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50¢

The Review

Hamtramck



www.hamtramckreview.com • e-mail news@thehamtramckreview.com



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Quick Hits

Happy New Year!


The last days of 2017 are counting down, and the New Year will be upon us this Monday.

New Year's Eve is a big party night in Hamtramck, and we certainly have many bars and restaurants to celebrate in. Bars, of course, can stay open until 4 a.m., so have fun, folks.

We had many highlights in 2017, and in the columns to the right of this space you can read about all the excitement for the last half of the year.

Next week, we will present the Newsmaker of the Year.

Stay tuned.



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.

“Hamtramck is the new development city.”

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Looking back on the year 2017, part two ...

By Charles Sercombe

Welcome back to the second half of our annual Year in Review. This week we look at the last six months of 2017.

JULY

It's been said for a number of years that today's kids don't get enough exercise.

There's a national effort to change that. The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation and Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan

Ralph Wilson, Jr. was the former owner of the Buffalo Bills football team. He died a few years ago, but his wife, Mary, is carrying on the foundation's mission. She was also on hand and said her husband's foundation is prepared to donate millions of dollars to local programs across the country that promote kids being more physically active.

It was hoped that Hamtramck would apply for a grant to start up a program



Two public discussions were held to get a sense of what residents want to see in their next city manager.

rolled out its programs to get more kids active during a media event held at Keyworth Stadium.

The statistics, compiled by the Aspen Institute and available in a study called “Project Play,” are pretty grim.

Nationally only 27 percent of kids play at least one hour a day, which is considered the minimum amount needed for kids to be healthy and in shape. In Detroit, it's worse at 10 percent.

“We're in a health crisis in this country,” said David Egner, President and CEO of Wilson Foundation. “It's only going to get worse if we don't do something about it now.”

here.

For a moment it appeared Police Chief Anne Moise would be the city's acting city manager.

On her way out of the city, City Manager Katrina Powell made the appointment, but didn't make it known until the day before her employment contract expired.

The council had the right to reject that appointment and appoint its own acting city manager.

The council indeed made its own appointment. The council tapped Kathy Angerer, who has served the city in several roles for the past several years. That appointment —



The purchase of a former charter school on Hanley went through for the public school district.

unlike two other attempts by council — managed to stick this time around.

Before Powell exited the city, she had some cutting words for city officials at the monthly Receivership Transition Advisory Board meeting. The RTAB is state appointed and oversees the city's finances.

The army veteran likened her two-and-a-half year stay here as something similar to a soldier being deployed in a hostile environment.

“I never planned on staying here longer than my two-and-a-half years, because when on deployment, you go into a hostile environment, you correct all that you can as quickly as you can, you take care of the troops who take care of you, and you leave the location in a much better place than it was when you got there,” Powell said in her farewell speech.

She went on to accuse — but not name — those seeking elected office and holding elected positions of “bullying” community members and committing election fraud and drug dealing.

“The election fraud and drug dealing are real in

this town,” she said.

In closing she said:

“You see, I'm not an operative of the former EM, or the Governor, who I've never met, by the way, like some officials, city officials, former city attorneys, obstructionists, or newspapers want you to think I am. I'm just a girl who likes a challenge and to make the world a better place, one mission at a time. I can undeniably say



Mayor Karen Majewski celebrates her re-election to office with campaign supporters. She will now serve her fourth term.

I've completed the mission. KP out.”

A charter school's loss was the public school district's gain.

In order to make room for expanding student enrollment, the school district purchased an

additional building.

School Superintendent Tom Niczay announced that the district purchased the former building that housed the charter school American International Studies located on Hanley.

The building, which also includes a parking lot and house next-door, cost \$3 million.

The former charter school was forced to close after it lost its authorizing sponsor. Central Michigan University dropped its sponsorship because of low student grades.

But the sale hit a slight snag and the deal did not go through until October. The school's new name is Tau Beta Elementary School and it will open this January.

Hamtramck's election season slowly started showing signs of life.

The Bangladeshi Ameri-

can Political Action Committee (BAPAC) hosted a candidate forum at its Conant storefront office, but only three candidates showed up.

And only seven others came to meet them.

Continued on page 3

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School Bell

School Board

• The School Board will hold an organizational meeting on Jan. 17, 6:30 p.m. in the Administrative Office, 3201 Roosevelt.

All Schools

• Saturday, December 23- January 7 – No school for students and staff. Winter Break.

