library patrons who took part in our Summer Reading Program, you have got something to look forward to. After tons of reading & ticket collecting, get ready for the Prize Raffle. Stop by Friday, August 27th, for the drawing which is set to start at 3 pm. If you are unable to attend, do not worry. Come visit us at your convenience. There might just be something waiting for you.

Language Learning Platform: We would like to remind patrons that they can now take advantage of the language learning platform Transparent Language as members of our library. With over a hundred language options available and the ability to tailor the learning experience to an individual's specific goals, satisfy your curiosity by visiting transparent.com & check out what is on offer. Login is easy,

pick our library from the list provided and input your library card number.

Vidiadhar Surajprasad Nalpaal: August 17th is the Nobel Prize winning British author, Vidiadhar Surajprasad Nalpaal birthday. His family came from India in the late 1800's to escape famine back home. In his teens he won a government scholarship to study abroad at Oxford. His writings grew out from the world as he experience it, returning to motherland, the struggles of a newly organized people to find their place on the world stage.

New Videos: The library website had added a number of new video from library and city programs. Go to our website click media, videos to view them.

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@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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Second Front Page

Mayor: even the vaccinated should continue to mask up

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck's number of new Covid-19 cases per week is remaining stubbornly higher compared to what looked like a promising turnaround a couple of months ago.

Last week, according to Wayne County health officials, Hamtramck recorded 25 news cases – up two from the week before that.

That came from a report by Mayor Karen Majewski, during her weekly Covid update via the city's Facebook page and Majewski's as well.

It was just several weeks ago that Hamtramck began to see a hope-filled decline in the number of new cases per week – at one time just six were reported.

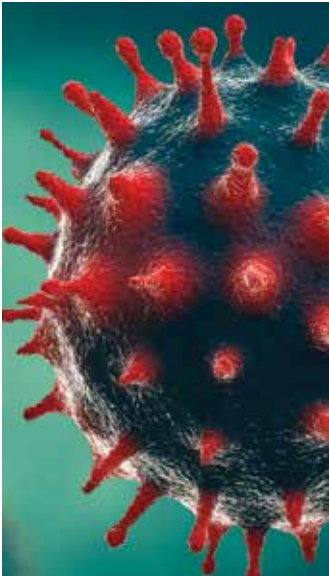
But with two new Covid strains now spreading throughout the country, the number of persons testing positive for Covid has spiked up again – especially among the unvaccinated.

Majewski said health officials said only 1 percent of those vaccinated are getting infected with the new strains.

And those that do get infected most often experience very mild symptoms.

The new strains are also spreading to children. However, as of now, only those who are 12 and older are eligible for vaccinations.

Educators nationwide are worried about what will happen when in-person classroom teaching



resumes in a couple of weeks.

Hamtramck Public Schools is requiring students to wear masks while in school.

So, back to Hamtramck. The total number of Covid-19 cases for the past year-and-a-half now numbers 2,796, with a total of 54 deaths. Keep in mind, that total represents about 10 percent of the city's population – which is a mind-boggling high percentage.

And with that in mind, Wayne County is sending out people to go door-to-door to urge residents to get vaccinated – if they haven't already.

The mayor ran down a number of resources for those impacted by the pandemic, as she has done for over a year now.

You can find out more about those various resources by going to the city's Facebook page or website.

But for those who wish to get a vaccine, you can look no further than locally at:

- Wayne County Health Department, 9021 Jos. Campau
- FRD Sav-Mor Pharmacy, 9811 Conant
- CVS Pharmacy, Jos. Campau and Holbrook
- Health First Medical Center, 9324 Conant, Suite A

Want to really play it safe, vaccinated or not?

Majewski recommends, and so does the CDC, masking up while in enclosed public spaces – such as stores.

As Majewski has also done in recent weeks, she again recapped the resources available for those who experienced damage from the June flood.

The June flood is the only flood, out of the three Hamtramck underwent this summer, that is being considered for compensation by FEMA.

You can get FEMA money for damage to your appliances and the structure of your house. But, the mayor warned, FEMA is being very picky, and has rejected a number of local claims.

