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# **Quick Hits**

Yes, as the graphic above says, we are seeking the services of an artist.

Here's the deal. We are seeking a Halloween illustration for our special Halloween issue coming up on Oct. 30.

The artwork should be family friendly. Other than that, use your imagination.

The work should be about 8 by 10 inches in

We will need it no later than Wednesday, Oct. 28, preferably in electronic format.

The winner will get two gift certificates, a \$50 certificate for Maine Street Restaurant and another \$50 certificate for Royal Kabob.

You can send your artwork to us news@thehamtramckreview.com, or drop it off at the office, 3020 Caniff.



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# — HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

# Council vacancy stirs up deep divide between city officials

### **By Charles Sercombe**

At a special meeting last Friday the city council had one job to do, as required by the city charter.

And that was to officially declare the council seat formerly held by Titus Walters vacant. Walters had died a week earlier, thus creating the vacancy.

Mayor Pro Tem Andrea Karpinski made a motion to get the vote rolling, but no other councilmember would support it.

That left Mayor Karen Majewski exasperated and she called for an adjournment to the meeting, but not getting any support for that either, both she and Karpinski walked out of the meeting was held. It comes

"The state will be very interested in this," Majewski said before she left in regard to the council not acting on the vacancy resolution.

Just why Councilmembers Anam Miah, Robert Zwolak, Abu Musa and Mohammed Hassan refused to acknowledge the vacancy then became appar-

They were opposed to who the city administration planned on tapping for the job, even though the city charter gives no authority to the council to get involved in that process.

The issue had been brewing days before the

**Continued on page 5** 



Just who fills the seat of City Councilmember Titus Walters, who recently died, has caused deadlock on the council. A majority of councilmembers refused to follow the city charter and declare a vacancy that would start the process of naming a new councilmember.

# **By Walter Wasacz**

Hey Hamtramck, trust me, your neighborhood walking advocate: this weekend of art, music and fun is not to be missed,

In case you've remained unaware of this sprawling event held every second Saturday in October since 2010, welcome to the sixth annual Hamtramck Neighborhood Arts Festival. It stretches from the city's south end to Detroit neigh-

borhoods north of Carpenter and – this year, for the first time – east of Mound.

Also for the first time, the festival adds another day this year. It now begins tonight (Friday, Oct. 9) with an opening party at Popps Packing (12138 St. Aubin).

Of course, start there. Walk up from wherever you are and pick up maps at Popps that lead to all 30plus locations. The opening party runs 7-10 p.m.

On Saturday, the starting point is Bumbo's (3001 Holbrook), where brunch will be served from noon to whenever food runs out. And the food is sensational, as you

1997 Jeep Cherokee

2005 Dodge Caravan

know, so it will not last long. Music by Petal Shop from 1 to 3 p.m.

From there you have choices. You can step off the curb on Mitchell and head through the CVS parking lot to festival organizer Steve Panton's 9338 Campau gallery, where Kate Levy's 'Fate of the Machinery' closes its run with a gallery tour by the artist at 2 p.m.

Or walk south on Jos. Campau to New Dodge Lounge, where Trail Sad Raya performs at 1 p.m. and Johnny Salvage goes on at 3 p.m.

Continued on page 4

# Sign up for a DDA grant

# **By Charles Sercombe**

Attention business owners, here's a deal for you.

If your business sign is old, out of date, or just needs a new image, the Hamtramck Downtown Development Authority is offering a special grant to get you a new sign.

The program is called, appropriately enough, the "Downtown Signage Improvement Grant."

The only catch is your business has to be located in the DDA district, which is the entire length of Jos. Campau within the Hamtramck borders (OK, that's from Carpenter on the north border of Detroit down to Hamtramck Dr.).

Even if you are leasing space on Jos. Campau you qualify, as long as you have permission from the building owner. Commercial property owners are also eligible.

The DDA will be offering \$500 to businesses that qualify.

To participate, fill out an application by going to city hall where the Department of Community and Economic Development office is located, or call the office's Director, Kathy Angerer, at (313) 876-7700, extension 326.

Angerer said the grant "is one more way that the DDA is using the revenue collected from businesses

Continued on page 2

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STORE HOURS Thursday

By Greg Kowalski

This is a busy month for the Hamtramck Historical Museum, with two events on the calendar.

First, "Hamtrivia" will be held. What's that? It's a night of fun, food, drink and prizes for answering trivia questions, including some on Hamtramck.

Hamtrivia will be held 7-10 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 17, at the Hamtramck Moose Lodge No. 1670, 9421 Conant. Special guest trivia master will be Michael Jackman, managing editor of the Detroit Metro Times.

Admission is \$10 per person, which includes a trivia card and pizza buffet. There will be a cash bar.

Second, on Thursday, Oct. 29, the next installment of the Hungry for History program will be held at the Museum, 9525 Jos. Campau. The topic will be "Prohibition in tramck," and it promises to be a lively talk. The evening will coincide with the release of Greg Kowalski's new book on, naturally, "Prohibition in tramck."

Autographed copies will be available for sale.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. A Polish dinner will be served at 6 p.m. with the program following at 7 p.m.

Cost of the dinner is \$15; the program is free. To make a reservation call (313) 893-5027, or you can register and pay by credit card on the Museum website at www.hamtramckhistory.org.

Both events will raise funds to help support the museum.

See you there.

