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May 9, 2025

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Quick Hits

City offers summer internships

By Alan Madlane
Once again, Hamtramck has put out the call for summer youth interns.

There are a variety of available positions, and all of them could beef up a resume down the road.

There are internships being offered in downtown improvements projects, beautification work and even for supervisors. In the process, you can learn more about local city governments, beautification, events, Hamtramck and more.

The age range they are seeking are persons age 14 to 24.

The internships will run during July and August. Applications will be taken through May 23.

You can submit the applications to hr@hamtramckcity.gov, or, if you would like more information, call (313) 800-5233, extension 818.

The program is a joint effort between the Community & Economic Development office and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

These are paid positions. They have proven to be very popular with participants in the past, so don't delay if you are interested – get your application in ASAP.

Good luck!



HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD



TOAST of the TOWN

Strawberries, crafts and a tribute to the Hamtramck Historical Museum

By Charles Sercombe

There's something about the sound of a bagpipe and drum band that tugs at the heartstrings.

And it seems the older, and maybe more world-weary you get, the sound of the mournful wail of bagpipes tugs even harder at one's emotions.

Such was the case during a busy Hamtramck weekend.

Saturday kicked off with the annual firefighters' march from the station on Caniff and Mackay down to Jos. Campau, and then over to St. Florian Church, led by the Michigan Scottish Pipes and Drums band.

At the church, a special Mass was held in honor of firefighters – a fitting place for the service since St. Florian is the patron saint of firefighters.

After Mass, it was time to let loose at the Parish's Strawberry Festival. Hamtramck's favorite party band, The Polish Muslims, got the festivities started – as usual – under a big tent that was crammed shoulder-to-shoulder with fans and parishioners.

In the Parish's basement, fresh home-cooked Polish meals were being sold, and a Polish combo played easy listening mu-

sic for the dinner crowd.

In between the Mass and the start of the two-day Strawberry Festival, Toast headed over to the city's Night Bazaar, held at Pope Park, where a series of tents were set up for local craft folks to hawk their wares.

Although Saturday morning started out with overcast skies and cold drizzly weather, by afternoon the sun peaked out, and spring-like temperatures returned.

Hamtramck's only craft beer joint, Florian East on Jos. Campau – just down the street from the church – had its front door open, and inside, the Kielbasa Kings, a perennial favorite here in town, blasted out polkas.

Toast took Sunday off, but on Monday evening, a very special gathering took place at Polonia Restaurant to honor Hamtramck Historical Museum Director Greg Kowalski, who has been battling some serious health issues. On the agenda was an overview on where the museum has evolved over the past 12 years ago, and also offered a glimpse of the museum's future.

Greg, who is in his 70s, declined to make

Continued on page 6



Taxpayers once again tapped

By Charles Sercombe

Recently, Mayor Amer Ghalib, along with other Muslim community leaders, was invited to the White House by President Trump to celebrate Eid with an iftar dinner – which is the dinner that breaks the month-long daytime fast that Muslims observe during Ramadan.

Unlike in 2023, when President Biden hosted an iftar dinner, this time Ghalib said he paid his own way in order that “people don't panic” at the cost.

And, also unlike 2023, the city council was not invited.

Although Ghalib was concerned about the cost to taxpayers for footing this year's trip, back in 2023 there was no hesitation on the part of the mayor and city councilmembers to travel to the White House in celebration of Eid all on the taxpayers' dime.

In 2023, Ghalib was joined by Councilmembers Muhith Mahmood, Abu Musa, Mohammed Hassan, Mohammed Alsomiri and then-Councilmember Nayeem Choudhury on the trip to Washington D.C.

Back then, the cost for all of them to go came to nearly \$10,000, which included air travel, transportation, lodging and meals, according to a Freedom of Information Act request by The Review for the financial records.

There was no charge too small to charge to the city.

Two coffees and two butter croissants? That'll be \$22.

Three chicken sandwiches, and a couple of Cokes, \$76.73, with a \$13.81 tip, that'll be \$90 and 54 cents.

Eight Uber trips for Councilmember Mahmood, \$229.84.

Back then, there was no animosity between the mayor and council and President Biden. That relationship broke down in 2024 because of Israel's attack on Gaza, and Biden's support of providing military aid to Isra-

Continued on page 2

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Taxpayers once again tapped

Cont. from front page

el. The military aid has been at the center of a decades-long agreement between the U.S. and Israel.