• Monday, January 8 – School resumes for all students.

Recreation

Department News

• Winter Break Schedule: The Community Center will be closed December 25-26 and January 1-2. Special Hours: December 27-December 29 and January 3-January 5 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

• Girls Volleyball: Start date TBA. Time: 4 p.m.

Grades 4th – 8th Uniform provided, \$15 resident. \$25 non-resident.

• Junior League Basketball: Co-Ed. Ages 8-13. Locations KMS/DW, D. East, Holbrook. Starts Saturday January 20th at Community Center at 1 p.m. \$15 resident. \$25 non-resident.

• Soccer Clinic: Co-Ed ages 7-13. Practice held at the Community Center. Starts Saturday, January 20, \$15 resident. \$25 non-resident.

• Open Basketball: For students ages 11- 18. High school students need student ID for entry. December 27-29 and January 3-5 from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Free.

**Compiled by
Janice Gandelman**

NORTH



Arnold “Arnie” North, 87, died December 27, 2017.

Mr. North is survived by his children, Carmen (Dennis), Sheily (Kevin); grandchildren, Courtney (Matthew), Trevor (Stephanie), Tanya (Paul), Terra (Robert), Coren (Walter), Kevin; great grandchildren, Mia, Mason, Hudson, Mila, Christian, Jolie, Landon, Harper; brother-in-law, Richard Czarnik. Mr. North was preceded in death by his wife, Theresa and his sister, Shirley Czarnik.

Arnie was the owner of Adams Corner Bar.

Private services were held by the family. Arrangements were entrusted to Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home in Hamtramck.

WRIGHT



Odell Wright, 65, died, December 17, 2017.

Born in McColl City, Marlboro County, South Carolina. Preceded in death by his mother Darkess Wright Chojnowski, father Nathan Wright, step fa-

ther Roman Peter Chojnowski, and siblings Nathan Thomas Wright, and Evetta Pavlica. Odell is survived by his daughters, Bonnie (Jonathon Cassidy) Collins-Cassidy and Heidi (Robert) Barnes. He is also survived by his siblings, Iona Montfort, Annetta Wright, Nathalea (Gary) Denys, Parnell (Mary Ellen) Wright, Darkess (Dennis) Redwick; many grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. His dearest partner, Marie Kendzierski and will truly be missed by all. Memorial Visitation was Thursday December 28, 2017 at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, Hamtramck.

WARDA

Timothy Warda, 71, died December 23, 2017.

Mr. Timothy Warda was the loving husband of Joanne; father of Scott

(Wendy); grandfather of Kiersten. Mr. Warda is survived by his brothers, Donald (the late Patricia), Marvin (the late Geraldine); many nieces and nephews.

Visitation was December 26th, and the funeral Mass was December 27th, at St. Ladislaus Catholic Church. Arrange-

ments were entrusted to Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home in Hamtramck.



As the church bells ring proclaiming the birth of Christ we at **Our Lady Queen of Apostles Parish**

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Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

Regular Mass (Polish & English).....9:30 am
Christmas Vigil Family Mass (English).....4:00 pm
Solemn Midnight Mass (Polish & English)12:00 am
Preceded by the singing of Christmas Carols11:30 pm

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day

Mass in Polish & English9:30 am

Sunday, December 31 - New Year's Eve8:00 am, 9:30 am

Monday, January 1 - New Years Day

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - Mass (Polish & English)....11:00 am

Saturday, January 6 - Mass (English)5:30 pm

Sunday, January 7 - Epiphany of the Lord

MassEnglish 8:00am, Polish 9:30 am
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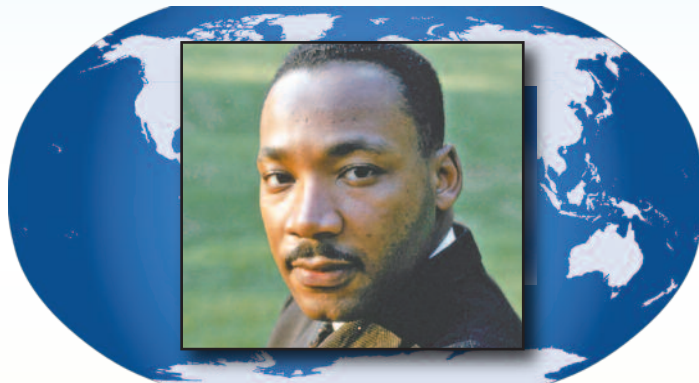
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This week at the library...