# Sign up for a DDA grant

Continued from front page

in the district for the good of the city."

In other DDA news, the organization recently held a Fall Merchant meeting where a year in review was presented. Some of the highlights for the DDA during the past year included:

- The painting of Jos. Campau curbs to mark no parking spaces
- Replanting of flower
- Repainting of fire hydrants and parking meters throughout the city
- · Installing banners on Campau
  - Sponsoring local

events such as "Countdown to Paczki Day" and the Paczki 5K run; commercial real estate tour; renovation of Veterans Park and Pope Park; Hamtramck Labor Day Festival.

The DDA Board is led by Chairman Vince Szymborski and meetings are held at Hamtramck City Hall, on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Any member of the public or business community may attend the meetings.







# RE-ELECT ANAM MIAH **FOR CITY COUNCIL** Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2015

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If you have any questions or concerns you may contact the Hamtramck Housing Commission at 313-868-7445.

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# This week at the library...

ESL Class - Monday, October 12 at 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

Tutoring Service - Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, children can take advantage of a tutoring service provided South Asian Student Society and Hamtramck Library. program is free of charge to Hamtramck residents and open to students and adults.

Citizenship Classes -Tuesday, October 13 at 5 p.m. Hamtramck residents can get help in preparing for their citizenship exam. The classes are free. Registration is required.

Children's Movie Night -Tuesday, October 13 at 4 p.m. - All children are invited to an after-school movie and popcorn. This Kingdom."

week's feature is "Hidden ESL Class - Wednesday, October 14 at 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are

free to all Hamtramck resi-

dents. Registration is re-

quired.

**Movie Night for Adults** Wednesday, October 14 at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to a screening of selected movies on the big screen in the Library. For this week's movie selection call the library at 365-7050. Free to the public.

Girl Scout Meeting -Thursday, October 15 at 5 p.m. All school-age girls are invited to join the Girl Scouts.

Book Club Meeting -Thursday, October 15 at 5 p.m. Everyone is invited to join the Hamtramck Book Club at the Library.

**Meeting of the Library Board** - Thursday, October 15 at 6 p.m. Regular meeting of the Library Board will be held in the auditorium. Open to the public.

ESL Class - Friday, October 16 at 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

**Teen Advisory Board** Meeting - Friday, October **16 at 3:30 p.m.** The Teen Advisory Board will meet in the library auditorium.

Michigan Activity Pass The pass will enable Li-

brary 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, including museums, for up to one week. Ask at the circulation desk for details.

Friends of the Library Meeting - Thursday, October 22 at 6 p.m. FHPL President Kathy Kristy and Treasurer George Gorday invite all members and volunteers to participate in the regular monthly meeting.

Michgan Reads Program Thursday, October 22 at 5:00 p.m. Participats of the Michigan Read program are invited for a storytime.

**Common Word Alliance** of Hamtramck - Monday, October 26 at 7 p.m. The Hamtramck Common Word Alliance will hold its monthly meeting at the Library. For more information call Arif Huskic at 313-999-5483 Refreshments will be served. Everyone is invited.

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



### **Kosciuszko Middle School** News

Every month from October through June the faculty and staff at KMS honor a student by naming them "Student of the Month."

This honor is given to students those who demonstrate good effort in class, positive behavior, good citizenship or overall improvements in school.

Students who are nominated have their picture on display on the student of the month bulletin board, receive a certificate, a free homework coupon and a

pencil. Kosciuszko Middle School is proud to announce the students of the month for October: Maher Aiyash, Eshgan Alduais, Duaa Alhalemi, Akeem Allen, Zacaria Alasad, Maria Armstrong, Amra Dzanic, Kayla Fenderson, Vincent Gjelaj, Faiza Laskar, Lian Rahman, Mirela Ruzni, Ruhnuma Samiha, MD Shafi, K'von Thompson-Doze, LaDonis Tyler and Adeja Woolfolk.

# **Dickinson West Elemen**tary School News

Dickinson West and Kosciuszko Middle School are recycling #2 plastics for Green Schools certificavitamin bottles, laundry detergent, laundry softener bottles, plastic grocery bags and disinfective wipe containers a triangle sym-

**Hamtramck Review** 

Please check all plastic



The students of the month at Kosciuszko Middle School pose for a photo.



HHS students Lejla Salkic and Amina Khatun were among the 240-plus students enjoying the 2015 Homecoming Dance this past weekend.

The goal is to have some benches made for the outdoor area in front of the school. #2 plastics are milk containers, shampoo bottles, conditioner bottles, over the counter medicine,

containers for the recycling symbol with a #2 on the bottom of it.

Before bringing these items to school, rinse the bottle and remove the lid.

The collection box is out-

side Room 223 of the main floor of Dickinson West. Dickinson West is also collecting Box Tops for Educa-

So if you have any Box Tops please send them in to Dickinson West.

First graders will be going on a walking field trip to the fire department on October 9. Students in grades Kindergarten through 3rd grade will be able to wear Halloween costumes in the afternoon on October 30.

# **Hamtramck High School**

Students from Hamtramck High School saw automotive engineering up



**Professional racer Clarity Newhouse brought her race** car to Hamtramck High School. She is shown here with students from Ms. Vujic's algebra class.

