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- Reinvigorate the business community.

See
Fundraiser
on page 5

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The Review

Hamtramck



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— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —



Quick Hits

Get ready to fire up the grills and celebrate. Next Thursday is the Fourth of July, our national celebration of independence.

One way folks like to celebrate, besides hosting barbecues, is to set off fireworks. They are now legal in the state, but Hamtramck has a curfew on how late they can be fired off.

The city recently set the time limit to no later than 10 p.m. So, enjoy yourself but remember to keep it safe.

And pass us a cold one while you're at it.

Also, on Saturday, June 29, be sure to head over to Zussman Park, in front of city hall for Public Safety Day. Police officers and firefighters will be on hand to greet the public. Kids can play a variety of games and take a peek into squad cars and fire trucks.

It's fun for the whole family.



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Veterans Park's historic grandstands are on a winning streak

By Kirstin Rose
Special to The Review

Veterans Memorial Park has a good friend indeed. Following the recent clean-up of the area around the grandstands by our firefighters and volunteers, General Motors has now stepped up to the plate.

GM is sponsoring a huge fix-up of the park by donating the time of three adult mentors and hiring a dozen Hamtramck High School students.

Their teen spirit will be focused on repairing the fence at the tennis court, moving and improving the little-used playscape, removing graffiti from the grandstand area and picking up the litter.

GM is also considering a donation between \$7,500 and \$10,000 to go towards park improvements and ongoing maintenance.

The historic grandstands are on an unprecedented winning streak. In July 2012, the grandstands were awarded a spot on the National Register of Historic Places. While the historical designation is no guarantee that the structure is out of danger from demolition, vandalism, or the elements, it does help when it comes to applying for private and public grants.

Speaking of funding, the Hamtramck Economic Development Corporation has ap-



Hamtramck High School students have been hired as interns by General Motors and are making repairs at Veterans Memorial Park this summer.

Continued on page 2

In our opinion: Stop the madness, save our trees



"X" is the mark of death for trees in the city. The city is taking down trees that have caused sidewalk slabs to buckle, and that has some folks upset.

Normally, our editorials are placed inside this newspaper, but there is one issue that we feel so strongly about, it deserves front-page attention.

As regular readers know, there is a sidewalk improvement project underway. Unfortunately, that also means the city is taking down dozens of healthy trees because they are causing sidewalk slabs to buckle up.

And sidewalk slabs that are uprooted cause people to trip and fall, and they in turn sue the city.

While this poses a serious financial threat to the city, we urge city leaders to halt this program.

Some of these trees are 80 to 100 years old, and they provide much needed shade and beauty in our neighborhoods.

People are beginning to scream about this.

But there is a problem. There is no leadership in City Hall. None of our elected officials have stepped forward to put a stop to the removal of

Continued on page 2

New EM is no stranger to the city

By Charles Sercombe

Starting on Monday (July 1) there will be a new boss in town.

And she's no stranger to Hamtramck.

On Wednesday, Gov. Rick Snyder announced that Cathy Square is the city's new emergency manager.



Cathy Square has been appointed by Gov. Snyder as Hamtramck's new Emergency Manager. She starts the job on Monday.

Square was head of Hamtramck's Department of Public Works for a few months when former Emergency Manager Lou Schimmel was in charge from 2000 to 2005.

Square went on to hold several other positions in Highland Park and most recently in Pontiac — once again with Schimmel — as city administrator and the head of two other departments.

On Wednesday, Acting City Manager Kyle Tertzag said he had not yet talked with Square. He said he does not know her.

"I'll cooperate fully with her," he said. "If she wants me to transition with her I'll do it, and if she wants me out, it's totally her call."

Tertzag has been acting city manager for 11 months.

Mayor Karen Majewski said she remembers Square as a good fit for Hamtramck when she was working with Schim-

Continued on page 4

Quote of the week ...

Who said this, and what is it about? You can find the quote and the story it belongs to somewhere in the pages of this issue.

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Veterans Park's historic grandstands are on a winning streak

Continued from front page

plied for a grant from the state Department of Natural Resources that would be used to boost the recreation potential of Veterans Park. If this relatively large grant comes through a planned trail around the park — possibly connecting to other area bike trails — is part of the overall scope of the planning.

To recap: Hamtramck Stadium was built in 1930 and opening day saw 9,000 peo-

ple in attendance.

The stadium was home to the Negro League Detroit Stars. Ty Cobb threw the first pitch on the stadium's opening day, and legendary pitcher Satchel Paige and Negro All-Star Turkey Stearns rounded out the roster of other luminaries who played the field.

The stadium is one of only 12 surviving Negro League stadiums in the country. The push to refurbish the sta-

dium was initiated by Friends of Historic Hamtramck Stadium and is supported by many other local organizations.

To be part of this comeback story, contact hamtramckstadium@gmail.com or the Hamtramck Stadium on Facebook.

For more information about the history of Hamtramck Stadium, visit HamtramckStadium.org.

