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The Review

Hamtramck

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

3236 Caniff St. • Hamtramck 48212



Quick Hits

It's time to unveil the new Zussman Park.

Next Thursday (Dec. 10) at 7 p.m. the city will hold a “Lighting up Hamtramck” ceremony at the park, which is located across from city hall.

Here is what the city has to say about the event:

Over the last several months, Zussman Park has undergone a major renovation, which included decorative lighting, sidewalks, benches, parking spaces, greenery and the creation of an outdoor ampitheatre. While there are a few items remaining on the list to finish, Zussman Park is nearly complete.

In addition to Zussman Park, the City of Hamtramck invested in two other parks owned by the City, Pope Park and Veteran's Park.

“Our city parks are now showplaces that our community can be proud of, and we can think of no better way to celebrate the holiday season, than to dedicate Zussman Park and begin using this fabulous city resource, on a regular basis, for sensational events,” said City Manager Katrina Powell.



— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Goodfellows hit the streets for annual newspaper sale

By Charles Sercombe

If you see a Goodfellows volunteer in the streets today (Friday, Dec. 4) holding up an issue of The Review, dig deep into your pockets.

This Friday is the annual Hamtramck Goodfellows paper drive. The Goodfellows need to raise at least \$5,000 in order to supply food vouchers to about 250 needy individuals and families.

“We want every kid to have a Christmas dinner,” said Chris Cornwell, Co-Chair of the Hamtramck Goodfellows.

The group already received a nice boost in donations from the Hamtramck Moose Lodge, which recently handed over a check worth \$1,000.

In Hamtramck there is definitely a need for help. Over half of Hamtramck's residents are living in or near poverty, and in the public schools almost every child qualifies for a free



Goodfellows volunteers pose for their annual group photo in front of city hall. This Friday (Dec. 4), volunteers will be hitting the streets to sell a special issue of The Review to raise funds for the Goodfellows. The group will be distributing food coupons to about 250 needy families and individuals.

lunch.

Over the past 10 years the Goodfellows have been able to build a cash reserve, but with the need still out there and the donations not as plentiful, it's been hard.

Applications for a food voucher, which can be redeemed at A&C Market on Jos. Campau and Jacob, or at Sam's Market at Commor

and Fleming, are available at city hall, the fire station and the public housing administration office.

Individuals and families are invited to apply for the vouchers. The value of the vouchers depends on the need of each family. Applications are due Dec. 11, so don't delay.

Coupons will be mailed

out shortly after the application deadline. The value of the coupon will depend on the number of people in the household that is applying.

To make a donation, make out a check to the Hamtramck Goodfellows and mail it to: Hamtramck Fire Department, 2625 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212.

Detroit Goodfellows also pitch in to help the needy



Students and staffmember Denis Weber (front right) from Loyola High School help with unloading gift boxes from the Detroit Goodfellows at the Hamtramck Housing Administration building that will be distributed to Hamtramck kids.



School Boardmember Dennis Lukas (far right) poses with fellow Moose Lodge members who made a \$1,000 donation to the Hamtramck Goodfellows.

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck's needy are getting an additional helping hand this holiday season from the Detroit Goodfellows.

Thanks to the connections of Kevin Kondrat, the Director of Public Housing, the Detroit group is supplying 1,700 boxes of clothing and other items for boys and girls here in town.

On Wednesday, several students from Loyola High School, a private school that offers scholarships to many underprivileged youths, helped out with unloading the boxes at the Hamtramck Housing Administration building.

The Detroit Goodfellows will distribute 34,000 boxes throughout the metro area. That effort requires raising \$1.1 million a year, said organizer Conrad Koski.

“It's getting harder and harder,” he said about raising that amount of money.

While some parts of the country have bounced back from the recession of several years ago, Detroit – and Hamtramck – has a long way to go.

Kondrat said many of the kids in public housing will be receiving a gift box, and so will many others throughout Hamtramck.

Media outlets still focus on the city

By Charles Sercombe

There appears to be no let up from the international media's fascination with Hamtramck.

By all accounts the November General Election was historical. The new council, which will seat in January, will be composed of a Muslim majority.

Four out of the council's six seats will be occupied by Muslims – which is apparently a first for any city in the nation. That milestone has prompted a swarm of media outlets to visit Hamtramck.

A number of the articles have focused on the cultural diversity of the city, and also Mayor Karen Majewski's reaction to the election results.

Hamtramck was once dominated by Polish-

Continued on page 2

HHS links up with football

Want to own a piece of the Detroit City Football Club?

The club is seeking funds to fix up Keyworth Stadium where the club's soccer team will be playing starting next spring.

They have a unique funding plan where you can loan them money and later get paid back with some profit to boot.

To be a part of the club, go to the Hamtramck High School website at www.hamtramck.k12.mi.us/

Once you get there, scroll down and there will be a link to the Football Club's investment plan.