**Continued on page 6** 



### It's Time to Pray, Please Join Us

We are a Multicultural Parish Family Sunday English Mass 9 a.m. Everyone is Welcome to Worship with Us

Sunday school has resumed - open enrollment Oct. 10 - Soup Kitchen 2-4 p.m. Oct. 11 - Breakfast fundraiser 10 -11 a.m.

following Mass Oct. 17 - Polish Dinner Fundraiser 4-7 p.m. & Fall Jubilee Raffle Drawing Music by Big Daddy Lackowski Raffle tickets available call Nancy 313-451-8310

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to International Beginning Ministries Church, Hamtramck, to aid needy immigrants, others, and to restore heat and lighting in this needy church edifice. 313-948-8563. will pick up big, almost new shoes in the boxes only, donations from pay less, Marcos' wife's collection, etc. —Thank You. L. Ventline



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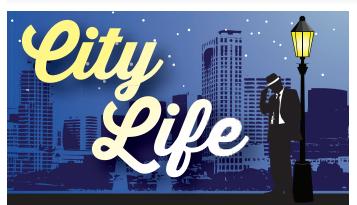












### **Continued from front page**

You can hoof it a few blocks west of the commercial district to Pulaski Park, where across the street (1976 Norwalk) multidisciplinary artist Martin Anand and Dax Anderson will perform a short theatrical piece called "Space" at 1:30 and 3 p.m.

A few blocks away at 1939 and 1945 Belmont, the studios of collage artist noise reading at 11 p.m., Devinition is on at midnight and King Visionary closes it out at 12:30 a.m.

Other potential highlights up and down the city's main street include: at Tekla Vintage (9600 Jos. Campau), Mayor Karen Majewski hosts her Hungarian Gypsy "Dancing with the Mayor" workshop at 2:30 p.m.; live DJ sets at Detroit



The annual Hamtramck Neighborhood Arts Festival returns this weekend.

George Rahme and painter Christine Galasso are open to the public, 1-3:30 p.m.

Walk back to Jos. Campau and refresh yourself at the popup biergarten (open 2 p.m. to midnight), in the vacant lot next to Lo & Behold (10022 Jos. Campau). While you're there, check out the scene at Lo & Behold, where art and music begins at 3 p.m. and runs until late.

Also on JC: find music at Elijah's (9536 Jos. Campau): it's Pam Reyes and Andrew Maslowsky, 3-7 p.m.; festival organizer writer-publisher Steve Hughes does a Stupor Threads (10238 Jos. Campau) from noon to 8 p.m.; and there is visual art by Jeremy Hanson, Luke Macgilvray and Sanda Cook at Atomic Cafe (10326 Jos. Campau).

Walk deeper into the neighborhoods to check out a performance by the Mafarka Ensemble at 2688 Yemans at 6 p.m.; tour the studio of Clara De-Galan (11696 Sobieski) from 3:30 to 6 p.m.; check out music by Nick Landstrom (3:30 p.m.), Sysster (4 p.m.), Ryan Harroun (4:30 p.m.), Samuel Seed (5 p.m.), Alex Wildner (5:30 p.m.) in a house at 12070



## 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 City General Election of Tuesday. November 3, 2015 will be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2015 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.

> Hamtramck শহরের বিজ্ঞপ্তি পাবলিক সঠিকতা প্রীস্কা

সরঞ্জাম ও প্রোগ্রাম জন পরীক্ষামূলক মঙ্গলবার, নভেম্বর 3 শহরের সাধারণ নির্বাচনের ফলাফল ভোট গণনা জন্য ব্যবহার করা হবে যে নোটিশ গ্রহণ করুল, 2015 3:00 PM তে পোস্ট করা পরীক্ষা মঙ্গলবার, অক্টোবর 13, 2015 উপর হবে অনুষ্ঠিত হবে 3401 Evaline, Hamtramck, MI 48212 এ অবস্থিত Hamtramck সিটি হল শহরের ক্লার্ক অফিসে জায়গা নিতে. সকল আগ্রহী ব্যক্তিদের পালন করার জন্য আমন্ত্রণ জানানো হয়.

October 2015

August R. Gitschlag Hamtramck City Clerk Gallagher. And at 2651 Whalen, step into a live streaming DJ set with Flaquito Hernandez, who will be mixing vinyl.

The galleries and art spaces in the city will be active throughout the day.

At Hatch (3456 Evaline), there are open studios 1-3:30 p.m. featuring artists Shoshanna Utchenik, Anne Knight Weber, Jonilyn Page, Nicole Richards, Herman Bruner, Dawn Cooke and Roshan Toma. There is an exhibition, 1-9 p.m., called "I Was Right Here The Whole Time" by Scott Northrup; and at 7 p.m., there is a screening of found footage films.

At Public Pool (3309 Caniff), the show, "Storm Trees and Mr Woodman" by Nancy Mitchnick, is open for viewing 1-6 p.m.

A few blocks north of there, walk up to Klinger Studios (11627 Klinger) for open studios of artists Elijah Ford, Matthew Harrison, Matthew Luther, John Maggie, Scott Northrup, Kasper O'Brien, Jon Parlangeli, Angela Pham, Bailey Scieszka, Jonathan Rajewski, Daniel Sperry, Corine Vermeulen, Jen Wang, and Aliva Zivi. Those are open 3-6 p.m.

Back over at Popps Packing, there is a bunch of good stuff from 2 to past 8 p.m., including an aerobic workout art show by Jessica Frelinghuysen; "Since U Been Gone," an outdoor installation by Dain Mergenthaler; and "Snake Church," a one-night art show by Kathy Liesen.