Hamtramck Police Department Auction
Saturday, June 29, 2013
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1989	FORD	RED	TK	1FTDF15M1KLA89038
1990	TOY	BLUE	4D	4T1SV21EXLU264982
1991	CHEV	RED	TK	2GCEC19K1M1215288
1992	CHEV	RED	TK	1GCEC14Z7NE174945
1993	GEO	GRN	4D	1Y1SK5365P2008581
1994	CHEVY	WHITE	2D	1G1LW15M6R250881
1994	CAD	GREEN	4D	1G6KSS2Y4R0842481
1995	MERC	SILVER	4D	2MELM75W5S6X651005
1995	GMC	WHITE	VN	1GTD19W4S8554572
1997	CHEV	RED	2D	1G1JF12T8V7275896
1998	GMC	GREEN	TK	1GKEL19W5WB511277
2000	FORD	SILVER	4D	1FAP33P4YU322557
2000	MERC	WHITE	SW	4M2XV11T6YD13450
2000	PLYM	RED	4D	1P3ES46C9YD540377
2000	CHRY	GREEN	VN	1C4GJ44G9YB748904
2002	CHEV	BLUE	2D	2G1WW12E729292786
2002	QLDS	SILVER	SW	1GHDX13E32D230518
2003	HONDA	SILVER	SW	5FNRL18643B054209
2005	CW-TRAILER	RED	TRL	46CCT16325M000640

In our opinion: Stop the madness, save our trees

Continued from front page

these trees. Instead, there is a grassroots effort to halt this madness on Facebook.

Problem is, though, Facebook rantings won't solve anything. It takes real leadership.

We believe there are a number of alternatives to taking down trees. The city needs to take a step back and get creative.

It also concerns us, and

we're just going to say this, that the person who is marking the trees for removal is a former employee of the company that the city contracts to take away the trees.

We're going to guess that it costs about \$1,000 a tree to remove and grind the stump. There are 40 to 50 trees designated for removal. You do the math.

Restaurant has a new look for Ramadan

By Robert Taylor
Special to The Review

The Muslim new year begins in a week, and Bonoful Sweets and Café is ready for the celebration.

During the month-long observance, Muslims fast from

sun-up to sunset. Afterward, they traditionally break their fast with family meals.

For those wishing to dine out, Bonoful, located in a strip mall on Conant near Commor will feature special sales and a buffet in its newly renovated dining area. Local favorites include their sweet kajas rolls and chum chum.

"The city is in special spirits because of Ramadan, and they will be hungry after fasting all day," said owner-operator Mohammed Malik.

Bonoful is just one several restaurants located in Hamtramck that cater to the Bangladeshi and Yemeni communities. It has been in operation for several years, and according to local reviewers it is one of the better establishments.

Ramadan begins on July 7 and ends on Aug. 7.

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JULY 6 Tinder Tiger/Future Slang/James Cooper/Charlie Slick Modular Electro-pop
JULY 9 Comedy Night w/ Elvis

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This week at the library...

Toddler Time at the Library - Monday, July 1 at 11 a.m. Join us for story time, arts & crafts and games. This week's story is "Dig Into Reading." (Children must be accompanied by an adult.)

ESL Basic Class - Monday, July 1 at noon. Ms. Latisha conducts this three-hour basic ESL class, free for Hamtramck residents.

Movie Night - Tuesday, July 2 at 4 p.m. All children are invited to see a movie shown on high definition screen and enjoy a serving of popcorn. This week's feature is "Baby's Day Out."

Evening with Author - Tuesday, July 2 at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to spend the evening with Rebecca Thaddeus, author of "One Amber Bead." In her moving and compelling narrative, she captures our need to maintain our ties with those who were left behind when our ancestors emigrated to this country at the beginning of the 20th Century. Refreshments will be served.

ESL Conversation Class - Tuesday, July 3 at noon. Ms. Latisha conducts English Conversation classes each Tuesday night. Free of charge to Hamtramck residents.

ESL Class "News for You" - Friday, July 5 at 3:30 p.m. This intermediate

ESL class conducted by Latisha, free to Hamtramck residents, consists of reading news articles from publications prepared for ESL, "News for You."

Library Gardening Club - Friday, July 5 at 4 p.m. Everyone is invited to join the library gardening club, with activities in the library community garden. Each week we will do a project in the garden and provide each member with a chance to get their own gardening plot, and grow vegetables, herbs or flowers to their liking. For more information see Ania or Kate.

Summer Reading Program Final Registration - Wednesday, July 3 at 1p.m. First session of the Summer Reading Program will start with orientation, presentation of reading options, guest speaker, games and preparations for Fourth of July celebration.

Basic Computer Class - Thursday, July 11 at 11:30 a.m. This week's class is on basic computer usage, Internet searches, e-mail and word processing. Registration is required, and new students are welcome.

Reading and Writing ESL Class - Thursday, July 11 at noon. The reading and writing ESL class conducted by Ms. Latisha is free to the public (reg-

istration required).

Evening with Author - Thursday, July 11 at 6 p.m. Author of "Legendary Locals of Detroit," Paul Vachon, will present his new book and participate in a question and answer session. Everyone is invited, refreshments and book signing will follow.

Meeting of the Library Board - Thursday, July 11 at 6 p.m. Regular meeting of the Library Board will be held in the auditorium. Open to the public.

