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Volume 1 No. 23
October 16, 2009
25¢

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It's scary season.
Well, it's Halloween and no, it's not terribly scary. In fact, it's a lot of fun for kids and adults. This Saturday, the Hamtramck Recreation Department is once again holding its "Spooktacular" at Pulaski Park. The event offers hayrides, a petting farm, pony rides and plenty of inflatables for kids to bounce around on. The fun goes from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Quick hits

- Want to learn how to make your house and neighborhood safer? Be sure to attend tonight's (Friday, Oct. 16) "Town Hall" meeting that's being sponsored by the Police Department. You can also learn all about the city's block clubs and how to join or start up one. Stop by and meet your fellow Hamtramckians at the High School Community Center, located on Charest just north of Caniff, from 6 to 9 p.m. Drinks and snacks will also be available.

- Think you have talent? Judging by the number of TV shows featuring folks who think they have at least an ounce of talent, chances are you do.

- Well, if you do have something to show off, put on your dancing shoes – or whatever – and head over to People's Community Center next Tuesday (Oct. 20) for a special talent show. The program is open to adults and kids.

- It's free to enter and prizes will be awarded. The fun kicks off at 6 p.m. and ends at 8 p.m. People's is located on Jos. Campau and Danforth.

- Need more information? Call Tom Cervenak at (313)554-3111 or email him at tcervenak@aol.com.

This week in history

- HHS graduate, actor John Hodiak dies in 1955. He played a lead role in Alfred Hitchcock's "Life Boat." Haven't seen it? Check it out, it's classic Hitchcock. And the sexual tension between Hodiak and Tallulah Bankhead is worth the price of admission.

Source: Hamtramck Historical Commission

Election countdown begins in what will be history in the making

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck's Nov. 3 General Election is just two weeks away.

This year's election promises to be a roller-coaster ride and one of the most pivotal elections in recent memory. The August Primary Election was a stunner for those who follow local politics.

Why is that?

It appears the Bangladesh community is no longer a silent minority in town. Bangladeshi-Americans came out in droves and pushed the three Bangladeshi council candidates to the top. In other words, the Bangladeshi

voting bloc is now a powerful force to reckon with.

There are three seats on council up for grabs. Only one candidate, Alan Shulgon, is an incumbent. And Shulgon's chance of winning re-election is anyone's guess. He finished a distant fifth place in the primary election.

The top vote-getter in the primary was newcomer Kazi Miah. He was followed by Mohammed Hassan and Anam Miah (no relation to Kazi Miah).

But just because the three top vote-getters finished above the other contenders, that doesn't guarantee how things will turn out on Nov. 3. Like in any other Hamtramck General Election, this race is a different election from August.

But no matter, it will still be one for the history books.

The mayoral election is just as nail-biting. Mayor Karen Majewski is seeking her second term but is facing a stiff challenge from Councilmember Abdul Algazali. Algazali was once a fringe player in local politics, but not any-



Candidates will get another chance to win over voters at next Thursday's "Meet the Candidates Night." Meanwhile, candidates like Tom Jankowski (lower left) have been busy hanging up campaign signs.

more. He came within striking distance in the August primary.

There is no telling how this race will end up.

Voters will also decide who to select for two seats on the School Board. Incumbents Hedy Shulgon and Betty Zwolak are facing challengers Roberta Olko and Carol Pinckney.

To help anyone still riding the fence in any of the races, the Hamtramck Block Club Association is holding another "Meet the Candidates Night" next Thursday, Oct. 22 at People's Community Center, at Jos. Campau and Danforth.

The event starts with a social hour at 6 p.m. and moves to a debate format at 7 p.m.

Hamtramck may land a leading role in Census count

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck, get ready for a starring role.

Maybe.

The Piast Institute is asking the U.S. Census Bureau to use Hamtramck in its advertising campaign to get the public to participate in the upcoming national population count.

Thaddeus Radzilowski, President of Piast Institute, said he proposed using Hamtramck because of its cultural diversity. Radzilowski said the city's population would be an excellent "model" to reach people in other culturally mixed cities.

"We haven't heard back yet," Radzilowski said about his pitch to the Census Bureau.

The advertising campaign

for the Census will kick off in January. The Census Bureau will be spending more money on this Census than in previous years and will pursue a more aggressive ad campaign thanks to stimulus money being funneled into the effort.

The Piast Institute will be working closely with the Census Bureau and is part of Hamtramck's own Census Committee. Piast also is an official Census Information Center. Radzilowski said he will be working with the schools in the coming months to get students to encourage their parents to participate in the Census.

The national head count comes once every 10 years. In the 1990 Census, city officials worked extra hard to get the community involved in the

Census and that effort paid off. The city saw an increase in its population count by about 5,000 people.

What's at stake for all communities is that the higher the population count, the more federal money and programs each city receives.

But getting immigrant communities like Hamtramck to fill out the Census form is a challenge. Many immigrants don't trust the government or how their information will be used. By law, the Census Bureau may not release personal information to any other government agency.

The upcoming Census form will be less intrusive than in former years. There will also



only be several questions.

There have been several population estimates from various agencies during the past few years, some showing an increase and others forecasting a decrease in population in Hamtramck.

The only count, however, that, well, counts is the Census.

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Fire contract sets a new course for labor

Continued from front page

make their career in Hamtramck.