North of Carpenter, check out Afterhouse, an ongoing urban agriculture project at 3347 Burnside, 4-7 p.m.; a 30-minute open rehearsal of the Hinterlands new work, "The Radicalization Process" (quick note: capacity at the Playhouse, located at 12657 Moran, is limited to 30 people for the 6 and 8 p.m. rehearsals, and organizers warn that the content is "not really family friendly.").

At a house at 12934 Klinger, an intriguing collaborative performance piece called "The Heartbeat Listeners" — based around, yup, listening to human heartbeats — goes on 6-9

That's a lot of walking, but it'll feel good. Consult the schedule and map on to the right of this column and go for what looks like fun to you.

If you'd like to join me for an all day hike around the festival sites, come by to 3301 Edwin (in front of Barberella Hair Salon) at 2

We will document what we see (and maybe what we don't see) while we meander to the center and stretch to the edges of the perimeter. Bring walking shoes, of course. We'll be heading out to Young World (6121 Casmere, Detroit) and other far out locations, probably ending up at Bumbo's for a late nightcap. We'll share the experience in words and pic-

tures next week. Safe travels to all. Walter Wasacz walks the streets of Hamtramck, where he was born, raised and lives at the intersection of art and life. He writes about his experiences for The Review.

# Volunteers continue to make city more tree-friendly

### **By Charles Sercombe**

Despite chilly fall temperatures, about 175 volunteers came out last Saturday morning and made Hamtramck greener.

The city's Downtown Development Authority sponsored the latest round in replacing trees that have been lost over the years.

The biggest blow, to trees, literally, happened in 1997 when a tornado, or something close to it, tore through town and knocked down about 500 huge trees. Volunteers have steadily replaced that loss since then.

Last weekend's tree

planting was the second one this year – all thanks to a grant from Greening of Detroit and a grant from DTE Foundation.

Combined with trees planted earlier this year, volunteers have planted a total of 199 trees in 2015. Community & Economic Development Director Kathy Angerer said she will continue to seek grants for additional tree planting in 2016.

Angerer pointed out that trees in an urban area provide many benefits, such as:

 Trees provide a boost to economic development. Property values increase anywhere from 5-20% on tree-lined streets.

- Trees reduce storm water run-off, which is a huge benefit to the City of Hamtramck's combined sewer system.
- Air quality is improved through the use of trees, shrubs, and turf. Trees directly benefit residents who live in a "concrete jungle" like our urban setting.
- By planting trees and shrubs, we return developed areas – in Hamtramck where so much of our two square miles is developed-- to a more natural environment that is attractive to birds and wildlife.





# In Our Opinion

# Hamtramck proved it is not ready for local control

Anam Miah, Robert Zwolak, Abu Musa and Mohammed Hassan may have set the clock back for when Hamtramck can return to independence from the state.

At a special meeting last Friday, the four councilmembers refused to declare a vacancy on council and then hijacked the meeting.

Ultimately, their actions were an insult to their former colleague, Titus Walters, who died a week earlier and whose seat on council needed to be officially designated as vacant.

The City Charter requires the council to take that action, and then

Councilmembers that's all the council has to do. But the aforementioned councilmembers refused to do their duty and pave the way for an orderly transition of government.

Why?

They disagree with who the city administration thinks should fill that seat. You can read all about the controversy elsewhere in this issue.

The bottom line to all this, however, is that there is a time and place for everything. If they - or anyone else - disagree with who takes Walters' seat, go to circuit court and state your case.

There are a couple of other things that happened that night. One is a likely violation of the state's Open Meetings Act and another is a possible violation of the city charter for refusing to do their duty in declaring a vacancy.

By the end of this week we could find out if state officials plan to step in since Hamtramck is still under state supervision. The city came under state control after declaring a financial crisis two years

There could be some serious consequences for their reckless behavior. But worse, in the eves of the state - no doubt - Hamtramck looks like it is far from being ready to take back full

# Let the state know what you think about fracking waste

to be heard on a very important health matter.

The state Department of Environmental Quality is accepting comments through Oct. 12 about a proposal to allow a waste treatment plant to accept highly hazardous mate-

US Ecology is a waste plant located about a mile east of Hamtramck and it wants to process fracking waste. Tons of it.

This waste is radioactive, environmentalists say, and it can be spread through the air. Why in the world anyone would allow a waste treatment plant like this be located world is turning to green in an urban area is baf- energy sources, here in

You have four days left society allow such waste to be produced is insane.

> Fracking is a process of extracting natural gas from far below the ground. The waste product from this method is highly toxic.

> Fracking itself is considered by many to be highly poisoness to fresh water that is underground. There are several towns in this country where you can not drink the local water.

> Imagine that. Many of those town folks ended up being paid off by energy companies and were forced to move out.

While the rest of the the U.S. we are stuck Worse yet, why we as a with oil, coal and gas. But we know why: The energy lobby is very powerful and has a tight grip on the people who supposedly serve us in state legislatures and congress.

For a few bucks shoved in their pockets, our representatives gladly vote against our best interests and continue to allow the poisoning of the earth.

Be sure to let the DEQ know what you think of this proposal.

Comments can made in writing and sent

Richard A. Conforti Office of Waste Management and Radiological Protection P.O. Box 30241 Lansing, MI 48909-7741

# Council vacancy stirs up deep divide between city officials

**Continued from front page** 

down to how one interprets the city charter on who should take a council seat when a vacancy comes up.