Family Story Time for Children - Thursday, June 13, at 5 p.m. Join your friends at the library for a reading of a story for children. This week's topic is "Exploring Nature."

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

Teen Club Meeting - Friday, July 19, at 2 p.m. Teens are invited to join our summer meeting of the Teen Club.

Special Thanks to Mr. William Gorski for compiling additional obituary index. Volume one covers years 2000-2004. Volume two covers years 2005-2009.

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

Second Front Page

Mosque's design is OK'd by city council

By Charles Sercombe

After being denied twice, the proposed mosque at Jos. Campau and Caniff can go ahead with new design plans.

Several months ago the leaders of the Al Islah Mosque were told to go

dows than it does now.

But Community & Economic Development Director Jason Friedmann said an old photo of the building confirmed that the existing windows had been there all along.

That meant the designer

"It's pretty interesting," Friedmann said of the proposed design. "It's going to make for a dramatic gateway into town."

He said the exterior redo will cost about \$275,000. Work will first begin inside the two-story building.

The Zoning Board, whose members are appointed by the city council, approved the mosque. There are now three mosques in a one-block area at Jos. Campau and Caniff.

The mosques could have an impact on the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival. The alcohol drinking area, including the main stage, of the festival is in front of all three mosques which go from Caniff to Holmes St.

If the mosques object to the consumption of alcohol in front of their establishments, the festival will be forced to relocate the drinking area 500 feet north of Holmes St.

Police report a spike in street robberies

By Charles Sercombe

You may want to keep that gold necklace at home.

In the past several weeks, Hamtramck police have received numerous reports of suspects coming up to people on the street and snatching their necklaces right off their neck and then running away or running to a waiting car.

Police Chief Max Garbarino said the department is aware of the crime trend but so far there are no

leads. He said it's not unusual for street crimes to spike up this time of the year.

"There are more people walking around, and more predators," he said. "Always know your surroundings."

Garbarino also stressed that if you see something suspicious or out of place, call 911 immediately.

"If you think it's suspicious, you are probably right," Garbarino said.



This building at Jos. Campau and Caniff will be re-designed as a mosque and will feature minarets on top.

back to the drawing board because they wanted to cover up most of the windows at the building.

That design did not conform to the city's zoning requirements that say at least 70 percent of the windows in the commercial zone must be transparent. Mosque leaders came back and claimed that historically the building had fewer win-

of the mosque had to come up with a new site plan to conform to the city's requirements.

Now, the new design includes open windows, Friedmann said.

The city council approved the design at Tuesday's meeting.

Friedmann said the design includes minarets on top of the building.

The location of the mosque has caused some controversy. It first had to receive what's called a "variance" of use by the Zoning Board of Appeals because all buildings along Jos. Campau are designated for only commercial purposes.

A mosque, as well as other religious centers and non-profit agencies, is exempt from paying taxes.

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Restoring Pride in Our City

Campaign Platform

The city is in desperate need of the right leadership to:

- Promote rapid advancement
- Re-invigorate the business community
- Improve services for residents
- Grow the stature and appeal of Hamtramck to visitors

Priorities

1. Preserve and enhance public safety, police and fireman, with police officers patrolling in squad cars and on bicycles
2. Repair basic infrastructure, repave streets and alleys
3. Create the right conditions to increase property value by 25%, by end of first term
4. Remove blight, clean and expand city parks, add bicycle trail
5. Market the City of Hamtramck as a safe and welcoming community
6. Restore pride in our city



Senator Carl Levin and wife Barbara with John Ulaj at the 2012 Hamtramck Review Christmas party.

Background and Experience

- Born in Detroit, raised in Hamtramck, attended Dickenson, Kociuszko, and Hamtramck High School, graduated Class of 1991
- Associate Degree in Marketing, attended Walsh College
- Former chairman of city assessor's board
- President/owner of the Hamtramck Review Newspaper, 4 years
- Licensed real estate commercial broker, 15 years



TUESDAY August 6th

John ULAJ

FOR Mayor

Hamtramck - a Clean City, a Prosperous City – a city we are proud to call home!

Odds & Ends

What a guy ... our favorite potato chip maker, Detroit's own Better Made, has announced its Father of the Year. Drum roll, please And it's Hamtramckan Edward W. Stacey. Yea!

His daughter, Roxann Busch gets the credit because of an essay she wrote about her dear old dad. Here's what she had to say:

A father. What is that exactly?

Is that the man that hugs you every night before sending you off to bed?

Yes, my father did that.

Is that the man that worked countless hours just to put braces on your teeth?

Yes, my father did that, too.

Is that the man that made sure you had a prom dress just as nice as everyone else's even though times were a bit tough?

I've been there.

Is it the man that invested in a great starter car so that you could drive off to the college of your choice?

Yes, he did that, too.

Is that the man that took you to Eastern Market on the weekends to help fill the refrigerator in your new apartment?

Yes again.

Is that the man that saw you off as you moved far away with your new husband and told you to call him if you ever needed anything?

Yes, he did that too.