The mayor and council are all-male, and all-Muslim. They accused Biden of supporting genocide because of the mounting death toll of Palestinians in Gaza, which is now estimated to be over 60,000 and still counting.

President Trump campaigned as the “peace president,” and promised to end the war in Gaza and in Ukraine on “Day One.”

Both wars are ongoing, but although Trump has stopped financial aid to Ukraine, he continues to financially support Israel and provide military supplies.

Unlike in 2024, when the mayor and council, and many other Arab-Americans in the metro area, protested against Biden for his support of Israel and led protest rallies, there has been no outcry over Trump’s continued support of Israel.

As it turned out, Mayor Ghalib threw his support to Trump in his run for president, and is also credited for galvanizing many Arab-Americans to also vote for Trump.

As an apparent reward for his support of Trump, Ghalib has been nominated to be the ambassador to Kuwait, and is waiting for confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

(U.S. ambassadors receive a yearly salary ranging from \$124,000 to \$187,000, plus free lodging, meals and other expenses.)

In 2023, there were high hopes that the council could get something out of meeting with Biden and his administration.

“Maybe we can bring money for the City of Hamtramck,” said Councilmember Nayeem Choudhury at the time. “I’ve been in the city for 20 years and things need to be fixed, but it wasn’t due to financial crises or what not.”

What Choudhury may not have realized at the time was that Hamtramck had already received millions of dollars in infrastructure repair grants through Biden’s “Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act,” which earmarked \$62 billion for rebuilding roads, bridges and for other projects throughout the nation.

The mayor and council did not get to meet personally with President Biden, but he spoke to those attending, about 200 Muslim-American leaders.

Mayor Ghalib summed up the trip then as “a good experience. We walked around and inside the White House, attended the president’s speech, and ate after that.”

Ghalib added: “He (Biden) just spoke and, on his way out of the room, he shook hands with people standing in the front, and walked out. He had no bilateral meetings with anyone due to too many people in the room.”

It was a rare opportunity for city officials to meet other officials from different states and “network,” Ghalib added.

Councilmember Mahmood said, back then, that “It was a great experience with different leaders from all over the country.”

Councilmember Musa said, “We had an excellent trip. We met a lot of people.”

Musa also got a bonus by being able to pose for a photo with Vice President Kamala Harris.

A year later, the relationship between the Biden administration and city leaders changed drastically. Ghalib, Musa and new councilmembers Khalil Refai and Muhtasin Sadman turned their back on Biden and supported Trump for president.

Ghalib said, in 2024, that even if he had been invited by Biden for another visit, he would not have gone.

“I have expressed before that I won’t be attending any meeting with Biden or any of his administration at this time, so they know not to invite me,” Ghalib told The Review in 2024.

That 2023 trip wasn’t the only time that city officials traveled to Washington D.C. thanks to taxpayers.

While the 2023 trip could be justified as a special invitation for a White House event and not a political event, in January of this year, the mayor and Councilmembers Sadman, Musa and Refai went to an inauguration celebration for Trump in Washington.

That trip cost Hamtramck taxpayers over \$7,000, according to city financial records obtained by The Review through a Freedom of Information Act request.

(The Detroit News had reported that the trip’s cost was closer to \$9,000.)

In recent weeks, it has come to light that Musa and Mahmood may not be residents of Hamtramck.

A private investigator, hired by the city to perform background checks on candidates filing for the August Primary Election, has alleged that neither Musa nor Mahmood live in the city.

It’s now up to the council to decide whether they should be disqualified to be on the primary election ballot. Mahmood is running for mayor, and Musa is seeking another term on council.

Both have vehemently denied not being residents, and have threatened legal action if they are kicked off the ballot or the current city council.

The council’s decision is scheduled to be handed down at the city council meeting on May 13 meeting.

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This week at the Library . . .

May 9, 2025

Story Time: Get your kids together and drop in on our Wednesday noon programs with library staff, and on first Mondays of the month at 3:45 pm (usually) with members of the Hamtramck Federation of Teachers.

27th Amendment: On May 7, 1992 this Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified prohibiting Congress from giving itself pay raises.

Exercise in the Library: The Yoga classes returned on Tuesdays at 2:30 p. The Tai Chi classes will return in February. The program is sponsored by the RIM Foundation.

