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The

Review

Hamtramck

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Quick Hits

Arts festival hits town this Saturday

By Charles Sercombe

Get your walking shoes on and get ready to explore the city tomorrow, Saturday, Oct. 3.

That's when the 16th Annual Hamtramck Neighborhood Arts Festival takes place.

Organizers describe the event as a "loosely curated showcase of artists, writers and musicians."

So, where is it?

Artists will be setting up shop at their homes – on the porches, in the front yards, or even inside –or in their storefront art spaces, or who knows where else.

Here's what organizers have to say about this once-a-year gathering.

"This isn't your typical festival; participating creators in the community host the audience in their home studios, front porches, parks, coffee shops, or galleries around the city.

"It's a community-organized festival that allows anyone in the city and the surrounding neighborhood to contribute to or host an event. The HNAF embraces the idea that art is for everyone – all are welcome to participate, and all are welcome to tour the artists' workspaces and attend the day- (and night-) long events."

You can find out more information, and the locations of this year's participating artists and venues, at <https://hnaf.org>.

Also happening on Saturday evening, in Pope Park, is the last "Night Bazaar" for the year, where over a dozen local craft folks and artists will be selling their wares amid eats and music.

It runs from 6-10 p.m. at the park, 10037 Jos. Campau on the southwest corner at Belmont.

Weather-wise, temperatures should start off in the mid-60s and then cool, especially after sunset. It should be dry.

On a fall day, letting loose with a fire hose

By Charles Sercombe

What to do on a picture-perfect sunny and warm Sunday fall afternoon?

For a number of Hamtramck residents, the answer was to spend time at the open house hosted by the Hamtramck Fire Department.

Firefighters threw open the Caniff station's front doors, and offered information about fire safety and gave out smoke detectors in the garage bay.

But the real excitement was in the street next to the fire station. That's where kids could handle a fire hose and shoot water at a wooden cutout of a house with wood flames showing in the windows.

That offered kids something to aim at. The hose was the most popular offering on the day, as evidenced by the large line, and by the looks of things, the city has a number of aspiring firefighters that might be looking for a job in 10 years or so.

On hand too was the city's Public Services Department, with various vehicles on display for the kids to climb into and toot their horns.

Of course, a fire truck was there for kids to climb into and clang the vehicle's bell on the front bumper.

Hamtramck has a storied history in fire services. The department is actually older than the city, having been established 118 years ago when Hamtramck was still known as a village.

That was back when the city had a station on the southend of Jos. Campau, at Grayling. That station is long gone, having been torn down decades ago.

Today, the city's only station is located at Caniff and Mackay, where it has stood for some 108 years and counting.

The fire station ought to hold up for a good number more years in the future – long enough to remain the home base for some of those kids who got a taste of operating that fire hose, and who may now be dreaming big.



Judge orders ballots to be counted 'ASAP'

By Charles Sercombe

After eight months of legal battles, Hamtramck's uncounted 37 ballots from last November's election will finally be counted.

On Wednesday, Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Kathleen McCarthy ordered the Wayne County Board of Canvassers to tabulate the ballots in question.

In the hearing, Judge McCarthy said she is "surprised" this issue has dragged on for so long.

"I am ordering the ballots to be counted ASAP," McCarthy said.

It appears the ballots will be counted on Friday, Oct. 16, at a time and location yet to be announced.

What's at stake is who will be Hamtramck's mayor. The 37 ballots were discovered in the city clerk's office a day after the November 2025 election, and that spurred the long legal fight now culminating this month.

Mayor Adam Alharbi has argued that the ballots shouldn't be counted because unauthorized people had potential access to the ballots, and therefore might have altered them. His challenger, former councilmember Muhith Mahmood, has argued that not counting the ballots would unfairly disenfranchise those voters.

A state court of appeals agreed with Mahmood. The holdup has been waiting for a county judge to issue an order for the ballots to be included in the election tally.

Mayor Adam Alharbi won by an 11-vote margin. It could turn out that Mahmood will replace Alharbi.

But even if the new election tally flip-flops in Mahmood's favor, he wouldn't assume office immediately.

That's because Alharbi is seeking to have Mahmood disqualified, claiming that he is not actually a resident of the city but instead lives in Troy with his family.

Mahmood has insisted that he is a resident here, but that he often visits his family in Troy. He has said that he is not separated from his wife.

So far, Alharbi has struck out on getting Mahmood disqualified.

If Mahmood is determined to run, he will have to wait until the next election to challenge Alharbi.

Continued on page 2



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Judge orders ballots to be counted ‘ASAP’

Continued from front page

ned to have won the November election, Judge McCarthy will hear arguments by the end of the month over whether Mahmood is a resident who can hold elective office in Hamtramck.

If Alharbi turns out to still be the winner of the election, there would be no need to hear the residency issue.

Asked for a comment about the court's decision, Mayor Alharbi told The Review:

“While we respect the court, counting ballots that lost their proper security and chain of custody hurts trust in our elections. The math is simple: my opponent would need to win 25 out of these 37 ballots to change the outcome, which does not match how our community voted.

“Given our city’s history of voting irregularities – including documented ballot stuffing, the county prosecutor reviewing over 100 recount ballots that were altered, and an active court case challenging whether he even lives in Hamtramck instead of Troy – serious questions remain.

“I grew up in Hamtramck, and I ran for office because I love this community and want to make it better. This campaign was never about winning a title or holding power; it is about protecting our city. The people of Hamtramck deserve honest, clear, and fair elections,



Mayor Adam Alharbi will soon find out whether he is still the mayor of Hamtramck. The Wayne County Board of Canvassers is preparing to tabulate 37 uncounted ballots from last November's city election.

and I will always stand up for legal votes and real accountability”.

Mahmood told The Review: “I am happy the judge plans to get both cases done by, hopefully,

in October.”

The earliest, it appears, that Mahmood could take office if he is determined to be the winner – and a resident – is Nov. 4, when the county cer-

tifies the election results of the upcoming Nov. 3 election, along with any new Hamtramck 2025 election results.

Mahmood was ordered to provide proof of residency, such as utility bills, auto insurance, and bank records, among other documents.

In the meantime, the city council agreed to have taxpayers foot Alharbi’s private legal fees for this issue. His legal bill is estimated to run up to \$200,000.

Alharbi began his legal dispute over the ballot issue before he was sworn in as mayor.

The city has already paid over \$130,000 for these legal fees.



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Review: Opinion Page

Other Voices: Guest Editorial

Charge into fire safety: Safe charging is a superpower

By Matthew Wyszczelski
Hamtramck Fire Chief

Rechargeable devices have become part of daily life. Phones, tablets, laptops, cordless tools, e-bikes, scooters and many other household products rely on lithium-ion batteries.

While these devices offer convenience, their batteries and charging equipment can pose a fire risk if they are damaged, become overheated or are used incorrectly.

During Fire Prevention Week, observed Oct. 4-10, residents are encouraged to make safe charging part of their everyday fire-safety routine.

This year's theme, "Charge Into Fire Safety™: Safe Charging Is a Superpower," focuses on practical steps that can reduce the risk of fires involving rechargeable devices and lithium-ion batteries.

One of the simplest ways to charge safely is to use the cord and power block that came with the device, or a replacement approved by the manufacturer. Using the wrong charger or cord can cause a battery to overheat, become damaged or fail. Avoid using damaged, frayed or loose cords, and do not attempt to repair electrical cords with tape.

Phones, tablets, laptops and other devices

should be charged on a hard, flat surface, such as a countertop, desk or bare floor. Avoid charging devices on beds, couches, chairs or beneath pillows and blankets. Soft surfaces can trap heat and allow a battery to become dangerously hot.

Stop using any battery-powered device that becomes unusually hot, swells, leaks, gives off an unusual odor, smokes, or makes popping or hissing sounds. Larger items, including e-bikes, scooters and battery-powered tools, should be charged with extra care.

When possible, charge these items outside, and never charge them in a hallway, stairway, doorway or near an exit. In an emergency, everyone in the home needs a clear and unobstructed way out.

Fire Prevention Week is also a good time to review basic home fire-safety practices. Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of the home, inside each bedroom and outside sleeping areas. Test alarms monthly, and check the manufacture date printed on each unit. Smoke alarms should be replaced after 10 years, even if they still appear to work.

Every household should have a fire escape plan and practice it

regularly. Identify two ways out of every room whenever possible, make sure doors and windows can be opened easily, and select a meeting place outside and a safe distance from the home. A neighbor's driveway, mailbox or tree can serve as a familiar location where everyone can be accounted for.

When a smoke alarm sounds, get out immediately and stay out. Never re-enter a home for pets, phones, important documents or personal belongings. Call 911 once everyone is safely outside.

Good housekeeping is another important part of fire safety. Keep hallways, stairways, doors and windows clear of boxes, furniture, clothing, charging cords and other clutter.

Do not overload electrical outlets or power strips. Use extension cords only temporarily, and plug appliances that produce heat directly into a wall outlet.

