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The Review

Hamtramck

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Quick Hits

Next Thursday (Nov. 24) is Thanksgiving, and we here at The Review wish everyone a peaceful holiday.

It's hard to believe Thanksgiving is here again, and the holiday season is now under-way. But what a relief after a very divisive election season, which seemed like it went on for years.

Here at The Review we will be printing one day earlier, on Wednesday instead of Thursday. That means advertisers need to get their ads in by no later than Wednesday morning.

Enjoy the holiday folks, and thanks for supporting your local newspaper.

Quote of the week ...

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

"I ride in Hamtramck, and I do pretty well."

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Taking it to the street: Protestors rail against anti-immigrant talk

By Charles Sercombe

Like a number of other communities in the state and country, Hamtramck joined them in protesting the election of Donald Trump as president.

On Monday evening, a group of about 50 mostly white folks in their 30s gathered at Trowbridge and Jos. Campau and marched to a town hall meeting being held at the public library.

Many carried signs saying such things as: "Love & Equality 4 All"; "Muslims Welcomed" and "We Care For Our Muslim Neighbors."

Protestors also wrote on the sidewalk using chalk,



Donald Trump protestors took to the streets on Monday evening to demonstrate against the president-elect's immigration statements. About 50 folks showed up and walked from Trowbridge and Jos. Campau to the public library where a town hall meeting was taking place.

with one large message saying: "One human family." Organizer Adriene Avri-

pas said she was moved to speak out because of Trump's comments on im-

migrants during his cam-

paign rallies.

"I've been concerned about Trump's message of

Continued on page 4



Hamtramck is not an official "sanctuary city" but there is a city ordinance prohibiting police from pro-filing and inquiring about immigration status.

City officials: Hamtramck is a safe haven for immigrants

By Charles Sercombe

Is Hamtramck a "sanctuary city"?

That's been a question posed here for the past week after Donald Trump was elected president. During Trump's campaign he promised to round up and deport illegal aliens and stop the flow of im-migrants of the Muslim faith.

That has caused thou-sands of people to take

to the streets across the country and protest his election.

He has also threat-ened to cut off federal funding to sanctuary cities that protect illegal immigrants from being detained.

In 2008 Hamtramck's city council passed an ordinance to give immi-grants some protections, but did not go so far as

Continued on page 2

Alleys rated in poor shape

By Charles Sercombe

It started with the streets, and next year it will be the alleys' turn.

At least some of them.

City Manager Katrina Powell recently an-nounced that the city's engineering firm, Hen-nessey Inc., completed its survey of the city's al-leys.

To no one's surprise, they are in terrible shape, or as she put it: "Below grade."

"But at least we have a plan to move forward," she said.

Moving forward, though, comes with a stiff price tag. Powell said it will cost a total of \$12 million to fix all of the alleys. Just taking care of the "major" al-leys – such as the ones that run parallel with Jos. Campau and Conant – will cost \$3 million.

Unlike road repairs, the source of funding for the project cannot be tapped from a state grant the city receives each year for just road repairs.

Instead, the city will have to dip into its budget surplus, now at about \$3 million. How-ever, Powell said she has applied for a grant tailor-made for "distressed" cities.

Continued on page 2



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City officials: Hamtramck is a safe haven for immigrants

Continued from front page

shielding illegal immigrants. The ordinance forbids police officers from profiling and does not allow officers and city employ-

ees to inquire about a person's immigration status. It also allows undocumented immigrants to receive city services.

"I don't think people were using the term sanctuary city at the time," said Mayor Karen Majewski when asked recently to clarify if Hamtramck is a sanctuary city.

At Tuesday's city council work session, councilmembers talked about spreading the word that Hamtramck is a safe haven for immigrants.

Hamtramck has long been home to newly-arrived immigrants. For the past 80 years Hamtramck has been known as a Polish enclave. But in recent years the majority of residents are

from Bangladesh, Yemen and Bosnia.

These new immigrants are mostly of the Muslim faith.

Councilmember Anam Miah suggested sending out a press release promoting Hamtramck as a sanctuary city. He stressed that this message is needed now because of "the tension in the air."

Councilmember Ian Perrotta also noted that Hamtramck has another designation as being a "Welcoming City." This is part of a nationwide movement to make cities more aware of their immigrant residents and include their needs and desires in city plans.

