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The Review

Hamtramck

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Quick Hits

What would fall be without a bowl of chili or stew?

On Saturday (that's tomorrow, Oct. 7) you can be part of the “First Annual One Pot Cook Off,” hosted by the Hamtramck Fire Department and the 3C7 + Midtown Block Club.

There is no registration or entry fee required – keeping it the informal Hamtramck way. You just bring your one pot of chili, curry or stew to the parking lot across from the fire station, on Mackay and Holmes.

The fun starts at 1 p.m. and judging begins at 2:30 p.m. Cash prizes will be awarded. Not only do you get to sample some great food, you can also get to know your neighbors.

Candidate forum...

Today, Friday (Oct. 6) the YAPAC organization out of Dearborn will host a Hamtramck candidate forum.

The event will be at Bridge Academy, 9600 Buffalo, starting at 5:30 p.m. Hamtramck mayoral and city council candidates will be on hand. At press time no further information was available.

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

After years of neglect, city takes first step in alley repairs

By Charles Sercombe

The first phase of the long-awaited alley repaving project has begun.

The alley on the eastside of Jos. Campau from Caniff to Belmont was torn up and new concrete has been poured in the past couple of weeks.

Former City Manager Katrina Powel had earlier estimated that it would cost \$12 million to fix all of the city's alleys.

This year offers a modest alley repair scope, which will cover the following sections:

- The westside of Jos. Campau from Yemans to Evaline
- The eastside of Jos. Campau from Caniff to Belmont
- The westside of Conant from Evaline to Nor-



This year's alley repaving program started on the eastside of Jos. Campau, from Caniff to Belmont. Two more alley sections will be repaved.

walk

The cost of the project is \$204,000. Each ally portion will take about two weeks to finish. In total it will take about six weeks to complete this

year's entire project.

It was not immediately known what the alley plan is for next year.

While in the past the city has undertaken various street repairs, alleys

have long been overlooked. In recent years there have been increasing complaints by residents about the condition of the city's al-

Continued on page 2

One of America's best is right here in Hamtramck



Hamtramck's own Wheelhouse has been named one of the best bike shops in the country.

By Alan Madeleine
 The Review Special Writer

From its dense population to the many people just learning to pilot an automobile for the first time, Hamtramck can be a tricky city to navigate safely by bicycle.

But it's certainly not a tough town in which to find a good bike.

For the third year in a row, the National Bike Dealers Association has named Wheelhouse De-

troit one of America's Best Bike Shops. Their larger, newer store is located here in Hamtramck, on Jos. Campau at Poland St., just north of Holbrook. It has been open about a year.

Their parent store is in Detroit, in the Warehouse District. That store has been open for nearly a decade.

In addition to selling and repairing bikes, the company also hosts an

Continued on page 8

Alcohol a ‘factor’ in crash

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck's problem with reckless and speeding drivers continues to grow.

On Monday night, at about 10:00 p.m., a driver described as a male in his mid-20s, was driving at a high rate of speed on Jos. Campau going southbound when he spun out of control at the Caniff intersection and struck a light pole.

The impact sheared off the driver's side of the car. The driver, who is from Dearborn Heights, was ejected from the car and is now in critical condition. Police Chief Anne Moise said alcohol was a “factor” in the incident. Police declined to release the driver's name.

No other injuries occurred.

The crash comes two weeks after a 5-year-old child was struck in a hit-and-run on Zinow. That driver was eventually caught, thanks to tips from the public.

The driver and passenger are facing multiple felony charges in the matter. The child is still being treated for his injuries.

As The Review went to press Thursday, it was reported that another 5-year-old was struck by a driver Wednesday morning at around 7:40 a.m. on Miller St. According to the daily incident report released by the Police Department, the

Continued on page 2



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Friday, October 6th

The Homecoming Parade starts at 5:45 p.m. leaving from high school parking lot to Casmere to Jos. Campau and ending at Keyworth Stadium.