Fire safety begins with the choices made each day. By using the correct cords and chargers, checking smoke alarms, practicing an escape plan and keeping exits clear, residents can help protect the people and places that matter most.

Charge safely. Plan ahead. Get out and stay out.

Odds & Ends

Buzzing around ... The dreaded spotted lanternfly has landed in Hamtramck and the greater metro area.

Michigan Farm News and Michigan State University say the critter has been in Michigan since a few dead ones were seen around 2020, and then a small community of them was found alive in Oakland County in 2022, having probably hitchhiked in on some outstate trees.

They are considered an invasive species, one that is causing considerable damage to crops such as grapevines, hops and fruit trees.

They also leave a nasty sticky waste that later turns into "sooty mold," says the internet, and that moldy waste attracts insects that sting, and also blocks sunlight that plants need. State authorities say that, if you encounter a spotted lanternfly, kill it. Look for a fly with large, pinkish spotted wings.

Dolly day ... Recently at Dickinson East Elementary School, teachers and students paid tribute to beloved singer, composer, and philanthropist Dolly Parton, who died recently. Here's what the staff posted on social media:

"With Dolly Parton's iconic '9 to 5' playing in the background, classrooms across Dickinson East came alive with students



If you see this invasive insect, the spotted lanternfly, in your yard or anywhere, state officials want you to kill it.

reading, smiling, and celebrating the joy of books!

"Today was about more than reading – it was about inspiring our students to become lifelong readers, and celebrating Dolly Parton's incredible commitment to children's literacy."

Night Bazaar ... There's plenty to do here in town this Saturday, Oct. 2, with another edition of the annual Hamtramck Neighborhood Arts Festival happening.

Ghost Light Lounge, 2314 Caniff, hosts multiple music acts in a fundraiser (see more below).

On top of that, at 6 p.m., the monthly Night Bazaar makes its final appearance for the year at Pope Park. There will be local vendors selling crafts and other goods until 10 p.m. Pope Park is located at Jos. Campau and Belmont.

Goodbye, summer ... With the end of summer

and the beginning of fall, it becomes that time of the year when folks wonder when Daylight Saving Time (DST) comes to an end, and we have to set our clocks back an hour.

This year, DST ends at 2 a.m. on Nov. 1 – the first Sunday in November.

Of course, that means it will get darker sooner in the day, at least according to the clock, and it also means our sleep schedules will be out of whack for a week or so.

Message from the mayor ... For those wondering what's going on with the traffic light at Gallagher and Holbrook, Mayor Adam Alharbi has an update.

The traffic light is not currently functioning.

"Because this intersection is managed by Wayne County, the city must coordinate with the county to complete the necessary updates," said Alharbi, on social media.

"Our DPW team is actively working with Wayne County to not only bring the traffic signals up to current code, but to also coordinate their timing with nearby intersections to help traffic move more efficiently.

"This process will take time, but work is underway behind the scenes.

"In the meantime ... drive carefully, and be mind-
Continued on page 5

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- কংগ্রেসে ইউ.এস. প্রতিনিধি (১৩তম ডিস্ট্রিক্ট)
- স্টেট সিনেটর (৩য় ডিস্ট্রিক্ট)
- স্টেট আইনসভার প্রতিনিধি (৭ম ডিস্ট্রিক্ট)
- কাউন্টি এক্সিকিউটিভ
- কাউন্টি কনভেনশনের প্রতিনিধি
- হ্যামট্রাম্যাক পাবলিক স্কুল ডিস্ট্রিক্ট বোর্ড মেম্বর

প্রস্তাবসমূহ:

- প্রস্তাবনা ২০২৬-০১ স্টেট সংবিধানে সাধারণ পরিমার্জনের একটি খসড়া তৈরি করার উদ্দেশ্যে, সাংবিধানিক সম্মেলন আহ্বান করার জন্য প্রস্তাবনা
- প্রস্তাবনা ২০২৬-০২ নির্দিষ্ট নিয়ন্ত্রিত ইউটিলিটি এবং সরকারি ঠিকাদারদের কাছ থেকে প্রচারাভিযানের অনুদান নিষিদ্ধ করার এবং অতিরিক্ত ধরণের রাজনৈতিক যোগাযোগের ক্ষেত্রে প্রচারাভিযান অর্থায়ন সংক্রান্ত আইন ও বিধিমালা প্রয়োগ করার জন্য একটি প্রস্তাবিত আইন
- ডেট্রয়েট চিড়িয়াখানার সমর্থনে ওয়েন কাউন্টি জুলজিক্যাল অথরিটি মিলেজের নবায়ন
- সাউথইস্ট মিশিগান পাবলিক হিস্টোরিক্যাল মিউজিয়াম অথরিটি মিলেজ প্রস্তাব

ব্যালটের সম্পূর্ণ পাঠ্য এবং প্রস্তাবগুলি সিটি ক্লার্কের অফিস, 3401 Evaline, Hamtramck, MI 48212-এ পাওয়া যাবে। একটি নমুনা ব্যালট <https://mavic.sos.state.mi.us/PublicBallot/Index> -এ দেখা যাবে

সাহায্যের প্রয়োজন প্রতিবন্ধী ব্যক্তিদের হ্যামট্রাম্যাক সিটি ক্লার্কের অফিসে 313-800-5233 এক্সটেনশন ৪২১-এ যোগাযোগ করুন

By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers Sept. 17-23.

Thursday, Sept. 17

- A theft was reported in the 3500 block of Caniff.
- A dispute was reported in the 3000 block of Trowbridge.
- At almost 10 a.m., a child was reported missing on Belmont. The child was later located at her school.
- A person was reported missing in the area of Holbrook and Jos. Campau.

Friday, Sept. 18

- At a little after 2 a.m., a complaint was made about noise in the 2600 block of Carpenter.
- An incident of fraud was reported in the area of Conant and Holbrook.
- Trespassing was reported in the 9000 block of Jos. Campau.
- An assault was reported in the 2200 block of Goodson.
- Trouble between neighbors was reported in the 2200 block of Norwalk.
- A break-in was reported in the 12100 block of St. Aubin.

Saturday, Sept. 19

- A break-in was reported in the 9800 block of Jos. Campau.
- A robbery was reported in the 9800 block of Conant.
- Thefts were reported in 2600 block of Holbrook, the 3000 block of Trowbridge and the 9300 block of Charest.

Sunday, Sept. 20

- A domestic incident was reported on Holbrook.
- A landlord/tenant issue was reported in the 2700 block of Poland.
- A complaint was made about a juvenile in

the 2700 block of Florian.

- An open door was reported in the 3100 block of Carpenter.

Monday, Sept. 21

- At about midnight, gunshots were reported in the area of Commor and Dyar.
- At a little after midnight, officers responding to a call about a vehicle that crashed and rolled over in the area of Fleming and Botsford arrested a suspect for drunk driving.
- At almost 4:30 a.m., a male suspect was arrested in the area of Conant and Caniff for being disorderly and for obstructing officers.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported at Caniff and St. Aubin.
- A complaint was made about an animal in the area of Carpenter and Fleming. A complaint about an animal was also made in the area of St. Aubin and Commor.

Tuesday, Sept. 22

- At about midnight, a complaint was made about noise in the 2300 block of Neibel.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the area of Caniff and Lumpkin.

Wednesday, Sept. 23

- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 3800 block of Dorothy.
- At almost 4 a.m., officers stopped a vehicle for reckless driving, but the driver then fled.
- A suspicious incident was reported on Yemans.
- Trouble between neighbors was reported in the 2600 block of Holmes.
- A business in the 8800 block of Jos. Campau reported an incident of fraud.

Mayor and city council slapped with another lawsuit

By Charles Sercombe

The lawsuits keep rolling in.

Add another lawsuit that Mayor Adam Alharbi and city councilmembers are now facing.

This time, however, it’s not the mayor or a councilmember who is filing a lawsuit against one of their colleagues.

Instead, Ed Wolyniec, a resident, is accusing the mayor and council of violating the state’s Open Meetings Act (OMA) by agreeing to pay for Alharbi’s private legal bills to prevent 37 ballots from being counted from last November’s election.

Mayor Alharbi sought legal help on his own to make sure the ballots are not counted, but recently got the council’s OK for the city to pick up his legal bills.

What’s at stake for him is that if the ballots are counted, the mayor could find himself out of

a job as mayor and with his challenger, former councilmember Muhith Mahmood, taking his place.

“Under any circumstances, using taxpayer funds for Alharbi’s personal benefit is grossly inappropriate, but the magnitude of this impropriety is far greater because the individual defendants actually voted to use taxpayer funds to support the election of one candidate for mayor over another,” Wolyniec said his lawsuit, which was filed in Wayne County Circuit Court.

On top of that, Wolyniec has also filed a lengthy ethics violation complaint against Alharbi, for orchestrating the vote by the city council to OK having the city pay for his legal fees – which is estimated to amount to around \$200,000.