The charter simply says it's the candidate who comes in fourth place in the last general election, and if that candidate can't take the position, then it goes to the fifth and then lastly the sixth. After that, it's up to the council to make an appointment.

But the charter does not make a distinction when there is more than one council term in a race. In the case of Walters, he ran for a four-year term while there were several other candidates who ran separately for a vacant seat with two years left in its term.

The councilmembers who held up the vacancy vote believe that the next person to take the seat should have been selected from the term Walters ran for. Using that reason, they believed it should be Rashad Almasmari.

But complicating the matter was a similar occurrence in 2007 when a vacancy came up because of a councilmember's death. That councilmember, Rob Cedar, had two years left in his four-year term.

Cedar was elected in 2005 where there were two separate council races, one for a four-year term and another for two years. That situation was an oddity since it was the first election for council since a new city charter had been adopted.

That first election had two different terms in order to stagger future council elections. The thinking was after that election all elections for council seats would be four-year terms.

When Cedar died in 2007, a question came up about who was the fourthplace finisher to fill his seat. The City Attorney at the time, James Allen, was asked to clarify the situation.

He submitted a written opinion that basically said when there is a split term race, to find out who came in fourth and so on, you combine the results of both elections.

The council at that time did just that, which then set legal precedent.

Using that formula, the city administration, with the advice of City Attorney Travis Mihelick, determined the person to take Walters' seat is Ian Perrotta, who came in second for the term with two years left in the last general election.

The councilmembers who think it's Almasmari's seat weren't alone Friday evening. There were about 20 others in attendance who mostly agreed and during the public comment portion urged the council to appoint Almasmari.

Those saying it should be Almasmari included the candidate himself.

Although Almasmari said the seat should be his, he also added: "I'm not hungry for this position. I'm very busy."

The only one in the audience who spoke in favor of Perrotta equation was Susan Dunn, who also happens to be running for council in the upcoming November General Election.

She said there was no such thing as a race for a two-year term in the last general election. She said it was an election for the remainder of a four-year term

"It's very clear," she said of the charter, "the next highest number takes the seat. It's a matter of law."

The remaining cilmembers continued the meeting after the mayor and Karpinski had left. Miah was appointed by his colleagues to chair the meeting. A vote was eventually taken to ask for the state Attorney General's Office to determine who should take Walters' seat.

During the meeting there was a heated discussion between the council and city attorney Mihelick.

So, where does this leave the council?

City Manager Katrina Powell said she will talk with state officials on Thursday, the day The Review went to press, to determine what step to take next.

Hamtramck is still under state supervision since emerging from its financial crisis when Emergency Manager Cathy Square left last December. The management of the city is now back in the hands of a city manager.

But a state-appointed board continues to overlook all financial decisions. The board could conceivably cancel a purchase, contract or any other decision made by the city manager and council.

Powell said it's likely that the council will be given a second chance to declare a vacancy at its next regular meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 13. In the meantime, Powell said she is seeking another legal opinion on the matter from the city's current law firm.

As for the four councilmembers' decision to not vote on the vacancy issue, Powell said she was "embarrassed" over how they acted and how that makes the city look in the eyes of the state.

There was also talk that the four councilmembers who continued the meeting after the mayor and Karpinski left violated the state's Open Meeting Act by voting on resolutions not on the agenda and possibly violating the charter for failing to declare a vacancy.

One former councilmember, Scott Klein, has already taken action. On his Facebook page he asked for an attorney to step forward and file an Open Meetings Act violation against the four coun-

At press time, Klein said he has not received any replies to his request.

cilmembers.

# dds & Ends

Mass mob ... This Sunday the ongoing "Mass mob" event will come close to Hamtramck.

On Sunday, Oct. 11, there will be a gathering at Transfiguration, located on Mound, at noon.

The event is a way to get a look at the many beautiful churches in the Detroit area and help raise money for the parishes. After the service, there will be a lunch served in the parish's gym for \$5.

Angel's Night Patrol ... Volunteers are needed by

the Hamtramck Community Initiative and the HCI Citizen Patrol to patrol the streets on Friday, Oct. 30 (Angel's Night) and Saturday, Oct. 31 (Halloween Night) starting at 5 p.m.

Contact Ron Orr to join the Citizen Patrol at roninhamtramck@yahoo.com.

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# Vacancy issue has plenty of legal twists and turns year terms, and another to wait for her seat to actu-

**By Charles Sercombe** 

The vacancy on city council has certainly brought up a number of issues.

The city charter clearly states the next person in line is whoever finished in fourth place in the last general election for coun-

Well, the last general election in 2013 had two council races, one for three seats with full fourfill the remainder of Cathie Gordon's term.

In 2013, Gordon opted to run for mayor instead of remaining on council for the two years she had left in her term. According to the charter, she had to resign from her seat, but that resignation didn't take effect until Dec. 31, a month after the November General Election.

So why didn't the city

ally become vacant and appoint her successor from that general election?

The short answer is not all vacancies on council follow the same rules.