Is that the man that picks up the phone just to ask if you are all right after reading an email that just didn't sound right?

He did that, too.

I have the greatest father!

As winner, Ed will receive a huge box of samples of Better Made snacks. Congrats, Ed.

New EM is no stranger to the city

Continued from front page

mel.

"I thought she was competent, and I was sorry to see she left," Majewski said.

On Majewski's Facebook page, she also said:

"We will work with her and try to do what is best for the residents of Hamtramck. The goal is a healthy, viable city with a firm foundation on which to prosper. As we all come together and work through this, I hope everyone remembers that we have much to be proud of, and many assets on which to build a strong and stable future."

At the time The Review went to press Square could not be contacted. But in a

search online of media interviews, Square says she plans to restructure the fire and police departments.

That could mean a lot of things. In Pontiac, under Schimmel, the fire and police departments were eliminated and those services were contracted out to either Oakland County or other cities.

As for what Square sees as the source of the city's problems, she said told Mlive.com that she "assumes" it's because local officials have been "overspending."

Hamtramck's financial downturn began after a series of setbacks. First came

the closing of American Axle and the loss of property taxes from the Hamtramck plant, then financial disputes erupted over revenues due from the GM Poletown plant and the Wayne County jail located here, and then revenue cutbacks came from Gov. Snyder.

Also in the last few years, housing values plummeted down which meant a huge loss in property taxes. At the same time health insurance costs for city employees and retirees continued to skyrocket.

In all, it was a "perfect storm" of financial setbacks.

Hamtramck had a \$1 mil-

lion rainy day fund just two years ago but had to blow through that to meet contractual obligations.

City officials tried to get significant cuts in the wages and benefits from firefighters. but they refused to budge.

The city now has a \$3.4 million budget deficit, although at the same time the new budget year, which starts July 1, projects an \$18,000 surplus by next June.

When Square steps in on Monday, she will have sole financial control. The roles of the city council and acting city manager are up in the air.

Coming events

SATURDAY, June 29, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. – It's Public Safety Day in front of city hall. Police officers and firefighters will be on hand to greet the public. Kids can play a variety of games and take a peek into squad cars and fire trucks .Fun for the whole family.

THURSDAY, July 11, 2-6:45 p.m. – American Red Cross blood drive at People's Community Center, Jos. Campau and Danforth.

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BID TITLE: Hamtramck High School Community Center – Doors and Hardware Replacement

Hamtramck Public Schools will receive single prime sealed bids to furnish all labor and materials and perform all work necessary and incidental for the **Hamtramck High School Community Center – Door and Hardware Replacement Project** in accordance with published instructions, specifications, drawings and other contract documents.

There will be a Pre-Bid Meeting and Walkthrough, for all contractors wishing to submit a bid, at the Hamtramck High School Community Center, located at 11350 Charest, Hamtramck, MI 48212, on **Thursday, June 27, 2013 at 3:45 p.m.** Interested contractors shall enter the building through the main entrance located on the North side of the building.

Sealed bids must be received at the Hamtramck Public Schools Administration Building, located at 3201 Roosevelt, Hamtramck, MI 48212, no later than, **Wednesday, July 10, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.** Bids received after this date and time and bids received electronically or via fax will **not** be accepted or considered. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Hamtramck Public Schools Board of Education Meeting @ 6:30pm.

Bidders **MUST** use the bid form(s) in the specification packages. **RETURN TWO COMPLETE COPIES OF EACH BID SUBMITTAL.** Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, clearly labeled with the bid title, date and time due.

All bids shall be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship(s) that exist between the owner(s) or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board of Education of the School District or the Superintendent of the School District. The Board of Education shall not accept a bid that does not include a sworn and notarized familial relationship disclosure statement. All bids must also be submitted with a sworn and notarized Affidavit of Compliance regarding Michigan Public Act No. 517 of 2012 – Iran Economic Sanctions Act.

Submit with each bid, a certified check or acceptable bid bond payable to Hamtramck Public Schools, in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid. For bids in excess of \$50,000, a Labor and Material Payment Bond and a Performance Bond will be required. This is a prevailing wage project.

Bids submitted shall fully comply in all respects to these instructions, published specifications, drawings, and other contract documents. **Bid price shall include all costs associated with this project.**

No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the date of the bid opening. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any formalities in regard thereto. In addition, the Board reserves the right to evaluate bids on any basis determined by the Board to be in the best interest of the Board and to consider alternate bids if the low bidder(s) do not meet the specifications or are otherwise determined to be unqualified.

The Architect will provide the documents electronically free of charge or in hard copy format at \$25.00 per set. Checks shall be made payable to: PARTNERS in Architecture, PLC. Bid documents will be available on June 26, 2013. Interested contractors should request documents via email @ epacella@partnersinarch.com. Questions may be directed to PARTNERS in Architecture, PLC, 65 Market Street, Mt. Clemens, MI 48043 (Phone: 586-469-3600).