The lawsuit regarding the OMA violation men-

tioned the first attempt to pay for Alharbi’s legal bills being included on the council agenda after the council had met in a closed session and then came back to vote on the matter in an open session.

That portion of the meeting, however, was not live-streamed for the public to see, the ethics violation complaint noted.

The vote taken after the closed meeting was later ruled invalid because it lacked a quorum of participating councilmembers.

Wolyniec’s lawsuit accuses the mayor and council of violating a number of required procedures to enter into a closed meeting, such as stating the reason for the meeting.

Wolyniec, in his lawsuit, took issue with Alharbi allowing the closed session to go forward.

“As presiding officer, Alharbi bore responsibility for ensuring the Council followed the procedures required to call a closed session, including the 2/3 roll call vote required by MCL15.267(1).

“Alharbi called for and accepted a voice vote in place of a roll call vote, notwithstanding that a roll call vote was used for every other motion at the meeting, evidencing that Alharbi knew, or was aware, that the vote to enter closed session did not satisfy MCL 15.267(1), and (was) intended to violate that section.”

On top of that, Wolyniec’s lawsuit contends that the closed meeting was called to consider “the potential commitment of city funds to pay Alharbi’s personal legal fees.”

The lawsuit asserts that Alharbi knew the rules for going into a closed session, and also

had previously admonished councilmembers over adding items onto the council agenda at the last minute without giving advance notice to the public.

Alharbi had told councilmembers that “Open Meetings Act violations have occurred far too often among council members. If I filed a complaint every time a procedural line was crossed during meetings, I’d be filing them after almost every single session.”

As for the motion to pay for Alharbi’s legal fees, the lawsuit quotes Councilmember Mohammed Alsomiri in his ethics complaint against the mayor.

“The motion to approve (the) mayor’s legal fees was coerced to the floor with no citizens present and no recording,” Alsomiri said in his complaint.

At a later meeting, a resolution to pay for the mayor’s legal fees for his fight to prevent the bal-

lots from being counted was on the agenda before the meeting, and was passed by a minimum majority of council votes.

The Review reached out to Alharbi for comment via his Facebook Messenger, but he did not reply.

The maximum penalty for violating the state’s OMA is a \$500 fine. Wolyniec is also seeking his legal fees.

So far, there are multiple ethics violations that councilmembers are facing, and Alharbi is also facing a lawsuit filed by Councilmembers Alsomiri and Yousuf Saed over his legal fees. The mayor has also sued the council over its firing of former city manager Adel Al-Adlani.

At the same time, the mayor has called for unity among the council.

“We have to make sure that we’re focused on the city and try to not make any disagreements, division,” Alharbi said at an Aug. 11 council meeting.

Odds & Ends

Continued from page 3

ful of pedestrians and other drivers.

“Thank you for your patience as we work with our partners to get this intersection updated and operating safely.”

Charity concert for local venue... Ghost Light Lounge, affiliated with Planet Ant Theatre, is hosting a benefit tomorrow night, Saturday, Oct. 2, starting at 7 p.m., and they’re pulling out all the stops to entertain you, with musical acts in both the bar and the big stage all night long.

And it’s free, by donation – they’re hoping you’ll think enough of it, and them, to support them with a nice sawbuck (that’s \$10) or even double sawbuck (uh, that’s \$20), or, heck, more if you can – but whatever

you can.

Scheduled in the bar room:

- Caveman and Bam-bam/7:45 - 8:10 p.m.
 - The Gashounds!/8:25 – 8:55
 - Fake I.C.P./9:20 – 9:40
 - Alison Lewis/10:15 – 10:45
 - Emily Rose (acoustic)/11:20 – 11:45
- Scheduled on the main stage:
- L Rad (acoustic)/8:55 – 9:20
 - Death in Custody/9:45 – 10:15
 - Detroit 442/10:45 – 11:20
 - Lava/11:45 – 12:15

Come on out and help support local music and a great venue for it: 2314 Caniff, just west of the library.

Coming Events

SATURDAY, Oct. 3, 4-6 p.m. – Drive thru Polish Dinner at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. Menu: Pork Chop, Pierogi with sour cream. Kielbasa, Bigos, Mashed Potatoes with gravy& Dessert. Adult \$16/Child 12 & under \$8.

SATURDAY, Oct. 10, 2-4 p.m. –Take-out only Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. Everyone is welcome! (Please come in person to pick up your meal.)

Marios Auto Repair LLC
Located at 25111 Van Born Rd, Taylor, MI 48180
Is Holding An Abandoned Vehicle Auction
on October 7th, 2026 At 1:00 p.m.

For The Following Vehicles

2013 NISSAN QUEST	JN8AE2KP3D9063434
2025 HARLEY-DAVIDSON	
PAN AMERICA	MLY1ZGS12SS956481
2019 FORD RANGER	1FTER4EH1KLA80167
2017 FORD FIESTA	3FADP4FJ2HM143860
2007 JEEP LIBERTY	1J4GL48K67W703283
2013 FIAT 500	3C3CFFBR3DT575393
2014 CHEVROLET EQUINOX	2GNALCEK1E6132150
2015 CADILLAC SRX	3GYFNBE30FS579030
1999 DODGE RAM 1500	3B7HC12Z0XG237539
2008 VW BEETLE	3VWRF31Y88M412300
2004 NISSAN ALTIMA	1N4AL11D24C116703

All vehicles are sold as is.
For further information please call 248-513-9391

NOTICE OF ELECTION/REGISTRATION STATE GENERAL ELECTION TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026 CITY OF HAMTRAMCK - WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a General Election will be held in the City of Hamtramck on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that any qualified elector of the City of Hamtramck who is not already registered, may register to vote at the Hamtramck City Clerk’s Office; the office of the County Clerk; a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated state agency. Registration forms can be obtained at **www.mi.gov/vote** and mailed to the Hamtramck City Clerk. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at **www.expressSOS.com**.

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the Hamtramck City Clerk is **Monday, October 19, 2026**. After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the Hamtramck City Clerk’s Office, located at 3401 Evaline, Hamtramck, MI 48212 at the following times:

Regular business hours: Regular business hours: Monday, Wednesday–Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Additionally: Saturday, October 31, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Early Voting: Saturday, October 24, 2026 – Sunday, November 1, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located on the second floor of City Hall, 3401 Evaline Street, Hamtramck MI 48212

Election Day: Tuesday, November 3, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

The election will be conducted in all voting precincts 1-5 in all regular locations, or by mail at **mi.gov/vote**

City of Hamtramck Polling Locations:

Precinct 1	Housing Admin. Building, 12025 Dequindre Street
Precinct 2	Community Center, 11350 Charest Street
Precinct 3	Community Center, 11350 Charest Street
Precinct 4	Senior Plaza, 2620 Holbrook Street
Precinct 5	Senior Plaza, 2620 Holbrook Street

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the electors will be voting on the following:

- Governor
- Secretary of State
- Attorney General
- U.S. Senator
- U.S. Representative in Congress (13th District)
- State Senator (3rd District)
- Representative in State Legislature (7th District)
- County Executive
- Delegate to County Convention
- Local School District Board Member

Proposals:

- State Proposal 2026-1 A proposal to convene a constitutional convention for the purpose of drafting a general revision of the state constitution
- State Proposal 2026-2 A proposed initiated law to prohibit campaign contributions from certain regulated utilities and government contractors and apply campaign finance laws and regulations to additional types of political communications
- Renewal of Wayne County Zoological Authority Millage in Support of the Detroit Zoo
- Southeast Michigan Public Historical Museum Authority Millage Proposal

Full text of the ballot may be obtained at the City Clerk’s office, 3401 Evaline Street, Hamtramck, MI 48212. A sample ballot may be viewed at **mi.gov/vote**

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations should contact the Hamtramck City Clerk’s Office.

Sami Elhady
Hamtramck City Clerk
313-800-5233 Ext. 821

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – CITY OF HAMTRAMCK

The City of Hamtramck, the Hamtramck Parks Conservancy, and the Hamtramck Public Schools are seeking public input regarding the Hamtramck Parks and Recreation Master Plan. A public hearing will take place as part of the regularly scheduled City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. on October 27, 2026, at 3401 Evaline Street.

A draft copy of the plan has been available for review since September 25 and will remain available through the date of the hearing. The plan can be viewed at the following locations:

- Hamtramck City Hall, 3401 Evaline Street
- Hamtramck Community Center, 11350 Charest Street
- Hamtramck Public Library, 2360 Caniff
- The draft plan is also available online on the City’s website at www.hamtramckcity.gov, at the Hamtramck Parks Conservancy website at www.hamtramckparks.com.
- For questions or comments, please contact Thomas Habitz via email at thabitz@hamtramckparks.com.

CITY OF HAMTRAMCK
NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

Please take notice that the public testing of the equipment and the program to be used for tallying the results of the 2026 State General Election will be held on October 7, 2026, at 4 p.m. The test will take place in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall located at 3401 Evaline Street, Hamtramck, MI 48212. All interested parties are invited to observe.

