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Quick Hits

After several years in the making, we have a special treat to announce. The city's first-ever Historical Museum will offer a sneak peek Saturday (Aug. 31) from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Greg Kowalski, the chairman of the city's Historical Commission, announced the soft opening earlier this week. An anonymous Hamtramck property owner donated one of his buildings to the Friends of the Hamtramck Historical Commission to use as a museum. It's located next to the Polish Art Center at 9525 Jos. Campau, near Norwalk. Here's what Greg had to say in an email: "This will be a 'soft' opening with no fanfare. A formal grand opening will be held in the near future. The opening of the museum was timed to coincide with the city festival. "The museum will be opened to the public in stages as renovations on the building take place. In the first stage, the front portion of the first floor will be opened to the public. Display cases with artifacts are in place. As the first floor space is expanded, more displays and room for programming will be made available."

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Hamtramck Labor Day Festival returns even bigger and better

By Charles Sercombe
Hard to believe that summer has flown by. How do we know it's getting to be around the end of summer? This weekend is the annual Hamtramck Labor Day Festival – that's how. Although this year's festival has been dogged by rumors that it would not happen, co-organizer Konrad Maziarz said things are coming together and it's been "hectic." Hectic in the sense that more vendors are jumping on board. Last year there were a

total of 38 food and non-food vendors. This year, and the count continues to grow, there are 37 non-food vendors and 20 food vendors. That's a total of 57 vendors – so far. Maziarz said he suspects that some vendors are jumping ship from other festivals. "We're getting a lot more people contracting us this year," he said. New to the festival this year is a Michigan craft beer tent, featuring statewide brews.

Continued on page 4



The Hamtramck Labor Day Festival kicks off this Saturday and runs through Monday. Coming back this year is the crowd-favorite "canoe races" down Jos. Campau. After the races, stick around for the Polish Day Parade on Monday.

Bar owner remembered for her humor and generosity



Virginia Szymanski always had a joke to crack while entertaining her customers at Tight Fittin' Jeans Bar on Jos. Campau. She died last Friday at the age of 86.

By Charles Sercombe
Hamtramck has lost another iconic bar owner. Virginia Szymanski, the wise-cracking owner of Tight Fittin' Jeans Bar on Jos. Campau, died last Friday (Aug. 23) at the age of 86. "She had a heart of gold and would do anything for anybody," said Jim Broyles, who first met her about 15 years ago when he began hanging out at the bar. Cathie Gordon, who is a city councilmember and the owner of New Dodge Lounge, was such a close friend of Szymanski, she considered her "the sister I never had." The two became close 20 years ago when they began organizing the now-defunct "Fun Train" – a bar-hopping promotion that attracted new visitors to the city. Jeans Bar has also been part of the Metro Times Blowout from its inception. "Our friendship blossomed

Continued on page 2

City officials reject EM's financial fix

By Charles Sercombe
What does the mayor and a majority of city councilmembers have to say about the financial recovery plan that was proposed by the emergency manager? "No." At Tuesday's city council meeting Councilmembers Robert Zwolak and Cathie Gordon proposed a resolution of support of the plan, but it was voted down by their colleagues in a 4-2 vote. Mayor Karen Majewski, who was not required to vote on the matter, volunteered that she was also against it. "I was not satisfied with the level of detail or proof," Majewski said of the projected cuts. Majewski even went further saying that when Emergency Manager Cathy Square was asked questions about her plan at a town hall meeting the week before, she did not answer "accurately or truthfully." The main rub for the councilmembers was over what is likely the most controversial part that calls for imposing a one-time only tax millage on property owners. Square's plan includes a 7 mill tax to raise \$1.2 million for the city employee pension fund. Councilmember Mohammed Hassan said that before considering a tax Square should first restructure the Fire Department, which he said is currently budgeted at \$5 million and should be reduced to \$3 million. Councilmember Anam Miah agreed, saying that the reason the council asked for an emergency manager was because

Continued on page 4

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There will be a Pre-Bid Meeting and Walkthrough, for all contractors wishing to submit a bid, at Holbrook Elementary School, located at 2361 Alice, Hamtramck, MI 48212, on **Thursday, September 5, 2013 at 3:30pm**. Interested contractors shall enter the building through the main entrance.