Casmere

After years of neglect, city takes first step in alley repairs

Continued from front page

leys, many of which have sunken down and are filled with potholes.

The alley project coincides with another year's worth of street resurfacing. The street repair does not involve a total repaving, but only a milling down of the road and resurfacing with asphalt.

The following streets are slated for resurfacing this year:

- Charest from Holbrook to Evaline (full width)
- Lehman from Conant to Jos. Campau (center portion only)
- Lumpkin from Caniff to Commor (center portion only)
- Pulaski from Jos. Campau to Mackay (full width)

The cost of this project is \$470,000. Work has already begun.

Next year the city plans on repaving Holbrook from Jos. Campau to Holbrook. Almost 90 percent of the \$1 million cost is being covered by the federal government. The remaining balance will be paid through a yearly state road repair grant.



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Alcohol a ‘factor’ in crash

Continued from front page

driver was a woman wearing a hijab – a headscarf that covers the head and neck but keeps the face clear.

According to the report the woman stopped after striking the child and moved the boy to the sidewalk. The woman then fled east-bound on Miller. The boy's family took him to a local hospital for treatment.

The issue of speeding and out-of-control drivers was the talk of the town this past summer. There were numerous complaints from residents near Pulaski Park about reckless and speeding drivers. The concern was that the park attracts many children and families and that sooner or later someone would be struck.

The police department increased traffic patrols, and one driver was eventually arrested.

A question heard frequently among residents was: Where are police officers?

The answer isn't so simple, and not one the department or city officials like to acknowledge openly – although the subject has come up during city council work sessions.

In a nutshell, the department is seriously understaffed because officers tend to get their start in Hamtramck and then soon move on to better-paying departments.

New contract talks have started with the officers' union, and it is believed that the city will put together a more attractive salary and benefit package.

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This week at the library...

Meet the candidates

– Thursday Nov. 2, 6:30-8 p.m., the Hamtramck Community Initiative presents a Town Hall Discussion (Meet the Candidates).

Michigan Activity Pass

– The pass will enable Library card holders to obtain a one-time free entry into any Michigan State park or recreation area, and free entry into

over 100 participating cultural institutions. Ask at the circulation desk for more details.

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.

Second Front Page



School Bell

Enrollment

Hamtramck residents may enroll their children in Hamtramck Public Schools at the Residency Office at 3201 Roosevelt from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Parents/Guardians please bring your Michigan Driver's License or Michigan State I.D. For proof of residency, please bring from the following list two items: a current gas, electric, phone, water, cable or property tax bill, mortgage payment book or monthly mortgage statement, home/renters insurance statement, rent receipt, formal signed lease/rental agreement, verification of tenants through management of rental unit, closing statement of the domicile (home), prior year Hamtramck resident income tax return, paycheck indicating home address or official letter from Social Services verifying home address.

The name and address on either the Michigan Driver's License or the Michigan State I.D. must match the name and address of the proofs of residency. Student information needed is birth certificate (must be translated into English), Passport, Visa or Green card, Social Security card, up to date immunization records, current transcripts/report card from previous school.

If you have any questions, please call 872-9270 ext. 2036.

The following information is from Mrs. Jaleelah Ahmed, ELL Director: The English Language Learner Program at Hamtramck Public Schools serves 1,924 English Language Learners in the district as of June 2017.

The district has close to 400 students in the 1st-11th grade that have been in the United States for less than one year. The goal was to give as many students the chance to be a part of the Newcomers Summer Academic Program. This program's focus is on literacy, numeracy and helping students learn the expectations from schools in the American system. Additionally, students had two field trips scheduled to learn about the American history and visit places outside of Hamtramck.

The program set high expectations for the students to be on time every day and be ready for active learning. The desired behavior was taught and parents were recruited to help their children meet these expectations.

It is important to have the parents involved. The program ran for six weeks during the summer and offered both breakfast and



Above and below: Students at the Early Childhood Elementary School enjoyed a day at a cider mill.



lunch.