হামট্রামেক শহর
পাবলিক নির্ভুলতা পরীক্ষার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

আপনাদের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ২০২৬ সালের সাধারণ নির্বাচনের ফলাফল গণনার কাজে ব্যবহৃত যন্ত্রপাতি ও প্রোগ্রামগুলোর সর্বজনীন পরীক্ষা ৭ অক্টোবর, ২০২৬ তারিখে বিকেল ৪টায় অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। এই পরীক্ষাটি সিটি হলের দ্বিতীয় তলায় অবস্থিত কাউন্সিল চেম্বারে (ঠিকানা: ৩৪০১ ইভালিন স্ট্রিট, হ্যামট্রামক, মিশিগান ৪৮২১২) অনুষ্ঠিত হবে। আগ্রহী সকল পক্ষকে এতে উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য আমন্ত্রণ জানানো হচ্ছে।

مدينة هامترامك
إشعار بإجراء اختبار عام لدقة الأنظمة

يرجى العلم بأنه سيتم إجراء اختبار عام للمعدات والبرمجيات المخصصة لفرز نتائج الانتخابات العامة لعام 2026، وذلك في 7 أكتوبر 2026 الساعة 4:00 مساءً. سيعقد الاختبار في قاعة اجتماعات مجلس مدينة هامترامك، الكائنة في الطابق الثاني من مبنى البلدية (العنوان: 3401 شارع إيفالين، هامترامك، ميشيغان 48212). والدعوة مفتوحة لجميع الأطراف المعنية لحضور الاختبار ومتابعته

إشعار الانتخابات والتسجيل

سيتم تسجيل الناخبين للانتخابات العامة يوم الثلاثاء، ٣ نوفمبر ٢٠٢٦

موجه إلى الناخبين المؤهلين في مدينة هامترامك، ميشيغان.

يُعلن بموجب هذا أنَّ الانتخابات العامة ستُجرى في مدينة "هامترامك" يوم الثلاثاء، الموافق ٣ نوفمبر ٢٠٢٦، وذلك من الساعة 7:00 صباحاً وحتى الساعة 8:00 مساءً.

يرجى الملاحظة بأن أي ناخب مؤهل للتصويت في مدينة هامترامك وليس مسجل للانتخاب يمكنه التسجيل للانتخاب في مكتب كاتب مدينة هامترامك أو مكتب كاتب المقاطعة أو في فروع مكاتب السيكتراري التابعه للولاية أو أي مكتب مخصص من الولاية.ويمكن الحصول على استمارات التسجيل من www.mi.gov/vote واعادة ارسالها الى مكتب كاتب مدينة هامترامك. الناخبون المسجلون يمكنهم تحديث معلوماتهم عبر الموقع www.expressSOS.com

سيكون اخر يوم للتسجيل بالطريقه غير المباشره عبر مكتب كاتب مدينة هامترامك هو يوم الاثنين، الاثنين، ١٩ أكتوبر ٢٠٢٦

بعد هذا التاريخ، أي شخص مؤهل للأنتخاب يمكنه أحضار أثبات محل أقامه الى مكتب كاتب مدينة هامترامك على العنوان Evaline, Hamtramck, MI 3401 48212 في الأوقات التاليه:

ساعات العمل المعتادة: الاثنين والأربعاء-الجمعة، من الساعة ٨:٠٠ صباحاً حتى ٤:٠٠ مساءً؛ الثلاثاء، من الساعة ١٠:٠٠ صباحاً حتى ٦:٠٠ مساءً.

السبت، ٣١ أكتوبر ٢٠٢٦: من الساعة 8:00 صباحاً حتى 4:00 مساءً.

التصويت المبكر: من السبت ٢٤ أكتوبر ٢٠٢٦ إلى الأحد ١ نوفمبر ٢٠٢٦، من الساعة 8:00 صباحاً حتى 4:00 مساءً في مكتب مجلس المدينة الكائن في الطابق الثاني من 3401 Evaline St, Hamtramck, MI 48212 مبنى البلدية على العنوان

يوم الانتخابات: الثلاثاء، ٣ نوفمبر ٢٠٢٦، من الساعة 7:00 صباحاً حتى 8:00 مساءً.

ستُجرى الانتخابات للدوائر الانتخابية من 1 إلى 5 إما عن طريق التصويت الشخصي أو التصويت عبر البريد

<https://mvlc.sos.state.mi.us/avapplication>

مواقع دوائر التصويت في مدينة هامترامك:

- PCT #1 Housing Admin. Building 12025 Dequindre
- PCT #2 Community Center 11350 Charest
- PCT #3 Community Center 11350 Charest
- PCT #4 Senior Plaza 2620 Holbrook
- PCT #5 Senior Plaza 2620 Holbrook

يرجى ملاحظة أن الناخبين من مدينة هامترامك سيصوتون على المرشحين للمكاتب التاليه :

- حاكم الولاية
- وزير خارجية الولاية
- المدعي العام
- عضو مجلس الشيوخ الأمريكي
- عضو مجلس النواب الأمريكي (الدائرة 13)
- عضو مجلس شيوخ الولاية (الدائرة 3)
- عضو مجلس نواب الولاية (الدائرة 7)
- رئيس السلطة التنفيذية في المقاطعة
- عضو في المجلس التعليمي منطقة مدارس هامترامك العامه
- مندوب إلى مؤتمر المقاطعة

المقترحات:

- الاقتراح 01-2026 اقتراح لعقد مؤتمر دستوري بهدف صياغة مراجعة عامة لدستور الولاية
- الاقتراح 02-2026 قانون مقترح لحظر المساهمات في الحملات الانتخابية من قبل بعض شركات المرافق العامة والمقاولين الحكوميين الخاضعين للتنظيم، وتطبيق قوانين ولوائح تمويل الحملات الانتخابية على أنواع إضافية من الاتصالات السياسية
- تجديد ضريبة هيئة علم الحيوان في مقاطعة واين لدعم حديقة الحيوانات في ديترويت
- اقتراح فرض ضريبة هيئة المتاحف التاريخية العامة في جنوب شرق ميشيغان"

كما يمكن الحصول على النص الكامل للاقتراع والمقترح من مكتب كاتب المدينة في العنوان 3401 شارع إيفالين، هامترامك، ميشيغان 48212

يمكن الاطلاع على نموذج الاقتراع عبر صفحة الانترنت <https://mvlc.sos.state.mi.us/PublicBallot/Index>

إذا كنت من ذوي الاحتياجات الخاصة وتحتاج الى تسهيلات او مساعده يرجى التواصل مع مكتب كاتب مدينة هامترامك على الرقم :

313-800-5233 Ext. 821

Obituaries

LUKASZEK



Dolores Lukaszek (née Barbish), 89, died September 19, 2026.

Dolores was the wife of the late Daniel and loving mother of Keith (Charisse), Janice, Alan (Susan), David (Amy), and the late Brian & Craig. Dolores is also survived by her grandchildren Owen, Nathan, Ava, and Zachary and her sister-in-law Louise Barbish.

Known to her grandchildren as Babcie, Dolores was born and raised in Hamtramck and lived in her family home on Holmes Street until the age of 66. A woman of deep faith, she was very active in the St. Ladislaus Church and School family. After moving to Warren, she joined St Faustina Parish and regularly attended Mass there.

The funeral Mass is Friday, October 9, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. at Saint Faustina Catholic Church, 14025 E 12 Mile Rd., Warren, MI 48088. The family will start receiving guests at 10 a.m. at the church. Arrangements by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home.

MOKSZYCKI



David Mokszycki, 67, died September 8, 2026.

David was the beloved son of the late John and Helen Mokszycki and brother of the late James Mokszycki and the late Rosemary Mokszycki. He was also preceded in death by his cousin, Alan Skrok. He leaves behind his cousin, Robert Skrok; nephew Michael Mokszycki, his wife Jennifer, and their daughter Elizabeth; and niece Nancy Mokszycki and her daughter Stevie.

David will be remembered with love and fond memories by his family and all those whose lives he touched. He will be deeply missed and forever remembered by those who loved him. May he rest in eternal peace. Memorial visitation is Tuesday, October 6, 2026, from 2 – 8 p.m. at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, 2396 Caniff, Hamtramck MI 48212.

ZACHARIAS



Frank Zacharias, 87, died August 29, 2026.

A lifelong Hamtramck resident, Frank was the 11th of 14 children in a deeply rooted Hamtramck family. Frank was born in his house on Casmere, and it is there that he grew up, raised his own family, enjoyed an active retirement, and eventually passed.

Frank attended St. Ladislaus Elementary and

High School. After graduating in 1957 Frank remained active at St. Lad's church, serving as an usher, Parish Council member, and volunteered at every event or fundraiser until it closed in 2024.