To submit a form, go online at: www.fema.gov/disaster/4607

Or, you can call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362).

If you are denied, you can submit an appeal, up to Sept. 13.

If you strike out there, Gov. Whitmer has recently allotted \$10 million for those in Wayne County who were rejected by FEMA to apply for state financial relief.

So how do you tap into this fund? Well, it's kind of fuzzy now, and Majewski said she didn't have further information, but media reports say it will be up to each affected community to decide how to spread out the money.

If it sounds complicated, it's called "government as usual."

If you need other resources, call 211 to find out which other agencies are available for flood-related assistance programs.

School bells are about to ring again.

To help families prepare for school, Majewski said that Holy Cross Parish is holding a school supply drive.

The parish is looking for donations of backpacks, pens, pencils and so on. To donate, call (313) 365-5191.

Majewski's parting words were words of optimism – despite the growing number of Covid cases being reported. Well, sort of:

"Hopefully, we'll have some lower numbers next week."



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School Bell

From the Superintendent

HPS Superintenant Ja-leelah Ahmed recently addressed students and families on her Facebook page about this past summer and the upcoming new school year.

Here is what she had to say:

We are excited about the productive summer learning experiences throughout the district. It is amazing to see students outdoors participating in activities centered around science, history, math, music, art, literacy while they are having fun in creative play.

Some students participated in Drama Camp, Accelerated Learning, Parent University Kid Camp, Stem Camp while other students worked hard in credit recovery programs. Overall, we had a third of our student population engaged in some type of summer learning.

We are looking forward to seeing our scholars in school on Tuesday, September 7, 2021. I commend the students and parents who are engaging in the summer learning programs. I also appreciate the faculty and staff who have supported the various programs in the district.

These experiences will support our scholars transition much more smoothly into the academic year.

As we plan for the 2021-22 school year, we are ready to open our doors and welcome our scholars. We are still in a pandemic, so we will continue to follow the CDC and MDHHS guidelines.

Currently, the CDC guidelines recommend that masks are worn indoors regardless of vaccination. We will have in-person teaching and learning and continue with the extra-curricular activities based on the current safety and

health guidelines.

As you know, change may occur depending on the spread of the virus and the recommendations from public health officials.

Finally, based on the results of a preference survey to families, in addition to offering an in-person learning option this school year, a Virtual Learning Institute will also be available to those families interested in continuing with online learning. We want to offer choice to our families. The Virtual Learning Institute will require a commitment if you decide that you want this option.

If you are interested in this option, please complete the form by August 20.

As always thank you for entrusting the education of your scholars to Hamtramck Public Schools. Feel free to reach out to your child's building principal if you have any questions or concerns.



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Many of these plans are available online at [treasurer.waynecounty.com!](https://treasurer.waynecounty.com)

The final date to enter into a payment plan will be **March 14, 2022**, and the last day to pay your forfeited taxes will be **March 31, 2022**.

For more information email WCTOPaymentPlans@waynecounty.com or call (313) 224-5990.

Mayor is in for a challenge

Continued from front page

as a newcomer to local politics, about his victory. “This victory was expected. It’s not a coincidence, it’s the fruit of many years of serving the community and building good relationships with Hamtramck residents,” Ghalib told The Review.

“The real victory to us is the amount of love and support that we felt and received from people. With no prior campaigning experience, my team and I worked hard, and we learned a lot throughout the past few months. Our momentum is high, and we are very optimistic about the November election.”

The city council had an equally surprising result. Another newcomer to Hamtramck politics is Khalil Refai, who finished first with 19 percent of the vote, and who came out on top of the list of eight candidates.

Refai, who is a Yemeni-American, credited the Hamtramck Yemeni community for his win.

“My sincere thanks and gratitude to the people of the Yemeni-American community in Hamtramck, who honored me with this support and victory. You have my sincere support, appreciation and respect, and I hope to continue supporting and supporting the final elections, and I promise that I will do my best to serve the residents of the city in general ...,” Refai said on his campaign Facebook page.



For those living across from the polling stations inside the Community Center, election day is chance to hang out for the day, share tea and enjoy watching campaign workers.