The students developed their computer skills using the Imagine Learning Program that supported their literacy and numeracy. Students engaged in daily writing.

Many students demonstrated growth at the end of the program. In the literacy areas, some students demonstrated growth by one grade level. Additionally, students participated in a daily reading using Language Power which promotes the use of grammar.

The teachers, paraprofessionals and site coordinators were instrumental to the success of the program. They were dedicated and worked hard to get the students prepared for a successful school year.

Based on the data, parents' feedback, staff feedback and students' feedback, there will be another Newcomer Summer Academic Program in 2018.

Early Childhood Elementary School

On Friday, Sept. 29 kindergarten through second-grade students, parents and staff spent the day enjoying the cool fall temperatures at Westview Orchards in Romeo, Michigan.

The trip started with a

hayride out to the fields where the students each picked a pumpkin. The day included eating homemade fresh, warm cinnamon donuts and drinking delicious cider, climbing giant hay pyramids and feeding the farm animals.

The teachers have been teaching lessons prior to the trip about farming in Michigan, fall time activities to enjoy and writing with words associated with the season. It was a fun and educational day for all.

Hamtramck High School

- Thursday, October 12 - Half day for HHS and Horizon High School. Parent teacher conferences 12:30-3 p.m. and 5-7 p.m.

- Monday, October 16 - Picture Day.

- Thursday, October 19 - Staff vs. Student basketball game. The game will be held in the Community Center after school from 3:45-5 p.m. Admission to the game is \$3 and all proceeds will go to the senior class. There will also be concessions sold during the game as well.

All Schools

- Friday, October 6 - End of Progress Report Period #1.

- Thursday, October 12 - Progress Report #1 distributed.

Recreation Department News

- Saturday, October 21 - Mom 2 Mom sale from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hamtramck High School Community Center. If you are interested in renting a table to sell children's clothing, toys and accessories tables are \$20 per table. For more information please contact Debi Tomaszewski at (313) 892-2637.

Athletic Events

- Friday, October 6 - HHS Homecoming Game and Parade. Homecoming Parade starts at 5:45 p.m. leaving from HHS parking lot to Casmere to Joseph Campau ending at Keyworth Stadium.

- Varsity Football Game vs. Detroit Community at 7 p.m. Go Cosmos!

- Monday, October 9 - HHS Boys' Soccer vs. Jalen Rose Academy at 4:30 p.m. Away.

- Tuesday, October 10 - KMS Girls' Volleyball vs. Melvindale ABT at 4:30 p.m. Away.

- Tuesday, October 10 - HHS Girls' Volleyball vs. Melvindale ABT at 5:30 p.m. Away.

- Wednesday, October 11 - HHS Co-ed Cross Country MMAC #4 at 4:30 Away at Heritage Park in Taylor.

- Thursday, October 12 - HHS Boys' Soccer vs. Harper Woods at 4:30 p.m. Home.

- Thursday, October 12 - KMS Girls' Volleyball vs. UPSM at 4:30 p.m. Home.

- Thursday, October 12 - HHS Girls' Volleyball vs. UPSM at 5:30 p.m. Home.

- Friday, October 13 - HHS Varsity Football vs. Harper Woods at 7 p.m. Home.