Sealed bids must be received at the Hamtramck Public Schools Administration Building, located at 3201 Roosevelt, Hamtramck, MI 48212, no later than, **Wednesday, September 11, 2013 at 2:00pm**. 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. 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 to prospective bidders, electronically free of charge or in hard copy format at \$10.00 per set. Checks shall be made payable to: PARTNERS in Architecture, PLC. Bid documents will be available on August 28, 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).

Bar owner remembered for her humor and generosity

Continued from front page

from there," Gordon said.

The two also began working behind the scenes in city politics, culminating in Gordon winning a seat on council.

Gordon said Szymanski took over the bar after her mother, who was named Betty, died years ago. Virginia was brought on board, Gordon said, because her mother thought "she was so pretty."

So why was the bar named Jeans?

The way Virginia told it, Jean was her mother's sister and was a popular waitress at the old Senate Bar. The thinking was, since Jean was popular with the Senate crowd, those patrons might be tempted to check out Jeans Bar. Jean, as it turned out, was a silent partner with her sister.

One thing is for sure, Szymanski had good family genes. Throughout her life, she hardly appeared to have aged, and many would never have guessed she was in her 80s.

Gordon, some 20 years younger, said she "never looked at her as my senior. I looked at her as an equal in age."

Szymanski was always quick with a joke, most of time at the expense of herself.

"If she thought she'd get a laugh out of you, she'd crack a joke about herself," said Broyles, who has been bartending at Jeans for five years. "She always wanted people to have a good time."

In an interview in December 2011, when the bar was celebrating its 40th anniversary, Szymanski told The Review: "The bar is my stage. I'm a ham, this is where I perform."



Virginia Szymanski vamps it up during one of her Halloween parties.

Szymanski's humor was infectious and in her advertisements for the bar, she proudly announced: "Characters always welcome."

Szymanski is one of only a handful of bar owners-bartenders who have become as well known as their bars. Think

Lili Karwowski, who died several years ago, of the old Lili's Club, Suzy of Suzy's Bar, George of Seven Brothers, Cia Cia Pat, who's been employed all over town and of course Cathie Gordon.

Szymanski's funeral was held on Thursday (Aug. 29) and she is survived by her children, David (Cheryl) and Jamie, grandchildren, Christina, James and Frankie and devoted partner, Al.

Well, Virg, we can't think of what else to say other than Hamtramck won't be the same or as much fun without you. As Peggy Lee once crooned:

"Is that all there is, is that all there is"

If that's all there is my friends, then let's keep dancing

Let's break out the booze and have a ball

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This week at the library...

Polish Day Parade - Monday, September 2, at 12:30 p.m. All parade participants are asked to gather at 12:30 p.m. in the parking lot at Jos. Campau and Holbrook to get ready for the parade. T-shirts and parade decorations will be distributed on site. Parade starts marching at 1:30 p.m. and will disband at Casmere and Jos. Campau, by the Hamtramck High School Building. Everyone is invited to march with the Library.

Movie Night - Tuesday, September 3 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 "Horrid Henry the Movie."

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

Basic Computer Class - Thursday, September 3 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, September 5 at noon. The reading and writing ESL class

conducted by Ms. Latisha is free to the public (registration required).

Citizenship and Naturalization Classes - Thursday, September 5 at 5:30 p.m. This program, conducted by the International Institute, is free of charge to Hamtramck residents. It provides help with preparation of documents and legal assistance, if necessary.

Teen Club Meeting - Friday, September 6, at 2 p.m. Teens are invited to join us for a summer meeting of the Teen Club. This week we will learn the art of weaving with Ann Schumacher.

ESL Class "News for You" - Friday, September 6 at 3:30 p.m. This intermediate ESL class conducted by Latisha, free to Hamtramck residents, consists of reading news articles from a publication prepared for ESL, "News for You."

Library Gardening Club - Friday, September 6 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.

Family Story Time for Children - Thursday, September 5, at 6 a.m. Join your friends at the library for a reading of a storybook. This week's topic is "A Good Day."