The union president for the firefighters, Bill Dickens, said the two-tier system alienated the new-hires and created division in the department. He said that with the risks and dangers firefighters face, it is only fair that their families have greater protection.

The firefighters received a five-year contract with a 4-percent salary increase in the first year and 3 percent for each remaining year.

The two police officer unions also recently received a new contract. Those two unions had been working for two years without a contract and received a four-year contract, with two years being retroactive. Their contract expires June 30 of 2011.

The police received a 3-percent pay increase for each year.

In the face of many communities demanding across-the-board pay cuts, Cooper said the salary increases amount to not much more than a "cost of living increase."

In the police contract, Cooper said he could not convince the union to give management more flexibility in staffing arrangements — something former mayors and city managers have longed sought.

Help with student homework is free and offers prizes

By Ian Perrotta
Review Staffwriter

If you're a fourth or fifth grader reading this newspaper, chances are you're not struggling with your homework.

But for fourth and fifth graders who are having homework problems, the answer to them is the Acts 29 Fellowship Homework Assistance Program (HAP). And the best part about it? It's free.

Now in its fourth year, the HAP has already helped over four dozen kids with homework of all types, including math, science, English, and history among others. With up to 20 openings available for tutelage, Rev. Sharon Buttry of Acts 29 hopes to fill them all.

"The program not only helps the student become successful in school," says Buttry, "but also affects the classroom and school because teachers feel supported and administrators appreciate the involvement of the community in helping with the process of learning."

It's all part of the mission of the HAP. According to a flier for the program, that mission is to "address the critical needs of the families and schools in the community. [The] program is designed to improve academic achievement, develop social responsibility, and instill moral character in children."

So how does that work? The HAP has four program

objectives. The first is to establish a pattern of completing homework on a regular basis. By creating a consistent routine of homework completion, students can get a better understanding of the material at hand. With greater overall comprehension, students can begin to do better in school as well. And when a child does better in school, homework gets easier.

The second objective of the HAP is to give students the tools they need to study on their own. This includes helping them get organized in order to make studying more effective, and teaching them to work individually through a 12-minute period of "absolute silent" work that instills focus. When students have the ability to independently learn it helps them not only with their school work but in their everyday lives, as it gives them the necessary skills to learn from any given situation, Buttry said.

HAP's third objective is to reinforce moral character qualities via the "Character Counts" curriculum. Emphasizing the six pillars of character — Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship — this aspect of the program goes beyond the scope of merely helping with homework and also extends into the realm of everyday life as well. A child with good character not only has a better chance of succeeding in

life, but their success helps ensure a better quality of life for their community as well. There tends to be less crime and poverty in areas that have a high number of people who possess the six pillars of character, Buttry said.

The fourth objective of the HAP is to establish positive relationships between students, mentors, teachers and parents. The benefits of this are obvious: positive relationships between the aforementioned groups lead to better communication and help foster an environment conducive to learning.

The HAP is offered Monday through Thursday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Hamtramck Housing Commission, located at 12025 Dequindre Ave. During this time students get help with their homework, receive a healthy snack and participate in a fifteen-minute character building exercise. And to sweeten the deal, students who attend the HAP can earn prizes that include school supplies, books, gift certificates, camping trip scholarships and more.

So how can you get involved?

For teachers, it's as easy as calling or sending an email referring students to the program and communicating weekly to keep both the student and HAP accountable. Parents can register their children and support them by providing

Continued on page 8



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Second Front Page

Time is running out for DDA business façade improvement grant

Hamtramck business owners, do you need a little stimulus money?

Well, this isn't exactly part of President Obama's plan to rejuvenate the economy, but Hamtramck's Downtown Development Authority has some grant money available to spruce up the front of your building.

Officially, it's called the DDA Façade Improvement Grant program. Here's the deal: the DDA has \$40,779 to dole out by Dec. 31 of this year. If the DDA doesn't spend it, the money goes back to the state.

Here's what the DDA has to say about its program:

With all grant funded projects, restoration is preferable to renovation. Restoration is

the attempt to return the façade to its original appearance through the use of authentic materials and the faithful replication of the building conditions shown in old photos or records. Renovation projects should be sensitive to the historic appearance of the building, but may include modern materials and design elements.

The façade improvement project is a matching grant project, however because \$40,779.93 of the total \$90,779.93 allotted for the program expires Dec. 31, the DDA is prepared to fund 75 percent of any projects approved this year. This means that for a \$20,000 project the DDA will provide \$15,000 leaving the business or prop-

erty owner responsible for only \$5,000.

The DDA will only fund improvements to the façade of your building, such as new windows, signage, or brick work and will only fund improvements that comply with the Hamtramck DDA Storefront Design Guidelines (available with Façade Grant Application). The program also allows for funding of up to \$2500.00 for architectural design and site plans.

The goal of the program is to encourage property owners and tenants to make exterior building façade improvements and/or install new or improved signage that complies with the Design Guidelines, to restore buildings to their historic appear-

ance and to improve the overall appearance of the Downtown district.

Only properties located within the Hamtramck DDA district are eligible. In general the DDA district includes any building on Jos. Campau and any commercial building within one lot of the alleys just east and west of Jos. Campau. Please see Downtown Hamtramck Guide (Available at City Hall) or contact DDA Manager, Darren Grow at (313) 870-0346 for questions regarding the Downtown district.

