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Hamtramck

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Quick Hits

9/11: A day of Remembrance

It's hard to believe, but tomorrow, Sept. 11, marks the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attack on this country.

There will be special services throughout the metro area and nationwide, and for sure there will be in-depth reports in the media.

As we went to print, it was not known if there will be any services in Hamtramck.

Most of us of a certain age remember how we first became aware of the attack on the Twin Towers and the Pentagon (another part of that's days attack headed for the US Capitol was thwarted by the passengers, who forced their plane down in a Pennsylvania field.)

Some 2,996 people died that day and, in all, over 25,000 were injured.

That doesn't even count the number of first responders and others who have since developed serious health issues from exposure at the crash sites.

We asked Mayor Karen Majewski for her thoughts on this tragic event.

"No one will ever forget"

Continued on page 6

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Hamtramck Labor Day Festival: hot fun in the summertime

By Charles Sercombe

The weather was perfect, people came, bands played, the canoe race was wet and wild, Big Time wrestlers put on a crazy show, and what more can you say?

The Hamtramck Labor Day Festival returned last weekend after taking last year off for that little thing called a Covid pandemic.

There was one noticeable difference this year: things were scaled back a bit. There were fewer food vendors, and just one performance stage.

Because there were fewer vendors, they were told to all line up on one side of Jos. Campau, making the festival grounds look barren.

And oh yeah, the Polish Day Parade was absent because organizers want to hold it in Warren, starting next year — so there's

Continued on page 4



Caniff is now open for traffic

By Charles Sercombe

Most residents have probably noticed by now that one of the city's main arteries, Caniff Ave., is once again fully open.

The street had been closed from the I-75 service drive to Jos. Campau Ave. for much of the summer to allow for a total reconstruction.



It took all summer, but the reconstruction of Caniff Ave. is now over, and the street is open for traffic.

That project, which was funded by a \$1.4 million federal grant, also included installing new water lines and new sidewalks. The city had to kick in \$300,000 from its annual state-funded road repair grant.

The job was completed a few days before the Sept. 1 deadline.

That was just in time for last weekend's Hamtramck Labor Day Festival.

Continued on page 2



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More specials on back page!

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Second Front Page

Mayor: Flood damage claims still to be processed by FEMA

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck may be taking a new downward turn in the number of COVID-19 cases being reported each week.

For the second week in a row, there were fewer cases reported than in previous weeks.

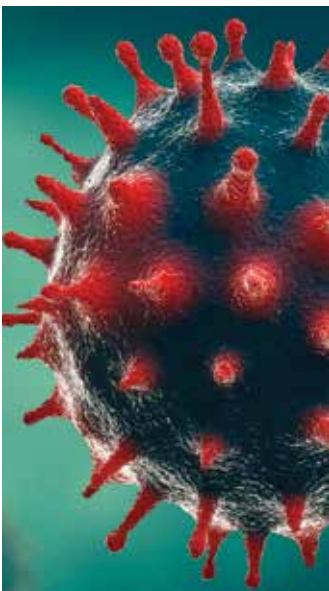
Two weeks ago, there 42 cases reported, compared to 55 the week before.

This week, there were 35 new cases, said Mayor Karen Majewski in her weekly talk with the community via the city's Facebook page.

"It's starting to go down," Majewski reported.

That brings the total number of COVID-19 cases for the past year-and-a-half up to 2,952.

The total number of deaths remains the same as last week, at 55.



As usual, Majewski urged those who have not been vaccinated to do so. Perhaps the easiest way to get one is to simply go to city hall, where there is a mobile unit parked outside.

Also as usual, the mayor urged folks to mask up while going indoors to shop, or for events.

It is being reported that

98 percent of the new cases are those who are not vaccinated, and that 96 percent of those dying from the disease are also unvaccinated.

(Anyone see a pattern here?)

As for her weekly update on the June flood damage, Majewski said there is still time to get money from FEMA.

The deadline to apply for financial assistance is now Oct. 13 (it had been Sept. 13). FEMA workers have set up an office on the second floor of city hall where residents can get help processing applications.