Toddler Time at the Library - Monday, September 9 at 11 a.m. & 3:30 p.m. Join us for story time, arts & crafts, and games. This week's theme is "Beach & Water Day." (Children must be accompanied by an adult.)

ESL Basic Class - Monday, September 9 at noon. Ms. Latisha conducts this 3-hour basic ESL class, free for Hamtramck residents.

Make & Take Workshop - Friday, September 12 at 4 p.m. The theme of this week's arts and crafts workshop is "Back to School."

Friends of the Library Meeting - Thursday, September 12 at 6:00 p.m. FHPL President Kathy Kristy and Treasurer George Gorday invite all members and volunteers to participate in the regular monthly meeting.

Meeting of the Library Board - Thursday, September 12 at 6 p.m. Regular meeting of the Library Board will be held in the auditorium. Open to the public.

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

Summer's crime wave continues to heat up

Update: As The Review went to press on Thursday, Hamtramck police reported arresting four suspects connected with the rash of street robberies reported below. Come back next week for more information.

By Charles Sercombe

Here's a crime safety tip that everyone in Hamtramck needs to heed right now.

Stop wearing gold chains and necklaces, at least until colder weather returns and we need to wear jackets and sweaters.

We're not kidding.

Hamtramck is experiencing a major crime wave this summer of people having their gold necklaces being snatched from their neck while they are out on the city streets.

In recent weeks there has been one or two incidents re-

ported each day. On Monday, there were three within one hour, two of which occurred minutes apart.

There had been a lull in the crime trend for a few weeks but it has come roaring back. Police Chief Max Garbarino said he has had undercover cops patrolling the streets with little luck in catching the suspects.

"We're getting it from all angles," Garbarino said.

There has been one arrest, though, of an Auburn Hills man who was apprehended as he attempted to run away after grabbing a necklace.

In general, the suspects are described as being lone black males who either end up fleeing on foot or running to a waiting car.

In one twist to the trend, there

have been a couple of reports of four black males, all dressed in black, ripping off necklaces and holding up someone at the PNC drive-through ATM at 11 p.m.

In general the suspects do not use a gun to steal the jewelry. The robberies have been happening at all times during the day, morning, afternoon, early evening and at night.

So far, there have been no injuries reported.

Why gold chains?

The price of gold is at a high right now, and chains can fetch about \$50 on the resale market.

The crime wave comes at a time when the Police Department is five officers down. There are a total of 33 police officers and detectives.

Emergency Manager Cathy Square says she will not replace those officers who have left. Garbarino said that there are five more officers preparing to leave the department.

Several months ago the police officers' union agreed to a minimum of two officers per shift, down from four, in order to help the city balance its budget.

It's unclear what Square will do if more officers quit. Square was out of the office this week and could not be reached for comment.

Garbarino urged people to call 911 if they see or sense a suspicious situation.

"Chances are their instinct will be correct," he said.

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مدارس عديدة ومنهج واحد

Hamtramck Labor Day Festival returns even bigger and better

Continued from front page

Hamtramck's art collective, Hatch, also has been recruiting art vendors to set up.

Music-wise, expect another stellar line-up of mostly local bands. Of course, perennial favorites The Polish Muslims will fill their usual Sunday evening slot at 7 p.m.

And there is the return of a favorite event, a "canoe" race on Monday, starting at noon on Jos. Campau near Edwin St. Expect a lot of waterworks and raucous fun.

Stick around after the races on Monday because the annual Polish Day Parade kicks off at 1:30 p.m.

Afterward, it's back to the festival grounds for one final day of fun. At press time, it looks like Mother Nature has Hamtramck's back. The weather is expected to be 90-degree-ish and sunny with some clouds

thrown in and maybe — maybe — a little rain.

Throughout the weekend there is also a midway featuring carnival games and rides.

Have some extra time? Festival organizers could use a few helping hands — especially in cleaning up after the festival closes at night. To volunteer, contact Shannon Lowel, Hamtramck Labor Day Festival Chair, at lowipitus@aol.com or (313) 820-8466.