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Media outlets still focus on the city

Continued from front page

Americans but now has a sizeable Bengali and Yemeni population, most of whom are of the Muslim faith. According to Census figures the city is now anywhere from 40 to 50 percent Muslim.

One of the more bizarre media encounters the mayor experienced was with a CNN anchor who asked her point-blank if she was afraid of this new Muslim majority.

After correcting the reporter's mispronunciation of her name, Majewski calmly replied that not only is she not afraid, most residents are more concerned about potholes in the streets rather than who runs city government.

"The issues for most of our residents are: Can we fix the streets? . . . The streetlight that's out in front of my house, can we get that fixed? They're local issues," she said.

In a recent story by The Telegraph, a British publication, a headline about the city cried out in alarm: "Refugee debate stokes tensions in Hamtramck, America's Muslim capital"

Refugees? Hamtramck is "America's Muslim capital"? When did all this happen? And what tensions?

Mayor Majewski blasted the report, calling it "sensational."

"Some members of the media have tried to exploit our differences to make a sensational story," she said in an email to The Review. "We ARE sensational, but not because we are afraid of each other. We are sensational because every day we work to live out the great lesson that

binds the world's religions and frames our moral principles: we strive to live peaceably and respectfully with each other."

Although the headline of that story was over the top, the story itself was fairly balanced and gave an accurate snapshot of Hamtramck's diversity.

And as for the refugees in question, there are indeed six families from Syria who are now living here thanks to the graciousness of a local Syrian businessman and landlord who immigrated here over 40 years ago.

In some of the rightwing stories on the election, it was erroneously claimed that the Muslim Sharia Law immediately took effect. Their proof? They claimed that alcohol can no longer be consumed or sold within 500 feet of mosques.

No such thing has been enacted.

But what they are likely referring to is a state law – yes, state law – that has such a restriction for any religious center or school. But, there are always exceptions to this rule, which can be found no further than the liquor store located on Caniff and Charest, just across the alley from Hamtramck High School.

While you'd think every angle has been picked over here in Hamtramck, Majewski said there are still reporters and photographers stopping by her store looking for an interview.

"All the attention given to Hamtramck in the last two weeks has been

somewhat of a surprise — we thought we were just living our normal lives here, but evidently the world thinks we're a pretty interesting and significant place!" she told The Review.

"While all the attention can get unnerving, we all need to take advantage of this opportunity to get Hamtramck's story out there. What is our story? That Hamtramck has always welcomed people from all over the world, and that that essential part of our legacy continues. That although we have our differences, overall we manage to ac-

cept and get along with our neighbors. That while you can isolate yourself in the suburbs, in Hamtramck we live close to each other, we interact with our neighbors on our streets, in our shops, in our schools, in city hall, and on our own front porches. This is what binds us as a community, and what forms our identity."

While Hamtramck is in the limelight now, so to speak, one wonders if reporters will circle back once the Muslim majority on council take their seat.

Hamtramck Academy
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OPEN ENROLLMENT NOTICE
Open enrollment for the 2016-2017 academic school year ends on 2/29/2016 at 5:00 p.m. Applications are available for grades K - 8 and can be obtained at the school, at www.NHAschools.com or by calling 866-NHA-ENROLL. Should the number of applications received during open enrollment exceed available seats, a random-selection drawing will be necessary. The drawing, if needed, will be held on 3/2/2016 at 1:30 p.m. in the School Multi-Purpose Room. Applications received after open enrollment will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis for remaining open seats. Waiting lists will be formed accordingly.

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Hamtramck Academy admits students of any race, color, and nationality or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of intellectual or athletic abilities, measures of achievement or aptitude, disability, status as a handicapped person, homeless status, English proficiency, religion, creed, race, sex, color, or national origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies and athletic or other school-administered programs.

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- Search Section 3 Business Registry
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This week at the library...

ESL Class - Monday, December 7 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 the South Asian Student Society and Hamtramck Library. The program is free of charge to Hamtramck residents and open to students and adults.
Citizenship Classes - Tuesday, December 8 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, December 8 at 4 p.m. - All children are invited to see an after-school movie and popcorn.
Friends of the Library Meeting - Thursday, December 17 at 6 p.m. FHPL President Kathy Kristy and Treasurer George Gorday invite all members and volunteers to participate in the regular monthly meeting.
Michigan Reads Program - Thursday, December 10 at 5 p.m. Participants of the Michigan Read program are

invited for a story time.

ESL Class - Friday, December 11 at 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

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

Meeting of the Library Board - Thursday, December 10 at 6 p.m. Regular meeting of the Library Board will be held in the auditorium. Open to the public.

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

Book signing – Tuesday December 8 at 6:30 p.m. - Book signing with Aaron Foley. Aaron Foley grew up in and currently lives in Detroit, which gives him more street cred than a lot of others. He has written about Detroit for several local and national publications, including Jalop-

nik, CNN, MLive and several others. His essay, "We Love Detroit, Even if You Don't," was included in A Detroit Anthology (Belt Publishing, 2014). "How to Live in Detroit Without Being a Jack-ass" is his first book.

