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Volume 12 No. 50
December 18, 2020

50¢

The Review

Hamtramck



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— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —



Quick Hits

COVID claims a hero

By Charles Sercombe

For sure, John "Hippo" Hypnarowicz was a big, barrel-chested guy.

Many folks would also point out that his heart was even bigger.

That spirit of generosity was snuffed out on Dec. 10, when COVID-19 caught up with Hippo and caused his death at age 68.

For 33 years Hippo, as everyone called him, drove a bus for the Hamtramck Public School District, before retiring in 2010.

For 16 of those years he bussed the district's Special Ed students.

To him, the students were like family. So much so, he started throwing annual Christmas parties for the students – complete with lunches and free presents.

"The most cherished moments I had driving that bus were when I drove for the Special Ed kids for 16 years," Hippo said, when he retired.

On top of that, he organized, through the Alhambra Caravan 261 of Warren, an annual free turkey giveaway to the families of those Special Ed students – sometimes, as many as 100.

Former schools superintendent Tom Niczay

Continued on page 8

Merry Christmas

A Christmas message from The Review Publisher ...

By John Ulaj
Publisher

I want to once again thank all of our readers, and all the great people of Hamtramck, for making The Hamtramck Review your go-to source for local news!

Merry Christmas, and a wonderful, and better, New Year to everyone!

This year, Christmas will be extra special. For most of next week, star-gazers will be able to catch a once-in-a-lifetime sight in the sky – and you might want to look quickly, as it won't be around for long.

This "Great Conjunction" is also called the "Christmas Star" by some – a very rare event, where Jupiter and Saturn appear in the night sky at their closest points of visual overlap, a mere tenth of a degree apart.

It will also be the first time such a close conjunction has been observable since the year 1226 AD (it was actually this tightly compact in the year 1623 as well, but few could see it due to the weather, apparently).

The conjunction of the two plan-



John Ulaj

ets actually happens every 20 years or so, due to the length of their orbit years and relative to our position of seeing them. But rarely are they this close together.

Think about it, it's been almost 800 years since people have witnessed this phenomenon. To be alive and to see this is incredible, and a privilege.

The planets' close approach to one another can be seen as early as Dec. 16, but the "real show" takes place the evenings of the 20th through the 22nd, according to sources.

The best time to see them is about an hour after sunset. Look to the southwest to see the two close objects fairly low in the sky. The brighter one is Jupiter; the dimmer one is Saturn.

What's interesting about this phenomenon goes beyond the merely astronomical.

The world has struggled significantly of late. The US has not been spared, what with the severe challenges of COVID-19 and a contentious

Continued on page 2



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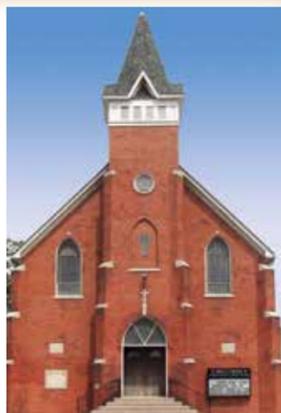
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Thursday, Dec. 24th	Vigil of the Nativity of Our Lord 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass 12 Mid - Shepherds Mass (Pasterka)
Friday, Dec. 25th	Solemnity of Nativity of Our Lord 9:00 a.m. - Holy Mass
Saturday, Dec. 26th	Feast of St. Stephen, Proto Martyr 10:00 a.m. Polish Holy Mass (Msza Św. w języku polskim)
Friday, Dec. 27th	Solemnity of the Humble Shepherds 9:00 a.m. - Holy Mass

~ Serving the Hamtramck Community ~

A Christmas message from The Review Publisher ...

Continued from front page

election, for example.

It can be easy to lose one's Faith in times such as these, and begin to question, "God are you there - do you not see the pains and suffering of humanity, your creation?"

I, for one, am guilty of this, and definitely wrestling with these lockdowns and this quarantining, which could drive any person into mental exhaustion.

One thing I did take notice of is that, when an anomaly like this terrible COVID virus strikes, God compensates with one of His miraculous wonders, the rare treat of a Christmas Star.

In Revelation 22:16, Jesus said "I have sent My angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star."

Yes, indeed, God has not forgotten about the sufferings and the evil that's happening on the planet. I truly feel that The Lord will restore righteousness and justice soon.