Oh yeah, if you do help out, there's a free beer waiting for you and a festival T-shirt.

The Hamtramck Labor Day Festival runs Saturday, Aug. 31, through Monday, Sept. 2, from noon to 10 p.m. Festival grounds are Jos. Campau from Caniff to Carpenter. Parking is scattered throughout town but there is paid parking at Caniff and McDougall.

City officials reject EM's financial fix

Continued from front page

the council did not have the legal authority to override the contracts for firefighters and police officers.

He added that the costs for both departments are "90 percent of the problem."

Councilmember Abdul Algazali said it's unfair to add a tax when people are "struggling to pay water bills."

Algazali has consistently voted against any proposal to raise taxes or fees to help balance the budget. His opposition, however, presents an irony in that it was recently discovered that he is delinquent in property taxes on four buildings he owns, to the tune of \$17,000.

His tax delinquency could mean he violated the city charter, and he could be tossed out of office for violating it.

Algazali finished number one

in the mayoral primary election held a few weeks ago.

Also in opposition to the financial plan was Councilmember Tom Jankowski, who said he thought part of the plan was "vague." He also said the resolution is "useless" since the state is not asking city officials to support it.

Emergency Manager Square was on vacation this week and could not be reached for comment.

Councilmember Zwolak said he proposed the resolution as a show of "cooperation" and to "give full support to the emergency manager."

Mayor Majewski said Square doesn't need the council's blessing.

"The emergency manager knows we want to work with her," she added.

Letters • Letters

Nothing new about city's hypocrisy over code enforcement

Cathy Gordon is concerned the city will be hypocritical if "code enforcers" ticket property owners for overgrown lawns.

So, what's new?

This has been the city's modus operandi for as long as I can remember. Several months ago, I received a letter regarding some weeds in the alley behind my garage which took up about a square foot while all over town, the city lots were growing wild.

There's blight and garbage all over Hamtramck.

So, now, all of a sudden she is going to worry about the city being hypocritical? So, now, all property owners in Hamtramck can simply let their lots grow wild because the city can't take care of their own lots and doesn't want to look hypocritical?

Get serious. It's bad enough as it is.

I was still waiting for enforcement of several regulations including having to move your receptacle by 9 p.m. after the garbage has been picked up and, most importantly to me, citing people for overflowing, open receptacles and placing bags full of garbage directly on the ground which could make our rat population swell.

Well, I guess that's never going to happen now that there's a spending freeze. (It was pretty obvious no one took this seriously anyway.)

I'd like to know when Ms. Gordon will be removing all of her campaign signs. I don't think that has anything to do with making the city look hypocritical or the spending freeze.

Christine Komisarz
Hamtramck

Continued on page 5



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FALL 2013 ENROLLMENT
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Review: Opinion Page

EM's financial plan is a good start in a good direction

For the most part, we agree with the financial recovery plan that Emergency Manager Cathy Square has produced.

For sure, homeowners are not going to like being hit up with a special 7 mill tax to make the pension system solvent. On the other hand, as City Councilmember Cathie Gordon pointed out, it would be only a matter of time before the pensioners or the pension system sues the city.

It comes as no surprise that the plan also calls for a different kind of health insurance program for employees and retirees, which is something many cities have begun to revamp.

Square purposely kept her plans on what to do with the fire and police departments

a little vague, other than eliminating a number of perks that total over \$800,000.

Legally, Square is obligated to first negotiate with the unions before making any drastic changes.

There seems to be something on the horizon, and perhaps something that will happen down the road after Square is gone. Detroit Fire Commissioner Donald Austin was recently quoted saying he sees an eventual merger between Detroit, Hamtramck, Highland Park and Harper Woods.

Public safety regionalism is looking more and more like a reality in the years to come.

In the meantime, though, the one thing we don't like is cutting the Police Depart-

ment by five officers. Although the cut won't require layoffs of officers, because there is currently a shortage from attrition, we need more officers on the streets, not fewer.

One good thing that might come out of this is allowing police and fire management to have more say in assignments and staffing levels. As it stands now, it's the union contracts that dictate what management can and cannot do.