Santa visit – Tuesday December 15, at 5 p.m. Santa visits the library. Come and get your photo taken with Santa Claus.

Book signing – Thursday December 17 at 6:30 p.m. – Book Signing with Prof. Gregory Sumner author of "Detroit in World War II." Gregory D. Sumner is a professor of History at University of Detroit Mercy and the author of the books "Dwight Macdonald and the Politics Circle," and "Unstuck in Time: A Journey Through Kurt Vonnegut's Life and Novels."

Story time – Tuesday December 22 at 4 p.m. Bookflick at the Library. Come and hear the story "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," and then stay for a viewing of the film.

Movie Night schedule: December 9: Ant-Man; December 16: National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation; December 23: Die Hard

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



City Hall Insider ...

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

By Charles Sercombe

The city council met on Nov. 10, and all councilmembers were present. Mayor Karen Majewski was absent.

Before the regular council meeting a work session was held. During that meeting City Manager Katrina Powell “apologized” to Councilmembers Andrea Karpinski and Ian Perrotta for the absences of the other four councilmembers.

“It’s extremely disrespectful” she said about the missing councilmembers for not showing up.

Karpinski noted that in the list of expenditures the city spent \$150 for “free CPR” training. Powell said that despite the description, the service was not free.

On a proposal to rename city hall in honor of former Mayor Robert Kozaren, Perrotta asked if this would cost the city anything. Powell said it would not be of any sig-

nificance.

Karpinski said a fundraiser could be held to purchase a sign for city hall.

A discussion was held on what date should be scheduled to swear in the three councilmembers starting a new term. City Clerk August Gitschlag said traditionally the event it is held on Jan. 3.

Powell questioned why they couldn’t take the oath of office before then. No date was set.

Karpinski asked about the status of city contractor CPI, which performs water line repairs. Powell said the company is still contracted with the city.

(Editor’s note: Since the meeting CPI has filed a lawsuit against the city for breach of contract. The company is accusing the city of hiring another company to perform its work.)

During the regular council meeting several police officers and fire-

fighters were cited for their service and helping to save a person’s life.

During the public comment section, Bill Meyer gave his condolences to Councilmembers Mohammed Hassan and Robert Zwolak “for their car injuries.”

He congratulated City Manager Powell for bringing back work to the Public Works Department that had been previously outsourced by former Emergency Manager Lou Schimmel.

Powell is bringing back street snow plowing.

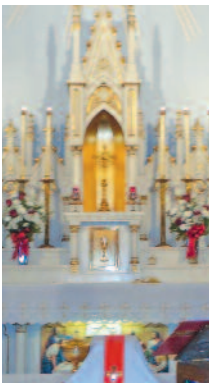
Meyer went on to criticize Powell and the mayor for being selective in setting the council agendas. He accused them of leaving out items and issues championed by their political opponents.

When Meyer’s time ran out to address the council he asked for one more minute. The council voted on the matter, and the motion lost in a 3-3 tie. Councilmembers Abu Musa, Hassan and Anam Miah voted in favor, and Councilmembers Perrotta, Karpinski and Zwolak voted against it.

Asked what he wanted to talk about, Meyer said he wants council to expand how long an individual member of the public may talk.

Councilmember-elect Saad Almasmari thanked voters for supporting him in the Nov. 3 election. He said he was interviewed by about 15 media outlets since the election and asked about the council now being a Muslim majority. He said there is no reason to inject religion into the equation.

“If somebody comes to me for help,” he said,



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The lore of Hamtramck ...

Remembering Peter Similuk

By Greg Kowalski

Hamtramck has produced a number of movie stars. John Hodiak was an A-list star appearing in many movies including Alfred Hitchcock's "Lifeboat." Gail Kobe was known more for producing programs than acting, but she was in dozens of TV shows and movies in the 1950s and 1960s. But almost nobody remembers Peter Similuk, yet he carved his own niche in Hollywood. Similuk was born in 1916 in Canada, and it isn't clear when he came to Hamtramck. But he did live on Lumpkin Street with his parents before heading off to Tinseltown where he found at least a degree of success. You probably have seen him in a few old movies. He never had a real starring role, but he played in

some memorable pictures, including the "classic" science-fiction film, "The Hideous Sun Demon," which isn't nearly as awful as the title sounds. He also appeared in some classier productions, such as "A Foreign Affair," a 1948 film starring Jean Arthur and Marlene Dietrich. It was about at the time when "A Foreign Affair" was released that Similuk wrote a letter to The Hamtramck Citizen in which he