All existing commercial or mixed-use buildings located in the Downtown district are eligible so long as the entire building meets current code requirements (except for pro-

posed façade improvements), there are no delinquencies with city, county, state, or federal taxes and all proposed improvements comply with Hamtramck code requirements and the Design Guidelines.

Any property owners or leaseholders of commercial property within the DDA district are eligible to apply. In case of leaseholders, a notarized letter of permission from the property owner is required.

The Hamtramck DDA and its review committee reserve the right to determine the eligibility of all items in a project's scope of work. This determination shall be conclusive and final. All grant-funded improvements must

be permanent and fixed in type and/or nature. Improvements must meet Hamtramck DDA Storefront Design Guidelines and all City of Hamtramck code requirements including zoning, building and safety codes and the applicant must obtain any necessary permits. Façade features eligible to be restored, renovated or constructed with grant dollars include but are not limited to:

- Exterior Walls
- Windows
- Doors
- Storefronts
- Painting of exterior surfaces
- Cleaning and/or repainting of brick or stone
- Entrance/Exit improvements

Continued on page 4

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Time is running out for DDA business façade improvement grant...Continued from page 3

ments (including ADA)

- Awnings (must meet Design Guideline criteria)
- Exterior architectural features
- Exterior lighting
- Interior rolling security gates
- Signage
- Seasonal Use (i.e. sidewalk café) (must meet requirements proscribed by Hamtramck Sidewalk Café application)
- Roof work relating to other storefront improvements

Improvements must be completed within six (6) months of the start of construction. The applicant may not use grant funds for any of the following:

- Expenses incurred prior to application approval
- Property acquisition
- Mortgage, land contract financing or loan fees
- Site plan, sign or building permits
- Appraiser, attorney, architect (unless DDA provided such services) or interior decorator fees
- Furnishings, trade fixtures, display cases, counters, or other items taxed as personal property
- Signs/Awnings that do not meet the criteria set forth in the Hamtramck DDA Storefront Design Guidelines.

In order to apply just pick up an application from the DDA office located on the 3rd floor of City Hall, complete the application and return to:

Hamtramck Downtown Development Authority, 3401 Evaline, Hamtramck, MI 48212

Deadline: You must have the application submitted to the DDA by the 15th of the month. All applications received after the 15th will be reviewed the following month.

Additional documentation to be submitted with application:

- Two color photographs of the current building façade (please include date on the back of each photo).
- \$100 non-refundable application fee (please make checks payable to the Hamtramck Downtown Development Authority).
- Building owners must submit proof of ownership.
- If the applicant does not own the building, a notarized letter of permission from the property owner is required.
- Completed applications will be reviewed by the Ham-

tramck DDA Façade Improvements Committee. All proposed improvements must meet the requirements of the SHPO (State Historical

Preservation Office) environmental checklist and the DDA Storefront Design Guidelines.

Continued on page 7



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Candidate for School Board

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This week at the library...

English as a Second Language Class - Saturday, Oct. 17 at 10 a.m. Classes are free of charge for Hamtramck residents.

Meeting of the Library Board - Thursday, Nov. 5 at 6 p.m. The regular meeting of the Library Board will be held in the auditorium. It is open to the public.

Friends of the Library Meeting - Thursday, Nov. 18 at 6 p.m. FHPL President Kathy Kristy and Treasurer George Gorday invite all members and volunteers to participate in the regular monthly meeting of the FHPL.

Movie Wednesday - Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 3:30 p.m. Every Wednesday is movie day at the library. Come and enjoy our feature presentation, including popcorn and snacks.

Jeopardy Mini Tournament - Thursday Oct. 22 at 4 p.m. The Library will host the first round of our First Jeopardy Mini Tournament. Winners will keep advancing until there is a champion.

Girl Scout Meetings - Every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

Storytime for Children - Saturday, Oct. 17 at noon. The program is designed to highlight the importance of reading and sharing books with very young babies, toddlers, preschoolers and early elementary Kindergarten to second grade children

The J.W. Westcott Story - Saturday, October 17, at 2 p.m. Mark Nowotarski will present a documentary on J.W. Westcott II, a mail delivery boat with over 100 years of Detroit Maritime History.

Meet the Author - Thursday, October 22 at 11 a.m. and again at 1p.m. The Hamtramck Public Library is happy to announce it will host a program with children's book author, Deborah Diesen, who

will present her recent book "The Pout-Pout Fish." All children are invited.

Celebrate Red Ribbon Week - October 23 - 31. Red Ribbon Week is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention program reaching millions of Americans during the last week of October every year. By wearing red ribbons and participating in community anti-drug events, young people pledge to live a drug-free life.

Celebrating the Polish American Heritage Month - Thursday, October 29 at 6 p.m. The Library will host the author of "Immigrant Stories." During the program the author, Ronald Konopka, will present his "local history" dioramas created in memory of his Polish Grandparents who in 1920s owned a grocery store on corner of Prescott and Buffalo. Come and share stories of your family.

Halloween Spooky Hour - Saturday, October 31 at noon - Halloween story hour for children combined with Halloween fun and goodies. Everyone is invited - if you are a kid.

Annual Library Dinner - Thursday, November 12 at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to the "91st Anniversary of Library Services in Hamtramck - Dinner Program." During the event new members will be inducted into the Library Hall of Honor and a Dedicated Service Award will be presented. More information about the program will be provided in the next few weeks.