As for Trump's threat to deport illegal immigrants, Councilmember Mohammed Hassan dismissed that notion.

"Nobody can send anybody anywhere – not even the president," Hassan said.

And on that note, Councilmember Miah added: "This is a city of brotherly love."



Starting next year, the city will begin repairing alleys. It's estimated that it will take \$12 million to repair all of them. Those repairs will take years to complete.

Alleys rated in poor shape

Continued from front page

Don't expect a huge investment upfront.

At a town hall meeting Monday evening, she said \$150,000 will be spent this coming spring, and then in summer another \$250,000.

She did not say at the meeting where the repairs would begin, and at press time she did not reply to a Review email for clarification.

The alleys have long been in poor shape. For the past few decades

there has not been a plan to tackle the problem.

Since Powell has been in office for over a year now she has produced a yearly plan to repair streets.

This past year parts of Casmere, Trowbridge and Botsford were resurfaced.

Next year a major section of Holbrook will be dug up and repaved with concrete.

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This week at the library...

ESL Class – Monday, November 21, 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

ESL Class – Wednesday, November 23, 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

Closed – In celebration of the Thanksgiving Holiday the Library will be closed on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25.

Cooking Matters for Adults – Free cooking and nutrition classes featuring healthy cooking on a budget, smart shopping ideas, culinary secrets, free cookbook and free groceries. Classes meet 2 hours each week and are 6 weeks long. (Commitment to all classes is mandatory.) If interested please call the Hamtramck

Public Library at (313) 365-7050.

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) 365-7050, or visit our website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> where you can also access our online catalog.

Second Front Page

‘Better Made’ celebrates area teachers with monthly award

By Mike Murphy

There’s nothing wrong with a little recognition, especially for “awesome” teachers who tend to try and avoid the spotlight.

Cathy DeVuyst, literacy and math coach at Holbrook Elementary School, is the first teacher to win Better Made Snack Foods’ “Teacher of the Month” contest for October 2016, and it’s a good thing she likes potato chips.

“We are crazy about Better Made, and my mom still goes to the company to pick up my favorites, which are Sour Cream and Onion and BBQ,” says DeVuyst. “I heard about the contest from a co-worker and she



Cathy DeVusyt

nominated me. I love my students and Better Made.”

Third-grade teacher Laurie O’Dell was the one who wrote up the contest entry on behalf of one of her students. For winning, DeVuyst will receive a sampler box containing

15 bags of different Better Made products.

DeVuyst said it felt great to be the inaugural winner in the contest.

“I don’t do stuff to get recognized,” she said. “But every time you do get recognized for something it helps give you a little extra energy.”

The student behind the nomination lauded DeVuyst for her ability to search out free materials like books, worksheets, pencils, and stickers for her students.

“When she cannot find it free she uses her own money to purchases them,” the nomination reads.

The nomination, which had to be kept to 100 to

150 words, goes on to state that DeVuyst also helps teachers find better ways to teach reading, writing and math.

Better Made, founded in 1930 in Detroit, will be granting the award to Detroit-area teachers on a monthly basis. Contest entries of 100 to 150 words must be submitted by a student (parents can help if needed) online through the contest page on the Better Made website: www.better-madesnackfoods.com or emailed to info@better-madsnackfoods.com.

They can also be mailed to Better Made Contest, 10148 Gratiot Ave., Detroit, MI 48213.

School Bell

Kosciuszko Middle School News

In 7th grade English Language Arts (ELA) classes students are currently wrapping up the unit on Characters with Character.

Throughout this time, students have studied the genre of literary and popular fiction through short stories found in their textbook.

Students have focused on specialized vocabulary, specific reading strategies, and the writing process to make sure that the students in 7th grade are learning all of the different aspects of ELA. The next unit will be Facing Challenges, and students will explore the different facets of a drama.

In 8th Grade English Language Arts classes students are using iPads for a program called iLit. Students read a book of their choice for ten minutes a day and journal every other day on what

they are reading. Students are currently reading the novel “Among the Hidden.”

Every other day, students complete an assignment in class. Currently the only homework students have is a weekly reading log. Students are required to read 120 minutes a week over a minimum of three days, and are required to complete the reading log.

A parent signature on the log is also required. A reading and writing assessment is given every other week to track student progress.