Compiled by
Janice Gandelman



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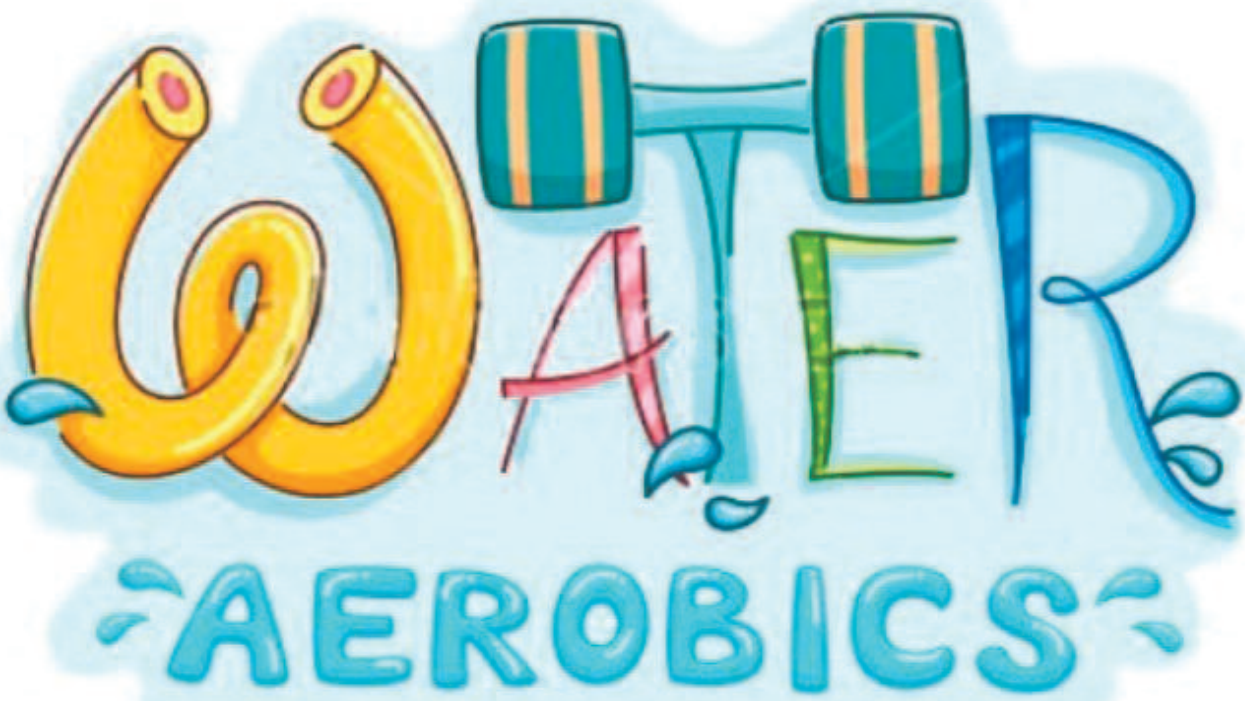
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Oct. 21 - Polish Dinner Fundraiser, 4-7pm Featuring Accordionist Big Daddy

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Fall Harvest attracts hundreds in welcoming new season



By Charles Sercombe
Pulaski Park was alive with the sights and sounds of fall last Saturday afternoon.
The Hamtramck Public Schools Recreation Department held its annual Fall Harvest at the park, which featured a petting zoo, pony rides and plenty of donuts and cider.
We learned a couple of

things at the petting zoo: Kids are scared of full-grown llamas, and we don't blame them, and "shushing" chickens has zero effect.
A few hundred residents attended the event.

Scenes from last Saturday's Fall Harvest Festival at Pulaski Park.



Metro news...

It's said that whatever happens to Detroit, so goes Hamtramck. Our friends over at modeld-media.com have been reporting on fascinating development projects for the past several years. With their permission, here is an edited version of this week's story:
Occasionally, Hamtramck is the victim of illegal dumpers.
The problem is much more pervasive in Detroit, espcailly in the empty neighborhoods just north of Hamtramck.

Here is something Detroit is doing about the problem, and perhaps an example for Hamtramck.
Illegal dumping is a major problem in some Detroit neighborhoods, almost all of which are poor. According to the city of Detroit, "Each week, workers from the city's Public Works Department remove more than 500 tons of illegally dumped material across the city."
The residents of these neighborhoods are fed up with having trash dis-

respectfully thrown near their homes. And the city has responded with a new initiative to catch these illegal dumpers by installing over a dozen hidden cameras at popular dumping sites.
According to the city of Detroit, the new initiative has already led to 22 charges based on video evidence from the cameras. The city even posted a video of one such incident.
"For too long, people have used our neighborhoods as dumping

grounds because they could get away with it," said Mayor Duggan, in a press release. "We are going to charge them, and whenever we can we are going to use existing laws to seize the vehicle they used in this criminal activity."
According to the city, the total cost of the cameras is about \$75,000, plus a little more each month for electricity and maintenance. Much of that will likely be recouped through fines from blight citations.