The Yemeni community appears to have become Hamtramck’s most powerful voting bloc.

Ghalib is also a Yemeni-American.

We will have more on the council race next week.

Here are some other observations about last Tuesday’s election:

August primaries are always a little melancholy for us. It’s the waning days of summer, and the living is easy (as the old Gershwin tune goes). It is a painful reminder that, come the November General Election, it’s going to be cold again.

Another long winter is about to descend.

Summers are too short in Michigan, and winters are too long and gray.

OK, enough of that.

We did not see one Majewski campaign worker at some of the polling locations. One showed up at the community center at 6:20 p.m. and her husband was out earlier.

But not all candidates had workers out there either.

Seems to us, if memory serves correctly, that the mayor lays back on primaries and comes out full force for the general election.

One thing though, there was much talk of whether she would survive this round. Majewski has been in office for 16 years and, if re-elected, she would become Hamtramck’s longest serving mayor.

There’s an old adage in politics: The longer you serve, you make more enemies than friends.

Shahab Ahmed, former councilmember and the first Bangladeshi-American to serve on Hamtramck’s city council, was observing the election.

Since he left local politics, he has been little-seen in the community.

Armani Asad, like other candidates, was too cautious to predict an outcome. He noted a common woe among candidates: people will say they support you to your face, but what they do in the privacy of the voting booth is often a different matter.

As it turned out, his second attempt to win a seat on council failed: he came in last in a field of eight candidates.

As usual, it was a heavy turnout in the morning, at

lunch and around dinner time, starting at 5 p.m.

But there were no long lines or long waiting periods for voters.

This year was unlike two years ago for the presidential election: gone was the steady stream of voters you could see all day long. But then again, that was a hotly contested presidential election – and an election that the nation is still arguing over.

Across from the community center, two houses were hosting porch parties, one for Abu Musa and another for Muhith Mahmood. There was a mutual serving of tea, which was reflective of the laid back, and congenial, atmosphere of most primary elections in Hamtramck.

There were the typical few instances of overzealous candidates and their supporters being told to stop their aggressive campaigning at the precincts, but nothing out of the ordinary.

This was City Clerk Rana Faraj’s first-ever election to oversee. As you would expect, she was a bit frazzled, but held it together.

Unlike her predecessor, August Gitschlag, she is not the boisterous type, whereas Gitschlag did not hold back from telling candidates to back off.

When we visited city hall, residents were registering to vote, which Michigan election allows. It was inspiring to see people go out of their way to participate in their civic duty – even if it’s the last chance to do so on an election day.

Hamtramck elections are always amazing, in the sense that they give you a view of the wide spectrum of ethnicities who live here.

Weird, though, how the camaraderie among candidates on election days changes so drastically once they make it to council. The meetings can often turn divisive, not too long after the election victory buzz wears off.

If only one could bottle that election day spirit, and then pop it open when things go sideways at council meetings.

As Rodney King famously said: “Can we, can we get along?”

See you in November.

Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Primary election had Its good and ugly sides

A congratulations goes out to all the candidates who participated in last week's primary election. It is heartening to see a whole new crop of candidates come forward and offer to serve the community. For those who made the final cut for the November election, by now we're sure you realize what a daunting job ahead as an elected official. But one disappointing thing stood out in this past election: The number of vicious attacks heaped on Mayor Karen Majewski. It was over the top and, at the heart of it, dishonest. Campaigning for a change in leadership is one thing, but misrepresenting the mayor's position on issues or making things up is hitting below the belt. However, as we have said before, Hamtramck politics can be rough and tumble at times. It's unfortunate that some folks go down into the gutter, but that's, all-too-often, to be expected. Mayor Majewski has served the city for 16 years, and we understand that after that, length of time, people get restless for change. But know this: The mayor's position, per the city charter, is largely ceremonial. The day-to-day operations of the city rest with the city manager. Hamtramck has a boatload of problems and challenges, but very little

money that is needed to fix them. Anyone who says that all of it can be easily resolved is either an outright liar, or delusional. Some even say that we should bring back a state-appointed emergency manager, because always, when they left, it was with a budget surplus. Guess what? They got that surplus thanks to emergency loans by the state – loans the city begged for, before the state intervened. Funny how that works, eh? The point of all this is: watch out for folks who say a change in leadership will fix all our problems. Hogwash.