FEMA will be operating from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day.

The mayor also announced that there is a special Wayne County financial assistance program that requires you

to first file a claim with FEMA. You can find out more by going the county's website. Applications are due Sept. 21.

The mayor also reminded residents that the city will soon be shutting off water service to households that are delinquent on water bills.

There had been a moratorium on water service shutoffs. The city is owed \$400,000 in past due bills.

There is a financial help program for paying water bills through a county program called WRAP. You can find out more by going to the county's website.

Monday, the day Majewski broadcasts her weekly address, was not only Labor Day but the last day of the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival.

Although the festival was scaled back this year, Majewski said it's been a successful weekend.




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September 11 - Take-out Soup Kitchen 2-4 pm. All are Welcome!

September 14 - Mass for People on our Prayer List 7 pm

Drive-Thru/Take-out Polish Dinner
September 18 - 4:00 – 6:00 pm Menu: Porkchop, Kielbasa, Pierogi/Sour Cream, Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Dessert
Cash only - \$10 Adult/\$5 Child 12 & under
Masks to be worn for pick-up

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Coming Events

SATURDAY, Sept. 11, 2-4 p.m. – Take-out Only Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. Everyone is welcome!

SATURDAY, Sept. 18, 4-6 p.m. – Drive-thru/take-out Polish Dinner at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. \$10 adult/\$5 child 12 & under. Menu: Porkchop, Kielbasa, Pierogi/sour cream, Sauerkraut, Mashed potatoes/gravy, Dessert. Cars will be staged in parking lot for delivery in front of church. Masks to be worn for pick-up.

Obituaries

NAWROCKI



Jeanne M. Nawrocki, 64, resident of Warren, MI born April 30, 1957 to Bernice (Bradley) LeSage and Gabriel LeSage in Detroit, MI.

She died September 4, 2021.

She is the youngest of five siblings. She is survived by her husband, John J Nawrocki; daughter Crystal Nawrocki; and granddaughters Faith and Maleah.

Jeanne was a graduate of South Lake High School in St Clair Shores, MI. She worked as a Kitchen Manager for Hamtramck Public Schools for 30+ years.

She made many friends everywhere she went. Jeanne was a two-time

Breast Cancer Survivor. She was a fighter.


She left us far sooner than we expected, and a lot faster than we could've ever imagined. She deserved nothing less than the entire world.

She was a Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Sister, Aunt, Cousin, and an all-around wonderful person you could call your friend.

We love you forever and a day!

Memorial Visitation to be announced at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, Hamtramck MI.

PASTUSZKA



Gerald F. Pastuszka, 60, died September 4, 2021.

Mr. Pastuszka was the

beloved husband of Teresa; loving father of Elizabeth Pastuszka and Guy Pastuszka; dear son of the late Joseph and Josephine Pastuszka; loving grandfather of Vincent Nierman; brother of Paul, Edward, Theresa, and the late Mary. Mr. Pastuszka was also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Visitation is Friday, September 10, 2:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., with a 6:00 p.m. Rosary Service, at the D.S. Temrowski & Sons Funeral Home, 30009 Hoover Road at Common (12 ½ Mile Rd) in Warren. In state Saturday, September 11, at 10:00 a.m. until the Funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m., at St. Faustina Catholic Church in Warren. Please share memories at www.Temrowski.com



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Hamtramck Labor Day Festival: hot fun in the summertime

Continued from front page



one tradition not returning here.

This being Hamtramck, there are already plans for organizing a Hamtramck-themed parade for next year.

Everything else was in place this year, including midway rides.

With any luck, organizers made enough money to pay all the bills – which can sometimes be a dicey thing.

There were no reports of serious trouble in the festival or around it, but there was a wild rumor on Facebook that an el-



derly man was beaten to death. Not true, says Hamtramck Police Chief Anne Moise.

Police did report several incidents where unaccompanied children were found wandering on the festival grounds. All of them were reunited with their parents.