8th annual

Hamtramck Neighborhood Arts Festival

HamtramckNeighborhoodArtsFestival.com

Saturday, October 14th, 2017

ALL DAY!

Deadline to sign up is

OCTOBER 6th!

Music on porches

Open Arist Studios

Renegade Performance

Easter

Obituaries

NIXON



Alice Merle Nixon (Dean), 79, died September 28, 2017.

Alice was born on January 24, 1938, to the union of the late Albert and Kathleen (Freeman) Dean of Hamtramck, Michigan. Alice was the ninth of fourteen children. She was preceded in death by brothers, Albert C., Edward M., Richard D., George J.; sister, Rosaline R.

Alice confessed her belief in Jesus Christ and was baptized at an early age. She became a member of Lomax AME Zion Church in Detroit, Michigan. It was there where she sang in the church Worship Choir.

Alice was united in matrimony to Granville G. Nixon, Sr. To this blessed union were born Penny Marie and Anthony Charles.

Alice attended the Hamtramck Public School system. She graduated from Hamtramck High School in 1956. After high school, she became a nursing assistant and worked many private duty assignments. She also worked in her husband's pharmacy which was one of the well-known phar-

macies in the city of Hamtramck.

Alice was a very social individual who entertained at her lovely historical home in the Edison Boston District of Detroit, Michigan. She graciously hosted many family events in addition to sponsoring various community initiatives. Alice loved traveling, especially her trip to Hawaii. She also enjoyed music, with her favorites being Ray Charles, Al Green and all the oldies.

Alice departed this life on Thursday, September 28, 2017. She leaves to celebrate her life not only her children but daughter-in-law Charmaine Nixon; grandchildren Latoya D., Anthony M., Antonio D., Lucas (deceased) and Aaliyah C.; great grandchildren Jaden, Michael, Spencer and Marques; her sisters, Dolores, Lorraine, Betty and Barbara; brothers, Irvin, Carl (Voncile), James (Iris), and Harold (Rosemary); many nieces, nephews, cousins (in the United States and Canada) and a host of friends.



Coming events

WEDNESDAYS, 7 p.m., every second Wednesday of the month

The 3C7 and Midtown Block meets at 2339 Caniff PCS Senior Day Center. This block club includes all residents and businesses west of Jos. Campau and north of Holbrook.

SATURDAY, October 14, 9-3 p.m.

Hamtramck's Recycle Center is open at Caniff and McDougall. Drop off your recyclables for free.

SATURDAY, Oct. 14, 2-4 p.m.

Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross Parish, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. All are welcome.

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OLYMPIA

Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Is it fair to kick someone out of office for being a ‘defaulter’?

Last week the issue of a city official being in default to the city arose again.

It came to light that Councilmember Anam Miah lost a property in Detroit in 2015 to foreclosure. A resident raised the issue that the city charter calls for an elected official who is a defaulter to be kicked out of office. The resident argues that Miah’s election in 2015 should be voided.

In the last few years we have also reported on other elected officials falling behind on their bills either to the city or some other government agency.

The city charter says that if an elected official

is a defaulter to any government agency, that is grounds for their dismissal.

No one has ever tried pursuing this matter, and the charter does not make it clear who would instigate such an action.

Our concern isn’t about the process but the very concept of kicking someone out of office just because they fall behind on water bills or property taxes. While that doesn’t look good for any elected official, is it really grounds to circumvent the democratic process?

Elected officials were put into office by voters, and if they want to elect someone who can’t pay

their bills, so be it.