City Hall Insider ...

*What is our City Council up to these days?
We have the highlights of the latest council meeting.*

By Charles Sercombe

The city council met on June 22, and all councilmembers, except for Mohammed Hassan, were present. The Hamtramck Historical Museum noted that next year marks the city's 100th anniversary of becoming a city. The museum has a number of projects planned for the event, such as:

- The rededication of the grave of Col. John Francis Hamtramck at Veterans Memorial Park. This will include the unveiling of the new markers from the Daughters of the American Revolution and Sons of the American Revolution on Memorial Day.
- An exhibit of "100

Years of Hamtramck" at the Hamtramck Historical Museum. This will feature 100 items directly tied to a specific year.

- A "Hungry for History" dinner and PowerPoint presentation on the history of Hamtramck.
- An essay/video contest on "What Does Hamtramck Mean to Me" at the elementary, middle and high school levels of the Hamtramck Public Schools and charter schools in the city.
- An exhibit on "Hamtramck Memories." Residents and former residents are being asked to write down their favorite memories of Hamtramck. These will be displayed (with photos) in the museum.
- A scavenger hunt con-

ducted throughout the community. Historical elements will be featured. During public comment, Konrad Maziarz, of the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival, said that the festival will return this year. It was canceled last year, due to the Covid pandemic. He said organizers are still planning for the event, and that volunteers are always needed. Mayor Karen Majewski noted that the festival is not run by the city, and is an all-volunteer effort. Mark Koroi, an attorney, encouraged the city to not fight a pending lawsuit regarding the city's translations of election ballots. Instead, he encouraged "dialogue."

Continued on page 6

— 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.

All must call 313-871-1926 to make an appointment.

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Odds & Ends

Parking meters... That moment we have all been dreading is here. Yes, the city's new parking meter system became effective yesterday, Thursday (Aug. 11). But don't panic if you're not ready to pay to park – after enjoying years of broken meters and not paying. For the next month, those who don't feed the meters will get off with warning notices. You are encouraged, in the meantime, to get used to paying – meaning, to start paying now. The cost and hours for parking on Jos. Campau and in the city's parking lots might come as a shock. It will be \$1 per hour, and you cannot park longer than three hours in one spot. Enforcement is Monday through Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. However, signage went up this week saying that enforcement is seven days a week. That is a mistake and the signs will be corrected, said Max Garbarino, the city's Director of Community Safety and Services. You will be required to punch in your license plate number at the meters, so be prepared. We will have more information coming from the city in the next few weeks.

Helping hand... Still drowning in debt or bills from the late June floods? Well, now the federal Small Business Administration (SBA) is stepping in where FEMA and the state have frequently been refusing to go. The agency is encouraging applicants to try to help themselves with available SBA aid. And not just small businesses. You could be excused, in fact, if you thought the agency was only set up to help those entities that it's named for. But: "Businesses of all sizes, private nonprofit organizations, homeowners and renters that are eligible for an SBA disaster loan and do not apply before the deadline may be leaving disaster funds on the table," said the SBA in a press release. Note also the oh-so-important word "loan." These are not FEMA funds or state monies that won't need to be repaid. Nor did the press release illuminate the specific terms of these loans: repayment schedules; interest charged and compounded, if any or at all;

and so forth. They do stress that applicants may be eligible for loan increases of up to 20 percent greater than the cost of their physical property damages to cover mitigation costs that might help them avoid future repeats of the damages. These might include grading and runoff improvements; the elevating of mechanicals such as furnaces or water heaters, or utility-related items like fuse boxes; or the installing of such flood prevention system elements as flood vents, alert systems, sump pumps, French drains or retaining walls. The disaster relief covers Washtenaw and Wayne Counties for both physical property damages and economic injury (lost business, for example?), but it is also partially offered to small business or nonprofit owners from the counties of Oakland, Macomb, Livingston, Monroe, Jackson and Lenawee, who can also put in for SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans as well. The press release cites, as examples of things possibly not covered by FEMA or private insurance, as "landscaping, decks, fencing, sheds, garages, walkways and driveways." As of last week, the SBA has already approved 284 such loans totaling over \$8.6 million dollars. If you're still struggling to revitalize or improve your business or property, these loans might be just the ticket.