We could go on and on, but it's better to just let our photos tell the story of the weekend.



Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Thanks to volunteers, the Labor Day Festival succeeded

Hamtramck’s end-of-the-summer party was a smash. After being forced to take a year off because of the Covid pandemic, the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival returned, with plenty of gusto. While it was scaled down, the festival is still one of the best home-grown festivals in the metro area. And we have dozens of volunteers to thank for pulling it off despite some obstacles – namely, having only a few months to organize it. Folks needed this festival. After a year of being cooped up at home and quarantining ourselves, it was time to get outdoors and meet up with old friends. While the pandemic is far from being over, it was safe enough to come out. Our only suggestion, and one we have harped on for years, is that the city should step up and pump some money into this festival – and we mean more than what the Downtown Development Authority kicks in. The event is a perfect opportunity to showcase our city. With some extra financial help, this festival could afford to make improvements without losing its small-town charm. Regardless, we again thank the many volunteers – who are not paid – for donating their time and energy to make this festival a success once again.

Odds & Ends

Register now!... September is the month, nationwide, that encourages you to get registered to vote. A non-partisan way to try to get people signed up to exercise their constitutional right, National Voter Registration Month was dreamed up by the National Association of Secretaries of State in 2002. There is even a specific day, within the month, designated as the fourth Tuesday, which this year is September 28. Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson was all about folks getting signed up, quoted in the press release as saying, “Our democracy is at its best when everyone has a seat at the table.” Out of the state for the whole month? Fear not: Michiganders have until 8 p.m. on Election Day to walk into their city or township clerk’s office and register. You can also register online (Michigan.com/Vote) or by standard mail up to 15 days beforehand. After that, your only option is to go in and do it in person. You must be at least 18 years old and a U.S. citizen, not currently in jail or prison, and: a Michigan resident at the time you register, and a resident of whatever town you will be voting in for at least 30 days prior to election day. People who have to move in the month leading up to Election Day have been known to not change their address with the Secretary of State until after they vote in their old city or township. Find your clerk’s office address at Michigan.com/Vote. Also, check out canivote.org.

On budget... Wayne County has released some basic details of its 2021-22 budget, and the outlook is painted as rather rosy indeed. In a recent press release, the county, under County Executive Warren Evans, some of the highlights of this budget were outlined, including the news that this fiscal year’s budget “spends \$200 million less than” that of the prior year’s, “while expanding public services in several ways.” Notably, the county has created an Office of Indigent Defense Services “to coordinate and provide expert legal representation for county residents who cannot afford their own attorneys.” This new office was a particular point of interest for executive Evans. In something of a progressive masterstroke, the county also has allotted \$2.2 million to the Wayne County Prosecutors Office and Sheriff’s Office for programs promoting what they termed “conviction integrity,” as well as increasing resources to process rape kits, strengthen the department’s mental health division, and offer support for juveniles with no chance for parole. All of these would seem laudable efforts indeed. There was also \$5 million set aside for road infrastructure spending across the county, and funding to hire extra staff to process concealedpis-

Continued on page 6

Crime Watch: Tips on preventing your dog from running away

By Charles Sercombe

This isn’t about crime but, from time to time, there are reports in the daily police incident reports about dogs being found by officers. It’s not known whether most of them were pets, or strays. They are usually taken to the Michigan Humane Center, either here in Detroit or in Westland, depending on which is open on any given day and hour. For dog owners, the warm weather months are an especially tempting time for your fur buddy to want to go exploring. Sometimes, dogs will bolt if they hear thunder, or when something else triggers them. This is also the season to mate, and the best way to prevent that urge is to get your pet fixed or neutered. Here are some other things that can cause dogs to run away:

- Separation anxiety
- Hunting instinct
- Boredom
- Unfamiliar surroundings
- So, what can you do if your pooch takes off? Let the police department know right away, and be sure to have your dog licensed, microchipped and always wearing a good-fitting collar with an ID tag. Try to stay calm, and start searching the neighborhood. How to you prevent your pet from running away? Follow these tips offered by tractive.com.
- Avoid taking your dog into large, loud crowds when possible.
- Close windows during thunderstorms or fireworks – you can plan ahead for holidays like Halloween or New Year’s Eve.
- Be aware when your dog will be going into a stressful situation, like getting on a plane. Ask your vet about dog anti-anxiety supplements.
- Give your dog a long-lasting treat or toy to occupy them when you leave home.
- Prepare your dog to be better able to handle when you leave the house. For example, put on your shoes and pick up your keys, but don’t leave right away. Repeat this several times, decreasing the amount of time before you leave the house each time.
- Make a cozy, safe space in your home that’s just for your doggo. Also, make sure your doors are secure and not easily nudged open. Open backyard gates can be a problem. Make sure to secure the gate entrance. In Hamtramck, it’s not wise to leave your pet unsupervised in the backyard. There are lowlifes out there who will snatch your pet. Trust us, we’ve heard about this for years.



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Quick Hits

Cont. from front page

where they were on Sep-tember 11, 2001, when our nation was attacked by outside enemies. Now, 20 years later, our country faces daily threats from our own home-grown ter-rorists.

“We must resist with

equal resolve the efforts of ‘enemies foreign and domestic’ to undermine our democracy. Here in Hamtramck, as we mourn those lost on 9/11, we also have the unique op-portunity to model that commitment to diversity and equality that marks us as a nation and a com-munity.”

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Odds & Ends

Continued from page 5

tol license applications.

The work is getting noticed, too: Moody’s Investor Services has in-creased Wayne County’s credit rating to A3.

Good work, folks!

Show time... Fans of America’s Got Talent, The Voice, American Idol, et al. – or those of you who have wished you could be on one of those shows – you’re about to be in luck.

A new talent competition called Detroit’s Big Shot is about to be held right here

in your backyard.

As in, at Planet Ant’s Ant Hall, reopened and lo-cated at 2320 Caniff Ave. on the city’s west end.

Beginning this coming Wednesday, there will be four preliminary rounds to the competition. All are on Wednesday nights, at the Ant Hall, from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The dates are Septem-ber 15, 22, 29 and Octo-ber 6.

On the following Wednesday, October 13, again from 8 p.m. to

10 p.m., there will be a semi-final round.

And then finally, skip-ping ahead two weeks, the finals will be on Octo-ber 27.

What sorts of talent are they looking for? Musi-cians, comics, dancers, magicians, jugglers – if you’ve seen AGT, you get the idea.

And what can you win?

They promise “hun-dreds of dollars in priz-es” to be given out, by everyone from the Detroit Historical Society to Val-entine Distilling Company, from Grey Ghost Detroit restaurant to Planet Ant

themselves, and many more.

To enter, go to thed-briefdetroit.com/en-ter-bigshot.

From that page, you can jump a link to the full list of prizes and the places supplying them, and you can also follow another link to the list of their two-dozen local celebrity judges. The whole affair will be hosted by comedi-an Tam White.

Oh, and one last thing – you gotta be vaxxed to participate.

So sharpen up, Ham-tramck, and let’s see what ya got!



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 July 27, and all coun-cilmembers, except for Mohammed Hassan, were present.

Three Bangladeshi jour-nalists were given certifi-cates of recognition for their coverage of the coro-navirus pandemic and for informing their readers of related health informa-tion. The journalists were: Kamruzzaman Helal, Iqbal Fardous and Farjana Choudhury Papri.

The president of the Hin-du Durga Temple, Ponkoj Das, requested approval for the temple’s annual parade in town, on Aug. 28, from 5-8 p.m.

During public comment, a man complained about

the city’s code enforcers.

“They treat people like second- or third-world cit-izens,” the man said. He accused one of the code enforcers of being a bigot.

Nasr Hussain com-plaind about the council limiting public comment to two minutes per speaker. He said that is not enough time for people to talk about their issues.

He also said he is op-posed to a proposal on the agenda to require houses to be inspected before they can be sold.