Holiday hours – The Hamtramck Public Library will be closed to the public from Saturday, December 23 through Monday, January 1, 2018. The Library will reopen Tuesday, January 2 at 11a.m. The staff would like to wish everyone a joyous holiday season.

2018 Free Tax Services – Free service for those whose annual household income is less than \$54,000. Monday, February 5-March 26, 10 a.m. to 4p.m. Closed February 19,

2018. Call (734) 284-699 for an appointment.

ABCmouse.com – Now available at the Hamtramck Public Library, ABCmouse.com is a free digital learning resource for children ages 2-8+. With more than 8,500 Learning Activities and 850 lessons, ABCmouse.com is the most comprehensive early learning curriculum available online. Ask your library staff for more details.

Michigan Activity Pass – The pass will en-

able 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. The library is located at 2360 Caniff.

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

Second Front Page

Looking back on the year 2017, part two ... Continued from front page

Unfortunately, this lack-luster show of interest has been the norm for the past several years as most of the action takes place behind-the-scenes – in social clubs, cultural events and house-to-house.

Despite the low-turnout, the forum had plenty of spirit. Increasingly, the Bangladeshi community has become a major player in elections, and now makes up a large percentage of active voters.

A couple more forums were held during the campaign season, each one gaining more attention.

AUGUST

While many high school students were relaxing their way through summer vacation, a handful of them were getting their first taste of the work world.

This was the fifth year General Motors partnered with the city and public school district to offer a 10-week paid internship program to a lucky 10 students. Some 68 students applied.

The students were from Hamtramck High School, some entering their junior year and others finishing up as seniors.

They continued work in Veterans Park, this year overhauling the memorial site, and also painting the downstairs hallway at Holbrook Elementary School.

The Detroit City Football Club capped its season with exciting post-season play, and set a record for attendance.

The DCFC lost its final game 4 goals to 2 in front of a record-setting crowd of 7,533 – which eclipsed the club's previous attendance record of 7,410 fans.

The power of the incumbency once again proved itself to be a sure bet in Hamtramck's Primary Election.

Mayor Karen Majewski easily sailed through the election, and was set to face-off with challenger Mohammed Hassan in the November General Election.

Hassan was currently a city councilmember. He ran for mayor instead of asking voters for another term on council.

Majewski was seeking her fourth term, and judging by her election victory margin she appeared likely

get it. Hassan finished a distant second, 466 votes behind.

The winner of the November election would go on to serve a four-year term.

City Council incumbents Andrea Karpinski and Ian Perrotta also survived. Perrotta, however, finished third, just a few votes be-



The owner of the Jos. Campau-Belmont building – the tallest structure on the city's main business district – put the building up for sale after sitting on it for three years.

hind new challenger Nayeem Leon Choudhury. Karpinski was the top finisher, beating Choudhury by over 100 votes.

Hamtramck's tallest office building was once again up for sale.

According to Crain's Detroit Business, Dennis Kefallinos was selling what is commonly called the Belmont Building, located at 10201 Jos. Campau – in the heart of the city's main shopping district.

The building was one of 30 non-residential buildings Kefallinos put up for sale. It was not known



The Detroit City Football Club celebrated a new record in attendance, and by the looks of it, the club's popularity will continue to grow.

what the asking price was for the four-story building.

Kefallinos had been purchasing properties for a few decades, but he had also come under criticism for neglecting them. In Hamtramck there were high hopes that the Belmont Building would be renovated for retail on the ground floor and a combination of living spaces on the upper floors.

Kefallinos bought the building three years ago for \$85,000. The city sold the building through an auction. At first there was an initial burst of work done, but soon renovations stopped. At one point the sidewalk in front of the building had to be fenced off because part of the brick façade began falling

off. Since work stopped Kefallinos has paid a \$300 yearly fee for keeping the building vacant. Local TV news cameras were focused on the streets surrounding Pulaski Park during August. Neighbors complained about young drivers speeding down the one-way streets surrounding the park, and one Norwalk resident even caught a driver burning his tires at the intersection of Norwalk and Lumpkin.

"The police have been almost completely absent

plenty after someone is killed," said Catherine Roach on her Facebook page after submitting a recording of speeders and reckless drivers to WXYZ Channel 7 news.