Another day, another dollar... This time, it's the Michigan Department of Treasury stepping up to hand down some cash to Hamtramck. The Treasury announced that \$2.7 million is being awarded to 16 municipalities through its Financially Distressed Cities, Villages and Townships (FDCVT) Grant Program. The awards vary, from as little as \$18,075 to Melvindale this year, up to \$300,000 to Benton Harbor. No one city can receive more than \$2 million; in fact, this year's whole budget was only \$2.5 million. Hamtramck's award falls near the middle, at \$111,146. It is specifically for "Public safety enhancement, through purchase of police body cameras." Only Flint and Muskegon Heights received money similarly set aside for that specific reason.

Benched... Hamtramck officially got a double dose of some good news recently when the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Michigan office blasted out this news: The city's getting a little bit of money from the organization. Hamtramck will be the beneficiary of two of the four grants awarded this year by the organization, through the AARP's Community Challenge program. The city's own grant, for \$15,500, is specifically earmarked for the installation of 11 benches throughout the city, tied mainly to the SMART bus routes; and for outreach to the multi-lingual community. "The focus of this grant is on transportation, and making information possible," Mayor Karen Majewski was quoted in the AARP press release. "It's always a challenge to make sure we reach out to folks who don't speak English," she added. The benches will be placed outside both of the city's public housing spots (Colonel Hamtramck Housing, aka the Hamtramck Housing project; and the Senior Plaza); outside some of what are considered "key commercial destinations," such as grocery stores and pharmacies; and near some of the city's public spaces (Veterans Park was one such space mentioned). A second, smaller grant, for \$7,000, went to Eastern Michigan University, to modify a two-block stretch of Hamtramck's downtown alleys as a safe pathway for pedestrians, that can also double as a gathering area. All projects granted monies are expected to complete them by Nov. 21.

More flooding help... Financial help has finally arrived, after the nasty flooding of this past late June. The main question is – can you get your hands on some of it before the pool runs dry, so to speak? Gov. Whitmer's office recently issued a press release, detailing a plan to use \$10 million from the state's general fund "to provide emergency relief to households impacted by heavy rainfall and flooding on June 25 and 26." The funds will be distributed among the city of Detroit, Wayne County, and Washtenaw County so that they can set up gap

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Head on Downriver for a tribute to a Michigan custom car legend

By “Sailor” Rick Metcalf
Special to The Review

Have you ever marveled at those crazy chrome and wild-colored custom car creations at an Autorama?

How about built a plastic model kit or raced a Hot Wheels miniature version of one?

Chances are, you may have admired, assembled or even stepped on (ouch), a creation by Michigan native Chuck Miller, who will be celebrated at the Lincoln Park Historical Museum in an upcoming exhibit entitled “A Tribute to Styleline Customs-Mobile Masterpieces by Chuck Miller” Aug. 14 through Sept. 18.



Custom car designer Chuck Miller poses next to his famous “Red Baron” creation. His work will be on display this Saturday at the Lincoln Park Historical Museum. Photo by Doug Coombe

(For curious Hamtramck-ans, the Lincoln Park Historical Museum is a mere 20 minute drive south of here.)

Of the dozens of Mill-

er’s creations, his most famous is “The Red Baron,” a custom (and drivable) show car, themed on a World War One German fighter plane, and the fa-

mous foe of Snoopy. It’s been winning award after award on the custom show circuit since 1969.

The “Red Baron” will be at the opening reception for the exhibit alongside a pair of “Zingers,” the “Super Vette” and the “Super Van.”

Like the “Red Baron,” the “Zingers” were initially model cars (by Monogram and Michigan’s MPC, respectively).

Miller’s “Zingers” had fiberglass bodies at 1:43 scale, with full-sized chrome-plated, super-charged and fuel-injected engines stuffed into the vehicles sitting on oversized shiny wheels and

wide tires to complete the cartoon come to life look.

