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Count Down to Paczki Day Feb. 13!

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Quick Hits

The Hamtramck Public School Board held its first meeting of the year on Wednesday evening.

There are plenty of exciting developments happening in the district this year, including the opening of a new school, Tau Beta, on Jan. 29.

As usual, the first meeting of the year started out with appointing officers for the board. Once again, Magdalena Srodek will be president of the board, Evan Major is vice president, Dennis Lukas is treasurer and Salah Hadwan is secretary.

For the old-timers out there, Dennis Lukas is well known having been a science teacher in the school district for 40 years. He is retired now and is in his first term on the board.

You would think that after 40 years teaching, the last thing you would want to do is get involved in school matters. But Lukas had long been a fixture at board meetings before taking a seat on the board.

That's because he's a lifelong resident of the city and is dedicated to the students of the city.

“Doing something positive is worthwhile,” Lukas told us, and that's a bit of wisdom to live by.

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

A look at the year ahead: So many possibilities

By Charles Sercombe

The year 2017 may be over, but its residual effect will be felt all through this year.

And that's good news.

The number one question of what's in store for 2018 is this: Will the state disband the financial advisory board that oversees all city financial decisions and return total control back to local officials?

There are some officials who will privately tell you they hope the state doesn't go away because the city's political divide is still too disruptive and will only lead the city back into financial turmoil.

There are others who will say enough is enough, the

city has been under the watchful eye of the state for three years, and the city is out of a financial crisis.

The official position of the state is that the city has to first comply with the final directives left by the former emergency manager over three years ago.

It's not clear, though, how close the city is to accomplishing that must-do list.

The Receivership Transition Advisory Board has not signaled what it expects the city to do, nor has its members talked about returning local control.

Before the state takes up the issue, there is a more pressing matter: Hiring

Continued on page 2



Left: Will this be the year that Hamtramck's Receivership Transition Advisory Board is dissolved and local control is returned to city officials? Stay tuned. Below: The city's economic development received an extra push when Woodward Throwbacks opened up at the former Garrity Dodge auto dealership.



Batter up time for stadium

By Charles Sercombe

The City of Hamtramck wants to hear from you.

The future of the Hamtramck Stadium will be the subject of an Open House being held on Jan. 29, 7 p.m., at the public library.

The public will be given an update on the stadium's condition and what renovations will be required.

A study is currently underway thanks to a \$50,000 grant from the National Park Service.

At the Open House, “hands-on activities will allow community members to share how they currently use Hamtramck Stadium and Veterans Park, and select their top priorities for future activities at the Stadium and its grounds,” according to a press release issued by the city's Planning Department.

The stadium is considered historic because of the unique role it played in baseball history. The stadium was built in 1930 to serve the National Negro League, during a time when African-Americans were not allowed to play in Major League Baseball.

The stadium was specifically home to the Detroit Stars. Legendary

Continued on page 3



CITY LIFE

Winter sidewalks and streets

By Walter Wasacz

Happy New Year Hamtramck.

It's been a while since my last column – the last two recapped highlights from 2017 – so this week I thought I'd share some

stray thoughts I had over the holidays.

Winter is not the best season for walking in Hamtramck, which some call the most walkable city on Michigan.

Not because it's too cold

to walk. It's been brutal at times, sure, especially that stretch of 12 days beginning Christmas Day and lasting a full week into the new year, when temperatures barely reached zero.

During that cold snap, which also featured several significant snowfalls, many of the sidewalks in the city were impassable because they weren't shoveled; or if they were, like on Gallagher, one of the most heavily trafficked pedestrian routes in Hamtramck, snow was thrown

on them by trucks plowing the road.

To be clear, getting Gallagher and other streets plowed for motorists needing to get to their destinations is obviously a good thing.

But clearing the roadway for cars at the expense of pedestrian shoppers that need dry sidewalks to get to markets on Caniff and Holbrook; and students who walk to and from Hamtramck High and Dickinson East Elementary

Continued on page 5



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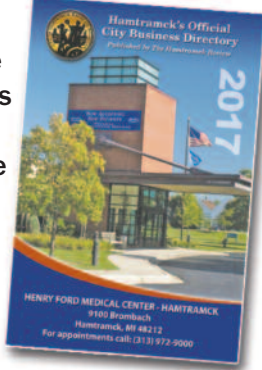
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Coming Soon 2018 Hamtramck Business Directory

The Review's 2018 Official City Business Directory is about to hit the streets. It includes the phone numbers of local area businesses from A to Z. Advertisers, get on board for a unique opportunity to have your message delivered to 10,000 households and businesses in Hamtramck and the nearby areas of Detroit in February 2018.



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A look at the year ahead: So many possibilities

Continued from front page

ing a new city manager.

A company has been working on putting together a field of candidates for the city council and mayor to interview. That process should be playing out within the next several weeks.

A source outside of city hall told us that over 20 people applied, but only a handful met all of the qualifications needed for the job.

But an even bigger ques-

tion is whether the next city manager can survive Hamtramck's revolving door in city hall. The city has gone through several city managers in past years, each flaming out.

Part of the problem goes back to the contentious attitude of some elected officials – both past and present. That's been part of Hamtramck's legacy for decades, and it's one that can't seem to be abated.

The ethnic make-up of

the city council may have changed over the years, but the political infighting remains the same.

Is there something in the water?

On the plus side, outside of city hall, Hamtramck's economic development is on a roll.

Over the past year several independent businesses have opened up or expanded, and it appears that trend will continue. The one development that seemed to be the tipping point was the opening of Woodward Throwbacks on Jos. Campau and Casmere.