The concern was that a child would be hit by one of the drivers. Pulaski Park was packed with kids and families in the early evenings. That's also when teenage boys and older males congregate at the Norwalk and Lumpkin corner.

The Review spent an evening witnessing the goings-on, and indeed there were speeding drivers and a group of youths at the intersection. Often the youths would shout out "F – you" to no one in particular, and in other instances cars with young males would drive by with passengers giving the finger to those at the intersection.

One neighbor who declined to be identified said the situation was "out of control."

It was easy picking for thieves over at the American Axle & Manufacturing plant site.

For several weeks about a dozen Ford 150-Pickup trucks had been stolen from the company's lots on Holbrook and St. Aubin. Police weren't sure of the total number because portions of the lots are on the Detroit side of the Hamtramck border.

Hamtramck Police Chief Anne Moise said it appeared truck thieves were jumping over the fence around the lots and crashing through locked gates, or driving out behind the lots where the railroad tracks are located.

There were a few hundred new trucks being stored on the lots waiting for shipment out to various dealers. Over the past few years Ford has been using the lots for its overflow stock.

On the way out of city hall, former City Manager Katrina Powell took some-

thing with her.

A city-issued laptop computer.

She left a check to pur-

for her to purchase it, and that the city does not want to sell it.

The issue was resolved



Kathy Angerer (on phone) has held several positions with the city in recent years. She was tapped to become acting city manager.

chase it for \$1,200, and claimed to have city permission to do so. She said Mayor Karen Majewski signed off on the deal. Powell said that City Attorney John Clark also authorized the purchase.

But according to Acting City Manager Kathy Angerer that was not accurate. She said Clark insisted there was no deal

several weeks later when Powell agreed to return the computer.

SEPTEMBER

There are cool cars, and then there are cars from the Dead Last Car Club.

The car club once again sponsored a custom car show outside Kelly's bar on Holbrook. These were no

Continued on page 4

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Looking back on the year 2017, part two ... Continued from page 3

ordinary cars. Many of the vintage cars were modified by the owners, and could be considered works of art.

For some, the rustier and “rattier” they looked the better. These are folks who live the life of rat rodders: cool 1950s haircuts, greasy jeans, gals with bobbed hair and 50s-style dresses and jeans and plenty of beer and obscure rockabilly music.

This year’s show seemed to double in size compared to last year’s, with cars parked on the side street of the bar and also up and down Holbrook.



The city finally got up to speed to fight blight by allowing the city to enter onto private property and cut tall grass. The city will then pass on the bill to do the work to the property owner.

This was the first step in what will eventually be the repaving of all city alleys. The project this year included the total repaving of:

The cost of the project was \$204,000. Each ally portion took about two weeks to finish. In total it took about six weeks to complete this year’s project.

For years people complained about neighbors who don’t cut their grass.

While the city had the authority to ticket property owners, it had no power to do what many other cities are able to do: Have someone cut the grass and pass on the bill to the homeowner.

Why the city never got up to speed with other communities was just one of the many mysteries of Hamtramck. The short answer is: dysfunction.

But finally, the city took the first steps to remedy those past omissions. Acting City Manager Kathy Angerer brought before the city council an ordinance update to allow the city to

enter onto private property and cut the offending grass and pass on the charge to the property owner.

Under the law, the city has the right to cut a homeowner’s grass if it is five inches or more in height.

The ongoing war in Yemen and rising number of civilian casualties drew about 100 people to Zussman Park.

They came to protest against those causing the aggression, and the lack of interest by the U.S. government.

Osama Siblani, the publisher of the Arab-American News, which is headquartered in Dearborn, said the US “should be ashamed at itself for not stopping the killing in Yemen.”

He urged those at the gathering to contact their representatives in Congress, and urge them to have the government intervene in what was becoming a growing humanitarian crisis.

Siblani also criticized President Trump for not bringing up the issue when he recently visited Saudi Arabia. That country has been bombing what it considers terrorist sites.

He said Trump should have told Saudi leaders to “stop bombing the hell out of Yemen.”

At this time over 7,000 people had been killed, and about 50,000 injured.

The search for a new city manager included two public discussions.

The goal of the discussions, hosted by GovHR, the search firm hired by the city, was to get public input on what qualities the community wants in the next city manager.

The consensus was that the next city manager has to be aware of the ethnic diversity of the city, be able to bridge the often contentious political divide among elected officials, and keep the city financially sound.