For this very reason, he has brought forth the greatest gift to mankind, JESUS THE BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD, to perform this work:

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

"Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this." (ISAIAH 9:6-7)

My friends, the Christmas Star is a reminder from God that He understands our pains and sufferings, and to not lose Faith in Him.

He promised, "I will not leave you nor forsake you. "May you have a wonderful Christmas."



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State of Michigan, Circuit Court for the County of Ogemaw, Case No. 20-65165-CH: Wendy C. Brown and Michelle L. Tennant, Plaintiffs v. Lela Czach.

An action has been filed against Defendant seeking an order quieting title and/or reformation of a deed given by Defendant to Plaintiffs in fulfillment of a Land Contract; said deed alleged to have inadvertently omitted a portion of the property sold and therefore requiring a correction of the legal description to the real property which was the subject of the land contract. The action seeks to correct the legal description of the deed in fulfillment of Land Contract. The real property that is subject to the litigation is commonly known as 3951 Ogemaw Road, West Branch, MI 48661 and legally described as:

Property situated in the Township of Foster, County of Ogemaw, State of Michigan to wit: The Westerly 330 feet of the Easterly 990 feet of the Northwest ¼ of the Northwest ¼ excepting and reserving a right of way for roadway across the Northerly 33 feet thereof, and the Westerly 330 feet of the Easterly 990 feet excepting the Southerly 1020 feet of the Southwest ¼ of the Northwest ¼, all in Section 35, Town 23 North, Range 1 East; and the Westerly 330 feet of the Easterly 660 feet of the Northwest ¼ of the Northwest ¼ saving and reserving easement for roadway across the Northerly 33 feet thereof, and Westerly 330 feet of Easterly 660 feet, except the Southerly 1020 feet thereof of the Southwest ¼ of Northwest ¼, all in section 35, Town 23 North, Range 1 East, located in Foster Township, Ogemaw County, State of Michigan.

Defendant must answer the complaint or take other action permitted by law within 28 days after the last date of publication. If Defendant does not answer or take other action within the time allowed, a judgment for quiet title and/or reformation may be entered against Defendant in favor of Plaintiffs terminating all of Defendant's interest in the subject property referenced above, together with other relief or order of the court as the court may find just and equitable.

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Kids, did you know that you can make a snowman grow? Or that you can make a helicopter out of paper? Stop by the library for your kits to create the Snowman Surprise science experiment and a paper helicopter that twirls madly in the air! Get fun facts about snowflakes and some science jokes! Check out our Facebook page to see the helicopter in action! All brought to you by "Mad Science."

The Hamtramck Public Library is operating as "Grab and Go" until further notice.

Grab and Go includes book pick-ups, remote printing, faxing, and scanning. Computers will not be available for use until further notice. Please send attachments you want printed to hamtramcklibrary@gmail.com.

Browse our catalog at home. If we have the title, please call us at 313-733-6822, and we will set it aside for you to pick up. If the title you want is at another library, you can place a hold on it. It will be sent here for you to pick up.

Don't forget Hoopla (on our website under "eResources") to find and download e-books and to stream movies and music! And don't forget all the great resources available on Michigan eLibrary (MeL) for students: Britannica Kids, PebbleGo, and World Book Kids, and for adults: books, audio and video for learning and entertainment.

A thank you to the family of the late Wallace "Wally" Witkowski for the collection of beautiful Polish-language books and beautiful bookstand that they donated to the library.

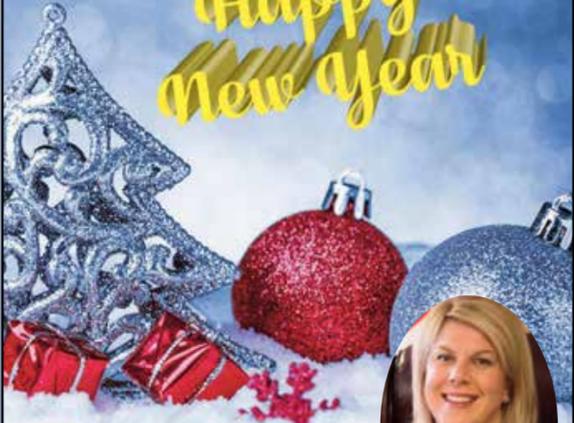
For more information about events at the library call (313) 733-6822, or visit its website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> where you can also access the online catalog. The library is located at 2360 Caniff.