For more information about events at the library call (313) 365-7050, or visit our website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> where you can also access our online catalog.

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Sports

Weekly round-up of HHS sports teams

Football takes another hit

By Ian Perrotta
Review Staffwriter

Last Friday (Oct. 9), Hamtramck High's football team (0-7, 0-3) continued its losing streak, this time falling to Lutheran North (3-4, 2-1) by a whopping score of 49-0.

The cold, rainy night was appropriate for a football program weathering its own storm. With the absence of Head Coach Tarif Kumasi – who was suspended but has since resigned – as well as the crucial loss of a star offensive player, the team has struggled since the first four games, when they went 3-1 and were the talk of the Metro Conference. Those three wins, however, had to be forfeited because an ineligible player was on the team.

The game was evenly matched in the first quarter, when only two points were put up by Lutheran North. However, the second quarter saw an additional 27 points added to the scoreboard, and after halftime the game was clearly out of reach.

The Cosmos next game is at home against Clarenceville (3-4, 2-1) tonight (Oct. 16) at 7 p.m. It's the last chance to see the 2009 Cosmos at home, so don't miss it.

Soccer: winning streak ends

Recently, the Cosmos soccer team (7-4-1) has been on a roll. Unfortunately, they dropped the ball in Tuesday's (Oct. 13) Metro Conference Tournament game against Cranbrook.

Heading into the tournament, the team was on a five-

game winning streak. Last Thursday they walloped Harper Woods 8-1, and on Saturday they nearly repeated the effort, beating Redford-Union 7-1.

The first loss in weeks came at the worst time. The team had been playing excellently and looked poised to take a top spot at the tournament. However, Cranbrook was playing better soccer and managed to defeat the young Cosmos team 3-1.

The team's next game is another important one. On Monday (Oct. 19) they begin play in the District Tournament. The game is at 7 p.m. against Redford High School at the fields at Warren and Nine Mile Rd.

Volleyball: League matches coming up

Hamtramck High's volleyball team started the year strong but has since had mixed results. The team is currently 3-3 for the year.

Two weeks ago on Monday, Sept. 28 the team dominated Highland Park, winning three sets to none.

The match displayed the athletic aptitude of the Cosmos varsity team. However, Head Coach Tina Robinson explained that despite their then winning record and natural abilities, the team could still improve.

"Our varsity girls are extremely talented," she said, "but with a little more effort I think they could be champions." She added that the junior varsity team shows a lot of promise, something that was

just beginning to shine through when the final game—which they were playing in—abruptly ended.

Apparently, a player from the Highland Park team passed out in the bathroom, causing a commotion in the lobby of the Hamtramck High School Community Center. Fans began leaving the stands to find out about the fuss, and within a minute the bleachers were empty. The team from Highland Park also left to investigate, forfeiting the final game of the match.

The team then played a match the next day (Sept. 29) at Royal Oak, losing 3-0. It was a tough loss for the team, but one that Robinson hoped would resonate with the players going into a 20-team tournament at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. The team finished near the middle of the pack.

"We did fair, but we can always play better," said Robinson.

After a post-tournament break, the team resumed game play this week. On Tuesday, the girls traveled to Cranbrook-Kingsley. They lost the match 3-0.

The team's next games are league matches. Yesterday (Oct. 15) they hosted Clarenceville, but results were not available at press time. Next week on Tuesday (Oct. 20) Harper Woods comes to Hamtramck. A game against Lutheran North will also be played but has yet to be scheduled.

Cosmos coach resigns in wake of football scandal

By Ian Perrotta
Review Staffwriter

It looks like the Hamtramck High School football scandal will not go into overtime this season. Former Head Coach Tarif Kumasi has resigned and the school has concluded its self-initiated internal investigation into the program.

So what exactly happened? There were two separate incidents that turned out to be violations of Michigan High School Athletic Association (MSHAA) regulations.

The first involved transcript inaccuracies regarding an individual player. In a letter from MSHAA Executive Director John E. Roberts to Hamtramck Public Schools Superintendent Tom Niczay dated Oct. 2, Roberts thanked Niczay as well as Athletic Director Adam Mused and Director of Pupil Services Terry George for reporting the violations to MSHAA, clarifying the purported violations.

"We understand that incomplete transcripts were submitted from the now closed Cleveland Intermediate High School," Roberts wrote, "which were later corrected and found to have included an additional semester not previously recorded."

That violation does not appear to be intentional. However, the second violation has more ominous implications. Roberts went on to write that Niczay reported that at least



Tarif Kumasi, the former Head Coach of the Cosmos football team, resigned on Wednesday after two scandals surfaced. He was accused of changing the grades of three players in order to keep them eligible to play.

three students participated in five games while ineligible due to unauthorized changes in their grades.

The changes to player's past transcripts made them appear to possess a satisfactory academic record, allowing them to participate in MSHAA activities. Former Head Coach Kumasi was found to be responsible for the alterations and was suspended by the school until Wednesday's (Oct. 14) School Board meeting when boardmembers were to decide his fate. However, the coach resigned before further action could be taken.

In the conclusion of the letter, Roberts noted that the school district's actions helped lessen the impact the violations could have potentially had.