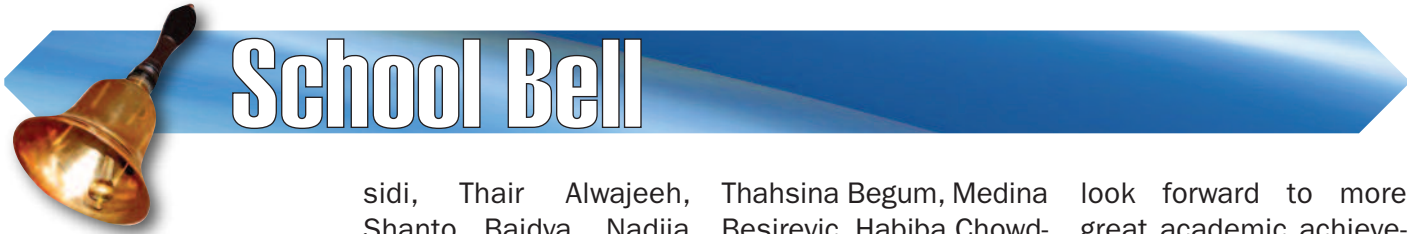
gave his philosophy of acting. "My achievement was not an easy one," he wrote. "I face many obstacles which at times seemed difficult to overcome. To gain success in the theatrical world, the individual must prepare to face bad as well as good. There is no such thing as smooth sailing. I encountered many people in Hollywood who came here to 'break into the movies.' The individual achieves by one method – hard work –

the only formula for success." But sometimes even hard work can't make you a star, yet Similuk made a big enough dent in the movie world that he is listed in movie files and can be found on Google. That, at least, is a tribute of sorts. Similuk died in 2003 at age 86. Similuk didn't have the looks of a leading man and it's hard to gauge his acting ability since his roles were fairly small. But they are preserved in his

films. Ironically, "The Hideous Sun Demon," despite its reputation as a terrible movie, is probably his most lasting film. It still shows up on TV and is available on DVD. Check it out. You can learn more about Hamtramck movie stars at the Hamtramck Historical Museum, 9525 Jos. Campau. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and by appointment. Call (313) 893-5027. Visit the website hamtramckhistory.org.

Memories of Christmas past in Hamtramck

Remember when Jos. Campau was all decorated for Christmas, and there were so many shoppers you could hardly move down the street? Remember Midnight Mass? Wigilia at grandma's ... and so much more. Those are the memories of Christmas Past in Hamtramck. Come and relive them. The Hamtramck Historical Museum is hosting a "Christmas Past in Hamtramck" program at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Museum, 9525 Jos. Campau. This is a member appreciation event, so Friends members enter free. But everyone is welcome. Admission for non-members is \$5. And you can get a membership at the door. There will be cookies and cocoa and a PowerPoint presentation of photos of Christmas in Hamtramck through the years. It's sure to bring back memories. If you have photos of Christmas in Hamtramck you'd like to share, bring them to the event. We'd love to see them. Doors open at noon. And remember, you can still do your holiday shopping on Jos. Campau, eat at one of the restaurants, come to Midnight Mass, eat at grandma's and create some new Christmas memories. Reservations are appreciated. Call (313) 893-5027 or drop us a note by email at hamtramckhistory@gmail.com.



Kosciuszko Middle School News

Thursday, December 10 from 6-8 p.m. the Student Council is hosting its 1st Annual Multicultural Night: "One Night, One World." KMS students and their families will present something from their heritage or something they have learned from their families, such as dancing, singing, art work, playing music, traditional dress or sharing a short story. The community is invited to join us and there will be a \$2 charge to enter. All proceeds collected at the door will help student council initiatives throughout the school year.

KMS is proud to announce the Honor Roll students for the first marking period. The criteria for achieving honor roll status is all A's and B's and all 1's or 2's for citizenship grades on their report card. Seventh grade students who achieved Honor Roll status are: Ali Ahmed, Nuha Ahmed, Haris Ahmic, Amdadur Ahsan, Hadiel Alashwal, Khawlah Algehim, Malak Ali, Deanna Almaisari, Basem Alqusaimi, Ali Al-

sidi, Thair Alwajeeh, Shanto Baidya, Nadija Basic, Lejla Begulic, Emrana Begum, Ismat Begum, Jahera Begum, Maymana Begum, Musamat Begum, Shuhena Begum, Tahmina Begum, Adila Choudhury, Atef Choudhury, Shima Dhaif Allah, Telia Fisher-Curly, Dowlah Hasan, Shimul Hasan, Ajsa Hasanspahic, Khadija Helal, Anisul Hoque, Asha Hossain, Kamran Hussain, Zeshan Imran, Soha Irfan, Shubaita Islam, Besmir Jahaj, Norman Jobah, Abid Khan, Maruf Khan, Shammi Khan, Faiza Laskar, Zoha Mahmood, Hana Mozeb, Raghdha Mozeb, Amel Musanovic, Georges Nemer, Marvin Petty, Samiha Rahman, Ahana Roy, Aymen Saleh, Mohamed Saleh, Osaid Saleh, Neyra Salkic, Sasa Saravija, AnnaBella Shalaj, Shamrin Siddiquey, Stefan Sidorowicz, Mikolaj Sobiesiuk and Marufa Tanni. Eighth grade students who achieved Honor Roll status are: Dahika Ahmed, Shazmina Ahmed, Zakaria Al-Aswar, Zacaria Alasad, Huda Alashwal, Hifa Almardahi, Finoon Almauliki, Akram Alzendani, Rudra Barua, Nazira Begum, Rumana Begum, Sharmin Begum,