War on Mexico: On May 13, 1846 at the request of President James K. Polk, Congress declared war on Mexico. The controversial struggle eventually cost the lives of 11,300 U.S. soldiers and resulted in the annexation of lands that became parts of Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, California, Utah and Colorado. He war ended in 1948 with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

ESL Classes: The Horizon school is sponsoring ESL classes at the library, held Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday at 9:00 am and 12:00 noon. They are free of charge to Hamtramck residents. Registration required. There is an additional class on Thursdays ant 9 am and 12 noon that is conducted by ESL assistant.

Pope John Paul II: On May 13, 1981, he was shot twice at close range while riding in an open automobile in

St. Peter’s Square in Rome. Two other persons were also wounded. An escaped terrorist, already under sentence of death for the murder of a Turkish journalist, was immediately arrested and was later convicted of attempted murder. The Pope recovered and later held a private meeting with the would be assassin and then publicly forgave him.

Stream on Hoopla: There are tons of shows and movies available for you to stream on Hoopla. Cooking competitions, rom-coms, thrillers, cand comfy holiday classics. Selection is massive. If that is not enough, give Kanopy a try. They provide a specially curated collection of foreign films, domestic cinema classics, award winning documentaries, and educational media that is topnotch. Look to the eResources tab on our website for a quick link to all this awesome content.

Jamestown: The first permanent English settlement in American was established on May 14, 1607 in Jamestown, Virginia, by a group of royally chartered Virginia Company settlers from Plymouth, England.

Lewis and Clark: On May 14, 1796 they departed on their expedition to explore the Northwest.

Game Night: We are moving to Wednesdays. Join us for Game Night at the library. We are serving up something fun each Wednesday at 4 pm. Stop by and let us know that you have come to play. Everyone invited.

Library is located at 2360 Caniff Avenue, Phone (313) 733-6822
Or visit its website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> for on line catalog
Attachments for printing, faxing or scanning send to hamtramcklibrary@gmail.com

Review: Opinion Page

Other Voices: Guest Editorial

Mayor: ‘A new chapter in my political journey’

The following message to the community was recently posted by Mayor Amer Ghalib on his Facebook page.

By Mayor Amer Ghalib

As I reflect on my schedule for the next few weeks, I found that I may miss the first city council meeting of May due to my involvement in a training course related to my upcoming assignment as US ambassador to Kuwait.

I am honored and proud, to announce today that after nearly three and a half years of serving as Mayor of Hamtramck, I have never missed any City Council meeting, whether it was regular, private or emergency, despite being very busy with my frequent travels, clinic work, family responsibilities, and graduate studies that have not stopped yet. And I practice my professional, political and social work.

Now that I have started connecting with other tasks and preparing for a new chapter in my political journey, I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone who supported me, stood by me by all means, advised me and the community, who did not move, complained or went after his work and supported me through harm.

I believe that I have done my duty and my job honestly and sincerity,

and without any personal interest, since I have undergone community work in this position, and I know that it is semi-voluntary, and that it requires sacrificing time and money, reducing official working hours, bearing great psychological and physical burdens, and postponing all personal and family projects, in order to avoid failure, which would have negatively reflected on the Arab and Muslim community in the U.S. and not just on a personal level.

It was not in the calculation or even in the imagination when I applied for candidacy in 2021, that the days would give me the opportunity to go up to other great positions.

So from the beginning I held to my values and principles and did not compromise on them to please anyone, and I knew that those situations would stand in my way and their consequences would haunt me throughout my life, many doors of opportunities will close in front of me, but the fates wanted that one side to close all doors on my face, so that another one can come and open some doors of opportunities for me, without asking me to renounce a principle or to negotiate on a cause or situation.

Days and events have convinced and taught me that the shortest roads to success are after hard

work and are the path of honesty, sincerity, integrity, courage, and steadfastness on principles and values, and that any success that did not go through this path will remain a distorted and diminished success.

I did not climb on people's appearances, but I sailed on the overflow of their love, I ridiculed all my skills and potential to serve them in exchange for their trust in me, and I came out with the love and friendship between us twice as much as it was at the beginning of the journey.

Life is full of opportunities, successes and failures, and when you stumble at the last step of the ladder of success because of some obstacles in your path, those who are still stumbling at the first step of the ladder will mock you, so don't turn to the mockers who are lost at the bottom, but keep moving the obstacles in front of you to get to the top, and not keep your mind busy dealing with the enemies of success and with those who busy themselves with the faults of others and forget themselves.

The road is still long and risky, but it does not matter if things do not go the way we want. The important thing is that God and conscience are satisfied with our actions and attitudes.

Have a good time.