Frank joined the Army in 1958, served in the 2nd and 3rd Armored Divisions, and was stationed in Germany for 16 months. After being discharged from the Army, Frank worked for the State Liquor Commission and then at the US Post Office starting in 1966 where he retired in October 1992. After retiring Frank joined the Rainbow Seniors at St. Lad's church and was elected President of the group during his second year. He organized activities and bus trips to keep the seniors active. Word quickly spread to other churches in the area and soon the trips were full of old and new friends alike. Frank retired from the Rainbow Seniors in 2018.

An avid sports fan, Frank attended everything from U of M football to his beloved Detroit Tigers. He also worked as an usher at Tiger Stadium from 1982 until it closed in 1999. Throughout his life it was important to Frank to support his community. He did everything from selling raffle tickets for neighboring parishes, to running for a National Officer position with the PRCUA and was a regular at fundraisers and events all over Hamtramck. He was also active in many Veterans' Posts including PLAV Post 10 and American Legion Post 455, often serving as chaplain.

Frank was predeceased by his wife of 63 years Marge, and his oldest daughter Janice Clark. He will be remembered by his surviving children Amy, Martin (Erin), and Julie. Fondly remembered by his grandchildren Kristopher, Jake, Ryan, Connor, Shane, Carolyn and Rachel. Left to cherish his memory are his bonus daughter Becky Ruzycski, goddaughters Marcy Kopacz and Maria Scavo and numerous nephews, nieces, and loved ones.

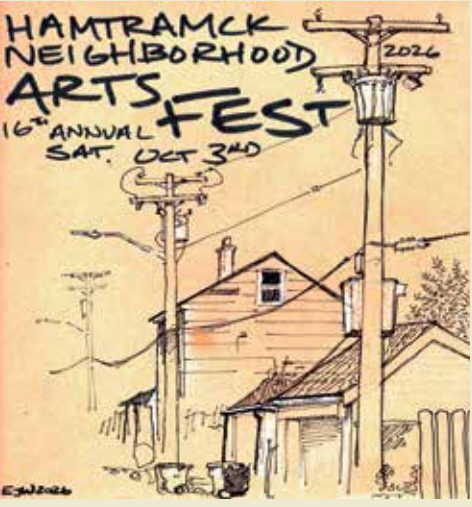
The family asks that donations be made for the Gary Sinise Foundation in Frank's name.

Memorial visitation is Friday, October 2, 2026, from 2 – 7 p.m. with prayers at 6 p.m. at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, 2396 Caniff, Hamtramck MI 48212. Memorial Mass is Saturday, October 3, 2026, at 11 a.m. at Saint Florian Catholic Church, 2626 Poland, Hamtramck MI 48212. Inurnment is on Monday, October 5, 2026, at 1 p.m. at Great Lakes National Cemetery, 4200 Belford Road, Holly MI 48442.

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

Hamtramck Neighborhood Arts Festival

Saturday October 3, 2026



2026 poster art by:
Emily Wood

Thank you to our 2026 sponsors!



Want to help shape the future of HNAF? Email us hamtownarts@gmail.com

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Forgotten Harvest Mobile Pantry at MDHHS

**LOCATION**
MDHHS Hamtramck
12140 Joseph Campau Ave
Hamtramck, MI 48212

**DATE & TIME**
4th Tuesday
of every month
10 AM – 2 PM

How to Register
There is no online registration at this time. Please choose one of the following options:

**Pick up a registration form in the lobby and return it to the lobby window.**

**Email your request to: MDHHS-FH-Wayne@michigan.gov.**
Include:

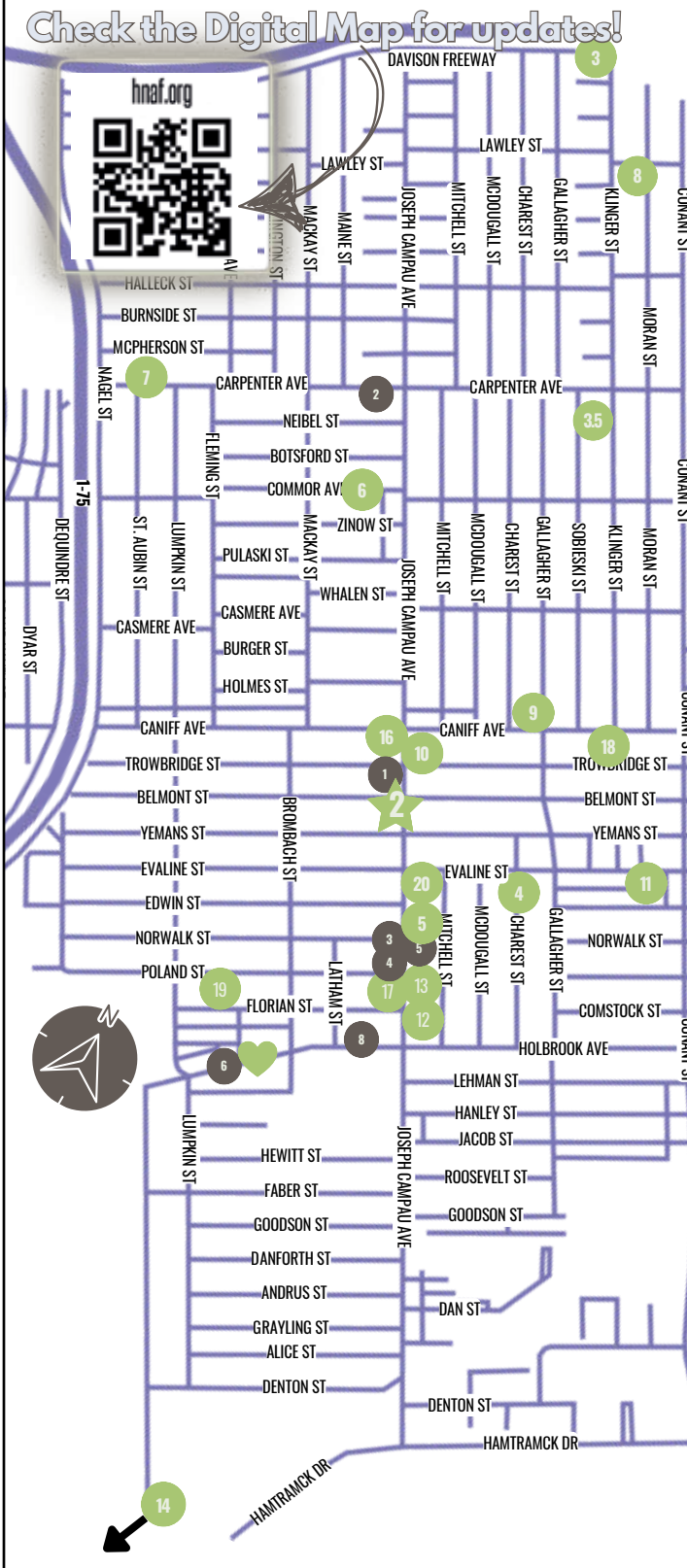
- Include your name
- Phone number
- Preferred appointment time

Important Information

- Appointments are limited!
- They are scheduled on a **first-come, first-served** basis.
- You will receive confirmation once your appointment is scheduled.



Check the Digital Map for updates!



HNAF Events

★**Festival Info and Maps | Passenger Recovery | 3901 Christopher St | 9am – 5pm**
Festival headquarters-come by for information, maps, and grab your donor swag

Teal Door Artist Collective & TEAD One Artist Residency Program | Suite D2 | 10am – 5pm
Teal Door Artist Collective, in partnership with TEAD One Artist in Residency Program, welcomes visitors to an Open Studio event.

Jon Sniezek | It Begins with Hamtramck | Christopher Street Gallery | 10am - 6pm
See through my perspective of Hamtramck. A place my family has been a part of for more than 100 years. I choose to document day-to-life, the people, and events as I acclimate back to the city my family has since all left.

Jeremy Young | 10am – 6pm
Artist based out of metro Detroit. I find inspiration in trying to bring different perspectives to everyday things.

★**Hamtramck Night Bazaar | Pope Park | 6pm - 10pm**
Join us for evenings of vendors, music, food, and more.

Arabtronica | Shring Mountin | 6pm - 7pm
Live looping of electronic and eastern oud fusion. Look up and listen to EMERGENCE by Shring Mountin I wrote it for your emotional well being.

Butterbeets | 7pm - 8pm
Detroit Low Fidelity. Texture connoisseur. "Commuter" out now everywhere.

marquette | 9pm - 9pm
Artist, Writer, and Musician that blends genres to create what some call Neo-Rock

3
35
Monster Parade | Ride It Sculpture Park | Hamtramck Disneyland | 6pm – 8 pm
Come in your favorite monster gear and walk from Ride It Sculpture Skatepark to Hamtramck Disneyland singing monster chants and signs, after which we will hang at Hamtramck Disneyland with a bonfire and Monster Mash!