Thahsina Begum, Medina Besirevic, Habiba Chowdhury, Nahiyan Chowdhury, Prince Chowdhury, Tasnia Chowdhury, Tahmin Fathmee, Kayla Fenderson, Nicholas Gubin, MD Hamja, Mizanul Haque, Medin Husic, Zulfiquer Juber, Mujaheulislam Khan, Rounaq Khan, Fahmida Khanom, Al Mamoun Mashrah, Waale Mohamed, Melisa Music, Maria Nemer, Fardeen Nur, Ajla Pezer, Abdul Repon, Mirela Ruznic, Abdul Samee and Ashnah Sarfraz. Congratulations to these students and we

look forward to more great academic achievements and great behavior during the school year. **Hamtramck High School News** Thursday, December 10 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The Hamtramck High School Parent Association is presenting Parent University Hamtramck High 101, in the HS auditorium. Topics to be covered are keys to your child's success, supporting your child, tutoring support, counseling support and **Continued on page 5**

Jesus Loves You!

Stop by Grace Baptist Church for free coffee and good news.

We will be open:

- Tuesday—Friday from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and
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Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

‘Tis the season to lend a helping hand to our neighbors

This issue is dedicated to one of the city's best causes.

The Hamtramck Goodfellows will once again hit the streets this Friday (Dec. 4) hawking a special issue of this week’s Review.

The paper sale coincides with a year-long fundraiser to purchase food coupons that will be distributed to about 250 needy families and individuals.

The coupons can be redeemed for fresh food for

the holiday season. This guarantees that our neediest neighbors can enjoy a warm holiday meal.

Hamtramck Goodfellows have been doing this service for decades, and residents and former residents have always stepped up and pitched in. That’s the kind of community we are: helping one another out in time of need.

There is no shortage of need here. Over half of the city’s population lives

in or near poverty.

If you can help out, dig deep into your pockets and give a little extra when you see a Goodfellow volunteer during Friday’s paper sale.

Or, if you are not in town, send them a check. To make a donation, make out a check to the Hamtramck Goodfellows and mail it to: Hamtramck Fire Department, 2625 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212.

Odds & Ends

Writers and food ... It’s been a while since we last heard about Hamtramck’s art gallery, Public Pool.

Steve Hughes, an organizer at the gallery, has an update on what is happening there. Take it away, Steve:

“The Good Tyme Writers Buffet is prepared to strip-down, potluck and read on the subject of Normal Nudity. We’ll be surrounded by Olayami Dabls’s watercolor exhibit of the same name. Like Dabls says, ‘Being naked is the most natural thing in the world.’

“Our line-up features Gloria Whelan, Bonnie Jo Campbell, Kelly Fordon, Keith Hood, Billy Mark, and Jared Yates Sexton. This is sure to be an

amazing night.

“Come potluck with us!

“About the Writers:

“Gloria Whelan won the National Book Award in Young People’s Lit for her novel Homeless Bird. She has numerous other publications. What an honor to have her reading and potlucking at Public Pool! She is a phenomenal 92 years old!

“Bonnie Jo Campbell comes to us from Kalamazoo. She is author of the 2015 collection Mothers, Tell Your Daughters, two previous novels, and many other publications, including the award winning chapbook Love Letters to Sons of Bitches. She was a finalist for the National Book Award in 2009. This is her second

time to the Writers Buffet. Last time she brought deviled eggs. They were delicious.

“Kelly Fordon is the author of the 2015 collection of short stories, Garden for the Blind. She has also written several chapbooks of poetry including Tell Me When It Starts to Hurt and the award winning, On The Street Where We Live.

“Keith Hood’s short fiction has been published in Blue Mesa Review and Quick Fiction. He is the former publisher of Orchid: A Literary Review. He is also a photographer and has shown his work at many Michigan venues as well as the Toledo Museum of Art.

Continued on page 6

Students rally for peace in wake of terrorist attacks

By Charles Sercombe

A couple of weeks ago we received a call from a social studies teacher at Hamtramck High School who told us a group of students was going to hold a rally after school to call for peace around the world.

The teacher explained that when the attacks in Paris happened a few weeks ago, many of the students thought: “Oh no, not again.”