Other Voices: Guest Editorial

County health agency expands mobile clinic

By James E. White
DWIHN President and CEO

The Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN) is proud to unveil its Community Outreach Clinic, which will reach residents in Wayne County neighborhoods with physical and mental health services.

The DWIHN Community Outreach Clinic is a 37-foot Ford-550 outfitted with onboard electricity, a bathroom, and an exam room. The specially outfitted vehicle was provided through federal grant funds and staffed by

DWIHN clinical and community outreach teams.

DWIHN is focused on directly caring for the communities we serve. The DWIHN Community Outreach Clinic and its team are coming to a community near you.”

Wayne County residents can find DWIHN outreach teams and the Community Outreach Clinic every Monday at designated locations throughout Wayne County bringing critical physical and behavioral health services to their community.

Transportation should

never be a barrier to care for direct services, health screenings, and referrals to community residents. The team includes a clinician, a nurse practitioner, and a community outreach specialist.

With this mobile clinic on wheels in motion, we are taking a proactive approach to care and providing the community with the resources and services that our residents need.

To learn more, visit our website at www.dwhn.org.

The Hamtramck Review

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Odds & Ends

Help a neighbor... recently a fire on Florian near Dubois ripped through a house and caused catastrophic damage.

The house belongs to Mark Babiasz whose family has a long history with the city.

The cost to repair, as you would guess, is astronomical, and Mark could use financial help.

We'll let his neighbor, Nicollet Warczak fill you in on the GoFundMe fundraiser now underway.

Here's what she said recently on a Hamtramck Facebook page:

“This home wasn’t just a structure – it was a living piece of Hamtramck history. Mark and his brothers Kenneth and David were raised there, and their late mother, Ethel, called it home for decades.

“The Babiasz family purchased the house (originally built in 1911) in 1963, making them some of the original Hamtramckans. Mark continued to honor his family's legacy by keeping the home in pristine condition – it stood out on the block as one of the most lovingly cared-for homes in the neighborhood.

“After the fire destroyed his home, Mark is left with only the ruins and the reality of loss. He's lost not just a roof over his head, but decades of family history, hard work, and love.

“As neighbors, friends, and compassionate people, I ask that we come together in support of someone who has always given so much of himself to this community. ...

“We are asking for donations of any kind – no amount is too small. Every dollar brings Mark one step closer to stability, replacing essentials, and beginning the long process of rebuilding. Please give if you can, and share this with others who may be moved to help.”

To contribute, go online to: gofundme.com and look up: Help Mark Rebuild After Tragic Fire.

The goal is to raise at least \$25,000.

Free trees... Hamtramck has a grant to plant 1,000 trees over the next four years in the city, and now there's a chance you

can get one free of charge in your yard.

Or maybe you have a suggestion where one is needed on your block or somewhere else.

All you have to do is ask, and it's as easy as emailing the city at: tree-requests@hamtramckcity.gov.

Get healthy!... Once again, it's time for the annual Hamtramck Drug Free Community Coalition (HDFCC), a program of the Piast Institute, for its 16th Annual Hamtramck Health Hike.

The hike is next weekend, Saturday, May 17, starting at 9:30 a.m. until noon.

Here's what the Piast organization has to say about the event:

“Rain or shine, participants will embark on the 5K course winding through city streets, starting and ending at Zussman Park, in front of Hamtramck City Hall, at 3401 Evaline.

“As an added incentive, the first 400 people to register and attend will receive free giveaways, so be sure to sign up early and secure your spot! Registration is free and can be completed online at: tinyurl.com/HealthHike.”

As a bonus, those participating will get a free T-shirt, free lunch and ice cream, and free entry for raffle prizes.

For those who take these things on a more serious athletic side, the 5K will be officially timed, and participants will be able to look up their bib number online to see their race results and compare times within their age group.

Moms beware... Well, bad news for wannabe-moms who reside in Michigan.

We hate to break it to you, but a new study (from those reputable study takers at, ah, Kremp Florist, so, you know, it must be true) finds Michigan near dead-bottom on the list of the 50 states best for moms.

The study purports to have analyzed the states by 11 separate metrics, and, in the end, Michigan came out better than only Nevada, West Virginia and New Mexico.

We were even behind

Louisiana – and that's the state where Britney Spears was caught driving her car with her kid in her lap.

So, where does this definitely-the-thing-you-should-listen-to-about-this-subject survey believe moms to be best off?

Well, survey says: Massachusetts, scoring high for healthcare, childcare quality and family support systems.