4
All Ages Tie Dye and Surface Design Workshop | Sicily Amaris McRaven | 9552 Charest St | 3pm - 5pm
Learn more about fabric dye and design while creating your very own shibori artwork. The workshop will be held outdoors and will be kid-friendly.

5
Ukrainian American Archives & Museum | 9630 Jos Campau Ave | 11am - 5pm
Learn about and celebrate the Ukrainian American immigrant story in southeast Michigan. This exhibit is aligned with the America250MI guiding themes of "Power of Place, We the People, and Doing History."

6
Making Music With What You Got - Modern Primitive Instruments | Micahel Copado/Revytone | 2650 Commor St | 11am - 5pm
Explore how a cigar box, cookie tin, a hunk of wood, string and other junk became the backbone of the music we listen to today through instruments of "junkyard luthier" Michael Copado.

7
SOUNDHenge | Poppas Packing | 2055 Carpenter St | 3pm - 8pm
SoundHenge is a communal sound experience that has been happening semi yearly for 12 years. It is an improvised sound jam in which participants are spread out among 9 stations in a large 150' diameter circle and play simultaneously while creating a magical soundscape amongst the trees.

8
Sonic Play Workshops with Zara Teicher | 12657 Moran St | 6pm - 8pm
We'll experiment, listen deeply, let loose, get silly, improvise, and follow (or maybe break?) the rules of different game-type pieces. In the spirit of folk traditions and drawing from the work of Pauline Oliveros, Fluxus, and others, we'll connect to each other as a community through sound making as a living social language.

15
TAG US IN YOUR POSTS! @HAMTRAMCKNIEGHBOR HOODARTSFEST

9

Students of Horizon High School | 3225 Caniff Ave | 10am - 5pm
Students will be selling arts, crafts and other goods in their outdoor garden space, and will also include music cold drinks and snacks. All proceeds will go to benefit the Horizon Media Arts program.

10

Atomic Cafe| 10326 Jos Campau Ave | 12pm - 7pm
Gallery will be showing artworks from Sanda Cook, Luke MacGilvray and Michael Jankovich.

11

Hatch Art: Wine of the World by Michaela Nichelle, Open Studios| 3456 Evaline St | 11am - 6pm
Wine of the World is a solo exhibition by Michaela Nichelle that examines how kinship is formed, utilizing both domestic and public archives. Through the examination of Black women's roles and labor, Nichelle honors the legacies of memory-keeping and the radical fight for preservation and justice she's inherited

12

Motivational Museum | 9342 Jos Campua Ave | 1pm - 6:30pm
Step inside the Motivational Museum, a 2,900-square-foot gallery featuring an incredible collection of art and photography from local and international artists

13

Oysters, Beers, & Kids Coloring | Florian East | 9350 Jos Campua Ave | 1pm - 11pm
Help Florian East brew their annual community oyster stout. Kids coloring will be available.

14

Pioneer Building Artist Open Studios | 2679 Grand Blvd E | 2pm - 8pm
Food, fun, music, and most of all, one of the greatest collections of artists and their work in Detroit!

15

The Convent Detroit Open Studios | 13301 Mound Rd | 10am - 2pm
Come visit The Convent during the Hamtramck Neighborhood Arts Festival! Wander through our open studios, meet the artists, explore the space, and see what goes on here. Plus, you can check out some of our available spaces!

16

Stories and Songs w/ Phil Leslie | 10345 Jos Campau Ave | 2:30pm - 3:30pm
Gather 'round for another hour of great stories, silly songs, fun little skits and an all around good time for all ages.

17

Poetry Reading with Scott Beal, Tommye Blount and Dom Witten | 6pm - 7pm
Celebrating the LAUNCH of Scott Beal's latest poetry collection STEGOSAURUS MOON. FREE Reading with Scott Beal, Tommye Blount and Dom Witten, produced by the Poetics Lab.

18

Di Tew | 9503 Jos Campau Ave | 10am - 2pm
Selling fluid art, handmade boxes with international fine papers, vintage hats and boxes at the corner of Poland and Jos Campau.

19

Tony Hope | 3432 Caniff Ave | 12pm - 5pm
Leveraging his continued reverence for blockbuster body horror, juggalo culture, synthetics, and a proverbial state of youth, Tony Hope presents new work.

20

Halloween Delights | Lynn & Joe | 2240 Poland St | 12pm - 10pm
Our Front Yard has been transformed into a Halloween-lover's delight! Stop by during the daytime for some light Halloween fun or come by after dark when the spook factor is amplified. We hope to have a scavenger hunt set up to encourage folks to linger and interact ("please don't walk in our garden") with our Halloween installation.

20

Trish Howell | 9638 Jos Campau Ave | 11am - 6pm
Hamtramck, Detroit themed and/or Halloween themed T-shirts and hoodies designed by me. I will also have some of my prints and small artwork for sale.

While you're here, check out these Hamtramck Arts & Cultural Institutions

1 Hamtramck Bazaar | 10229 Jos Campau Ave

2 Ceramics School | 2692 Carpenter Ave

3 Polish Art Center | 9539 Jos Campau Ave

4 Hamtramck Historical Museum | 9525 Jos Campau Ave

5 Natural Villain Cinema | 9536 Jos Campau Ave

6 Cafe 1923 | 2287 Holbrook Ave

7 Buffalo Prescott | 11411 Buffalo St

8 Kitab Cafe & Bookstore | 2127 Holbrook Ave

 Don't forget to show our sponsor some love, grab a bite or a drink at Kelly's Bar! | 2403 Holbrook Ave

Notice of Public Hearing

City of Hamtramck City Council

The City of Hamtramck City Council will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Hamtramck City Hall, 3401 Evaline St, Hamtramck, Michigan 48212. The public is invited to attend and comment at the public hearing or to make written comments before the date of the hearing. Written comments should be made to the attention of Sami Elhady at selhady@hamtramckcity.gov before 12:00 p.m. on October 27, 2026.

The subject of the public hearing is a revision to the City of Hamtramck ordinance, Chapter 34: amending section 34.018(K)(7), prohibited acts, to increase the required separation for barbecuing near combustible buildings and other common combustibles from ten feet to fifteen (15) feet, consistent with new section 34.020, open burning and outdoor fires; and to provide for severability, repealer, and an effective date, with the amendment to take effect no earlier than section 34.020.

The second reading and public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Please note: This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976, as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCL 15.261 et seq., and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The City of Hamtramck will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting or public hearing upon 10 days notice to the City Clerk's Office. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Hamtramck City Clerk's Office by writing or calling 313-800-5233 x 821.

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The subject of the public hearing is a proposed ordinance amending Title III, Administration, of the City of Hamtramck Code of Ordinances by adding Chapter 41, Emergency Management: to provide for the City's participation in the Wayne County emergency management program under the Emergency Management Act, 1976 PA 390; to provide for an emergency management coordinator and an emergency management liaison; to provide for a Support Emergency Operations Plan; to provide for the declaration of a local state of emergency and for the powers and duties of City officials during an emergency; and to provide for severability, repealer, and an effective date.

The second reading and public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

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Great Lakes Current



Current-ly

on the Porch



Lonnie Scott

If you're reading this outside of Yale, there's a pretty good chance you're wondering who I am and why I've suddenly shown up in your newspaper somewhere other than the publisher's box you see each week.

Fair question. I'm Lonnie Scott, publisher of the five newspapers operated by Buried Lede Media: The Yale Expositor, Lansing City Pulse, The Hamtramck Review, The Tri-City Times in Imlay City, and The Tribune Recorder Leader in Sandusky. I also serve as CEO of Buried Lede Media.

Publisher's Porch is a weekly feature I write for The Expositor about newspapers, our communities, my family, and whatever else happens to be on my mind. If you enjoy this one, you can always subscribe to The Expositor to have my thoughts delivered to your mailbox each week.

This week, though, is a little different, because this is the first Publisher's Porch appearing in all five of our newspapers, and the first edition of something we're calling The Great Lakes Current.

Buried Lede was built around a pretty simple belief: Local newspapers still matter. At a time when large newspaper conglomerates have gutted local newsrooms and replaced local reporting with stories written by someone halfway across the state, we're trying something different.

Once a month, we're asking the editors in each of our newsrooms to choose stories, columns, and opinions they think are worth sharing with readers in our other communities. And we're putting them right alongside the local news you already expect from us.

We're not cutting pages to make room for the Current. We're adding pages to the newspapers you already read.

We know you might not agree with everything you see. A reader in Capac may have a very different reaction to a column from our alternative weekly in Lansing. Something written in Hamtramck might raise a few eyebrows in Sandusky, etc.

That's OK. In fact, that's part of the idea.

Michigan is a big, complicated and wonderfully diverse state. We think there's value in occasionally seeing what people in another corner of it are talking about, worrying about, celebrating or debating.

The Current is our chance to do exactly that once a month. To go with the flow, if you will. (Get it? Because it's the Current? I'll see myself out.)

We'll probably learn a few things and make some changes along the way. That's part of trying something new.