Merry Christmas

Happy and Safe Holidays to all Hamtramck residents and businesses from the Staff and Administration of the City of Hamtramck



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



from
Judge Alexis Krot!

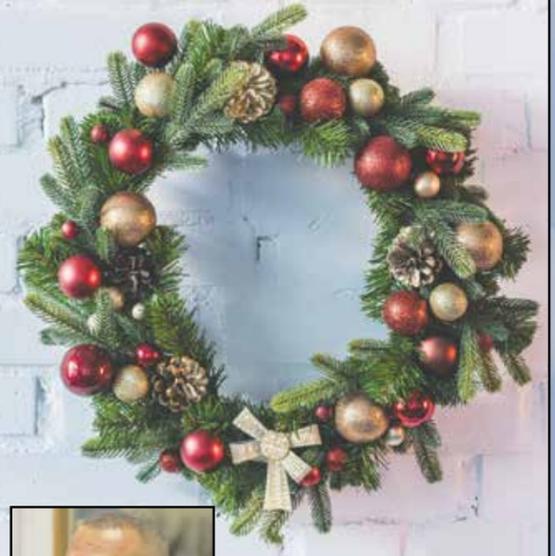


Wishing You All Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year and a Better, Healthy Year Ahead.



Nayeem Choudhury
Councilmember

Seasons Greetings



Mohammed Alsomiri
Councilmember

Happy Holidays from everyone at the Hamtramck Recreation Department. We hope your holidays will be filled with joy and laughter. Stay safe and Happy New Year!

Wishing Hamtramck Residents A Blessed Holiday and Happy New Year!



Mayor Karen Majewski



Merry Christmas



Marianne Langlois
Marianne Langlois, MSA
Practice Director
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On behalf of the staff at Henry Ford Medical Center - Hamtramck, I'd like to wish the wonderful residents of Hamtramck and the surrounding communities a joyous and healthy holiday season.

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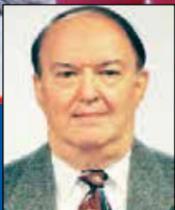
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from Schoolboard
Member Dennis Lukas

Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays

From
Mayor Pro Tem
Fadel Almarsoumi



Happy Holidays and Happy New Year



**Mohammed
Hassan
Councilman**

Review: Opinion Page

Other Voices: Guest Editorial

Studies show that COVID-19 vaccines are safe for everyone

By Dr. Joneigh Khaldun

Michigan doctors and public health experts note that, before a COVID-19 vaccine is approved for use in humans, it undergoes testing in tens of thousands of people who volunteer for clinical trials, and is then reviewed by the world's leading doctors and medical researchers to assure that it is safe and effective.

Both Pfizer and Moderna have submitted applications to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to be able to start distributing safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines before the end of the year. The first COVID-19 vaccine, produced by Pfizer, could be available for use in Michigan, and other states, by mid-December.

Preliminary Phase III clinical data has shown that both vaccines are safe and effective. Prior to approval, this data will undergo a third round of reviews, by yet another committee of medical scientists and doctors.

Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, an accomplished practicing emergency physician and the chief medical executive with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), said Michigan residents should be confident in the safety and effectiveness of a COVID-19 vaccine approved by the FDA.

"As a mother, emergency room doctor, and state public health official, I wear many hats, and acutely understand the COVID-19 pandemic on a very personal level," Dr. Khaldun said.

"I feel extremely hopeful and confident that the end of the pandemic is in sight, as a vaccine draws near," she continued. The vaccine approval process is based on fact and science, and we will only distribute a vaccine in Michigan if our national experts say it is safe and effective."

Both vaccines currently in the approval process have data showing they are more than 90% effective, and neither has demonstrated any major adverse side effects in the clinical trials.

While the timeline for development has been condensed, there have been no shortcuts made in the regulatory or developmental processes. Dr. Khaldun said that the vaccines will enable communities, states and nations to finally get control of the pandemic.

"These vaccines will enable us to reopen our communities, our businesses, and our schools, and restore normalcy to our lives," Dr. Khaldun said. "Most importantly, they will restore public health, and save lives."