Massachusetts was followed by Maryland, New Jersey, Connecticut and Kentucky.

The national average cost for childcare is \$9,955; but in Michigan, it's \$11,086.

It was this cost factor, plus lack of legislated family leave, that put Michigan behind the 8-ball on this issue, the survey claims.

In spring, all things are new again... Except maybe this item, since we talked about it last year as well.

Still, we can't get enough of the idea of, well, naked gardening.

Maybe that's because we keep getting reminded of it by the good folks at Lawnstarter, who keep sending out a yearly press release on the matter.

About Naked Gardening.

Did you know that there's a “World Naked Gardening Day,” which this year fell last Saturday, May 3? This year's is the 21st annual one, in fact.

As we recall, that was a rather awful weather day hereabouts in Michigan. Not so conducive, we'd say.

So, once again, these folks – who must really care about this topic – analyzed the 500 (!) largest U.S. cities, using 11 metrics, such as percent of population that identifies as nudist, public nudity laws and their enforcement, Google search interest, and more.

And who came out on top?

Miami! ... You thought we were going to say Hamtramck, didn't you?

Seattle came second, followed by Austin, Atlanta and Asheville, North Carolina.

The “Bottom” Five: Hammond, Indiana; and Woodbury, Brooklyn Park, Bloomington and Plymouth.

Continued on page 5

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CRIME LOG



By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers April 29-May 5.

Tuesday, April 29

- A suspect was arrested on Holbrook for trespassing.
- An incident of fraud was reported on Grand Haven. Another incident of fraud was reported in the 11700 block of Sobieski.
- A stolen vehicle was recovered in the area of Brombach and Edwin.

Wednesday, April 30

- A sexual assault was reported.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported on Pulaski.
- A business on Jos. Campau reported a disorderly customer.
- An incident of fraud was reported on Lumpkin.
- An assault was reported at Commor and Grand Haven.
- A break-in was reported in the 2600 block of Holbrook.
- A person was reported missing in the 3200 block of Belmont.
- Family trouble was reported in the 11300 block of Klinger.
- An assault was reported in the 2700 block of Carpenter.
- A suspect was arrested for trespassing.

Thursday, May 1

- At about 3:30 a.m., a complaint was made

about an animal in the 3000 block of Belmont. At 5 a.m., a complaint was also made about an animal in the 11600 block of McDougall.

- A business on Jos. Campau reported a disorderly customer.
- An assault was reported at Hanley and Gallagher.
- A theft was reported in the 2700 block of Carpenter.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 2900 block of Hanley.

Friday, May 2

- At about 4 a.m., a complaint was made about noise in the 3200 block of Jacob.
- A package was reported stolen on Dyar.
- A business on Conant reported trouble with a customer.
- A person reported that several guns were stolen from his vehicle.
- A trespassing complaint was made in the 5000 block of Belmont.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 9700 block of Jos. Campau.
- A complaint was made about a juvenile in the 2400 block of Andrus.
- An assault was reported at Caniff and Sobieski.

Saturday, May 3

- Family trouble was reported in the 12000

block of Selfridge.

- A domestic assault was reported on Andrus.
- A person on Belmont reported being harassed.
- Gunshots were reported in the 12000 block of Dequindre.
- A theft from an auto was reported in the 3400 block of Comstock.

Sunday, May 4

- No incident report was available for this date.

Monday, May 5

- At almost 4:30 a.m., a driver was arrested for drunk driving, possessing a gun while intoxicated,

and for having an open intoxicant. Two passengers were also arrested for possessing open intoxicants.

- A break-in was reported on Belmont.
- An incident of fraud was reported in the 12100 block of Conant.
- A vehicle was stolen in the 3100 block of Lehman.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 2100 block of Caniff.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 12000 block of Dyar.



Optimists
Oratorical update

On Wednesday, May 7, the Optimists of Downtown Detroit held their annual Law Day and Winners' Circle Luncheon. Eight students from Hamtramck Public Schools were honored for their speeches on the topic, "How Optimism Has Guided Me Through Trying Times." The first-place winner was KMS 8th grader, Nabihah Chowdhury. In second place, was 8th grader Muhsin Alhadi. In third, place was 8th grader Promita Biswas. The honorable mentions went to Tahsin Ahmed (7th grade, KMS), Ali Ahsan (9th grade, HHS), Faiza Azrin (5th grade, DE), Erna Balija (10th grade, HHS), and MD Ezaz Miah (7th grade, KMS). Special remarks were given about Miss Chowdhury, who successfully competed in an Area/Zone competition via Zoom in April. Club members, judges, and other guests also enjoyed the keynote speech by Charlene Snow, retired attorney. At the event, the top three contestants (from the March event) received monetary prizes. The students were escorted by KMS teachers Rahiel Housey-Johnson (who is also the club's oratorical chairperson) and Violetta Kuzniar.