Many folks in Hamtramck live paycheck to paycheck. They understand financial hard times.

Being able to pay your bills shouldn’t be a charter requirement to hold public office – although it sure does call into question whether one in that situation can really help steer the city’s finances.

But again, that’s up to voters to decide on.

Hamtramck’s city charter has a number of questionable rules and provisions. Maybe it’s time to think about coming up with an updated one.

At Keyworth Stadium, a day of soccer and beer drinking

By Charles Sercombe

We all know Hamtramck is crazy about soccer.

Last Saturday, that notion was confirmed. Hundreds of youngsters and adults participated in an all-day three versus three team soccer tourney.

It was called a “Soktoberfest” – which was a combination of soccer and beer drinking.

Sponsored by the Detroit City Football Club, the event went from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Keyworth Stadium. As it turned out, the day focused mainly on the soccer part of the festival and very little on the beer-drinking aspect.

Maybe that was just as well because there was some serious soccer – err football, as they say around the world – playing going on.



Arts festival offers unique opportunity to tour the city

The eighth annual Hamtramck Neighborhood Arts Festival (HNAF) returns next Saturday, Oct. 14.

This year’s all-day event features open artists’ studios, with exhibitions and parties at galleries and commercial spaces, as well as bands and DJs performing on porches and in backyards; this is in addition to bike rentals, international eateries, and so much more.

"We don’t limit who can participate. The Festival is open to everyone," says Faina Lerman, artist, event organizer, and co-founder of Popp’s Packing, a participating venue. "The audience curates their own experience."

Here is the rundown of events:

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. – A kick-off brunch at Bumbo’s (3001 Holbrook).

2 p.m. - 8 p.m. – HNAF is spread throughout four zones, in different neighborhoods. The festival includes bicycle rentals; a pop-up bookstore at Bank Suey; live musical performances at folk-art installation Hamtramck Disneyland, and indoor/outdoor events at Popp’s Packing.

10 p.m. - ??? – A closing dance party at Lo & Behold! Records & Books (10022 Jos. Campau).

"The Hamtramck Neighborhood Arts Festival started with a handful of participants, mostly working artists welcoming visitors into their homes to see what they do with paint, clay, metal and other materials," says Walter Wasacz, co-organizer of the Festival. "Seven years later, the festival has grown to include artists across Hamtramck and Banglatown."

One of the highlights of the festival is that it was made for walking or biking. For festival-goers who may have already stowed their bikes for the season, bicycle rentals are available.

Maps and schedules will be available at various locations during the festival, as well as on HNAF’s website. Check us out on Instagram, Twitter and follow #HNAF throughout the day for updates.

You can also find more information online at: HamtramckNeighborhoodArtsFestival.com

Crime watch: Two violent home invasions reported

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck police are aggressively investigating two incidents of home invasions that happened this past week.

In both incidents, three armed males busted into houses and held those inside captive.

The suspects are described as black males and all 17 years old and all 6 foot, 2 inches tall. The suspects are also armed with semi-automatic pistols.

The first home invasion happened on Saturday at 2 a.m. in the 3000 block of Roosevelt. Those inside were ordered to go down into the basement. The suspects stole several items and then fled on foot.

The next time the three suspects struck, things turned violent. On Monday, at 3:30 a.m., the suspects broke into a household in the 2900 block Lehman. Before leaving with two cell phones, one of the suspects pistol-whipped one of the people inside the house.

Police Chief Anne Moise said there are four detectives working on the case, and there have been many tips.

"We’re working all the angles," she said.

In the meantime, Moise reminded residents to lock their doors and windows. She also added to make sure that items like milk crates and chairs are not outside, which can be used to help break into houses.

**City of Hamtramck
Notice of
PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST**

Please take notice that the public testing of the equipment and the program to be used for tallying the results of the General Election of Tuesday, November 7, 2017 will be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. The test will take place at the Office of the City Clerk in Hamtramck City Hall located at 3401 Evaline, Hamtramck, MI 48212.