Advertisement for Bid

HAMTRAMCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

3201 Roosevelt, Hamtramck, MI 48212

BID TITLE: Hamtramck High School Community Center – Generator Replacement & Associated Electrical Upgrades

Hamtramck Public Schools will receive single prime sealed bids to furnish all labor and materials and perform all work necessary and incidental for the **Hamtramck High School Community Center – Generator Replacement & Associated Electrical Upgrades Project** in accordance with published instructions, specifications, drawings and other contract documents.

There will be a Pre-Bid Meeting and Walkthrough, for all contractors wishing to submit a bid, at the Hamtramck High School Community Center, located at 11350 Charest, Hamtramck, MI 48212, on **Thursday, June 27, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.** Interested contractors shall enter the building through the main entrance located on the North side of the building.

Sealed bids must be received at the Hamtramck Public Schools Administration Building, located at 3201 Roosevelt, Hamtramck, MI 48212, no later than, **Wednesday, July 10, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.** Bids received after this date and time and bids received electronically or via fax will **not** be accepted or considered. **Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Hamtramck Public Schools Board of Education Meeting @ 6:30pm.**

Bidders **MUST** use the bid form(s) in the specification packages. **RETURN TWO COMPLETE COPIES OF EACH BID SUBMITTAL.** Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, clearly labeled with the bid title, date and time due.

All bids shall be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship(s) that exist between the owner(s) or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board of Education of the School District or the Superintendent of the School District. The Board of Education shall not accept a bid that does not include a sworn and notarized familial relationship disclosure statement. All bids must also be submitted with a sworn and notarized Affidavit of Compliance regarding Michigan Public Act No. 517 of 2012 – Iran Economic Sanctions Act.

Submit with each bid, a certified check or acceptable bid bond payable to Hamtramck Public Schools, in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid. For bids in excess of \$50,000, a Labor and Material Payment Bond and a Performance Bond will be required. This is a prevailing wage project.

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Review: Opinion Page

Be sure to let your voice be heard and get out to vote on Aug. 6

If you are reading this on Friday, June 28, there is only one more week for those not registered to vote to register.

If you will be at least 18 years old at the time of the Aug. 6 Primary Election, and are a U.S. citizen and a resident of Hamtramck, march yourself to city hall or any secretary of state office and get yourself registered.

The Primary Election has a wide-open field of candidates, many of whom are highly qualified to hold office.

The mayor's race features three challengers taking on incumbent, Mayor Karen Majewski.

Unfortunately, the Primary Election features just local races for office, so it's

likely that voter turnout will be low. Very low, if history is any guide.

That's a shame because we should not let just a few voters decide what's best for our city. Hamtramck has 11,000 registered voters but we're lucky if 1,500 voters bother to exercise their constitutional right to vote.

Come on Hamtramck, you can do better.

Besides the mayoral election, there are two separate city council races: one for three seats that are four-year terms, and one seat that is for two years.

In the four-year term race the following candidates are running for council: Titus Walters, Richard Fabiszak, Councilmember

Mohammed Hassan, Jewel Mohammed, Rashad Al-masmari, Armani Asad, Susan Dunn-Rahdar, Andrea Karpinski, Showkat Choudhury and Anthony Liggett.

(Voters can vote for no more than six candidates.)

Facing off for the single two-year seat are: Darren Grow, Ian Perrotta, Darla Swint, Beverly Tran and Abu Musa.

(Voters can vote for no more than one candidate.)

And in the mayoral race, the following are in the running: Mayor Karen Majewski, Councilmembers Abdul Algazali and Cathie Gordon, and John Ulaj.

(Voters can vote for no more than one candidate.)

Get informed voters, and go vote on Aug. 6.

City clerk retires just a month before Primary Election

By Charles Sercombe

This election season just took a turn for the unexpected.

With just a month before the Aug. 6 Primary Election, City Clerk Marie Kendzierski has abruptly decided to retire. The City Clerk's Office oversees elections.

Kendzierski said it was just time to leave. She had been a city employee for 20 years.

"It's my time, I guess," she said. "It's a difficult decision."

But Kendzierski's resignation shouldn't pose a problem, said Acting City Manager Kyle Tertzag. He said a replacement, August "Auggie" Gitschlag, has already been appointed.

Gitschlag is a former deputy clerk in Brownstown Twp. and was an election

clerk in Macomb County. He also has been a bartender at Hamtramck's Whiskey in The Jar (which is owned by City Councilmember Tom Jankowski).

State election officials are also now in the office helping out.

In other election news, if you received an absentee ballot, throw it out. There were some errors in the ballot and new ones are being printed. Those who received ballots will be mailed a new one in a week or so.

Council candidate Beverly Tran not only wants to be elected, she wants to beat the city in court. Tran had accused the retiring city clerk of public malfeasance for not allowing her to see a nominating petition of a candidate.

The clerk initially refused the request in the belief that it was not open for public review but later allowed Tran to see the petition.

Tran, a legislative aide for Congressman John Conyers, is also suing the city's Board of Elections, which includes City Attorney James Allen, for violating the state's Open Meeting Act and Michigan election law.

Tran had requested copies of the board's minutes, but was told by the city attorney that there are none.

Acting City Manager Kyle Tertzag said he had no comment on the lawsuit, but did say the city will have to hire an outside attorney because the city attorney is named in the suit.