In 8th grade advanced English Language Arts class students are currently reading fiction. Students began the year with a review of the elements of fiction.

Students are also reading nonfiction articles using the Junior Scholastic magazines and articles from the NEWSELA website.

Students are currently

working on an explanatory essay. The topic of the essay is “My Personal Michigan Hero”. Students are required to read for 120 minutes a week for homework and complete a reading log. A parent signature is required on the reading log.

Early Childhood Elementary School News

The first graders at the Early Childhood Elementary put on a mini-concert for the school on Monday, Nov. 7. Under the direction of the new music teacher, Mr. Maxwell Spayde, the students sang fall songs for the classes.

Everyone had a fun time at the concert.

This week the students will be celebrating the 50th day of school. Students and staff will be wearing 1950s clothes, dance to the music of the 1950s, have a hula hoop contest, learn lessons centered around the number 50 and enjoy root beer floats.

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In Hamtramck, Veterans Day is never forgotten



By Charles Sercombe
Perhaps lost in all of the election news last week was Friday’s Veterans Day celebration. The national holiday seemed to pale in comparison to the result of Tuesday’s historic presidential election. But not diminished was Hamtramck’s steadfast observation of the many sacrifices veterans have made for our country. PLAV Post 10 held its

annual ceremony for the day, attracting dozens of veterans and residents. The highlight of the event was a champagne toast and sing-along. This year’s Veteran of the Year is Bill Swift, who was a paratrooper in Vietnam in 1966-67.

Local veterans and residents gathered last Friday at PLAV Post 10 hall to celebrate Veterans Day. Below: Bill Swift was named Veteran of the Year.



Bengali political committee hosts who’s who of Democratic Party

By Charles Sercombe
Despite an outpouring of state Democratic heavy-weights and a couple hundred community members before last Tuesday’s Presidential election, their candidate lost. In what many media outlets labeled a major upset, Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton lost to her rival, Republican Donald Trump. It was an outcome few would have projected at the Bengali American Democratic Caucus-USA rally held on the Saturday before the election. Democratic bigwigs like Senators Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters were the highlight of the evening, which also included legendary Congressmen John Conyers and Sander Levin and Congresswomen Debbie Dingell and Brenda Lawrence. Just like four years ago when President Barack Obama was seeking re-election, there was plenty of enthusiasm in the hall. Organizer Nazmul Hassan Shahin frequently took to the stage at the Gates of Columbus Hall to whip up those in attendance. He made up a variation of Michelle Obama’s saying that when the president’s critics “go low, we go high.” Shahin urged those in the hall to repeat after him: “When they go low, we go up.” Although Clinton won the popular vote by a margin of one million votes, she lost the race to first reach 270 Electoral College votes.



State Democratic Party bigwigs, including Senators Debbie Stabenow (above) and Gary Peters (lower left), came out to a rally on the Saturday before last week’s election to promote Hillary Clinton for president. Despite the effort, Clinton failed to win in what is being called a historic election.



Taking it to the street: Protestors rail against anti-immigrant talk

Continued from front page

hate,” she said. “When he did win I was horrified.” Co-organizer Joe Fournier said he was also worried about how young people will interpret Trump’s win. “I’m concerned about an entire generation of fear kids,” he said. “We need to build a sense of

solidarity.” At the library, the Hamtramck Community Initiative held a town hall meeting. There, HCI member Sharon Buttry also echoed the sentiments of the protestors outside. “We want to make sure our neighbors feel welcomed,” Buttry said.



Scenes from last Monday’s protest march in Hamtramck against the immigration policy of President-Elect Donald Trump.





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Limit 4-tickets per family



Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

School Board now ushers in a new era of leadership

Last week voters decided to kick out two incumbent school boardmembers and replace them with two newcomers.

Between the two defeated Boardmembers, Hedy Shulgon and Jackie Starr, there was a combined 60-years-worth of experience with the public school district.

It's a shame that they were dumped by voters, but this is a democracy, and the voters spoke. We wish new Boardmembers Showkat Chowdhury and Moor-

tadha Obaid the best of luck.

The two new candidates also usher in a new era for the school district, an era where Bangladeshi- and Yemeni-Americans likely make up a majority of the city's population.