Hamtramck’s relationship with past city managers has not been smooth, and it’s been a revolving door for city managers over the past 10 years. The city is also still

under the supervision of a state-appointed financial advisory board.

Former City Manager Katrina Powell continued to

“factor” in the incident.

The landscape of Caniff will undergo a radical change starting next spring.



About 200 people gathered at Zussman Park to protest the ongoing bombing of Yemen. Many in attendance were Yemeni-Americans.

make news.

It came to light that her assistant got a little extra something after she left her job in April.

In May, contrary to the terms of DanNisha Reeder’s employment contract, she received a \$2,461 payout for her unused vacation and personal time off (PTO), according to city records obtained by The Review through a Freedom of Information Act request.

According to Reeder’s contract, also obtained by The Review through a Freedom of Information Act request, she had to use her vacation time and PTO hours or lose them.

The contract specifically says: “Such vacation and PTO leave, if not utilized, shall be lost and have no value.”

It is not clear why Reeder

At a Hamtramck Design Showcase, developer George Nosis unveiled his company’s plan to build a four-story building that will be a combination of retail and office spaces on the ground floor and lofts on the top three.

“Hamtramck is the new development city,” Nosis said. “We are going to see some major growth in the city.”

Nosis’ development company, Sparta Development, now owns six lots next to Planet Ant Hall. He said groundbreaking should begin by April or May.

There was much concern over the safety of local women.

During October two Hamtramck women reported being abducted and sexually assaulted – while bik-

Happy New Year Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku!

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OCTOBER

Hamtramck’s problem with reckless and speeding drivers continued to grow.

On a Monday night, at about 10 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 was from Dearborn Heights, was ejected from the car and remained in critical condition. Police Chief Anne Moise said alcohol was a

ing in the earlier incident and walking in the second – in the area of the Russell Industrial Center, located near the Hamtramck border with Detroit.

A third abduction happened in the area of Denton and St. Aubin.

Detroit police were able to arrest two Detroit males, one in his 30s and another in his 20s. Police said the suspects were serial rapists believed to be connected with the recent attacks and may have been involved in other incidents.

The assaults prompted a meeting of local residents at the Outer Limits Lounge on Caniff near the Hamtramck border. Most of those who attended were women, who said they will start up several prevention and awareness programs.

Councilmember Anam Miah was spared being kicked off the city council.

Carrie Beth Lasley, a gov-

Continued on page 5

Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

The year ahead: It looks like a year of change

The year 2018 looks like an exciting one for Hamtramck.

This is the year that city officials will be presented with candidates wishing to become our next city manager. Hamtramck’s reputation for being a politically divided minefield for city managers has not played in our favor before.

Elected officials have to seriously work on their skills in getting along.

Despite this obstacle – and it’s a major one – we have faith that a new city manager will be hired in the coming weeks.

It would also be nice if this turns out to be the year the state-appointed financial advisory board – which has been here for three years – were to dissolve and allow full local control to return.

That financial board has played a minimal role in shaping the city’s finances, and we wonder what’s keeping it here. Other cities that came under the control of a state-appointed emergency manager and then an advisory board have been allowed to return to local control.

What is holding Hamtramck back?

On the positive side, we see huge gains being made in economic development, and more and more empty storefronts being bought up and filled with unique businesses.

Hamtramck is giving Detroit – the comeback city – a run for that title.

We will be here to chronicle the weekly events of the city in the new year, and we once again thank our readers and advertisers for their support.

Looking back on the year 2017, part two ... Continued from page 4

ernment watchdog, had submitted documentation to the city showing that in 2015 Miah lost property he owned in Detroit to foreclosure after failing to keep on top of property tax payments.

According to the City Charter, any public official who falls behind on bills owed to Hamtramck or any other government agency is a “defaulter” and thus disqualified from holding office.

In a letter to Lasley, which Lasley shared with The Review, City Attorney John Clark looked past the city charter and referred to the definition of a defaulter in Black’s Law Dictionary.

According to that definition, Miah was past being in default at the time of his election, and thus not guilty of being in default to the city.

bought the building that had housed the Academy of International Studies, located on Hanley.

Included in the \$3 million purchase is another building next door to the school and a parking lot.

Some 150 former students at the charter school enrolled in the public school district.

The building will reopen under the control of the school district on Jan. 29. It will serve students in kindergarten through 8th grade.

cused on a space heater sparking the fire in the second or third floor.