Tuition aid

Time is running out for students and adults to apply for the Free Application for Financial Aid (FAFSA) and enter to win their share of nearly \$1 million through the Ticket to Tuition sweepstakes. The deadline is May 16. So far, more than 17,000 Michigan students have entered for a chance to win one of forty \$10,000 prizes or ten \$50,000 prizes by completing the FAFSA for the 2025-26 academic year. By completing the FAFSA, students are also gaining access to valuable federal and state programs, including:

- Pell Grants
- The Michigan Achievement Scholarship and Community College Guarantee, which offers recent high school graduates the chance to earn a skill certificate, associate degree, or bachelor's degree at reduced or no-cost tuition.

Michigan Reconnect, which allows adults ages 25 and older to attend their local community college tuition-free. To enter the Ticket to Tuition sweepstakes, students must:

- Complete the FAFSA for the 2025–26 academic year, and
- Text CASH to 855-50K-TICKET (855-505-8425) by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, May 16.

For full contest details, visit TicketToTuition.com.

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7/6/25

May 9, 2025

Hamtramck Public TV-19

Broadcasting on Comcast Channel 19 in Hamtramck area and YouTube Live world wide (Hamtramck Library Channel)

What's on this coming week?

Hamtramck Historical Museum Fund Raiser
Special Council Meeting on Candidate residency,
Tempers flare during Public Comments on April 22
City Budget presentation part 2
Piast Drug Free Coalition meeting & programs
Public comments on voter fraud in Hamtramck and more

BECOME A LOCAL REPORTER:

If you know how to take photos or make film clips on your phone, you can download them to Hamtramck TV along with a news story, to be aired the same day. Send in event announcements, comments to city officials, facts you want to share with the community, etc.

Hamtramck Public TV is broadcasting from
Hamtramck Public Library

On Comcast Channel 19 and streaming on
YouTube Live (24/7) Google "Hamtramck Public TV", and click on link "Hamtramck Public TV"

Or go to YouTube; Hamtramck Public TV;
Hamtramck Public Library; Videos, or Live

To place community announcement
call the Library at 313-733-6822
Or email: HamtramckTV@gmail.com
Announcements submitted by 10 am
Will go on air the same day (evening)
To upload video files go to (bit.ly/hamtramcktv)



KMS teachers Violetta Kuzniar and Rahiel Housey-Johnson escorted KMS students to a recent oratorical contest.

Coming Events

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

ToAST
of the TOWN

Continued from front page

a speech, but museum boardmember Sarah Cook gave a presentation. But first up was retired Hamtramck Public Schools Superintendent Tom Niczay. He had originally written a speech to talk about Greg’s role in the museum, and the long crusade to begin collecting artifacts from Hamtramck’s storied and colorful past. But Greg, a journalist who has authored about a dozen books, most of them on Hamtramck’s page-turning history, insisted the focus remain on his beloved mission and not him. The museum’s growth from nothing into a brick and mortar building on Jos. Campau is an amazing story of perseverance, considering Greg and a band of volunteers started with nary a scrap of anything and somehow built the current collection of 10,000-

plus items, housed in a two-story showplace. In the early days, before the museum opened, Greg was storing items in his house. Niczay said the museum’s task is a never-ending one. “Thank you for your continuous support, stakeholders. Without you, there would not be a Hamtramck Historical Museum,” Niczay said. “The museum began in 2013, and now, in 2025, with your generosity large-scale operational and structural improvements are being planned. However, for the plans to be implemented your help is needed again.” Sarah Cook, who holds the position of secretary with the museum board, said that Hamtramck’s ongoing support is a key part in the museum’s growth. “Hamtramck’s community is engaged,” she said. “It’s a community project.”