Being that many of the students in the high school are of the Muslim faith, the teacher said, every time terrorists who call themselves Muslim attack and kill, “The students feel they are being lumped with the Muslim terrorists.”

Well, now HHS students

are fighting back.

On a recent Friday afternoon, a gathering of about 70 students met after school at the high school flagpole. They then walked together, holding arms, to Pope Park. All the time they chanted a call and response: “Pray for,” said 12th-grader Agron Berishaj into a bull-

horn.

“Peace,” replied the students.

Hamtramck has been in the news a lot lately after the last city election, which resulted in a majority Muslim city council – a possible first for any American community.

While there have been

Continued on page 6



Hamtramck High School students recently held a march and rally to support worldwide peace.

Letters • Letters

‘Keep up the good work’

My cousin visited Hamtramck a few days ago and brought me back your newspaper dated November 27, 2015.

I expected the typical local paper that we get around here in the suburbs, with stale news and lots of advertising. To my surprise, the paper was filled with interesting articles about Hamtramck’s current events and past history. I read it "cover to cover."

The articles were exceptionally well written. I grew up just north of Hamtramck near 6 mile and Conant, so I could identify with a lot of the paper's content.

Keep up the good work!

Dan Witulski
Macomb Township

Reckless drivers pose a serious threat to school kids

This is my second time writing about the dangerous and inconsiderate drivers in Hamtramck.

There are countless times where I was walking in the school zone down Gallagher and past Holbrook that individuals have almost hit myself and my kids while we were crossing as pedestrians.

These drivers have no concern for the people of this community. At what point is it enough for the people of this community who have to worry about the safety of their children while they are walking to school?

The latest incident was the last straw for me

because these guys who almost hit me when they went past the pedestrian crossing zone were smiling as if it were a joke.

I don’t think they would be smiling if someone ran over a member of their family while they were crossing the street. I call on all of our proud citizens of Hamtramck to stand up and put an end to this reckless driving in our community.

It only takes one moment for a child to be hit by one of these drivers. Please, there has to be change!

Samantha Abdulla
Hamtramck

Get Out on the Hamtown!

School Bell

Continued from page 4

making the grade in high school. Light refreshments will be served. This is a parent and student event. We hope to see everyone there.

Dickinson West Elementary School News

Dickinson West will begin tutoring after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It will be from 3:10 p.m. to 4:10 p.m.. If you are interested in tutoring for your child, please see your child’s teacher.

Upcoming Events

Kosciuszko Middle School

- Tuesday, December 15 – Band Concert from 1:15- 2:10 p.m. in the auditorium. Parents and the community are invited to attend.
- Wednesday, December 16 – Orchestra and Choir Concert from 1:15- 2:10 p.m. in the auditorium. Parents and the community are invited to attend.

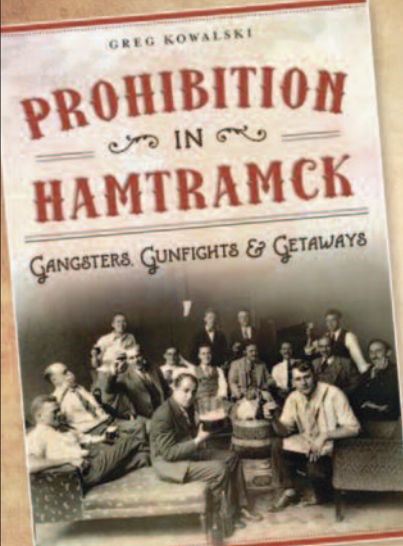
All Schools

- Friday, December 11 - End of Progress Report Period #2.
- Thursday, December 17 – Progress Report #2 Distributed.
- Saturday, December 19 – January 3, No school for students. Winter Break.
- Monday, January 4 – School Resumes.

Athletic Events

- Friday, December 4 – KMS Boys’ Basketball vs. UPSM at 4:30 p.m. Home.
- Monday, December 7 – KMS Boys’ Basketball vs. River Rouge at 4:30 p.m. Away.
- Wednesday, December 9 – KMS Boys’ Basketball vs. Highland Park Barber at 4:30 p.m. Home.

School Bell is compiled by Janice Gandelman



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Students rally for peace in wake of terrorist attacks


Continued from page 5

some hateful comments locally and nationally about this turn of events, Hamtramck is known as a multi-cultural city where folks generally get along. But when adults say hateful things, people forget that it's the kids who often suffer the brunt of


those comments. "We wanted to send a message of peace and liberty," said Berishaj, who co-organized the rally. As for the terrorists, Berishaj said: "They are making a bad image for every peaceful person in the world."