Math and reading program shows path to leading a successful life

By Ian Perrotta

Are you a parent concerned with your child's reading and math skills? Or do you simply want to make their learning experience richer and more fulfilling? If you answered yes then the Kumon Math & Reading Center might just be the solution to your problems.

Based on a system of teaching created by Toru Kumon in the 1950s, the Kumon Center is an after-school supplemental learning program designed to instruct children on an individual level determined by placement tests. As it is an afterschool program, it is not in competition with public or charter schools.

Currently implemented in 47 countries – and the largest program of its type globally – the worldwide presence of Kumon offers a unique opportunity for students to measure themselves against kids in different countries who are their own age. JoAnne Wolff, an Instructor at Kumon who has taught over 1000 children over the last 16 years, explains:

"For many children, it's the first time they have been measured on an international level," she says. "Our worksheets are the same across the globe – the only thing that is different is the language. A kid in the Kumon Center will get the same experience here as they

would anywhere else in the world."

Indeed, preparing students for life in the new, international real world is one of the school's top priorities. According to Wolff, because we live in a global economy it is important for children to understand the world they live in.

"Given we live in a global economy, they are now on a global footing," she says. "It's an advantage."

With the United States' math scores ranking 28th out of 33 industrialized nations, Wolff is determined to change that. At Kumon, students are not tutored – which Wolff describes as basically just making a student proficient in a subject – but instead encouraged to actually understand the material.

"We begin with a placement test. Typically our goal is to start with someone in 2nd or 3rd grade and by 5th grade have them doing algebra."

Students are also given placement tests on the reading side as well. Wolff says that usually there are gaps in a child's reading ability, and the individualized nature of instruction at Kumon helps fill them in. Reading work begins with phonics – doing exercises that teach the differences between words that are spelled similarly but sound different, like "eat" and "bread" – and build from

there.

A typical day at a Kumon center consists of one-half-to-one hour of class time, followed by homework. Homework is done every day – even Saturdays, Sundays, birthdays and holidays. It's not overwhelming nor too difficult, as homework is only 15 minutes a day in either math or reading.

"It's a disciplined, incrementally difficult program. The objective is to help kids practice the concepts they are learning, and along with those concepts learn good study habits," says Wolff. "Once we identify an area where a child needs help, we stay there until the child has gotten the concept. Our goal is to have our students come in and within one minute start their assignments. We get down to learning."

Keep your kids academically active this summer. There is free registration at Kumon during the month of June (a \$50 value) and classes are held three days a week – from 4:30 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, 3 to 6 p.m. on Friday, and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Kumon Math & Reading Center of Detroit-Midtown is located in the Cultural Center just across the Detroit-Institute of Arts. Students from all socioeconomic classes can benefit, so call (313) 873-7730 or visit kumon.com/midtown.

Letters • Letters

City's flags are a reflection of our diversity

Last week I was blessed to not only attend but I was invited to participate in the first "Flag Raising Ceremony" that took place in our city. It was held on Jos. Campau between Caniff and Carpenter.

It was a very prideful event for all who were present and more so for the participants like myself. Eighteen flags of diversity, representing the various Peoples in our City, were raised. My flag was Ethiopia, a land of Peoples of many shades of Blackness. What a strong feeling of pride, for not only being a human being of color, but greatly for my city, in the development and expediting of the event.

To have been able to stand in the middle of the street on Jos. Campau and spiritually unite as one spirit with everyone present, no words will ever express.

Scripture tells us in Genesis, that God said, "The Peoples is One," and I felt the spiritual oneness at the event!

This Black girl's thoughts traveled back to the 50's, when there wasn't much community oneness among the diverse Peoples of the City. I am a third generation of Blacks in this fine City "today." My grandparents were settlers here when it was yet a village, so through my grandparents and parents, I have lived the meaning of the Raising of the Flags. I have lived through the division of the Peoples in the community via the city government, the churches, the schools and the merchants.

I was not allowed to rightly win the Cosmos Home Coming Queen Crown for four years because it was said that a Negro girl would not look right riding in

the Polish Day Parade. But today, I am able to raise a flag of Peoples of color in the same city! What a wonderful way of closing the door on the "ills" of yesteryear completely, and honoring the ones of past who didn't give up and pressed their way through the "ills" of our city for that period of time.

But there is still one "illness" that greatly plagues the community of Blacks in our City. We continue not to be present when we need to be, and that is at every city event, school event and at election time!

Again history has been written in our city, the Blacks are now the second largest population in Hamtramck, yet for events that affect our families, such as the Flag Raising (a community event), school events and voting, we continue

Continued on page 6

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John Ulaj For Mayor

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Tertzag's Two Cents

**By Kyle Tertzag
Acting City Manager**

Hello Hamtramck!
The sidewalk replacement program is moving along. The cement contractor is now in town and working to complete this project. As you know we have had to remove several trees to facilitate this project. The decision of which trees were marked was made by our inspectors in the field and the final approval was given by the DPW Director.

Let me be very clear, this is not an attempt to deforest Hamtramck. As a matter of fact, our plan is to replace every single tree with a new tree that is size appropriate for the easements we have in town.