Hussain also said he opposes a proposal for term limits for city council and the mayor.

Bill Meyer said there is racism and Islamophobia in Hamtramck. He said

people have to fight back.

In the consent agenda portion of the meeting, during which no discus-sion is held, the council approved a grant applica-tion with two community organizations, Warriors on Wheels and ARC Detroit, to seek funding to train police officers on how to interact with people with disabilities.

In a note to the council, it was said:

“The disability-focused law enforcement training will be comprehensive training to discuss the dif-ferent types of disabilities and how to safely and ad-equately address them.”

Under new business, the council took the first step toward approving an

ordinance requiring in-spections of dwellings be-fore they can be sold.

In a note to the council, it was explained why this is needed.

“Not having an ordi-nance that provides for inspection of homes prior to sale or transfer allows extremely dilapidated or blighted homes to freely get passed between own-ers or investors.

“This ordinance will pro-tect the purchaser, neigh-bors of the dwellings, and the community as a whole by allowing the city to en-sure dwellings are safe in our community.”

The council, except for Mohammad Alsomiri, ap-proved a first reading of the ordinance, which will allow it to be further dis-cussed at the next meet-ing.

In the matter of another ordinance proposal, in

Continued on page 8



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HOUSE FOR SALE



13110 Moenart, in front of White Elementary School, 3 bedrooms, living room, dining room, bathroom, kitchen, breakfast nook, study room complete brick home, 2 car garage, double lot, needs some work, price to be discussed, 313-310-3540. 9/3

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HELP WANTED

Polonia Restaurant now hiring kitchen & wait staff, Great, fun environment. Experience preferred, 2935 Yemans, Hamtramck, contact Andrew 313-873-8432. 9/24

Looking for somebody to snake all types of drains and run plumbing service. Must have own truck and tools. Call after 3pm, 313-646-1186. 9/17

FOR SALE

New refrigerator for sale and a 40 ft wooden ladder, 313-365-6543. 8/27

YARD SALE

Furniture and miscellaneous sale, Sat. Sept. 11, 9am-3pm, 2942 Evaline, Hamtramck. 9/10

Place an Ad in The Review Today
(313) 874-2100



By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers Aug. 31-Sept. 6.

Tuesday, Aug. 31

- At 3 a.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 12000 block of Grand Haven St.
- At a little after 3 a.m., a Dyar St. resident was arrested for domestic assault.
- A Holbrook Ave. resident reported that someone attempted to steal their catalytic converter.
- A Jacob St. juvenile reported being assaulted.
- A person was arrested for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant for possessing narcotics.

Wednesday, Sept. 1

- At about midnight, officers responded to a call about reckless drivers in the area of Jos. Campau and Holbrook.
- At about 3 a.m., a resident reported the theft of their catalytic convertor. Their vehicle was parked in the 3900 block of Prescott St.
- A complaint was made about a woman, in the 2200 block of Danforth St., making threats.
- An employee at Captain Jays reported being assaulted by a woman.
- A hit-and-run accident happened in the 2000 block of Caniff Ave.
- Officers responded to a suspicious situation in the 2300 block of Zinow St. which resulted in the arrest of a person for assault.

• A Detroit resident was arrested in the 12100 block of Conant Ave. for assault.

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Thursday, Sept. 2

- A complaint was made about a man following a woman in the 9300 block of Jos. Campau Ave.
- A report was made about a suspicious man in the area of Lumpkin and Belmont.
- In three separate incidents, officers responded to false burglary alarms.
- A resident reported being the victim of fraud.
- Officers responded to a call about two people arguing in the area of Gallagher and Roosevelt. In an unrelated incident, officers responded to a call on the 3000 block of Holbrook Ave. about a man yelling at another man.