Miller, 79, is a Lincoln Park native (Class of ‘61) spending most of his life Downriver, when at the age of 20, he took over a River Rouge bump shop (as auto body repair shops were called then), renaming it “Styleline Customs” and, after returning from a stint

with the Army reserves, hasn’t looked back since.

Along with the “Red Baron” and “Zingers,” he created the “Sonic ‘Cuda,” the “Fire Truck,” “the Woodburner” and the “Crater Raider,” gracing the custom car show floors throughout the 60’s and 70’s.

Continued on page 8





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City Hall Insider ...

Continued from page 5

Bill Meyer said the city should be transparent on how much money is paid out in lawsuits filed against it.

Moving on, the council took a first step in allowing the owner of a residential dwelling on Holbrook to have it rezoned as mixed-use commercial.

The dwelling is already operating as a business.

Next up was a proposal to adjust the city’s budget. In a note to the council from City Manager Kathy Angerer, she said:

“City Council has adopted and amended a bud-

get for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. The city began operating under that budget on July 1, 2020.

“The budget is a tool used to monitor and control expenditures in accordance with the approval of city council. The budget is used by city administration in daily management and decision-making.

“In an effort to maintain a budget that reflects actual spending and revenue, it is necessary for city council to make periodic adjustments to the budget to reflect changes in the needs of the city. The budget is continually

Odds & Ends

Continued from page 5

grants to cover what FEMA and/or the federal Small Business Administration will not.

“Recognizing the hardships the flooding has placed on individuals and families that sustained damage to their homes and loss of personal property, we are working with Wayne and Washtenaw counties and the City of Detroit to ensure this

funding is available to help residents as they recover from this disaster,” said Gov. Whitmer.

The largesse is actually just a portion of a bigger “supplemental funding bill” that had been signed by the governor three days earlier, on June 26 – the second day of the rainfall and floods.

Gov. Whitmer had initially deemed only Wayne

monitored by city administration.”

The council approved the adjustment.

In her report, Mayor Majewski warned residents of the surging Delta variance of COVID-19 circulating.

She urged residents to accept the choices of those who cho to wear masks out in public.

“Be respectful of each other,” she said.

Mayor Pro Tem Fadel Al-Marsoumi said he is concerned about some “hostility” in candidate campaigns. He said that voters should ask candidates whether they are “willing to collaborate with others.”

He also cautioned can-

didates to not run for office out of pride, or wanting to make a name for themselves.

“It’s not worth it for that,” he said.

Councilmember Nayeem Choudhury encouraged residents to get their Covid vaccinations, and also to pick up litter near their homes.

“Take time to clean up,” Choudhury said.

During the second part of public comment, Nasr Hussain complained that Quality Roots dispensary on Caniff Ave. is getting special parking treatment during the road reconstruction of Caniff.

He accused the city of “selective” treatment of some businesses.

County an emergency, again on Jun 26. Washtenaw got the designation almost two weeks later, on July 8.

Numerous homes and businesses scattered throughout Hamtramck suffered basement damage after the deluge. For many, it wasn’t the first time this had happened.

The feds and the state, however, were only concerned with the June 25-26 matter, not anything that came before – or after.

FEMA has been rejecting many claims, partly because a number of people have tried to recoup losses from later rain-related flooding incidents.

Unfortunately, the state has tended to follow suit on these cases, likewise rejecting applications for assistance if the dates don’t specify only the late June occurrence.

Applicants for aid who have been rejected once can appeal up to two more times.

Obituaries

COTTER



Estelle April Cotter died unexpectedly at her home on August

9, 2021. She was 40 years old. Estelle was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy soon after birth, a condition that ultimately contributed to her death.

Estelle is survived by her parents, Barbara June, and Scott Alan Klein, two great aunts, Barbara Craig of Davisburg and Iris Colwell of Gladwin, and numerous cousins. She is preceded in death by three grandmothers: Dianne, Audrey, and Elizabeth.