The Rev. Dr. Steve Bland, Jr., president of both the

Council of Baptist Pastors of Detroit and Vicinity, and the Michigan Progressive Baptist State Convention, said the vaccines will only be effective if people do get vaccinated. Bland is also the senior pastor at Liberty Temple Baptist Church of Detroit.

"While the effect of the COVID-19 virus has been devastating on the global community, the hardest hit has been evidenced to be those from the Black and Brown communities disproportionately. Therefore, the antidote must also be distributed and received in similar proportionate measures."

"While there are many understandable reasons for these same communities to exhibit distrust from past practices, such as the Tuskegee experiment, I believe that this COVID vaccination must be trusted, and taken by everyone in order for us to curtail this rapid spread.

"The difference now is that we have reputable Black and Brown medical professionals not only as part of the research and discovery, but also the distribution and implementation. Most importantly, they are willing to take the vaccination themselves – just as I will!

"I'd rather take it and not need it, than need it and not take it. The reward

Continued on page 7

Detroit police pilot program focuses on homeless help

By Alan Madlane

Hamtramck will likely reap some of the benefits of a new area program designed to assist those with mental issues.

Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN), in partnership with the Detroit Police Department (DPD) and the City of Detroit's Housing and Revitalization Department (HRD), announced today a partnership that will bring additional behavioral health support to police officers, 911 operators, and outreach workers who serve the homeless, for when they encounter citizens experiencing mental health challenges.

The partnership, announced jointly today by DWIHN President & CEO Willie Brooks, Police Chief James Craig and Mayor Mike Duggan, will help identify individuals with mental health needs, so that assisting agencies can provide an appropriate response, and connect these individuals with support services.

With this Behavioral Health Pilot Program,



the new collaboration between the organizations through should improve police and community relationships, along with addressing the mental health needs of the people in the City of Detroit.

The partnership's goals include:

- a pilot 911 mental health crisis call-diversion and response staff
- increase police officer access to mental health supports
- develop adequate places to house individuals in need of crisis services
- evaluate and expand the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training of police officers and 911 staff

"These efforts should reduce overall incarceration and hospitalization costs, and provide better treatment options to

the people we serve. Jail diversion and homeless outreach lead to connections to treatment.

"This pilot is more than just training, it is a culture and community shift that bridges the gap between the law enforcement and behavioral health sectors," said DWIHN President and CEO, Willie E. Brooks, Jr. "This is the kind of program that has been badly needed, and talked about, for years but never implemented by anyone until now," according to Mayor Michael Duggan.

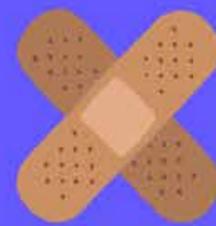
"I'm so proud of the work that has been put into this from DWIHN, DPD and our HRD. Because of the lack of institutional mental health support, police officers have been put into the position of being mental health responders.

"Now, thanks to this partnership, they will have better training and the embedded support of behavioral health specialists for the safety of our officers and the public," Duggan stressed.

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Friday, December 25

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Friday, January 1, 2021 New Year's Day

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Studies show that COVID-19 vaccines are safe for everyone

Cont. from page 5

is greater than the risk!" Bland said.

While scientists worldwide have been working to develop a COVID-19 vaccine faster than any vaccine before, they are still following the proven process, because there can be no shortcuts to safety.

COVID-19 vaccine approval will be based entirely on safety and effectiveness data, reviewed and approved by scientific and medical experts, with any and all political pressure rejected.

By the time a vaccine is offered to the public, it has already been administered to tens of thousands of study participants, and has been studied by thousands of scientists, statisticians and health care providers. Past research on vaccines has identified potential successful approaches, which has reduced the development time for a COVID-19 vaccine.

Additionally, the significant impact of COVID-19 has led to unprecedented, worldwide collaboration among scientists, medical doctors, health and government officials, and manufacturers.

There will be a limited supply of COVID-19 vaccines before the end of 2020, but supply will continually increase in the months that follow.

Some groups such as

healthcare workers, educators, and people with pre-existing conditions may be recommended to get a COVID-19 vaccine first. The distribution process will be communicated widely.