"Because of the actions of Hamtramck High School to self-police and report and other disciplinary actions," he wrote, "we will accept the forfeitures and record these violations without additional penalty or sanction at this time."

As for former Head Coach Kumasi's fate, he was spared the distinction of being fired by resigning.

In Kumasi's resignation letter, he acknowledged the "circumstances and preceding investigation" as being the reason for his departure. He also expressed sorrow for his actions but did not offer an explanation.

"It is unfortunate how the events turned out," he wrote, "and I am deeply apologetic for the outcome."

2009 Cosmos Football Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Opponent	Result
10/16/09	7:00 PM	vs.	Clarenceville (Livonia, MI) *	Pregame
10/23/09	7:00 PM	@	South Lyon East (South Lyon, MI)	Pregame

*=Conference Game

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There will be food, inflatables, carnival games, raffle and prizes. All activities are free of charge. Don't forget to wear your Halloween costume!

Come out and enjoy safe Halloween fun with your child. This special event is made possible by the recreation millage. Please call 893-5520 or visit us at 11350 Charest for more information.


Where: Early Childhood Elementary School
11680 McDougall

When: Thursday, Oct 22, 2009


Time: 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Age: 2-6 with adult

Fee: FREE!



Your Millage Dollars at Work!



Review: Opinion Page

The rights of journalists are rights we need to protect and nourish

While not all the details are in, it appears the Hamtramck Police Department may need a refresher course on the rights of journalists.

And we will qualify this statement with a big MAYBE because, again, not all the facts are in and there are two sides of this very complicated story. Last week, an independent photojournalist was working on a project at Real Church on Caniff when he noticed Hamtramck High School students and police officers in what looked like a serious confrontation.

The journalist, formerly of the Detroit Free Press and contributor to the New York Times, followed his instinct and rushed to the scene and started taking photos. After some students got pepper-sprayed, he got in a car with them to talk about their experience. He was following his journalistic gut and going wherever the story led him.

Well, according to the journalist, Stephen McGee, the cops thought he crossed a line by getting into the car with the kids and were suspicious he

didn't have journalist credentials on him. So, one of the officers confiscated his camera.

That's pretty outrageous right there, but we caution not all the facts are in yet. Things got worse, said McGee. His camera was returned but without its memory card, which is a card that contains the images photographed.

Once he got his card back, after a lot of double-talk and denials from officers, he noticed several photos – mostly of officers interacting with the students – were deleted. The Police Department denies this.

First things first, the journalist was not interfering with the cops. Second, in the world of independent journalists, there are no "credentials." And thirdly, cops are not the judges of when a journalist crosses our First Amendment right nor did McGee cross an ethics line by getting in a car with the teens who were pepper-sprayed.

Journalists come in all stripes and roles. Some are employed full-time, some practice part-time and some are to-

tally independent of anyone and receive no payment. In the world of Internet blogs, the definition of who's a journalist gets even more blurry and complicated.

There is no hard and fast official definition of what being a journalist means. There are no official requirements to become one.

Our Founding Fathers – the people who wrote our Constitution – thought the right to a free press was so important, it was the only profession or work title singled out for special protection. Lawyers, plumbers, engineers, doctors, you name it, they don't have special rights.

We don't mean to take Hamtramck officers to task. This was an isolated incident during a very confrontational scene outside the school. But it is a possible constitutional blunder that could lead to a very expensive lawsuit. Hamtramck cannot afford to make errors like this.

Furthermore, journalists are here to tell our story, for good or bad. We need to protect that treasured right.



Letter from the Publisher

By John Ulaj

Rebellious teens learn directly from their parents

Over the past few weeks we've witnessed continuing episodes of violence and fighting between ethnic and racial groups of children in our schools.

There have been repeated episodes of violence as students leave school for the day. When I walked out of my office one afternoon I witnessed police officers trying to disperse a mob of rebellious teens. The teens were shouting at the cops, calling them racists, and challenging and defying law and order. My first thought was: where in the world are these kids' parents?

I think these children are a reflection of what's going on at home. Parents need to realize that they are jeopardizing their children's future by teaching them indirectly that rebellion and aggression is acceptable. Failing to instill values and morals in your children can be considered a form of child abuse because a sense of morality is essential to our survival as individuals and as a community.

I believe our police officers have been very tolerant, giving repeated

warnings to groups to disperse and leave peacefully. The police are often unfairly treated and even scorned by some parents. As a community, we are fortunate to have an excellent police force. Parents should take advantage of this and work with police to instill a sense of community in their children.

This is a very diverse community and that makes it even more important that parents and officials work together to teach children to respect each other and the law. Fighting is unacceptable – that is a concept that both parents and police can support. Innocent citizens, especially seniors, are afraid to walk in the city for fear of being injured or robbed.

Police officers and school officials are not responsible for children's behavior. They are there to teach, offer support, and maintain order, but learning responsibility begins at home. Parents have the greatest influence on their children – not government committees or organizations. As parents you are the

primary role model and the guiding force in their lives. Children reflect the actions of their parents. They learn dignity and respect for the community from your example. Shouting and scolding police officers is wrong.

When I was a teenager and got in trouble my parents would scold me and take some of my privileges away. Over time, I learned that respect of law and social values were essential to success. I was fortunate that my parents re-enforced traditional values and respect for the law; it taught me to be a better person. I understand that there are many single parents that are tremendously busy just trying to make ends meet, but that cannot be an excuse.