Emergency Manager Square has her work cut out for her, and it will be interesting to see how much of the plan gets implemented and what the true savings will end up being.

No matter, it's a start in a good direction.

Odds & Ends

Correction ... In last week's issue it was reported that Emergency Manager Cathy Square started up a crackdown on overdue water bills by shutting off service to households and businesses.

Well, not quite. It turns out that Acting City Manager Kyle Tertzag and his then-assistant Kathy Angerer started that program weeks before Square hit town. Square has continued the program.

Angerer is now Square's assistant.

Kicks... The Hamtramck Cosmos varsity soccer team started the season off with the right stuff. The team crushed Parkway Christian High School 9-1.

Isn't there a mercy rule in soccer?

Anyway, good going guys, and we've got a feeling this is going to be one very good season.

Nothing to see here ... A frantic reader called on Tuesday saying that city hall was throwing away valuable stuff.

Not so, said Kathy Angerer, the assistant to the emergency manager, who popped out of nowhere as The Review poked around behind city hall. She couldn't say the word "junk" enough times (as in, go away) in describing what was being thrown out: old moldy printers and other long out of date electronic stuff.

And also just plain junk.

But our reader had plenty of reason to be alarmed. When the city was last under the control of an emergency financial manager (now they are just called emer-

gency managers), a bunch of historically significant documents were tossed in a dumpster.

This time around the city got smart and first consulted with Greg Kowalski, the Chairman of the Historical Commission.

Helping hand ... When it comes to collection drives, the folks over at Holy Cross Parish don't kid around.

The parish conducted its yearly fundraiser to help out Holbrook Elementary School with providing its students with needed school supplies. Here's what our friend Kathy Chockley had to say about the event:

"On Monday, Aug. 26, Holy Cross Parish, Polish National Catholic Church, delivered two truckloads of school supplies to Holbrook Elementary School in the Hamtramck Public School District.

"The planning and collecting of school supplies started in July when parishioners were asked to take the school wish list and shop to support this school. This is the seventh year that Holy Cross Parish has helped one of the local public schools.

"Each week parishioners were asked to put school supplies in the parish hall drop box. Our summer spaghetti dinner patrons also helped by bringing supplies to the August dinner. This year was extra special because a dear parishioner and former employee at Holbrook, passed away earlier this year, and we did this in her memory.

"The Holy Cross delegation included Pastor Very Rev. Jaroslaw

Nowak, Sunday school superintendent Nancy Wisbiski, granddaughter Brianna Davis, Sunday school teacher JoHanna Banicki, and parishioners Stephanie Marsh and Kathy Chockley.

"Greeting us at the school was the new Principal Ms. Murphy, Superintendent Mr. Niczay, secretary Wendy Taylor, along with many staff to help unload the trucks.

"Holbrook School is 117 years old, the oldest running public school in Michigan. They have 270 children enrolled in grades K-8, with 98 percent of the students receiving free and reduced lunch, and 72 percent study English as a second language."

Want to know what was donated? Prepared to be wowed:

Glue bottles	119
Glue sticks	325
Folders	793
Notebooks	573
Rulers	95
Binders	134
Filler paper	225 packages
Construction paper	2 large packages
Construction paper	16 regular packs
Composition books	204
Crayons	236 boxes
Markers	134 boxes
Pencils	3,463
Pencil sharpeners	40
Pens	2,345
Colored pencils	119 boxes
Erasers	1,248
Pencil boxes	48
Highlighters	122
Scissors	140
Book covers	14
Calculators	9
Plastic storage bags	290
Velcro rolls	4

Continued on page 8

Letters • Letters

Continued from page 4

'Election Commission' did not do its job on election day

I would first like to express my gratitude to my entire community of diversity for supporting me through your votes and prayers.

My gratitude is from my heart. To my Black community I am so very proud of every one of you who voted! So many of you approached me, and gave me words of support and informed me that you had read my prior articles. That was God sent for me to receive that from my community.

Even though at this point it appears that I lost by 26 votes, don't stop, continue to let your voices be heard by attending city council meetings. Whenever there is any type of meeting, anywhere in the city, take a friend and make your presence known. Stand strong and speak out even stronger at anything that you feel is unjust in your community.