In the case of a councilmember who runs for mayor during the middle of their term, the charter says the councilmember must resign. The charter

Continued on page 6

The Hamtramck Review Published every Friday

3020 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212 Phone: 313-874-2100 Fax: 313-874-2101

www.hamtramckreview.com

email news@thehamtramckreview.com

Publisher: John Ulaj • (248) 866-1110

julaj@thehamtramckreview.com

Editor: Charles Sercombe Office Manager: Jean Ingenthron

Sales Manager: Dave Sweet Reporter/Copy Editor: Ian Perrotta

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close and personal this Monday when race driver Clarity Newhouse brought her race car to Hamtramck High School.

### **Holbrook Elementary School**

Holbrook School has a new bus stop for students on Holbrook Street in front of the Senior Plaza.

The HPS bus will stop in front of the Senior Plaza (behind Dollar Tree) each morning at 7:45 a.m. for Holbrook students. Any Holbrook School student can take the bus from that location if needed.

### **All Schools**

 Friday, October 16 – Progress report #1 distributed for all schools.

### **Horizon High School**

 Friday, October 16 – Half day for Horizon School students.

## **Athletic Events**

 Friday, October 9 – HHS Varsity Football vs. Melvindale ABT at 7 p.m. Home.

- Monday, October 12 HHS Varsity Volleyball vs. Taylor Prep/Universal Academy at 5:30 p.m. Home.
- Tuesday, October 13 HHS Boys' Varsity Soccer vs. Romulus at 5 p.m. Away.

### · Tuesday, October 13 -KMS Volleyball vs. Ecorse at 4:30 p.m. Away.

- · Wednesday, October 14 - HHS Varsity Volleyball vs. Detroit Community at 5:30 p.m. Away.
- · Wednesday, October 14 - KMS Football vs. PEC at 5 p.m. Away.
- Thursday, October 15 -- HHS Boys' Varsity Soccer vs. Pontiac at 5:30 p.m.
- Home. Thursday, October 15 -- KMS Volleyball vs. Trillium at 4:30 p.m. Home.
- Friday, October 16 HHS Varsity Football vs. Harper Woods at 7 p.m.
- Saturday, October 17 -HHS Varsity Volleyball **Breast Cancer Tournament** at Summit Academy 9 a.m.



# Vacancy issue has plenty of legal twists and turns

### **Continued from page 5**

Phone (313) 874-2100

then says to fill that vacancy, an election will be held for that seat during the same general election for the mayor's race.

In other words, instead of going back to a previous general election for council. a new election is held when a councilmember runs for mayor with time still left in their term.

There are some who say that the current vacant seat should be filled by the fourth place finisher in the 2013 election who ran for a four-year term - not the seat vacated by Gordon.

And then there is a legal opinion from 2007 — when a similar vacancy came up - from former City Attorney James Allen who says that when there are two different races for council, the fourth-place finisher is determined by combining the election results of both

There was only one previous general election before

In 2005 a new era began for Hamtramck's city government. That's when a new city charter kicked in, and that first election for six seats on council was staggered.

Three of the seats were for a four-term, and three were for a two-year term. The thinking was that in this way all future council elections for council would be staggered to avoid all seats being up for grabs at the same time.

The framers of the new charter wanted continuity to continue on council to avoid the chaos that would sometimes occur under the old charter when a new slate of candidates were voted in and who, inevitably, would often clash and cause deadlock.

After that initial 2005

election, all future council elections would be for a full four-year term.

Friday, October 9, 2015

Unless, in the case of Gordon, a councilmember decided to run for mayor in

mid-term.

Unfortunately, the city charter does not make a distinction between two separate races for council seats when it comes to determining who should be tapped when a councilmember vacates his seat, either by death or for other reasons not having to do with running for mayor.

It simply says the next person in line is the fourthplace finisher in the last general election.

Is the legal opinion of the city attorney necessarily the last word? For those who disagree, and in this latest case there are many, a challenge can be filed with the circuit court.

# Obituaries

# **BABICZ**

Kenneth R. Babicz, 72, died October 1, 2015.

Mr. Babicz is survived by his wife, Kathleen; children, Dawn (Charles) Donna Tomaszewski, (Thomas) Sintkowski, Ken (Courtney); five grandchildren; brothers, Robert (Geraldine), Frank (Carole); many nieces and nephews.

Visitation was Tuesday at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, and a Funeral Mass was held Wednesday at St. Florian Church.

# **DOMBROWSKI**

Her Legacy...Olga M. Dombrowski, age 96, passed away, October 5, 2015 in Howell, Ml. Olga was born in Detroit, MI on January 30, 1919, to Basil and Sophie (Bawrowicz) Harkaway. She married Zigmont Dombrowski on May 9, 1942 in Hamtramck.

Her Family...Olga is survived by her son James (Rennia) Dombrowski, grandchildren Jim and Jennifer, and great granddaughter, Sophia. She is preceded in death by her daughter Mary Ann in 1981 and her husband Zigmont in 1992.

Her Farewell... Olga's Mass of Christian burial was held on Wed. October 7, 12:00 pm at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Howell, MI. Interment followed at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Detroit. Memorial contributions may be given to the Alzheimer's Association. Please leave a message of comfort to the Dombrowski family by calling 1-877-231-7900 or sign the guestbook at borekjennings.com

# **MIENTKIEWSKI**

Veronica Mientkiewski, 77, died October 1, 2015.

Ms. Mientkiewski was a former school teacher at St. Bartholomew, worked at Wonder Bazaar, and was a lifelong Hamtramck resident.