And Greg, she said, “is the heart of it. He is passionate how this a shared project, and he’s truly Hamtramck’s historian – a biographer.” And, speaking of the museum, once again supporters of the museum are throwing a fundraiser this Saturday, May 10, with another Roaring Twenties-themed night – you know, the era of flappers, gangsters and bathtub gin. Attendees are encouraged to dress in appropriate 1920s-era clothing. Heck, it’s a chance for fellas to strap on a pair of spats, and molls to sport flapper dresses. It’s all happening at PLAV Post 1 at 3105 Holbrook. Tickets are \$50 per person, or \$90 per couple, and offer an evening of food, music and entertainment. The celebration goes from 6-10 p.m. *When it comes to good food and great times, Hamtramck has plenty to offer. In this column, we’ll talk about what’s happening at our bars, restaurants and at other events throughout*

Odds & Ends

Continued from page 3

mouth, all in Minnesota. Okay, wait a minute – we know it’s cold there, but Minnesota’s also full of Scandinavians, and they practically invented nudity. Even in that freezing weather. And we’ve “been” to places in Indiana, and those folks certainly aren’t exactly all that shy, either. So take it with a grain of salt – but don’t use that for planting. You can read more about this very important topic here: [www.lawnstarter.com/blog/studies/best-cities-world-naked-](http://www.lawnstarter.com/blog/studies/best-cities-world-naked-gardening-day/)

gardening-day/. Also, naturisteducation.org/wngd/. And here’s hoping you end up with a green, ah, thumb this year. **Calling on volunteers...** Now that spring has sprung, that means it’s time to clean up our yards and neighborhoods from all the accumulated trash that winter deposited. On Saturday, May 10, the Hamtramck Beautification Commission is sponsoring a citywide “Spring Clean-Up.” Here’s the deal, according to the commission:

“Organized by the City Beautification Commission, this year’s City-Wide Spring Clean Up will take place on Saturday May 10 from 11a.m.-3 p.m. “Hamtramck’s streets and parks need your help to beautify our neighborhoods, streets, and parks! “Volunteers will pick up supplies at City Hall any time during the event and be sent out to one of 6 “zones” in the City to pick up litter. Please plan to join us, and bring friends and family with you! “Thank you to the event’s sponsor, Priority Waste! And to our DPW Department for their assistance with this event.”

Obituaries

JUSTUS



Teddy R. Justus, 61, died May 3, 2025. Teddy Justus was born July 7, 1963, and entered peacefully into eternal life on May 3, 2025, surrounded by his loving family. Left to cherish his memories are his loving wife Mary Justus of 43 beautiful years; sons Joseph Justus (Ashlee), Frank Justus (Catherine); daughters Carrie Justus (Yusuf), Kaila Justus (Marko), Sally Gravat (Kola), Brandy Gravat (Brian); sisters Nancy Justus, Chris (Dan) Keen; and brother Dennis Justus. Also left to cherish memories include 38 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his mother Wilma Justus; father Green Justus; mother-in-law Lillie Gravat; father-in-law Frank Gravat; sister Stephanie; brothers Robert Justus, David Justus; brother-in-law Frank Gravat; and daughter in law Kate Justus. Knowing Teddy meant loyalty, respect, love, family time, dedication and laughter. Teddy had a passion for fishing on any open water and go with whoever was ready for a ride. Teddy and his wife

Mary enjoyed spending time at their spot in Alpena, MI building memories that will forever be cherished. Teddy used his knowledge from making pizzas with his secret sauce, tow truck driving with Hemphill towing and running his own security business. You could always find Big Ted parked on the side of Krown supermarket in his black Rendezvous making sure everyone was kept safe, and you better believe, nobody messed with big Ted. Teddy decided to lay off the security and opened Bears Deli with his wife Mary in 2015 on Jos Campau in Hamtramck. Family and customers were always delighted to stop in even if it was to chat because it was a loving and welcoming family environment.

Teddy was the rock to so many. If you were having a tough day or just needed someone to talk to, you could call or visit, and your day would turn to sunshine, but you better be sure he had some coffee. He enjoyed reminiscing about old times, listening to his music while dancing and showing his grandkids all papaws “moves”. There was not a day that Teddy did not joke, and boy did he enjoy talking smack whether you could or couldn’t handle his humor. His love for his family was pure, and his legacy will forever be carried through by all his loved ones as he would want. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations for his wife Mary Ann. Funeral services were held Thursday May 8, 2025, at Maranatha Church of God, Warren MI. Arrangements by

Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home. **MATYNIAK** Gregory Matyniak, 77, died May 5, 2025. Gregory was the brother of Margaret and son of the late Edmund and Margaret. Gregory is also survived by many cousins. He was a member of the Cardinal Mercer Knights of Columbus. The funeral service was held Thursday, May 8, 2025, at St. Florian Catholic Church, Hamtramck MI. Interment at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Detroit, MI. Arrangements were entrusted to Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home.