Tomorrow, June 29 is Public Safety Day at Zussman Park. This is a family event and I want to thank the Police and Fire Department for

putting on this wonderful event.

Speaking of safety, please remember to be safe, especially around fireworks this coming week! Every year it seems I read about a preventable accident that tragically maims or kills someone.

Finally, I want to wish everyone a Happy Fourth of July! The most American of holidays! We celebrate the brave men and women that stood up to the tyranny of a monarchy an ocean away and won.

They were able to overcome tremendous odds and their experiment in democracy continues today in the form of our freedoms and system of self-governance that we all live within. Happy Birthday America!

I'm Acting City Manager Kyle Tertzag and that's my two cents!

City officials say American Axle demolition is unexpected

By Charles Sercombe

Forget about American Axle starting back up its Detroit-Hamtramck plants.

The company recently announced it will demolish all but two of its plants in the coming months. According to media reports, the plants are coming down to make the property more attractive to developers.

The Hamtramck portion

of one of the plants is going to be razed, city officials say.

That will mean a loss of \$80,000 worth of property taxes a year, said Acting City Manager Kyle Tertzag.

The announcement came as a surprise to city officials.

"That's not being a good corporate citizen," said Mayor Karen Majewski.

"The fact that they didn't have the courtesy to notify us, I think that's disrespectful. It's indicative of the relationship we've had in the last few years."

Indeed, the last few years have rocky between the company and the city. A few years ago American Axle abruptly laid off its workforce here shortly after UAW workers agreed to a

50 percent wage cut.

The work was shipped to a plant in Mexico.

Not only were the workers out of a job, the city lost hundreds of thousands of dollars in taxes, which was the beginning of a financial tailspin for Hamtramck.

People's Community Services

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APARTMENTS & FLATS FOR RENT

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By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers June 18 through June 24.

Tuesday, June 18

- A man reported his 2001 Dodge Caravan was stolen in the 11400 block of Lumpkin St.
- At about 2 p.m. a man was arrested for domestic violence at a house in the 3200 block of Trowbridge St.

- A woman reported that a person she met online was sending her harassing and threatening calls and e-mails.

- A woman living in the 11300 block of Moran St. said someone tried to break into her house.

- A woman reported that someone tried to steal her 2005 Chrysler Town & Country in the 2600 block of Zinow St.

- A woman in the 3100 block of Lehman St. reported someone broke into her house and stole several electronic items.

- A man reported that someone stole his 2004 Dodge Neon from the 2900 block of Caniff. Police recovered the car the next day.

- A woman reported a Jos. Campau party store employee assaulted her.

Wednesday, June 19

- Officers received a report of a drunken man damaging a car at the Hamtramck Town Center shopping strip.

- A man was arrested for beating his wife in the 3800 block of Dorothy St.

- A man reported someone broke into his home in the 2700 block of Poland St. sometime between 9:30 and 11 a.m.

- A man reported that while working in a house on Andrus St. a man and a woman broke in and assaulted him.

- A person who attempted suicide was taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital.

- At about 7 p.m. officers investigated a hit-and-run accident on the northbound I-75 Service Dr. at Dequindre. A short time later, the suspect was found and arrested for drunk driving.

Thursday, June 20

- At 3 a.m. a man was arrested for drunk driving during a traffic stop at Gallagher and Lehman.

- A woman reported that her 1994 Nissan was stolen in the 12000 block of Grand Haven St.

- A representative of CVS reported that a woman stole merchandise from the store and then fled in a red Buick.

- A representative from A & C Market reported someone spray-painted the walls of the store.

- A woman reported that a woman she knows stole property from her flat in the 2400 block of Andrus St. while she was moving out.

- A Harper Woods resident was arrested at I-94 and Chene after a car chase. The car the suspect was driving was stolen.

- An Edwin St. man reported that a man kept calling him to transfer money into a bank account in exchange for tax-free money.

Friday, June 21

- At almost midnight a man was arrested in the 11000 block of Moran St. for being drunk and obstructing officers.

- At almost 1 a.m. a man was arrested for drunk driving and driving without a license during a traffic stop at Jos. Campau and Casmere.

- At 1:30 a.m. a man was arrested for domestic violence in the 12000 block of St. Aubin St.

- A man reported his 1997 Plymouth Voyager was stolen in the 3000 block of Trowbridge St.

- A man reported that another man illegally dumped trash in a dumpster in the west Jos. Campau alley between Norwalk and Poland.

- A landlord from Farmington reported someone broke into his rental unit on McDougall St. He also said that when he arrived at the unit a man wearing a white T-shirt ran away from the dwelling.

- A Florian St. resident was arrested for animal cruelty.

- A Nagel St. man reported he was robbed at gunpoint by a teenager while walking in the area of Nagel and Casmere at about 3 p.m.

- A Detroit man was arrested

in the 3800 block of Doremus while officers investigated a report of a fight and the suspect refused to leave the premises.

- A woman reported that while walking in the area of Carpenter and the west Conant alley a man stole her gold necklace by ripping it off her neck and then fled.