Ms. Mientkiewski was predeceased by her parents, Steve and Mary; sister, Sophie. She is survived by her brother, Joseph; nephew and godchild. Joev: numerous cousins.

The funeral was held October 5, at St. Florian Church in Hamtramck with interment at Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to Krot Funeral Home in Hamtramck.

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# **Coming events**

SATURDAY, Oct. 10, 2-4 p.m. - Holy Cross Parish soup kitchen, at 2311 Pulaksi at Fleming. All are Welcome.

SATURDAY, Oct. 10, 9-3 p.m. - Hamtramck's Recycle Center is open at Caniff and McDougall. Drop of your recyclables for free.

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 14, 11 a.m. - Daughters of Isabella Mystical Rose Circle 736 will meet at Queen of Apostles Activity Center, entrance on Harold, fenced-in parking.

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 21, 7 p.m. – The Hamtramck Midtown Block Club will meet in St. Florian's Convent; please use the side entrance.

### **Single Family Homes** 2359 Botsford - \$34,900 **Multi-Family Homes** 9721 Dequindre - \$29,900 - REDUCED!

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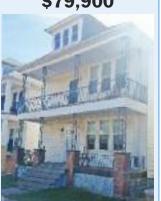
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6035 Charles, Detroit, very nice area, brick house on a good street, call Palo and Diane, 248-659-2278, 248-659-2325.

Hamtramck, 1 br., all utilities included, \$500/ 248-747-3198. mo., 10/23

### **ROOM FOR RENT**

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# **HOUSE FOR SALE**

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Prescription glasses lost between Lumpkin and Commer and Café 1923, in a brown case, return to Café 1923 or the Hamtramck Police Dept.

# **Deadline for** classifieds

for next week is Thursday at Noon

**By Charles Sercombe** This week's Crime Log covers Sept. 29-Oct. 5.

### **Tuesday. September 29**

- A Danforth resident was arrested after he was seen stealing a cellphone from a restaurant in the 8700 block of Jos. Campau. Upon further investigation, an employee of a cellphone store in the 9700 block of Jos. Campau was arrested for buying a stolen cellphone for \$4.
- At about 3 a.m. a resident in the 12000 block of Dyar saw one or more persons attempting to steal their Dodge Caravan. A few minutes later the victim saw several males, one with a screw driver, drive away in the red Dodge Caravan.
- At 4 a.m. a resident in the 2300 block of Commor reported the theft of his 2001 Dodge
- · At 4:30 a.m. officers responded to a silent break-in alarm at a business in the 9000 block of Jos. Campau. Upon arrival, officers found the front door had been pried open. A witness told officers there were three suspects who fled in a gray Dodge Caravan.
- Officers discovered an open door at a vacant house on Mitchell. Officers searched the house and found no one inside.

- · A Detroit resident was ticketed for being disorderly after he was seen urinating on a Jos. Campau building.
- A Detroit resident was arrested following a traffic stop for possessing heroin.
- A Trowbridge resident reported a garage breakin and theft of several

### Wednesday, September 30

- At about 11 p.m. a resident in the 2400 block of Holbrook was arrested for assault followа domestic disturbance.
- · At 2:30 a.m. a Detroit resident was arrested after a short chase, which ended when the suspect crashed through a fence at Jos. Campau and Hamtramck Dr. The suspect was charged with several felonies, including violating the city's knife ordinance and possessing an open intoxicant.
- A member of a mosque in the 8500 block of Jos. Campau reported a man entered the building through a rear door and attempted to steal the offering box. · At 3 a.m. a resident
- in the 3900 block of Oliver woke up to a banging noise. When he looked outside, he saw a suspect drive away in his

· A Yemans resident reported a person known to her broke a window at her residence.

# Thursday, October 1

- A highly intoxicated man was found passed out in the Hewitt alley. He was taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital.
- · A woman reported her ex-boyfriend was making harassing phone calls.
- At almost noon, a resident reported being assaulted and robbed while in the 5000 block of Belmont by two males. The suspects fled with money stolen from the victim.
- A Detroit resident was arrested for possessing marijuana.

# Friday, October 2

- · At 10:30 p.m. a resident was arrested for being disorderly and obstruction.
- · A resident from Almont was arrested following a traffic stop for drunk driving and possessing cocaine.
- At almost noon a person reported being assaulted in the 9500 block of Jos. Campau.

### Saturday, October 3

- · A resident on Dorothy St. reported the theft of his 2005 Chrysler 300.
- · A person reported someone fraudulently accessed his bank account.
- A Caniff resident reported the theft of his two

**Continued on page 8** 





# 







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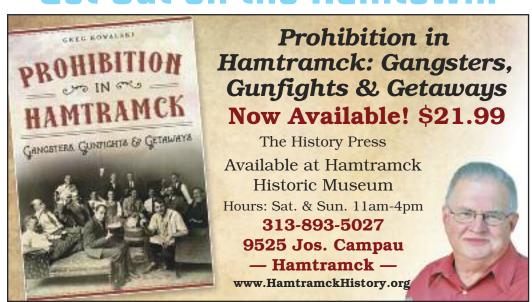
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### **Continued from page 7**

bicycles from his front Sunday, October 4 porch.

- · A construction company owner reported the theft of his skid loader from a construction site near Poland and Lump-
- A Trowbridge resident reported the theft of her bike from her front porch.
- · A Detroit resident was arrested for flipping over a table and kicking a door at Al-Qamar on Conant.