SCHULTZ



Donna Schultz (nee Ruson), 64, died April 26, 2025. Dear wife of Robert Richard and loving mother of Jennifer (Scott) Gardner, Master Sgt. William Robert (Tracy) Schultz, Christopher (Holly) Krolikowski, David Joseph Schultz, and the late Tiffany Gardner. Donna is also survived by her stepchildren, Lep and Metoo; grandchildren, Charlotte, Madison, Lucas, Ellyana, and Dominic. She was the sister of Rose Marie Chavez, Carolina Marie Barrios, and Roman Ruson. She is also remembered by many nieces and nephews and her many friends. Donna will be missed by her faithful companions Maximilian and Lucy Lu. Memorial Services were Thursday, May 1, 2025, at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home.

HAMTRAMCK HEALTH HIKE 2025

5K Walk or Run

Sat. May 17, 2025
9:30 AM START

First 400 People Get FREE:
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City Of Hamtramck

FY 2025-26 Budget Notice and Public Hearing

On Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 7:00 pm, the Hamtramck City council will hold the first reading of the proposed fiscal year 2025-2026 budget. The city council will hold a public hearing and second reading of the proposed fiscal year 2025-2026 on Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at 7:00 pm, at the regular council meeting.

Pending approval of the first reading of the proposed fiscal year 2025-2026 budget. The city council will hold a public hearing and second reading of the proposed fiscal year 2025-2026 on Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at 7:00 pm, at the regular council meeting.

The proposed budget is available for inspection on the city of Hamtramck website. The property millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing. The city of Hamtramck website (Hamtramck.us) has information regarding the regular City Council meeting and budget Information.

Place an Ad in The Review Today

Call (313) 874-2100



Shooting produces agreement with public schools

By Charles Sercombe

The 15-year-old male accused of shooting two other teens will not be charged as an adult, according to Hamtramck police.

Instead, the teen suspect will face a charge of assault with intent to murder as a minor.

The teen, whose name is being withheld, also faces charges of using a gun in the commission of a felony, and carrying a concealed weapon.

The shooting took place on Monday, April 28, at about 8:30 p.m. at the Col. Hamtramck Housing project, where a 16-year-old male and a 17-year-old female were injured.

Police say the shooting erupted after the two older teens beat up the suspect, who then returned with a gun and shot them. One of the victims was grazed in the head and the other was wounded in the chest.

The suspect turned himself into police the next day, after his relatives tipped off investigators.

The housing project, where over 300 people live, has been a hotbed of almost daily criminal complaints, ranging from those concerning unwanted guests all the way up to ones for thefts, break-ins, and assaults.

If the suspect is convicted, he could face a combination of penalties including incarceration in

a juvenile facility, rehabilitation, placement in a foster care and therapy.

Had he been charged as an adult, he faced life in prison.

In the meantime, Police Chief Jamiel Altaheri said there will be stepped up patrols in the projects, as well as the establishment of a police youth academy for housing residents, and, in July, the department plans to offer a series of get-togethers in the spirit of “fun and engagement.”

He said that since the suspect and victims attend Hamtramck Public Schools, he’s working with the interim superintendent to create two school resource officers for the district.

“Hamtramck is one of the few cities that don’t have current school resource officers,” Altaheri said. “This will help prevent violence, as well as addressing truancy issues, and keep our schools and children safe.”



PROHIBITION FUNDRAISER

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Visit www.hamtramckhistory.com for more information and to purchase tickets.



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*Friends of Historical Hamtramck is a 501(c)3 organization that operates the Hamtramck Historical Museum



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Tree requests will be reviewed by the City's contracted arborist for the Grow Hamtramck initiative, and you will receive a response within 3 business days. The City's goal is to plant the 1,000 trees funded by Grow Hamtramck in as many viable requested locations as possible over the next four years.

From the Office of Wayne County Treasurer Eric R. Sabree



PROBATE ASSISTANCE

If you are facing foreclosure and need assistance in starting a Wayne County Probate Court Case because a property is in the name of a deceased family member, please contact one of the following community partners for assistance:

Michigan Legal Services: 313-774-1527 | 313-725-4890

United Community Housing Coalition: 313-405-7726

Legal Aid & Defender: 313-967-5800

Contact the Wayne County Probate Court by calling:

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