As parents you must stay involved with your teens and advise them to stay away from fighting and violence.

Embrace the golden rule as the good Lord instructed us to do – which is to love your neighbor as yourself. We will be all be better for it.

Odds & Ends

Treated... The Hamtramck Recreation Department sure knows how to make friends.

On Thursday morning, the Rec folks laid out a super breakfast for seniors at the Hamtramck Senior Plaza. Representatives from the local Census office also talked about the upcoming national population count.

Hey you... Yeah, we're talking to you — you being advertisers out there. You have only two more weeks to hop on board our special election issue, which will be delivered to every house in Hamtramck. That's roughly about 7,000 houses, many of which are two-family dwellings.

This is obviously a unique opportunity to reach every person in the city. Several candidates have already signed up and there is room for more.

In the future, The Review will be going to every household about three times a year. We figured the Nov. 3 election is an obvious time to kick off the special issues because it's also a way for candidates to make their pitch to the community.

It's also a way for readers and voters to get more involved and come out to vote.

And the winners are... A few weeks ago the Hamtramck Housing Commission hosted a first-ever Senior Olympics for the tenants at the Senior Plaza apartments. Here's the list of who won:

Janice Woods 6 Gold, 2 Silver, 1 Bronze
Matt Singletary 4 Gold, 1 Silver



Jean Parks 2 Silver, 3 Bronze
Carol Manko 1 Gold, 2 Silver, 1 Bronze

Joan Barrios 3 Silver, 1 Bronze
Everjean James 3 Gold
Allie Gaines 1 Gold, 1 Bronze
James Bostic 1 Silver, 1 Bronze
Carol Marsh 1 Silver, 1 Bronze
Shah Khaleque 1 Silver, 1 Bronze

Delphine Green 2 Bronze
Lucy Cichanowicz 1 Gold
Patricia Price 1 Gold
Richard Stefanczyk 1 Silver
Queenie Thompson 1 Silver
Willie Mae Thompson 1 Silver
Lovlace Gayles Jr. 1 Bronze
Helen Scur 1 Bronze
Mary Kawa 1 Bronze
Gladys Robinson 1 Bronze

Coming events

October 24, Sat. 3-6 p.m. – It's all the spaghetti dinner you can eat at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Parish, in the Activity Center (entrance from Harold St.). Admission for adults is \$8 and for children, 6-10 years old, \$4.

The Amazing CYNICALMAN™ by Matt Fezell



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www.hamtramckreview.com • email hamtramckreview@yahoo.com
Editor/Publisher: John Ulaj Editor: Charles Sercombe
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Cremation Services

Big bikes and even bigger hearts

By Ian Perrotta
Review Staffwriter

When most people think of bikers, they picture mean guys with nasty attitudes. But that stereotype only makes up a fraction of motorcycle riders. The rest are decent, friendly and caring – a lot like the members of the STAR Touring and Riding Association.

STAR is a non-political, non-confrontational riding association with a focus on family, fun, camaraderie and riding. Recently, the Michigan chapter of STAR partnered up with Feed the Children (an international, nonprofit relief organization that delivers food, medicine, clothing and other necessities to people who lack essentials) and helped provide aid to several hundred families in Hamtramck.

Wayne County was one of two counties in Michigan chosen by the Office of Volunteer Services in Lansing to receive the STAR/Feed the Children aid. Over the past month, 400 vouchers were distributed by Friendship House,

Peoples Community Services, Highland Park Head Start and ACCESS to families in need of assistance. People from Wayne County's three Cities of Promise, which Hamtramck is one of, were eligible to obtain the assistance.

Last Saturday, those who received the vouchers were able to pick up their aid at the Department of Human Services office on Denton St. Each voucher was good for a box of food, a box of hygiene products, and a gift box from Avon. The members of STAR created a path through the parking lot that enabled them to quickly disperse the boxes to several cars at once.

The money to pay for the aid distribution came from the members of STAR. Jay Reynolds, Oxford chapter president and International STAR Samaritan, explained that STAR is the fifth-largest contributor to Feed the Children, even with competition from major organizations like the NFL, NBA, and MLB.

"We try to do this as much as we can so we can show

people that all motorcycle groups and associations aren't bad, and that we do care," said Reynolds.

The whole operation cost between seven and eight thousand dollars, not bad considering that figure pays for the purchase, packing, shipping and distribution of aid for 400 families. But it's not the only thing the organization does. The group also spearheads Operation Good Cheer, a program designed to help provide Christmas gifts to needy children in the state, as well as playing host to many local and regional events that cater to the specific needs of specific areas.

Overall, STAR seeks to provide a safe and healthy outlet for its members while at the same time bettering the community around them.

"The thing about these guys," says Tom Neil, Michigan State Director of STAR, "is that they are helping people they don't even know. And that's important, because it truly shows just how much they care."



Needy families received boxes of food last Saturday thanks to the donation of the STAR Touring and Riding Association, a group of bikers who have made similar donations in many communities.

THAT'S WHAT'S UP • ADVICE COLUMN

Daughter bites everybody in sight

Dear Teresa,

I have a biter! My daughter bites and screams constantly! She's even bit me. It hurts and she doesn't understand how badly it hurts and that it's wrong!