This is our city to defend and represent at all times here in the city and wherever our travels may take us.

To my community of diversity, no words can express my gratitude for all the support you gave me. I was blessed to have met so many fine hard working

and believers of justice. I may have lost the war but I truly didn't lose the battle.

I say "may have" because as many of you may know, several candidates have called for a recount due to there being soliciting of absentee ballots, people being allowed to continue in the election process with legal issues pending with the city.

My question to all of this happening prior to Election Day, is "where and what is our Election Commissioner doing?"

There should have been full investigations of every person petitioning to become a candidate before they were placed on the primary ballot. In my opinion this possibly would have eliminated the need for the current recount. If our Election Commissioner isn't able to comply with our city charter/state and federal laws, then maybe whoever they are should be investigated.

I think I have shared with the entire community my pride in being a third generation of blacks in this community and having a driving desire to see a better community than what my ancestors had and to work towards a better tomorrow for all our youth.

I have no problem with any person running for an office

who is respectful of all our governing powers that are in place to make our city one of true democracy. Candidates that have a true desire to see our city grow as a whole, (for the many not just for the few). Candidates that have lived in our city long enough to truly understand the complexities of such a diverse city with the rich history that we have. Candidates that have strong ideas to bring to the table on how our city can become a world model of working through the daily issues of community and being able to continue to live together.

I do believe there are a few in our city government that we have elected that have committed themselves to the true development of our city, with the focus being on the whole not just the few.

My community of diversity, I beg you to hold the Hamtramck Election Commission responsible for doing their jobs with professionalism, pride in the positions they have been given and true integrity in their work. Many that are presently on the ballot never should have gotten as far as they did. If the Commission had investigated and stood on principles of our city charter before the Primary vote. We must all be held account-

Continued on page 7

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Hamtramck's election controversies gets attention of local media

By Charles Sercombe
 Hamtramck's election controversies have grown legs. Last Saturday the Detroit News ran a story on leading mayoral candidate Abdul Algazali possibly being thrown out of the election because he is two years behind in property taxes. The report also included 46 absentee ballots being set aside for possible investigation because three men not related to the voters dropped them off in city hall. Also, the handwriting on the

ballots was similar but did not match the signatures of the voters. According to state law only family members or members of the household can return an absentee ballot if the voter is unable to return it or mail it back. The Review has since learned that the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office is now considering whether to press charges against the three men who returned the ballots. Hamtramck police are not

releasing the names of the men. The Review initially broke the story that Algazali, who is a member of city council and is mayor pro tem, owes \$12,317 in back taxes for two buildings he owns on Jos. Campau, according to the Wayne County Treasurer's on-line tax site. The News, however, uncovered two more properties he owes taxes on. In total, said The News, Algazali owes about \$17,000. Algazali did not return calls

from The Review for comment nor did he return calls to the News. The City Charter says that any elected official who is a "defaulter" to the city or any other government body will have their election votes voided. The charter also says that any elected official who violates the charter has to be kicked out of office. Hamtramck Emergency Manager Cathy Square said the city attorney is still reviewing the matter.

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‘Hamtramck Hustle’ is no longer just about guys with cool cars

By Kristin Rose

Special to The Review

Overheard at the 7th Annual Hamtramck Hustle Car Show: “I didn’t know so many chicks were into this kind of thing!”

Sure, there were the usual suspects that the Hustle brings out – the Dead Last Car Club members, custom car aficionados, proud project car owners, and all their buddies who are also into hot rods.

However, this year, the “chicks” may have outnumbered the dudes. Just entering the grounds of Veteran’s Park there was a noticeable and distinctive female flair to the show.

The era specific pin-up models were there, posing next to cars. And of course also on hand were girlfriends of the dudes attending.

But there was also Julie Fournier, of Fabulous Curves, who does pinstripping and custom detailing on cars, planes, trains and automobiles (anyone who has seen those massive turn-of-the-century trains at the Henry Ford has seen Julie’s impressive hand lettering work).