- A Trowbridge St. man was arrested for assaulting his fiancé.

Saturday, June 22

- A woman living in the 3900 block of Trowbridge St. reported someone damaged her screen door sometime after 1 a.m.

- A man reported that a woman snatched another woman's purse at Belmont and Jos. Campau. The suspect was then seen getting into a black Pontiac Grand Prix.

Sunday, June 23

- A man reported being assaulted by an employee of a business on Conant.

- Michigan State Police reported they recovered a stolen handgun belonging to a Hamtramck resident.

- A Norwalk St. resident reported his bike was stolen.

Monday, June 24

- A woman reported that while standing in front of her house in the 12000 block of Moran reported that at 5:30 p.m. a man came up to her and ripped off a gold necklace she was wearing. The man fled on foot.

- A Lumpkin St. woman reported a house break-in

- A man reported his ex-girlfriend had broken into his residence and stole his wallet and cell phone. Based on the description of the woman's getaway vehicle, police were able to find and arrest her.

- An Edwin St. man was arrested for beating his wife.

- A St. Aubin St. man reported someone stole his 1997 Dodge Caravan.

- A woman reported that her husband threatened several times to kill her.

- An intoxicated resident reported being beaten by a stranger while near 9301 Jos. Campau.

- A man reported he was robbed of his iPhone while at Conant and Doremus. The suspect fled in a maroon-colored Pontiac Grand Prix. The victim was able to get the license plate number of the car.

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REWARD for return of lost pit bull, beige & white male, named "Beast", around June 10



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City's flags are a reflection of our diversity

Continued from page 5

to have the lowest participation!

It doesn't matter how long you have resided in Hamtramck, your race, color or creed. It doesn't matter about your gender or your sexual preference. It doesn't matter if you are a home owner and lived in the city for many years. It doesn't matter if you are a renter in transition, you are here today and for this period of time you are a Hamtramck Citizen with rights to vote and participate in all City and school events. But you, my dear community, must make that commitment to yourself and family that you are going to be seen and heard via voting and attending all public events. Our ancestors fought hard for you to have those rights in this city.

We have an election coming up in August, if you have not registered to vote, I plead with you to do so and vote in the Primary on August 6, and again in November for the General Elec-

tion. In between that time, learn all you can about your candidates and decide who will best represent you and strive to elect them first in the Primary, and then in the General Election.

The flags will do their job and forever wave our diversity. I've done part of my job and represented my Peoples of color in the raising of the Ethiopian flag...now will you do your jobs and begin the journey of being an integral part of your city.

- Attend community events
- Become active with the schools
- VOTE!

FYI, the Primary is just as important as the general election. Primary delegates will make it to the General Election via your voting! The Primary Vote is August 6, 2013 and the General Election is November 6, 2013.

Darla Swint

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Bike shop is now in gear on Jos. Campau

By Robert Taylor
Special to The Review
So you were cleaning out your garage and found your long lost comrade.

The one who helped you through the tough times and never refused you a ride.

It's your bike, and while it may have always been there for you it might be time to return the favor. Fortunately, Hamtramck's newest store can provide the solution.

Hammer and Cycle, a bicycle, shop located at 10022 Jos. Campau, recently celebrated its grand opening. If the address seems familiar it's because co-owners Erik Mitchell, Jeffrey Van Anel, and Scott Wozniak are currently operating out of Lo and Behold Record Shop.

"We hit a few speed bumps along the way," joked Wozniak during the grand opening party. "But now we're up and running and

ready to go."

The shop specializes in repairing bikes and related equipment and even has a few classic used bikes in stock. Its convenient location – coupled with quality craftsmanship and affordable prices – makes it a go-to for the cycling citizen.

"You can go to Walmart and spend \$100 and buy the cheapest bike on the shelf, but it's going to be of the lowest quality," says Mitchell. "Or you can come to our store and spend that same amount on a refurbished classic and get a higher quality, better bike."

Summer is in high gear and you should be too. Take your bike on down to Hammer and Cycle for a tune-up. Store hours vary throughout the week but you can always get in touch with someone by visiting www.facebook.com/hammerandcyclehamtramck.

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Round	\$7.00	\$10.00	\$12.00
Thin Crust	\$8.00	\$11.00	\$13.00
Square Deep Dish	\$8.00	\$11.00	\$13.00
BBQ PIZZA:			
Chicken, Bacon, Onions, and House BBQ Sauce			
Round	\$7.00	\$10.00	\$12.00
Thin Crust	\$8.00	\$11.00	\$13.00
Square Deep Dish	\$8.00	\$11.00	\$13.00
PHILLY STEAK PIZZA:			
Philly Steak, Green Peppers, Onions			
Round	\$9.00	\$12.00	\$14.00
Thin Crust	\$9.00	\$12.00	\$14.00
Square Deep Dish	\$9.00	\$12.00	\$14.00
NAGA PIZZA:			
Chicken, Red Onions, Cilantro, Made with Naga Sauce			
Round	\$7.00	\$11.00	\$13.00
Thin Crust	\$7.00	\$11.00	\$13.00
Square Deep Dish	\$7.00	\$11.00	\$13.00

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