Obituaries


BETLEJA

 Sophie Betleja (nee Strug), 84, died November 25, 2015. Mrs. Betleja is survived by her children, Richard, Christopher, Teresa (Gerald) Pastuszka; grandchildren, Elizabeth, Guy, Jonathan, Tiffany, Brittany, Courtney, Jennifer; great-grandchildren, Vincent, Willow; sister, Genevieve. Mrs. Betleja was preceded in death by her ex-husband, Adam; granddaughter, Crystal; siblings, Antoinette, Joseph, Walter, and Mary. Visitation is Friday, December 4, from 1-9 p.m., with Rosary at 5:30 p.m. at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, 2396 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI. Mrs. Betleja will lie in state Saturday at 9:30 a.m., until time of the funeral Mass at 10, at St. Florian Catholic Church, Hamtramck, MI. Interment will be at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

MELKUS

 Lucille "Nancy" Melkus (nee Pellar, 82, passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by family after a long illness. Nancy was preceded in death by her husband, Albin J. She is survived by her children, Janet Heinrich (widow of Bill) of Warren MI, Brian of Warren, Laurie (Dave) Rosplochowski of Lewiston MI, Martin of Hamtramck, Kathleen of Hamtramck; grandson, Jason (Laura); great grandchildren, Jayden, Shyann, Zakary, Sabryna, all of Prescott, MI. Nancy was a long time resident of Hamtramck. As a member of St. Florian Parish, she enjoyed socializing at church functions such as bingo, card parties, dances, and festivals. She enjoyed polka music and dancing and was a member of the Hamtramck Polka Boosters. Her hobbies included knitting and crocheting and she collected a multitude of prize ribbons for her handiwork from the Michigan State Fair, where she also volunteered as a judge. Other favorite pastimes included working crossword puzzles and watching classic movies. The light of her life was her only grandchild and her great grandchildren. They will miss "Busia" tremendously. Visitation was Thursday at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home with a funeral mass Friday at St. Florian Church. Her ashes will be interred with her husband at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly MI.

SYROID

 Antoinette Syroid (nee Osakiewicz), 87, died November 28, 2015. Mrs. Syroid was preceded in death by her husband, Henry. Mrs. Syroid is survived by her children, Jo Ann (Gary) Gavron, Paul (Linda), Dale (Patricia), Donna (Ron) Beaubien; ten grandchildren; six great grandchildren. Visitation was Wednesday, at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home. Funeral Mass was at St. Florian Catholic Church in Hamtramck. Burial of cremains will be with her husband, at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI at a later date.

Coming events

SATURDAY, Dec. 5, 4-7 p.m.; SUNDAY, Dec. 6, 8 -11 a.m. – Our Lady Queen of Apostles is holding a bake sale in the Activity Center, entrance on Harold. Proceeds benefit the 100th anniversary of the church. For more information call (313) 891-1520.

SATURDAY, Dec. 12, 9-3 p.m. – Hamtramck's Recycle Center is open at Caniff and McDougall. Drop of your recyclables for free.


WEDNESDY, Feb. 17, 7 p.m. – The Hamtramck Midtown Block Club will not meet during December and January 2015. In 2016, the block club will meet Wednesday, February 17, at 7 p.m. in St. Florian's Convent, 2626 Florian; please use the side entrance. Share information with your friends and neighbors and listen to guest speakers. Light refreshments will be served. Please invite others to join us.

Odds & Ends

Continued from page 5


"Billy Mark won a 2015 Kresge fellowship for his poetic freestyle work. His writing has been published in The Guidebook of Alternative Nows and SEEN magazine. His pieces have been performed at local and international venues including REDCAT in L.A., Spiel Festival, Detroit Contemporary and more. "Jared Yates Sexton is driving all the way from Georgia. He is the editor-in-chief of BULL, the author of three story collections and a novel, and is currently covering the 2016 presidential campaign for Atticus Books."





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The event is on Dec. 12 and goes from 7 to 10 p.m. Public Pool is located at 3309 Caniff.

Warning ... We received an anonymous call this week that was truly disturbing. A reader told us that there have been a number of pet dogs being stolen from backyards. There have even been witnesses to this, but few people are making reports to the police department. The fear is that it's more than about dognapping. There is a chance that there are folks involved in dog fighting who need dogs for training purposes. We can't verify any of this but it is important to never let your dog go out unsupervised – even for a minute.

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8311 Toepfer - \$25,000 - **NEW PRICE!**
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12/4

Nice apartment and house for rent, Hamtramck, 3 br. apt., \$600, small house, \$600 + utility and deposit, 313-268-7420. 12/4

2 bedroom lower flat, Bloom St., near White Elementary School, call Nelson, 313-310-3520. 12/4

3618 Caniff, 3 bedroom apt. and 2 bedroom apt., 313-784-9329, 313-649-4093. 12/11

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CRIME LOG

By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers Nov. 22-30.

Sunday, November 22

- At 2 a.m. a Detroit woman was arrested in the 9800 block of Conant after assaulting a security guard. A Detroit man was also arrested at the scene after obstructing officers and being disorderly.
- At almost 5 a.m. officers responded to a break-in at a business in the 3200 block of Caniff.
- Officers responded to the 3800 block of Evaline about a pit bull running around in the area. Officers captured the dog and took it to the Michigan Humane Society.
- A resident was arrested in the 2100 block of Caniff after fighting with officers and EMS personnel.