- · At 11:15 p.m. a resident was arrested in the 2600 block of Evaline for obstruction.
- · A person was arrested following an investigation at a residence in the 3100 block of Belmont for a break-in.

### Monday, October 5

· A Clinton Twp. resident was arrested following a traffic stop for trying to pass off a fraudulent proof of insurance.

### · A St. Aubin resident reported her passport and her mother's passport were missing.

· A Detroit resident and Flint resident were arrested for possessing a stolen vehicle after a police chase and crash.

# **ONE: THE MOVIE**

An international, independent documentary surveying beliefs, life's meaning, God, war, love and fear, and the power of oneness.

### Thursday, Oct. 29, Noon Hamtramck Public Library 2360 Caniff. 48212

Professors Ventline and Whitty facilitate with **VENT-Line Center for** Inter-Religious Dialogue in Detroit, Hamtramck and Harrison Twp., MI. Free. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Lawrencematthewventline@gmail.com

# Letters • Letters

# Keep toxic waste away from Hamtramck schools and community

The possible expansion of US Ecology at the Van Dyke and I-94 facility demands a public hearing on this health issue.

Being Superintendent of Hamtramck Public Schools one of my responsibilities is to do everything possible to protect the health and well-being of my students and the entire community of Hamtramck.

Common sense dictates that since that the State of Pennsylvania does not accept radioactive fracking material why should a facility less than 1-1/2 miles from my school district/community accept it?

As you know the city of Flint and their schools are experiencing serious health issues and the MDEQ was the "watchdog" for the Flint River water plan.

Needless to say the credibility of the MDEQ is being questioned regarding that project.

Now is the time for the MDEQ to step forward and hold a public meeting on this health issue which affects Hamtramck Public Schools and the community at large. Questions need to be asked and answers need to be given.

**Thomas Niczay Superintendent Hamtramck Public Schools** 

# 313-530-2777

**Hamtramck Police Department Auction** October 22, 2015 at 10:00 am **B&G** Towing 8100 Lynch, Detroit 48234

Additional vehicles to be added to Auction. 1995 BUICK 4D 1G4HP52L2SH419664 1996 CHRY VN 1C4GP64L1TB483556 1999 PONT 2D 1G2WP12K0XF228490 2000 OLDS 4D 1G3NF52F3YC328565 2006 MERC 4D 3MEFM07Z26R653472 2006 BUICK 4D 3G5DA03L16S552393

### **Hamtramck Police Department Auction** October 22, 2015 at 10:30 am **B&T Towing**

2411 Vinewood, Detroit 48216 984 FORD 4D 1FABP43F9EZ166845 1993 TOYO 4D JT2SK12E2P0134738 1993 CHEV VN 2GBFG2575P4119281 1994 CADI 4D 1G6EL12Y8RU616706 1996 TOYO 4D 1NXBA02E4TZ454162 1997 SAT 4D 1G8ZG5282VZ219798 1997 PONT 4D 1G2WJ52K4VF250742 1997 MERC 4D2MELM75W0VX635881 1997 TOY 4D 4T1BF12B0VU178241 1998 DODG VN 1B4GP44L8WB77532 1998 FORD 4D 1FAFP52S4WA270553 1998 DODG VN2B4GP44G8WR689175 1998 DODG TK 1B7GL22X2WS521018 1999 HOND 2D JHMBB6246XC008942 1999 BUICK 4D 2G4WS52M9X1607428 2000 MERC 4D 2MEFM75W5YX642505 000 CHRY VN 1C4GP44G0YB624258 2000 TOYO 4D 1NXBR12E4YZ333668 2001 DODG VN 2D4GP44L434337757 2001 CADI 4D 1G6KD54YX1U250448 2001 JEEP 4D 1J4GW58N41C560687 2002 KIA 4D KNADC123426095133 2002 HYUN 4D KMHDN45D82U262281 2002 FORD 4D 1FAFP34322W206230 2003 FORD 4D 1FAFP55U93A273103 2004 PONT 4D 2G2WP522941242138 2004 DODG 4D 1B3AL76R14N140207 2004 CHEV 4D 1G1ND52F64M505685 2004 OLDS VN 1GHDX03E54D100866 2004 HYUN 4D KMHWF25SX4A093331

2009 PONT 4D 1G2ZG57B194125168

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Horizon **High School** (9-12)

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CREATIVE PROJECTS IN HAMTRAMCK

SUN 10/18 @ Eight & Sand

(3901 Christopher St)

\$5 for soup, salad, bread, and a vote!

Fund your Hamtramok community project with support from your neighbors - anything from filling a pothole, to funding a clear field trip, to starting a new business

Attendess pay 55 for soup & saled and vote on which project they think benefits the community the most. The winner goes home with all of the money raised at the door to carry out their project. At the dinner, Hemtramck residents and supporters connect, share ideas and community resources. Each dinner also features a local artist!

SUBMIT PROPOSALS by 10/11:

2287 Halbreak Ave

Hamtramck Public Library 2360 Caniff Ave.

DOCOS: rt 4:30pm PROPOSALS PRESENTED at 5pm DINNER around form WINKER ANNOUNCED by 7pm

SCHEDULE FOR THE EVENT

caling www.detroibcop.com/subm/t
FOR MORE ENFO ABOUT 150W SOUP WORKS GO TO DETROITSOUP.COM