The school board now has a Muslim majority, which follows the pattern that has occurred already in the city council.

Our new population majority certainly deserves a seat at the table of government.

But winning an elec-

tion isn't everything. It takes dedication and a huge investment in time to govern a city and school district.

Shulgon and Starr spent countless hours behind the scenes in supporting the district. We hope to see that same dedication by our two new Boardmembers.

It seems heartless for Shulgon and Starr to be tossed aside, but that's how elections go. They deserve a huge thanks for the time and effort they devoted to the district.

Odds & Ends

On guard... a big thanks goes out to the Police Department for acting quickly on a call we made at The Review office Monday evening.

The staff noticed three suspicious looking males walking up and down Caniff, staring into cars. It looked to us like a smash and grab was about to take place.

A call went into the police, and minutes later two patrol cars were on the scene. We're not sure what happened after, but we appreciate the quick response.

Remember folks, the Police Department encourages you to call them whenever you see something out of place or suspicious. As they say,

better to be safe than sorry.

Rally... Local high school students will be holding a rally for "unity and peace" this Sunday, Nov. 20, at Veterans Park, starting at noon and going until 4 p.m.

Veterans Park is located on Jos. Campau, south of Holbrook.

"We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools."

— Martin Luther King, Jr.


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Sunday November 20th

Time: 12-4pm



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Letters • Letters

School Boardmember thanks voters for support

Thank you Hamtramck residents for entrusting me with making very important decisions for your children.

I was honored to serve you and the Hamtramck Public Schools. I now turn my baton over to Mr. Moortadha Obeid and Mr. Showkat Chowdhury. I congratulate both gentlemen on a great campaign and ask you to show them the same respect you have given me during my last two years on the Hamtramck School Board.

Forever Grateful ... Jackie Starr Hamtramck School Board Trustee

City should look into developing empty land

Why hasn't the city talked with the American Axle owner about land? They demolished most of their manufacturing plants and have a large portion of vacant land. We need housing and it could be funded through the federal government. Also, why hasn't the city initiated a vocational program into the high school options? This type of program would be eligible for federal grants. Children deserve every opportunity to have a fair chance with a quality life.

Kimberly Hudson Hamtramck



School Bell

Continued from page 3

conferences please contact your child's teacher to set up an appointment to discuss your child's progress.

Holbrook Elementary School News Upcoming Events

- Monday, November 28 – Bake sale after school.
- Tuesday, November 29 – Bake sale after school.
- Wednesday, November 30 – Birthday celebration from 2-3 p.m.

All Schools

- Wednesday, November 23 – Half day for students.
- Thursday, November 24-27 – No school for students. Thanksgiving break.
- Monday, November 28 – School resumes.

Upcoming Athletic Events

- Monday, November 28 – KMS Boys' Basketball vs. Eaton at 4:30 p.m. Away.
- Wednesday, November 30 – KMS Boys' Basketball vs. Voyageur at 4:30 p.m. Home (Community Center).

Compiled by

The Amazing CYNICALMAN®

by Matt Feazell



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Coming events

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, Dec. 3-4 – Our Lady Queen of Apostles is holding a Holiday Bake Sale on Saturday, Dec. 3, 5-7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 4, 8 - 11 a.m., in the Activities Center behind the church (enter off Harold street). Any donations of baked goods can be dropped off on Friday, Dec. 2 from 3-5 pm or Saturday, Dec. 3 from noon-2 p.m. All proceeds benefit the 100th Anniversary project. For more information, please contact the rectory at (313) 891-1520.

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

TUESDAY, Dec. 20, 6:30 p.m. – The Hamtramck NAACP meets every third Thursday on the month at the Hamtramck Senior Plaza, 2620 Holbrook. For more information, call the Rev. Darla Swint, (313) 523-7837.

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Every 2nd Monday of the Month

New bike shop ready to wheel into town next week

By Mike Murphy

If everything works out, Hamtramck will be getting a new bike shop by next week.

Wheelhouse Detroit/Hamtramck is planning on relocating from its spot at 1340 E. Atwater in Detroit to a new location at the corner of Florian and Jos. Campau on Nov. 25.

"We just wanted to expand into a neighborhood that needed a bike shop," Wheelhouse employee Tatiana Pastor said. "We're proud to be in Hamtramck. We love Hamtramck and we're just really excited to be there."