All interested parties are invited to observe.
August R. Gitschlag
Hamtramck City Clerk

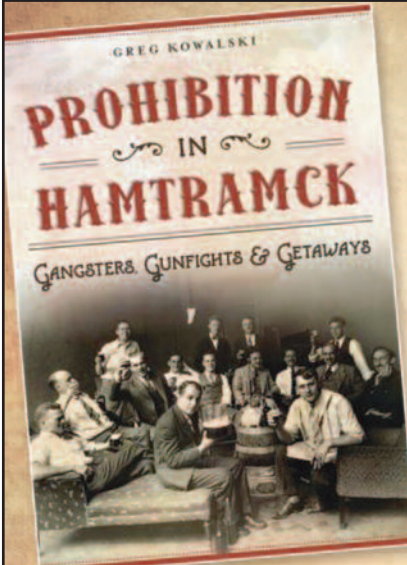
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August R. Gitschlag
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City Hall Insider ...

What is our City Council up to these days?
We have the highlights of the latest council meeting.

By Charles Sercombe

The city council met on Aug. 29, and all councilmembers were present, except for Councilmember Ian Perrotta.

Before the meeting a work session was held. At that meeting Acting City Manager Kathy Angerer said city hall's elevator has not been working and its repair could be a "big issue." The elevator is so old,

she said, there is a problem finding a part needed to repair it.

The city is continuing its water meter replacement program. About 1,400 meters were recently purchased. The city is looking to hire a company to install them. At the time, the cost of installation was not known.

Good news was shared about expansion plans for 18th Street Deli,

which will double in size. The plant will also be hiring more employees. The company is seeking to freeze its current property tax at the same rate for seven years.

That will produce a savings of \$411,000 for the company, which will be used to help pay for the expansion.

The city council agreed to that request later in the regular meeting. The company has been in Hamtramck for over 30 years, and this expansion project will cost about \$4 million.

City Planner Director Melanie Markowicz described the company as a "good corporate citizen."

During the regular meeting, letter from Councilmember Perrotta was submitted asking to be excused for the next

several meetings because he will be attending law school.

Fire Chief Dan Hagen announced the fire department will hold a short service in memory of the 9/11 attacks. The service was held at the fire station.

As it turned out, Chief Hagen was unable to attend the service because he was helping with recovery efforts in Florida after Hurricane Maria. The service was still held.

The students who took part in the GM student summer intern program were honored.

This year the students continued finishing projects from last year and also painted some of the hallways in Holbrook Elementary School, renovated the memorial site at Veterans Park and

painted no parking zones on street curbs.

Councilmember Saad Almasmari requested to add a resolution to the agenda to instruct the acting city manager to ask the former city manager to return her work computer.

That spurred a debate on whether it was acceptable to add a resolution. Mayor Karen Majewski said according to council rules, a resolution can only be added on if it's an emergency.

City Attorney John Clark said he was not aware of anything in the city charter that would prevent the action.

Councilmember Anam Miah said the matter is an emergency since the former city manager took the computer without permission.

"That electronic device

needs to be in city hall," he said.

He further stressed that it's a "time sensitive" issue because information could be lost.

At one point Miah asked City Attorney Clark if he would consider the computer "stolen."

Clark declined to comment, saying: "I don't want to make any interpretations."

Councilmember Andrea Karpinski questioned the motive of the resolution.

"What is the pissing match about?" she said.

The resolution was passed with only Karpinski voting in opposition.

(The computer was eventually returned, and a forensic investigation of it was ordered by a majority of the city council.)

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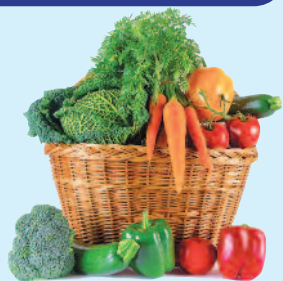
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