By the time firefighters arrived at 4:30 p.m., the



A fierce fire swept through a two-story house on Trowbridge. No one was injured, but it was found out that an improperly attached space heater caused the fire. Ten people lived in the house.

Public Schools’ purchase of a former charter school building finally went through.

The district had hoped to open the school last fall, but negotiations over the sale hit a snag, said Superintendent Tom Niczay.

“Certain terms and conditions in the purchase agreement could not be fulfilled,” Niczay said.

At a school board meeting, he said the purchase was finalized. The district

lion purchase is another building next door to the school and a parking lot.

Some 150 former students at the charter school enrolled in the public school district.

The building will reopen under the control of the school district on Jan. 29. It will serve students in kindergarten through 8th grade.

A combination of high winds and combustible material led to a fierce house fire at Trowbridge and Gallagher.

There were no injuries, despite the fast moving flames and intense heat.

Fire Chief Dan Hagen said early speculation fo

upper floors of the house were already engulfed. Upon further investigation it was revealed that the owner of the house had failed to register the dwelling as a rental unit, which meant there had been no city inspection of it.

An inspection would have caught the cause of the fire – an improperly installed space heater.

Some 10 people lived in the house, which also included an illegal apartment in the attic.

Michigan State Police became a part of this year’s city election.

State police confirmed a

Continued on page 6

RECYCLED TREASURES

8TH ANNUAL

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3385 Norwalk
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Dickinson West Elementary
2333 Burger
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K-6th grades

Early Childhood Elementary
11680 McDougall
(313) 891-3200
K-2nd grades

Holbrook Elementary
2361 Alice
(313) 872-3203
K-8th grades

Tau Beta School
3056 Hanley
(313) 892-3811
K-8th grades

Kosciuszko Middle School
2333 Burger
(313) 365-4625
7th-8th grades

Hamtramck High School
11410 Charest
(313) 892-7505
9th-12th grades

Horizon High School
3225 Caniff
(313) 893-2214
9th-12th grades

Looking back on the year 2017, part two ... Continued from page 5

rumor that had been circulating around town that they were investigating election fraud.

State police spokesman Lt. Mike Shaw said investigators were here for two

“This is going to be a very intensive investigation,” Shaw said.

No arrests have been made so far.

Shaw said he could not comment on what initiated



The Ukrainian community celebrated the opening of their new museum on Jos. Campau.

months looking at possible incidents of fraud.

He could not go into great detail, but did confirm that search warrants had been acted on, people were questioned, and items and documents were confiscated.

the investigation.

The investigation came to light at a council meeting when council candidate Nayeem Leon Choudhury spoke about his father being “detained” and having his car impounded and election items seized.

State police also raided Choudhury’s business on Conant and removed election items.

Choudhury is a Bangladeshi-American. He finished second in the August Primary Election.

NOVEMBER

As the November General Election neared, concern grew over the unusually high number of absentee ballots being issued to voters.

In the last mayoral election year – 2013 – a total of 788 people voted by AV ballot. The total voter turnout that year was over 2,500.

By early November of this year’s election, 1,462 AV ballots were issued and about half were returned.

The issue of AV ballots raised a red flag and underscored an ongoing concern: The Michigan State Police were investigating whether there are people – and possibly some candidates – who were illegally handling the ballots. The investigation includes peo-

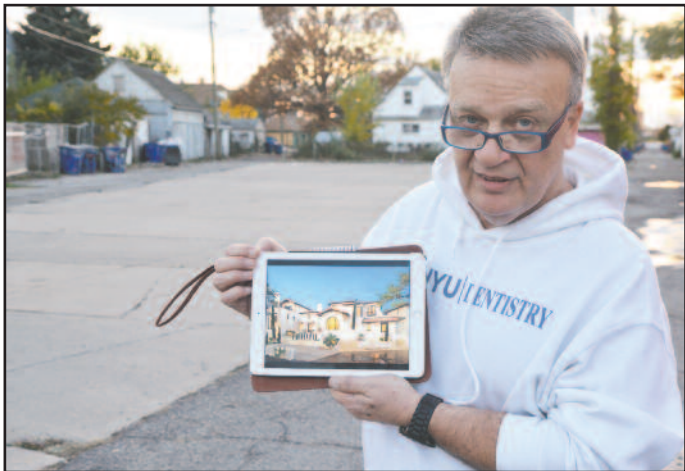
ple marking up absentee ballots for voters in favor of their candidates.