For now, welcome to the first Great Lakes Current. I hope you'll join me back here on the Porch next month. Unless you're reading this in Yale, or my earlier sales pitch worked and you're one of our brand-new Expositor subscribers. In that case, I'll see you back on the Porch next week.

Local Journalism. Statewide Perspective.

Former Lansing mayor David Hollister dies at 84

BY MIKE ELLIS
Lansing City Pulse

LANSING — David Hollister, mayor of the city he always saw as world class, has died at 84.

Hollister was a social studies teacher at Durand and Lansing Eastern high schools before going into politics, serving as a state representative and as mayor from 1993-2003. He then served as a cabinet member in Gov. Jennifer Granholm's administration, leading the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth.

Hollister had discussed his physical struggles with Parkinson's, with symptoms beginning as early as 2000, but he remained sharp.

Even in recent years, Hollister continued to make occasional public appearances, including visiting the eponymous City Hall to push for changes to the city's charter. His proposal of requiring the city to produce comprehensive data about the city's progress was adopted, and each year when citizens get that report, it'll be a another reminder of Hollister.



David Hollister

Inspired by a brief encounter with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr in 1965, Hollister spent the summers of 1966 and 1968 as a volunteer teacher in the Mississippi Freedom Schools in Holly Springs, MS.

As a teacher in Lansing, he took a students to see Robert F. Kennedy in Detroit.

While working as a full-time teacher, Hollister was elected to the Ingham County Board of Commissioners in 1968 and served until 1974 when he was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives, serving for

nearly two decades until leaving to serve as mayor.

As mayor, Hollister faced one of the biggest challenges the city has ever had: the potential withdrawal of GM operations.

Hollister helped to assemble as Marvel-scale coalition that successfully reversed the potential loss of GM operations in Lansing, which could have devastated Lansing for a generation. Hollister led the "Lansing Works! Keep GM" campaign, bringing together businesses, unions, government officials and community leaders and they kept GM manufacturing operations, and thousands of workers in Lansing.

It was a rare instance of a leader rallying a city and getting a major corporation to reverse such a decision.

The campaign, and its success, was the focus of the book and movie, "Second Shift: The Inside Story of the Keep GM Movement."

Hollister also brought in the minor league Lansing Lugnuts and Jackson Stadium, along

with helped to define the Stadium District.

Hollister was elected mayor three times, serving from 1993 to 2003, when he stepped down to accept a cabinet position in Gov. Jennifer Granholm's administration.

He later served as president and CEO of the Prima Civitas Foundation, working closely with MSU President Lou Anna Simon.

"I am heartbroken for Christine, their children, and the entire Hollister family. His loss is immeasurable and will be felt by all those who knew him," said former Gov. Jennifer Granholm. "Dave Hollister was my friend and a mentor to me, and he taught me so much about being a leader. He leaves an incredible legacy of service to this city that he loved so much, and he will truly be missed by all."

Lansing's current City Hall is formally known as the David C. Hollister City Hall and when the city's new building opens, expected in November, it too will carry Hollister's name.

Taxpayers socked with mayor's bills

BY CHARLES SERCOMBE
The Hamtramck Review

HAMTRAMCK — Hamtramck Mayor Adam Alharbi wasted no time in submitting the legal bills from his ongoing effort to prevent the counting of 37 ballots from last November's city election.

As of Aug. 18, taxpayers are on the hook to pay \$135,242 for Alharbi's private fight to prevent those ballots from being counted and then potentially

having to give up serving as the city's mayor, according to invoices The Review received through a Freedom of Information Act request.

More legal fees are expected to be submitted to the city for payment. Alharbi has said the bills will eventually total about \$200,000.

Alharbi insists that the city should cover his legal bills because he was acting in an official capacity as mayor.

Alharbi told the city council that the "city should have covered" his legal expenses "from the beginning — for its mayor and the city itself."

But the dispute with his mayoral challenger, former city councilmember Muhith Mahmood, originated before Alharbi was sworn in as mayor or back in January of this year.

Alharbi won the election by 11 votes. The uncounted ballots were discovered the day after the November election in the city clerk's office.

Alharbi ultimately lost his court appeals to prevent the ballots from being counted. The Wayne County Board of Canners is expected to set a date to count the ballots any day.

The mayor has argued that, because the ballots were left unattended and exposed to unauthorized people in the clerk's office, they should not be counted.

Mahmood insists that every voter has a right to have their ballot counted. The Michigan Court of Appeals agreed with him.

Alharbi appealed to the

Councilman files a lawsuit against the mayor

BY CHARLES SERCOMBE
The Hamtramck Review

HAMTRAMCK — Hamtramck Councilman Mohammed Alsomiri once again filed a lawsuit against a city official.

This time, he is suing Mayor Adam Alharbi in Wayne County Circuit Court for having taxpayers foot the bill over his private legal case to prevent 37 uncounted ballots from last November's election from being counted.

Alsomiri is also taking issue with Alharbi filing a lawsuit against the city and his mayoral challenger, Muhith Mahmood. Alharbi has accused Mahmood of not being a resident in the city, and thus being ineligible to hold office here.

Mahmood insists he is a resident, but visits his family in Troy.

In both matters, Alsomiri said the mayor is acting as a private individual and is, in fact, acting as a plaintiff — not a defendant.

Alsomiri is also accusing Alharbi of violating the city's ethics ordinance by "knowingly us(ing) his or her office or position to secure personal benefit, gain or profit, or us(ing) his or her position to secure special privileges or exceptions for himself, herself, or for the benefit, gain or profit of any other persons."

Alharbi told The Review: "This lawsuit is entirely without legal or factual merit. As mayor, my role is to serve the best interests of all Hamtramck residents, and ensure that city business is handled transparently and fairly."

In August, a minimum majority of three councilmembers — Nayeem Choudhury, Abu Musa and Muhtasin Sadman — passed a resolution to have the city cover Alharbi's legal fees. The mayor said the total bill could amount to perhaps \$200,000, but did not provide any invoices to back up that claim.

Alharbi said the invoices

will be submitted now that the city agreed to pay his legal fees.

He has since submitted a bill for about \$135,000 for taxpayers to pay. It's unclear if that bill has been paid yet by the city.

Alsomiri is attempting to stop the payments, and possibly get Alharbi removed from office.

In his lawsuit, filed by Troy-based attorney Mark Wasvary, Alsomiri says Alharbi's "participation in each of the Alharbi lawsuit and Mahmood lawsuit was the product of his own voluntary and affirmative acts, undertaken through privately retained counsel, and was not the result of his having been sued or named as a defendant in his capacity as mayor in either matter."

The lawsuit is the latest development of an ever-widening rift between council members.

Some members have called for censuring others, then have repealed those decisions; ethics violation claims also have been filed.

Alsomiri and Councilman Yousuf Saed are also suing Councilmen Muhtasin Sadman and Abu Musa for voting to approve the sale of the city-owned properties.

Saed and Alsomiri accuse the pair of being related to one of the buyers, and of failing to disclose their conflicts of interest.

Council members are seeking to prevent the transfer of the properties, and they are also accusing Sadman and Musa of violating the city's ethics ordinance.

Despite this friction, Mayor Alharbi told The Review: "I remain fully focused on moving our city forward, delivering on our priorities, and working every day to serve the people of Hamtramck."

A Hamtramck resident has also filed an ethics violation and lawsuit against Alharbi over his legal bill.

Choudhury, Abu Musa and Muhtasin Sadman.

That was a few weeks ago, and, since then, Councilman Mohammed Alsomiri has filed a lawsuit and ethics violation complaint against the mayor for orchestrating the city

council vote to have taxpayers pay his \$200,000 legal bill.

Alharbi is using one of the state's leading legal firms, Butzel Law, to represent him. A breakdown of the legal bills reveals a range of addressed topics, including a discussion on The Review's election coverage articles. (However, there was no charge for that discussion.)

At the same time that Alharbi persuaded a minimum of council members to agree to have the city pay his legal fees, he has also complained about the increasing costs of legal fees that the city is paying out for other matters.

His challenger, Mahmood, says that if Alharbi can get taxpayers to cover his legal fees, then (Mahmood) is also entitled.

"But I don't want to do that to taxpayers," Mahmood previously told The Review. In a recent interview, Mahmood said he is still hesitant to submit his legal fees to the city.

However, he also told The Review that he is reconsidering that position.

Alharbi told council that the city is not obligated to pay for Mahmood's legal costs because he was acting as a candidate, not a city official.

In another legal dispute with Mahmood, Alharbi has gone to court challenging his residency in the city. In a recent appeal to the state Supreme Court, that court declined to hear the matter until there was a ruling on it from the Wayne County Circuit Court.

It was not immediately known if Alharbi is also billing taxpayers for that legal fight.

In the residency challenge, Alharbi is utilizing material collected during a prior internal city investigation into whether Mahmood actually lives in Hamtramck, or with his family in Troy.