Friday, Sept. 3

- At about midnight, the driver of a motorcycle was arrested for fleeing and eluding. The bike was impounded.
- At 1:30 a.m., a resident in the 12000 block of Oklahoma St. reported a break-in. Nothing was reported stolen.
- At a little after 2 a.m., officers responded to a noise complaint in the 2000 block of Norwalk St. Officers talked with the people causing the disturbance.
- An assault was reported in the 3200 block of Trowbridge St.
- Officers responded to a complaint about a suspicious looking juvenile walking around by themselves in the area of Norwalk and

Latham. Officers could not locate the juvenile.

- Officers responded to a call about a road rage incident in the area of Conant and Carpenter. By the time officers arrived those involved were gone.
- Officers assisted an elderly resident who could not remember where he parked his car.
- Two Detroit residents were arrested after a car crash and subsequent foot chase, for carjacking and possessing a handgun.
- A hit-and-run accident occurred at Hewitt and Jos. Campau.
- A resident reported being assaulted by a woman while inside the CVS Pharmacy.
- A Selfridge St. resident was shot several times in a drive-by shooting.

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Saturday, Sept. 4

- Officers responded to a complaint about loud noise in the 2600 block of Carpenter St.
- A complaint was made about a man sleeping in a garage in the 2900 block of Lehman St.
- A resident complained of an "unknown" odor coming from their residence.
- A man reported being assaulted and robbed while in the area of Grand Haven and Circle Dr.
- A complaint was made about a suspicious man riding a bike in the area of Sobieski and Commor who was checking to see if car doors were unlocked.
- A stray dog was located in the area of Evaline and Buffalo and was taken to the Michigan Humane Society.
- A resident reported that their car was stolen while it was parked in the area of Nagel and Carpenter.

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Deadline for classifieds for next week is Thursday at Noon
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Continued from page 7

derly.

Monday, Sept. 6

- A complaint was made about a suspicious man sitting on someone's porch.
- Officers spoke with a man in the 3000 block of Holbrook Ave. who appeared disoriented. The man was coherent, and said he wanted to go home.
- A report was made about a woman in the 2700 block of Evaline St. who was screaming. Officers could not locate the woman.
- A complaint was made about a resident in the 3400 block of Doremus St. who was suspected of abusing neighborhood cats.
- A complaint was made about a man in the alley

City Hall Insider ...

Continued from page 6

which the mayor would be given the authority to make appointments to various boards and commissions, but which would also require the city council's approval as well, the council OK'd it.

However, Councilmembers Alsomiri and Saad Almasmari voted in opposition.

In a proposal to take the first step in updating the city's zoning ordinance, Mayor Karen Majewski called for an immediate vote.

Councilmember Almasmari asked to first have a discussion, but the mayor insisted on calling for a vote.

"You are a dictator," Almasmari said.

The mayor responded: "You are out of order."

Majewski said that a discussion would be held during the second reading of the proposal.

In a note to council, the city administration explained why the proposal was being made:

"Proposed updates include removing the obsolete medical marihuana section, adding and clarifying some standards around front pedestrian entrances on commercial buildings, allowing administrative approval for some site plans, and allowing painted wall signs."

The council approved the proposal, with Councilmembers Almasmari and Alsomiri voting in opposition.

In another proposal, the council took the first step to approve a request by

at the 9800 block of Jos. Campau, pepper-spraying people walking by. Officers could not locate the suspect.

- Officers checked out a woman who was slumped over the steering wheel of her vehicle. The woman became combative, and was then arrested.
- A 13-year-old girl told officers on the festival grounds that she became separated from a friend. The girl was driven to her home in Detroit.

the owner of a gas station at Conant and Caniff to demolish an attached car wash that is no longer being used.

That site will be turned into a retail outlet.

A proposal for voters to consider that would require candidates for mayor and city council to have lived in the city for at least one year was approved.

Councilmember Carrie Beth Lasley was the sole vote in opposition. She said that Hamtramck has a history of people "moving in and out."

Lasley said people are aware enough of the city's issues.

Lasley was also the sole vote to have voters decide on whether there should be term limits for the mayor and council.

The proposal would allow no more than three terms.

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K – 6th Grades

Dickinson West Elementary

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2333 Burger
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7th – 8th Grades

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