My friends have stopped having play dates with us because of her biting.

–Bitten off more than I can chew

Bitten,

First thing I must say is do NOT bite the child back. That is child abuse. Do not encourage the other child to bite back. That's inappropriate and teaching the other child the wrong thing to do.

You should know that biting

is temporary, and will pass, if you take steps to correct the child.

You should first let the biter know what they've done.

Explain to the child, "You bit him!," and "it's NOT okay to bite!" After you've informed the biter of what they're doing, you must decide on consequences (such as a brief time out).

Next, you should focus on the victim. Let them know that you're sorry, and offer to do something to make them feel better.

You should instruct the biter comfort the victim by washing the bite, or getting ice. Make sure that your daughter knows that's she's hurt someone else, and that there are other ways to express frustration, or anger.

Teach her phrases such as "I'm mad," or "I don't like that".

After you've taught your daughter to express herself, you have to keep practicing until she no longer bites. It's also important that you supervise your daughter so that she doesn't bite. While you're supervising play dates, pay close attention. There are times when you can see your child about to become frustrated and you can remove her from the situation by maybe taking her to play blocks instead of whatever she was playing with.

Be patient with your child as she's learning to express herself without biting.

–Now, That's What's Up!

Time is running out for DDA business façade improvement grant... Continued from page 4

- You will receive a letter from the Hamtramck DDA, letting you know if your project has been approved, put on a waiting list, or denied.

What will happen if your project is selected:

- The applicant must provide proof of paid taxes, and a \$500 deposit, which will be returned after the project is completed. The \$500 deposit is a good faith deposit which will be used to cover expenses incurred by the DDA if the applicant decides not to proceed with the improvements after an architect has been retained and services provided.

Select an Architect/Prepare Design:

- If you select a DDA endorsed architect, they will contact you to set up an introductory meeting and discuss design recommendations and a budget. This information will then be reported back to the Hamtramck DDA. You also have the option of selecting an architect on your own; however, if you do so, façade improvement funding cannot be applied toward architectural design service costs.

- The architect will prepare design drawings and the scope of work for the façade of your building.

- The architect and DDA project managers will review the design drawings and scope of work with you.

- If plan commission approval is necessary, the DDA project managers will submit the approved plans to the

Hamtramck Plan Commission for their approval and recommendation for approval to City Council.

Select a Contractor:

- You are responsible for securing three (3) contractor bids for your project. Then, contact the DDA project managers to set up a meeting to review these bids. Please send copies of the bids to the project managers at least one week before your meeting.

- The applicant will then enter into a contract with one of the contractors. The signed bid estimate/contract should include the cost of improvements, as well as start and end dates for the project.

- The DDA project managers will review the contract between the applicant and contractor to ensure that it complies with the façade improvement grant procedures.

- The DDA will then enter into a grant contract with you, the applicant. The grant contract will include the cost of improvements, amount of grant funding, and the start and expected completion dates for the project.

While work is taking place:

- The DDA project managers will schedule visits to your building as necessary while improvements are underway. At these visits, we will review the progress of the work, and document the progress for publicity purposes.

- Because federal grant money is being used the DDA project managers will also visit

the worksite to interview contractors/workers to make sure that all federal oversight requirements (competitive wage, etc.) are met.

- After the work is finished, the DDA project managers will make a final visit your building to ensure that the work has been completed according to the approved design drawings.

Receiving your grant funds and original deposit:

- Within two weeks of the completion of your project, you will need to submit the following to the DDA project managers:

Copies of paid bills.
Waiver of Lien signed by each contractor that work has been completed and their payment has been received.

Statement of satisfaction (to be provided by the DDA project managers at the final site visit) signed by the applicant.

Copies of any permits required by the City of Hamtramck.

Request for payment.

- After the above documents have been received, you will receive payment of your matching grant.

If you have any questions or concerns about the Hamtramck DDA façade improvement program, contact Darren Grow at (313) 870-0346.

Note: For publicity purposes, the Hamtramck DDA reserves the right to photograph buildings receiving façade improvement funds and provide information to various media sources.

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Help with student homework is free and offers prizes

Continued from page 2

transportation to and from sessions and meeting with staff at home to establish

successful homework and study habits. Students can bring their homework to the

HAP every day — including work completed in class — and attend the HAP four

days a week for an entire grading period.

And anyone in the community that wants to help is encouraged to volunteer.

The program is staffed by Pastor John Meyers, Reverend Sharon Buttry, Liza Gmetro and Abby Layer. Though the Acts 29 Fellowship is a "faith-based organization that daily lives out the goal of community transformation," the HAP is a secular program open to all.

"The program is designed to meet the needs of all children in the community, regardless of race, religion or ethnicity," said Buttry.

Once again, the Homework Assistance Program is offered free Monday through Thursday from 3:30-4:30 p.m. to fourth and fifth grade students of Hamtramck Public Schools. For more information call (313) 365-2287 or send an email to acts29@acts-29.us.



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Obituaries

WOLOCH



Wladyslaw "Wally" Woloch, 50, died October 8, 2009.

Beloved brother of Helena (Jurek) Pydych & Stanley (Roza) Woloch. Dearest boyfriend of Gabrysia Dabrowska. Loving son of the late Jan and the late Magdalena Woloch. Share memories with the family at their

"On-Line Guest Book" @ WujekCalcaterra.com.