Until the vast majority of Michigan residents are vaccinated, public health experts are urging people to continue preventative measures, such as wearing masks, social distancing, and handwashing, to reduce the spread of COVID in our communities.

For more information about vaccines, seek a trusted source with information based only on medical science. Once a vaccine is available – and if you are eligible to receive it – talk to a health care provider about both the benefits, and potential risks, of getting the vaccine, and about your medical history.

Sources for vaccine information, based entirely on medical science, include the Immunization Action Coalition, Vaccinate.org, the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

(Dr. Joneigh S. Khaldun is the Chief Medical Executive and Chief Deputy Director for Health for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.)

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Quick Hits

Cont. from front page

said Hippo was “a true warrior for Hamtramck Public Schools special education students.”

“He would hold a boat cruise fundraising event, partner with Srodek’s (Market) for turkeys for ‘his kids,’ and have them delivered to their families.

“He also secured tickets for the Shrine Circus and Tigers games. But beyond that, when he talked about ‘his kids’ you immediately knew how sincere he was about ‘his kids.’”

When he wasn’t at his day job, he and his wife, Mary, owned and operated their bar on Conant Ave., called – you guessed it – Hippo’s.

It may have been Ham-

tramck tiniest bar – which is kind of funny, given Hippo’s size and girth.

Unfortunately, the bar burned down in 2013 because of an electrical issue.

Hippo’s bar became part of the national trove of cinema trivia. The name of the bar wound its way into the movie “Grosse Pointe Blank,” which was partially filmed on location in Grosse Pointe.

A producer with the film saw the name of the bar and asked Hypnarowicz and his wife if he could use it for the fictitious “Hippo Club” in the movie.

Both John and Mary flew out to California to see scenes of the movie being shot, and had lunch with its stars, John Cusack and Minnie Driver.

Cusack, Hypnarowicz said, “was very person-

able. He didn’t have his nose in the air.”

Besides his wife, Mary, he is survived by John Jr. and D’Ann; he is the grandfather of Da-Shaun (Tony), Morgan, Leon Jr. Duece; and the great grandfather of Da-Shun.

He is also survived by his nieces and nephews

Suzette, David, Kimmy, and Mikey, and many great nieces and nephews.

Hypnarowicz is predeceased by his parents Stanley and Paraska, and siblings Walt and Josephine.

For more details about his life and funeral services, see below.

Coming Events

FRIDAY, Dec. 18, 3-8 p.m. – The Hamtramck Moose Lodge is serving Polish Dinner to help local charities \$12 per plate, (313) 871-9115. Dinner includes: Golumbki, pierogi, kielbasa, kapusta, mashed potatoes bread and butter. Option #2: 6 potato pierogi w/sour cream \$7.

Obituaries

Hypnarowicz

John “HIPPO” Hypnarowicz, 68, died December 10, 2020.

Born January 27, 1952, John was the loving husband of Mary for 47 wonderful years. He was father of John Jr. and D’Ann; grandfather of Da-Shaun (Tony), Morgan, Leon Jr. Duece; great grandfather of Da-Shun. He is predeceased by his parents, Stanley and Paraska; siblings Walt and Josephine. He is also survived by his nieces and nephews; Suzette, David, Kimmy, Mikey and many great nieces and nephews.

HIPPO loved to travel and was a friend to everyone. He worked at the Hamtramck Public Schools where he retired as Director of Transportation. He was a Hamtramck Police Reserve and was the Owner of Hippo’s in Hamtramck. His annual boat cruise that raised money for developmentally disabled children was a sold out event that made sure those

children had whatever they needed to make their lives much easier. HIPPO was also a member of the International Order of Alhambra Sancho Caravan #261 and the Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge #1670 Hamtramck.

Hippo loved being with people, whether he was enjoying his family or his guests at Hippo’s, bowling, going to hunting camp, or making sure everyone knew how appreciative he was for coming to his cruise to help raising money for Hippo’s kids. He would almost always sing a tune and show you his moves.

There are no services scheduled at this time but a virtual memorial will be held from Hippo’s Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/Hippos-109680292400419> Hippo’s Last Ride please check back for updates.

Mary and the family ask that donations be made in John’s name to St. Francis Camp on the Lake <http://www.saintfranciscamp.org/home.htm> or Mooseheart <http://www.mooseheart.org>



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