Estelle was born in Detroit at Sinai Grace Hospital on April 10, 1981, to

Barbara Cotter. She was adopted by Scott Klein in 1986. Estelle graduated from a high school in Livonia High in 2006, after attending school in Hamtramck until 2001.

Estelle had a beautiful smile and she loved easily. She made friends wherever she went in this world. Estelle enjoyed music and movies and good food. She will be missed by family, by her staff at Swan Lake group home and by her two roommates Mercedes and Jada.

A memorial gathering will be held on August 19, 2021, at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 980 Newburgh Road, Westland MI. A reception will begin at 12 p.m. followed by a brief memorial

service at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Estelle’s friends at United Cerebral Palsy.

KESSLER



Lawrence William Kessler – age 80, of Shelby Township, passed away peacefully on Monday August 9, 2021 while in hospice care due to complications from a stroke.

He was born in Hamtramck on March 21, 1941, son of the late William and Helen Kessler. Larry will be sadly missed by his wife Carolyn, siblings Joan Barrios and Geraldine Kessler, nephew and godson Chester (Jill) Stefankiewicz, 7

other nieces and nephews, 19 great nieces and nephews and several great-great nieces/nephews.

Larry is preceded in death by his parents, his first spouse Vicki; sisters Barbara Stefankiewicz and Susan Kessler and his very beloved pet poodle “Buddy.”

He is an alumnus of Hamtramck High, Class of 1959, where he was the big, tough tackle on the COSMOS football team.

Private services were held by the family and a celebration of Larry’s life will be held at a later date for friends and family. Funeral arrangements were made by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home.

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INSTALLER WANTED

Looking for person to install siding on 2 garages. Call Julie 313-570-4242. 8/20



By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers Aug. 3-9.

Tuesday, Aug. 3

- A resident who was involved in a shooting that happened on Selfridge St. was treated at Detroit Receiving Hospital.
- A Dequindre St. resident reported that someone damaged her vehicle.
- A hit-and-run accident occurred in the 9000 block of Jos. Campau.
- A Yemans St. resident reported that someone damaged her property.
- Two separate auto crashes occurred: one at Jos. Campau and Andrus, and another at Conant and Miller.

Wednesday, Aug. 4

- At 1:15 a.m., a resident reported a domestic assault that happened on Andrus St.
- A Trowbridge St. resident found a BB gun on his lawn.
- An Evaline St. resident reported that someone damaged their house.
- A resident reported an illegal dumping.
- A resident reported an assault.
- A resident reported that someone took their car keys and stole their vehicle.

Thursday, Aug. 5

- A Danforth St. resident was arrested for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.
- A resident reported that their trash can was stolen.
- A suspicious incident was reported on Edwin St.

Friday, Aug. 6

- At 1 a.m., officers assisted a family on Norwalk St.

who reported they were having trouble.

- At 2:30 a.m., a report was made about a vehicle on Evaline St. that had its windows broken out.

Saturday, Aug. 7

- A Lehman St. resident was arrested for causing two hit-and-run accidents, and for being disorderly.
- A resident reported that someone brandished a weapon.

Sunday, Aug. 8

- Officers responded to a call about someone on Danforth St. being disorderly. A resident was then arrested for being disorderly.
- A Yemans St. resident reported an incident of domestic assault.
- A Detroit resident was arrested for retail fraud.
- A Trowbridge St. resident reported a break-in.
- A Pulaski St. resident reported a break-in.

Monday, Aug. 9

- The Livingston County Sherriff's Department recovered a car stolen out of Hamtramck.
- At 3:30 a.m., a driver fled from officers attempting a traffic stop.
- A Detroit resident was taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital for a mental evaluation.
- A resident reported a suspicious incident.
- A resident reported that someone stole an item from their vehicle.
- A juvenile was taken home to his parents after acting in a disorderly manner.

Deadline for classifieds for next week is Thursday at Noon

Call (313) 874-2100 to place your ad

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

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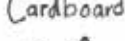
P.S. Send copy to friends



Continued from page 6

"A Tribute to Styline Cus-

Rick Metcalf is a Michigan-based writer, retired merchant marine and drinker of grog.



Winter hours may vary