■ ■ ■

In a stunning victory, Mayor Karen Majewski and her slate of city council candidates swept the November General Election.

Majewski will now be entering her fourth term.

In the city council race, both incumbents Andrea Karpinski and Ian Perrotta will return with a new member, Fadel Al-Marsoumi.



Dr. Sami Bilani unveiled his plan to build townhouses next to his dental practice on Brombach and Florian.

Councilmember Mohammed Hassan lost his bid to unseat Mayor Majewski by a 2-1 margin.

Hassan opted not to run for re-election to city council and instead challenged Majewski.

■ ■ ■

The Ukrainian community celebrated the opening of a new home for their museum.

The Ukrainian Museum had a grand opening on Nov. 11, which included a ribbon cutting ceremony.

“The Ukrainian-American Archives and Museum serves a vital role not only

ing spirit, and passing this down to future generations,” said museum representative Nadia Juzych.

■ ■ ■

Hamtramck’s comeback continued on its roll.

Several weeks earlier a developer announced a major project that will transform empty lots on Caniff into a combination of offices and lofts.

And then came Dr. Sami Bilani, who unveiled his plan to build five townhouses on a parking lot attached to his dental office on Brombach near Florian.

He presented his project to the Zoning Board of Appeals, which was asked to waive several building requirements.

At the meeting, Bilani, a native of Lebanon who graduated from New York University as a dentist, gave a background on why he wants to build in Hamtramck.

You can thank his two sons.

Bilani, who has been practicing in Hamtramck for 25 years, told the ZBA

Continued on page 8

— **Welcome All** —

“Christmas for Kids Worship”

Dec. 24, 11 a.m. and Dec. 31, 11 a.m.

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west of Joseph Campau

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Parcel 1G Kovac Ln, Dryden Twp - 6.47 acres - \$91,900 - PENDING!
Elandell Lane, Attica Twp., 2.5 acres - \$34,900
Rochester Rd., Dryden Twp.- 3.62 acres - \$34,899
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Rochester Hills
2905 Woodelm Dr. - \$219,900
Marlette
6328 Marlette St - Marlette-\$17,900 - HANDYMAN SPECIAL! NEW PRICE!
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CRIME LOG

By Charles Sercombe
This week's Crime Log covers Dec. 17-22.

Sunday, December 17

- A resident in the 3900 block of Trowbridge reported the theft of his license plate.
- A Danforth resident was taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital for a possible drug overdose.

Monday, December 18

- At 12:30 a.m. a resident was arrested in the Edwin/Alpena area for possessing narcotics and being wanted on warrants.
- A person reported as being missing from Indianapolis was located in Hamtramck.
- A Gallagher resident reported someone damaged his vehicle.
- A resident in the 3100 block of Hanley reported someone damaged her car.
- Two Detroit residents were arrested after a traffic stop for possessing narcotics and being

wanted on warrants.

- A Nagel resident reported the theft of his car.

Tuesday, December 19

- A resident was arrested after a traffic stop for driving without a license and being wanted on warrants.
- A Detroit resident was arrested after a traffic stop for driving without a license, possessing narcotics and being wanted on warrants.
- A McDougall resident reported someone damaged his vehicle.
- A Yemans resident reported her vehicle stolen.
- A resident from the state of Washington was found extremely intoxicated and not knowing where he lived. He was taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital.

Wednesday, December 20

- A Florian resident re-

Continued on page 8

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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, January 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Hamtramck's Recycle Center is open at Caniff and McDougall. Drop off your recyclables for free.



Looking back on the year 2017, part two ... Continued from page 6

After waiting for a little over a year, Hamtramck po-

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ported someone broke into her vehicle.

- A resident in the 3100 block of Jacob reported someone slashed three of his car tires.
- A Detroit resident was arrested after a traffic stop for driving without a license. He had 21 previous convictions of this violation. The resident was also illegally carrying a gun.
- An intoxicated resident in an apartment building in the 3500 block of Caniff was found wandering the halls of the building while exposing himself and threaten-

ing to shoot people in the head.

Thursday, December 21

- A Grand Haven resident reported an assault and battery.
- A person reported someone keyed their car while it was parked in the Falcon/Yemans area.

Friday, December 22

- A Charest resident reported a break-in.
- A Trowbridge resident reported being robbed by a person they know.
- A resident in the 12000 block of Selfridge reported another resident in the area brandished a gun.