Funeral arrangements were made by Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons, Inc. Funeral Home.

Funeral services were held on October 13 at St. Louis the King Church. Burial was at Resurrection Cemetery.



Are you searching for answers?

If someone were to stop you on the street and ask you to define love, how would you do it? What or who would be the first thing that comes to your mind? The answer you give would most likely be determined by your age or your life experiences.

A young child's perception of love is based primarily upon their relationship with their parents, particularly the mother. The young child exists principally as one who receives love. Sadly, a teenager's perception of love often becomes twisted by pop-culture and can be summed up as follows, "I love me, and I want you." In western culture marriage is the result of two people "falling in love." If one thinks about the whole concept of "falling in love" it sounds accidental and passive.

Back to the original question, "How do you define love?" Let's look at what the dictionary says. According to Webster's Collegiate Dictionary love is, "a strong affection for another arising out of kinship or personal ties." This is the first of nine entries for the word love. Most of these entries tie the word love to an emotion shared between two people.

If one were to turn to the Bible for a definition of love they would find essentially three definitions based on the Greek language: philos, or the love that exists between friends; eros, or the romantic love between a man

and woman; and, agape, or the kind of love God displays toward mankind.

The first two definitions listed above, brotherly love and romantic love, can be somewhat fleeting and undependable. The truest definition of love is the last, agape love, or the kind of love God demonstrates toward his creation.

The Scriptures tell us that "God is love" (1 John 4:8). Our whole concept of love ought to be derived from who God is. For God love is an action that abides regardless of emotion or circumstance. God's love cannot change, because He cannot change. God defines love for us in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that who-ever believes in Him, shall not perish but have everlasting life." True love is an action for the good of others. God acted by giving His Son. True love is a based on intentional giving, not accidental emotion.

Consider for a moment those you claim to love. How much of your love for others is based on what you get, rather than what you give? Make the decision today to love like God and give of yourself to others!

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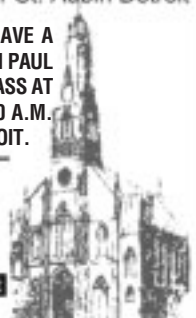
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Photo-journalist gets caught up in high school tangle

By Charles Sercombe

The on again/off again student confrontation at Hamtramck High School caught the eye of an independent photojournalist.

The journalist also caught the eye of police officers trying to disperse the students before a fight erupted.

Last Thursday, a brewing square-off between Arab and black students seemed to reach a boiling point after school let out. Groups of students were simultaneously trying to evade the cops and find a way to meet up with their rivals.

Photojournalist Stephen McGee, a former Detroit Free Press journalist and New York Times contributor, saw the action from his church, the Real Church on Caniff, just a couple of blocks away from HHS, and took off running to capture what appeared to be an important news event.

McGee was working on a church project at the time and he left the building without his identification. After snapping a number of photos, interviewing both Arab and black students, McGee got into a car with a few Arab students who had just been pepper-sprayed to get more of their story. After getting out of the car, a police officer, whom McGee said he did not get his name, demanded he turn over his camera. McGee complied, admitting he didn't know his rights as a journalist. The officer also demanded McGee show his journalistic credentials and ID. McGee said he had no credentials nor did he have his ID on him.

The officer explained that McGee had lost his First Amendment press protection because he became part of the story by getting into the car with the students, McGee said.

McGee has been chronicling the Detroit story for over a year now and has taken over 20,000 photographs on the area's historic economic transition.

McGee said he was flabbergasted by the officer's position. "There wasn't a rationale that made sense," McGee said. "They took my camera by guilt by association."

The story gets more tangled. When McGee went to retrieve

his camera at the police station, it was returned without its camera memory card. The card contains the photographic images. He didn't notice the missing card, he said, until he got home in Detroit. He returned to the police station and asked for his memory card.

McGee said he was first told no one had the card and after persisting, he was told the card was removed for possible evidence and that an off-duty officer had taken the card with him and was driving home.

Eventually, the card was returned without further explanation. McGee said he later discovered a number of images — mostly of officers interacting with students — were deleted.

McGee said he is now contemplating legal action.

"There are so many things that were wrong," he said.

City Manager Bill Cooper said police officers took the camera after noticing it on the hood of the car McGee had been in. Cooper said when officers asked who owned the camera, McGee and two or three of the students claimed it.

Because the ownership of the camera was in question, officers



A photojournalist inadvertently became part of the story involving Hamtramck High School students being pepper-sprayed by police officers last week because they refused to disperse and were threatening to start fights.

took the camera. McGee denies this and said he had his camera in hand and was filming as he exited the car.

Cooper did admit the camera card incident was mishandled but denied any photos were deleted.

McGee said his First Amendment freedom of the press rights were violated.

Michigan Press Association attorney Robin Herma said that without having all the details in front of her to review she couldn't make a specific comment. However, she said the practice of law enforcement officers confiscating cameras from the press is "de-

plorable."

She suggested that McGee contact the Michigan State Police to investigate the matter.

City Manager Bill Cooper said Police Chief Mark Kalinowski is reviewing the matter.

Arab students said during the incident that officers were picking on them, and the students called them racists to their faces.

A number of people witnessing the incidents said both the black and Arab students were pepper-sprayed equally. Many of the students who were gathering around the high school refused to obey police orders to disperse.

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