Monday, November 23

- A Detroit resident was arrested for domestic assault while at a residence in the 2900 block of Yemans.
- A Detroit resident was arrested for driving without a license and obstruction following a traffic stop.

Tuesday, November 24

- At about 12:30 a.m. a Detroit resident was arrested for assaulting a person in the area of Caniff and Charest.
- A suspect was arrested following a traffic stop at I-75 and Russell for being wanted on a warrant.
- A gun was confiscated from a driver following a traffic stop because it was improperly registered.

Wednesday, November 25

- A Sobieski resident reported her car was damaged while parked in front of her residence.

Wednesday, November 25

- At a little after 1 a.m. an East Lansing resident was arrested in the 3400 block of Evaline for being disorderly and obstructing officers.
- At almost 2:30 a.m. a resident in the 2400 block of Neibel reported the attempted theft of their car.
- A resident reported receiving an unsolicited check in the mail with the instructions to deposit it and forward \$2,500 to a person in Turkey.
- A person who had reported the theft of their car reported it was recovered without damage.
- A doctor reported someone was trying to redeem fraudulent prescriptions at CVS.

Thursday, November 26

- Officers responded to an assault in progress in the 9400 block of Goodson.
- A complaint was made in regard to a child custody dispute.

Friday, November 27

- A resident in the 3800 block of Belmont reported a break-in.
- A person was ticketed for possessing an open bottle of liquor in public following an investigation.
- A Mitchell resident reported the theft of travel checks and cash in what turned out to be a fraudulent adoption deal.
- A Redford resident reported being assaulted by her ex-boyfriend in front of his residence on Jos. Campau.

ported being assaulted by her ex-boyfriend in front of his residence on Jos. Campau.

Saturday, November 28

- At 2 a. m. a person reported being assaulted by security staff in the 10000 block of Jos. Campau.
- At 7:15 a.m. a woman in the 12000 block of Dyar reported a break-in by a person known to her.
- A woman reported the theft of her 2006 Chevrolet Trail Blazer from the 11400 block of Jos. Campau.
- A Fleming resident reported a house break-in and the theft of several items.
- A Wyandotte resident reported fraudulent withdrawals taken out of her Social Security account.

Sunday, November 29

- A taxi driver reported that a woman and a man he dropped off in the 9500 block of McDougall failed to pay for their ride.
- A woman reported someone stole several items from her car while it was parked in the 12000 block of Conant.

Monday, November 30

- At about 2 a.m. a resident was arrested in the 2900 block of Evaline for assault, disorderly conduct and obstruction.
- An agent for CVS reported the theft of assorted items.
- A Sterling Heights resident reported damage to their car.
- Two Detroit residents were arrested for several traffic offenses and being wanted on Hamtramck warrants.

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Sale Dates: Mon., Nov. 30 - Sun., Dec. 13

Decked Out Deals

 <p>All Varieties Hot Pockets</p> <p>Stuffed Sandwiches or Snack Bites 9-9.3 oz.</p> <p>\$1.99</p>	 <p>Quaker Cap'n Crunch or Life Cereal</p> <p>10.3-14 oz.</p> <p>3/\$5</p>	 <p>All Varieties Herr's Potato Chips</p> <p>10-10.5 oz.</p> <p>\$1.99</p>	 <p>Country Fresh True Moo Chocolate Milk Whole or 1% quart, or Gold Peak Sweet Tea 59 oz.</p> <p>10/\$10</p>	 <p>All Varieties Faygo or 7-Up Products</p> <p>2 liter bottle + deposit</p> <p>10/\$10</p>	 <p>Country Fresh Dean's Country Fresh Twin Pops 6 count or Ice Cream pint</p> <p>10/\$10</p>
<div><p>King Cole Foods</p><p>\$10 OFF</p><p>Your purchase of \$30 or more</p><p><small>Excludes Lottery and money orders. Coupon valid Dec. 4 to Dec. 11.</small></p></div>	 <p>Regular Only Kraft Miracle Whip</p> <p>30 oz.</p> <p>\$1.99</p>	 <p>All Varieties Liquid Xtra Laundry Detergent 75 oz. or Fab Tahitian Summer Splash Liquid Laundry Detergent 50 oz.</p> <p>\$1.99</p>	 <p>24 pack, 16.5 oz. bottles Absopure Spring Water</p> <p>Limit 5 w/Add'l \$5 purchase</p> <p>\$1.99</p> <p><small>Lesser Quantities \$2.50</small></p>	<p>FRESH PRODUCE</p> <p>Red, Ripe Roma Tomatoes</p> <p>99¢ lb.</p> <p>Fresh, Golden Pineapples</p> <p>\$2.99 each</p>	

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