Wheelhouse will specialize in American-made retail, urban biking and bike equipment that can't be easily found, Pastor said.

"Mostly North American products that you can't buy anywhere else," Pastor said.

Wheelhouse features Kona Bikes, Brooklyn Bicycle Co. and Opus Bike.

In terms of American-made products, shoppers can find bicycles from Detroit Bikes; bags from Green Guru, Alchemy, Chrome Industries, Ironweed and Timbuk2; vehicle racks from Saris; locks from Kabletek; lights from Fortified; Park Tools; caps from Walz; and bottle cages from King Cage.

Initial plans had Wheelhouse opening in Hamtramck in September, but Pastor said the delay was due to the fact that building out the store took more time than the Wheelhouse crew thought it would.

"It always takes a little longer than expected," she said.

Like many urban areas in the U.S., the Detroit area is witnessing a

tremendous increase in bicycle usage on city streets. Due to the implementation of designated bike lanes and bike paths designated for bicyclists like the Dequindre Cut, more bike wheels are rolling in and around the city.

Detroit is also home to the Detroit Slow Ride, which is a weekly bicycle outing sponsored by non-profit group Detroit Bike City, Inc. These bike rides, which now sometimes attract thousands of bicyclists and are held in cooperation with the City of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, have inspired similar group to ride en masse in cities across the country.

But according to Pastor, Hamtramck is not bad at all when it comes to bicycle riding.

"I ride in Hamtramck, and I do pretty well," she

said. "You can always improve infrastructure but I'd say it's a pretty enjoyable city to ride a bike in."

Wheelhouse, which is owned by Kelli Kavanaugh, currently plans to sell new bikes and provide repair services and limited rentals. Wheelhouse employees will also provide limited tours of the area, Pastor said.

"We're also looking into carrying used bikes," Pastor said.

Wheelhouse will be hosting a Grand Opening celebration on Nov. 25, starting at 11 a.m. On Saturday (Nov. 26), Wheelhouse will celebrate Small Business Day with special deals: \$50 in free accessories and free installation on any bike purchase, a free patch kit with any purchase whatsoever and \$10 off a tune-up, and \$20 off for Hamtramck residents.

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The
Review
Hamtramck



By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers Nov. 8-14.

Tuesday, November 8

- At almost 2 a.m. a Detroit resident reported someone smashed out his driver side window and stole his wallet that was inside the car. The victim said his ATM card had already been used four times since the theft.
- A resident in the 3900 block of Caniff reported someone broke out the rear window of his 2003 Chevy. Another person in the same block reported the same thing happened to their car.
- A Belmont resident reported being assaulted by the father of their child.
- A Lumpkin resident reported a break-in.

Wednesday, November 9

- A resident in the 12000 block of Grand Haven reported a break-in.
- A Highland Park resident was taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital for a mental evaluation.
- A Detroit resident reported that someone stole items he owned from his girlfriend's residence on Dyar.
- A Caniff business reported an attempted armed robbery.

Thursday, November 10

- A Trowbridge resident reported someone broke into her car and stole \$10 worth of coins.
- A Caniff resident reported a break-in and the theft of several items.
- A Jos. Campau business reported a break-in.

Friday, November 11

- A person reported a possible assault that took place in the 9400 block of Conant.
- A Goodson resident reported someone damaged his residence.

Saturday, November 12

- A business owner in

the 11000 block of Jos. Campau reported a break-in. Another business owner in the 10000 block of Campau also reported a break-in.

- Officers arrested a suspect after a foot chase for a robbery in the 12100 block of Conant.
- A resident in the 12000 block of Fleming reported the theft of her license plate.
- A resident reported money was taken from him while he was trying to purchase two cellphones from a cellphone salesman.

Sunday, November 13

- A resident in the 16000 block of Jos. Campau reported the windshields of his cars were broken out.
- A resident in the 8900 block of Lumpkin reported a break-in.
- The owner of a building in the 8800 block of Conant reported a break-in. The suspect then smashed about 20 windows once inside.
- A man reported being assaulted while in front of a residence in the 11600 block of McDougall.

Monday, November 14

- Hanley Academy reported a break-in and the theft of seven laptops.
- A person was arrested for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant after an investigation at Fleming and Commor.

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