Doni Langdon, the publisher of Throttle Gals, was there to distribute her quarterly magazine about hot rods: written for women, by women, about women.

Doni says that there are a growing number of ladies “willing to wrench, who are into the machine. Women enjoy working on something that has no feelings.”

Doni is also a scout leader and volunteer at the Belle Isle Aquarium and goes on to explain the freedom she feels while tinkering with motors.

“After a day of trying to appease the feelings of other scout parents, keeping the scout kids active and engaged, promoting new scout programs, and dealing with the sometimes monumental job of keeping the Belle Isle aquarium afloat, it’s nice to get my hands on something mechanical, logical. I can walk away from the engine that I’m working on, and it won’t judge,” she said.

Raise your hands, moms, if

you’ve ever felt those stresses. A room of one’s own? How about a garage of one’s own?

The pin-up contest followed the car show, and was held at Kelly’s Bar. The lovely Jeannine



At this year’s Hamtramck Hustle, there were plenty of hot rods and pin-ups.

Even the pin-up contest was presented by the ladies: Amy Byrd hosted the tasteful beauty contest, and also prepped the

LaPorte won the title of Miss Hamtramck Hustle 2013.

So guys, hope you don’t mind sharing your tool box with these



contest hopefuls with 1950s style hair, makeup, clothing and accessories.

This was easily accomplished in the grassy field of Veterans Park, because Amy brought along her Vanity Vixen, a hot pink retro glam camper, essentially a traveling rockabilly beauty salon and party palace. Is bombshell-for-a-day in your future? The Vanity Vixen will travel to you.

ladies. There’s a good bet that they’ll put the tools back where they belong when they’re done – maybe even organize them in a fashion making them easier to find?

More information about the Dead Last Car Club, Throttle Gals and Vanity Vixen can be found on their respective Facebook pages and at juliefournier.com.

Letters • Letters

Continued from page 5

able for the services we render in any arena.

As the sun rises on Aug. 28, celebrating the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King’s march and speech in our country’s capital, Washington, DC, let us rise with a rededication to all humanity, that we will work with a common drive and goal and that should be as Dr. King said in his famous speech, “I Have a Dream.”

“I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.”

In closing, let us continue the work that we as a proud community of people have begun and that is to hold the powers that be accountable and to be the leaders our city deserves. This is a city of diversity where there is room at the table for all that can abide and respect The United States of America’s democracy.

Darla Swint Hamtramck

(Editor’s note: Darla Swint was a candidate for city council in the August Primary Election.)

A big thank you all around for annual picnic

I would like to thank the following companies and people for making our recent Hamtramck reunion picnic a success:

Maine Street Restaurant, Turtles & Inky’s Bar, John Ulaj and The Review staff, Bobby Wynn, Craig Daniels and the Hamtramck Recreation staff, Patricia and Rick LaFave, Donald Flowers, Derrick “Pee Wee” Smith, Willie Lake Jr., Antionette Wimbush, Jeff “Popcorn” Giles, Matthew Wimbush, Andre Owens, Pam Marbly, Andrew “Roy” Wimbush, DJ Lemuel Sawyer and the Sawyer family.

My co-workers and I would also like to thank all of my family and friends for your contributions and your support so that I will be able to donate school supplies to the Hamtramck Back to School Carnival, and may God continue to bless us.

See you next year on the first Saturday of August, 2014.

Michael “Boss Man” Wimbush Hamtramck

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Odds & Ends

Continued from page 5

Magnetic tape rolls	2	Box tops for education	457
Index cards	55 packs	Tissues	17 boxes
Protractors	48	Wipes	13 containers
Compass	60	Dry erase markers	120
Back packs	50	Staple set	1
Hats	85	3-hole punch	1
Mittens/ gloves	38	Zipper pencil pouches	15
Scarves	34	Duffel bags	9
Boys & girls winter coats	30	Reading books	78

Small dry erase boards 2
Mechanical pencils 80
Index dividers 8
Pencil holder 1
School kits 2
Hand soap 1
Hand sanitizer 1

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\$8.99	Chili\$2.50	Plain\$1.50
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	Chicken Biryani	\$5.00
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