The investigation concluded that Mahmood is not truly a resident and does live in Troy.

Mahmood still insists he is a resident in Hamtramck, however, and that he simply visits his family in Troy. He says that he lives in an apartment on Holbrook.

That same investigation concluded that Councilman Abu Musa lives in Warren with his family, not in Hamtramck. Musa denies the allegation, and says he lives at 11441 Mitchell St.

Opinion: Voting is the first step

BY SOMMER FOSTER AND MICHEAL DAVIS JR.

When you vote, you are choosing the team that you want to fight for you, your family, and your community. Like with any of life’s important decisions, you wouldn’t want someone else making them for you, so don’t. Make a plan to vote.

Ballots are already available for the Nov. 3 General Election; that means that people are already deciding who will work on behalf of Michiganders for the next several years. We are here to make sure you have what you need to vote.

First, check your voter registration. This takes about two minutes — the same amount of time it takes to brush your teeth. Go to mi.gov/vote and select “Your voter information.” Enter your information and see if you’re registered to vote at your current address. If you aren’t, you can register online or by mail at mi.gov/vote until Monday, Oct. 19. Starting Oct. 20, you must register in person at your city or township clerk’s office with proof of residency. You can register and vote until 8 p.m. on Nov. 3.

Second, learn what’s on your ballot. Ballot Builder or Vote411.org are nonpartisan resources that explain what and who is on your ballot.

Third, plan how you want to vote. Thanks to Michiganders who have voted repeatedly over the last decade to modernize our elections and make them more accessible, you have lots of options for how to vote in the Nov. 3 General Election.

You can vote from home (or a beach, or your car, or your favorite restaurant) with an absentee ballot. You can request an absentee ballot at mi.gov/vote or by contacting your local clerk. You can also sign up for the permanent mail ballot list and automatically receive a mail ballot for all future elections (we highly recommend this!).

And of course, you have options for returning your ballot, too! You can put it in the mail (we recommend mailing by Oct. 20 to ensure it arrives in time), or you can return your ballot by putting it in a secure drop box in the city or township where you live (be sure to sign the outer envelope first!).

Or you can take it to an early voting site in your community or (if you live anywhere other than Detroit) to your polling place on Election Day and put it through a tabulator. It’s the comfort of voting at home combined with the thrill of voting in person. Your ballot must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day in order to count, unless you are serving in the military or living overseas, in which case your ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 3 and received by Nov. 9. Make sure to track your ballot at mi.gov/vote.

You can vote early at an early voting site. Statewide early voting starts Saturday, Oct. 24, and runs through Sunday, Nov. 1, for at least eight hours a day. Some communities may offer additional days and hours. Check with your local clerk for their early voting sites and times.

You can vote on Election Day at your polling location. Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 3, and polls are open 7 a.m.-8 p.m. local time. If you’re in line by 8 p.m., stay in line — the polls must remain open until everyone in line has voted. Make sure to check your polling location before you go to vote (these occasionally change).

- Check your voter registration.
- Request an absentee ballot.
- Track your applications and your ballot.
- Find your early voting site.
- Find your drop box.
- Find your Election Day polling location.

Still have questions or need to report a problem voting? Call the nonpartisan Election Protection Hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE, 866-687-8683.

Now it’s up to you to decide how and when you want to vote, and to decide who you want to represent you at the local, state, and federal levels. Take control of shaping the future you want, and vote on or before Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2026.

— Sommer Foster is the executive director of Michigan Voices. Micheal Davis Jr. is the executive director of Promote the Vote Fund.

Lapeer fire crews battle pair of commercial building blazes

BY DAVE FREDRICK
The Tri-City Times

LAPEER — The Attica Township Fire Department was among several responding to two commercial building fires on Sunday.

According to Lapeer fire officials, two commercial buildings were damaged in separate fires reported just minutes apart. Lapeer Fire and Rescue and Elba Township Fire Department responded just after midnight to the 300 block of North Jefferson Street for a reported structure fire, according to Lapeer Fire and Rescue personnel.

First arriving fire crews found an active fire on the exterior of a commercial building with flames quickly spreading inside the dwelling. Lapeer Fire then requested a second alarm from Central Dispatch, bringing additional personnel and apparatus to the scene.

Firefighters battled the blaze from both inside and outside



The Attica Township Fire Department was among those departments called for mutual aid to the City of Lapeer for two structure fires early Sunday morning. [Dave Fredrick/The Tri-City Times staff]

the building, bringing the fire under control in less than two hours. Firefighters remained on scene for about three hours dousing hot spots and per-

forming overhaul procedures to extinguish any small fires.

A short time later, a second structure fire was reported to Central Dispatch, this one in

the 900 block of Nepessing Street.

While Lapeer and Elba remained on scene of the first fire, multiple mutual aid crews who originally were responding to the first call were diverted to the second call and able to extinguish the flames in a short amount of time.

According to fire officials, the Jefferson Street building sustained heavy fire damage while the West Nepessing Street business sustained minor damage. Fire officials say no injuries were reported.

City of Lapeer Fire and Rescue was assisted by the Elba Township, Attica Township, Metamora Township, Deerfield Township and Davison-Richfield fire departments, along with the Lapeer County Sheriff’s Department, Lapeer County EMS and the City of Lapeer Police Department.

Both fires remain under investigation by Lapeer Fire & Rescue and the Lapeer Police Department.



Linda Rowe, 88, recently went skydiving in Ray, Michigan. [Courtesy photos]

Linda Rowe takes the leap

BY CHARLA ARNOLD
The Tribune Recorder Leader

RAY, Mich. — At 88 years young, Linda Rowe isn’t slowing down. She’s still saying yes to adventure — even when the invitation comes as an April Fool’s joke.

Rowe, a retired community college teacher and longtime adventurer, recently checked skydiving off her bucket list after an unexpected challenge at Stonegate Village Assisted Living turned into a dream come true.

The idea of skydiving was originally presented to Stonegate residents as an April Fool’s joke. While others quickly said no, Rowe simply said yes.

Once she accepted the challenge, her name was submitted to Stonegate’s “Make Dreams Happen” initiative, a program designed to help residents achieve meaningful dreams and experiences.

What started as a joke became very real.

Stonegate partnered with Midwest Free Fall in Ray to make Rowe’s skydiving adventure possible. On Sept. 10, a bus filled with Stonegate residents and staff traveled to the drop zone to cheer her on as she prepared to take the leap.

For Rowe, however, skydiving was hardly her first adventure.

Her life has been filled with experiences that would make impressive entries on anyone’s bucket list. She has taken a solo whitewater rafting trip through the Grand Canyon, participated in the Rose Bowl Parade and gone horseback riding through the



Superstition Mountains.

Even her move to Michigan came about through an adventure.

Originally from Ohio, Rowe first came to Michigan on vacation. What began as a visit eventually led her to purchase a home with two friends. She later built a home of her own just around the corner from the house she had purchased with her friends.

For Rowe, adventure has never been about waiting for the right time.

She says she feels lucky to be able to continue doing the things she loves, and after taking a literal leap from an airplane at 88, she has some advice for others.

“Don’t wait! Do what you want to do and do it now!”

At an age when many people might be content to settle into a quieter routine, Rowe is still looking toward the next adventure — proving that sometimes the best thing you can do when someone asks, even as a joke, is say yes.

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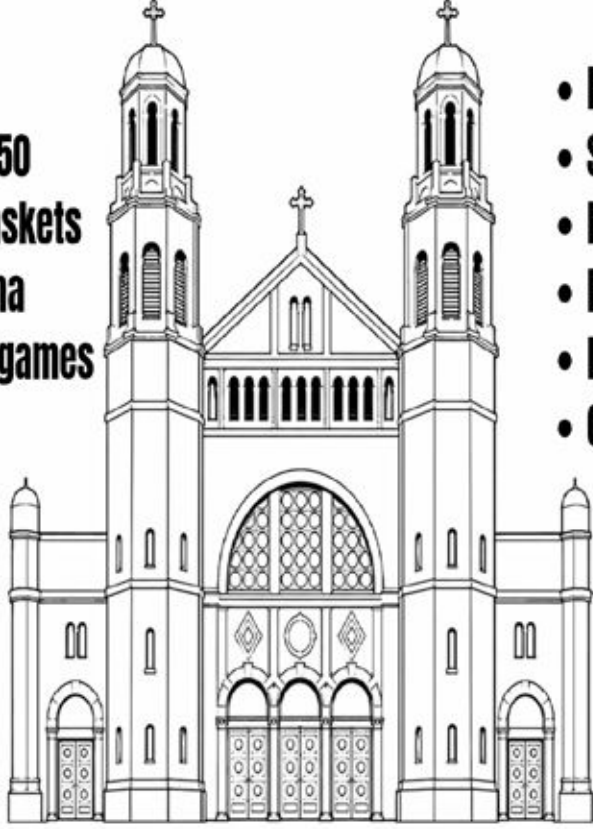

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