Located in the former Garrity Dodge auto dealership, the two story building has been reinvented as a custom furniture shop that specializes in the use of reclaimed wood. This opening seems like it will be a catalyst for others to locate here. That's what our gut tells us.

And there is a strong rumor that the city's largest commercial property owner may be liquidating his buildings and moving out. If so, this will open up over a dozen empty commercial buildings.

Hamtramck's former retail glory days could see a major boost this year.

There are many other possibilities in the coming year. Be sure to check out The Review for the city's weekly progress. And keep your fingers crossed.



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School Bell

Tau Beta School- Ribbon Cutting and Open House

A ribbon cutting to officially open Tau Beta School will occur on Wednesday, January 24, at 5:30 p.m. followed by an open house for everyone interested in seeing the new school.

The open house will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Parents, students and interested community members will have the opportunity to tour the school and see our progress. The following day, Thursday, January 25, Tau Beta will have parent orientation opportunities.

The first one will be held at 10 a.m. The second parent orientation will be held at 1 p.m. Parents need attend only one orientation.

These orientations are for parents only. Students need not attend. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the ribbon cutting and open house.

Holbrook Elementary School News

On the weekend of December 15 and December 16, Holbrook Hawks First Tech Challenge Robotics team competed in the First

Tech Challenge Robotics state finals in Battle Creek.

They earned this spot when they won a previous competition. It was an exciting event as 96 of Michigan's 400 plus teams earned a spot at this event.

Although the team fought hard, a spot at the Super Regionals in Iowa was not to be had. The team had a good showing coming in 36th out of the 96 teams.

The students are looking forward to trying again next year. They are also planning to attend the World Championships as spectators this April to cheer on the teams from Michigan who made it to this level.

The World Championship games will be held in downtown Detroit at Cobo Center.

Kosciuszko Middle School News

Kosciuszko Middle School's Student Council held fundraisers to donate to two causes. The 7th and 8th grade students donated to an international aid organization to help refugees called BRAC UK.

The students have a con-

tact person at this organization that is going to be sending them videos of the work that the organization is doing.

The students also fundraised to help a family with a high school and elementary student in the Hamtramck Public Schools district. They donated \$450 total to the two causes.

All Schools

• Thursday, January 25 - Hamtramck High School (HHS) and Kosciuszko Middle School (KMS) Semester Exams. Half day for HHS and KMS students. Records day in the afternoon for HHS and KMS.

• Friday, January 26 - HHS, KMS and Horizon Semester Exams. Half day for all students including all elementary schools. Records day in the afternoon for all staff. End of 1st semester and 2nd quarter.

• Thursday, February 1st Report Card #2 distributed.

Recreation Department News

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

Continued on page 3



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This week at the library...

ESL Class – Monday, January 22, 9 a.m. and noon, ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required

ESL Class – Wednesday, January 24, 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

ESL Class – Friday, January 26, 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

New Video Release – A film has been made of the Inauguration Ceremony that was held on **Sunday, Jan. 7 2018** to swear-in newly-elected Hamtramck officials. It is available on the library website as well as on YouTube under "Hamtramck Inauguration 2018."

Family Movie Night – Join the Hamtramck Drug Free Coalition along with the Piast Institute at the Hamtramck Public Library Thursday, January 25, 4-6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be provided.

City of Hamtramck Hosting Hamtramck Stadium Pre-Development Planning Community Open House – The City of Hamtramck is hosting a Community Open House for the Pre-Development Planning of Hamtramck Stadium. The Community Open

House will take place on Monday, January 29 at the Hamtramck Public Library (2360 Caniff), from 7 to 8 p.m. and is open to everyone.

Books For Free! – Monday, January 22 through Friday, January 26.

You are invited to a gently used books giveaway. We have something for everyone: •Fiction & Non-fiction • Books for Children & Young Adults •Foreign Language Books (mostly Polish) •Various Magazines •Audio Books (on audio cassettes) •Vinyl Records.

Winter Toddler Time – At the Hamtramck Public Library

EVENTS SCHEDULE:
Thursday – January 25, at noon. Learn about arctic animals I "Polar Bear Day."

Thursday – February 1 at noon. Learn about arctic animals II "Penguin Day."

Thursday – February 8 at noon. Celebrate Valentine's Day with us "Heart Day."

Thursday – February 22 at noon. Celebrate Chinese New Year with us "Dog Day."

Thursday – March 1st noon. Celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday with us "Dr. Seuss Day."

Thursday – March 8 at noon. Say Goodbye to winter "Snowman Day."

City Wide Poets: Are you a writer? Join Citywide Poets – Every Tuesday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. At the Hamtramck Public Library, 2360 Caniff. Free and open to all teens. Sessions Begin January 30. For more information, please contact:

justin@insideoutdetroit.org or visit www.insideoutdetroit.org

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.- 4p.m. Closed February 19. Call (734) 284-6999 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.

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Michigan Activity Pass – The pass will enable Library card holders to obtain a one-time free entry into any Michigan State park or recreation area, and free entry into over 100 participating cultural institutions. Ask at the circulation desk for more details.

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

Second Front Page

Annual MLK Day celebration spotlighted public school students



Scenes from Monday's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebrated at the Hamtramck High School Community Center.



By Charles Sercombe

Not everyone spent the day at home or shopping this past Monday, the day the nation celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

For the 21st year, the Concerned Women of Hamtramck hosted a Prayer Breakfast. The event has been held at several locations over the years, but most recently at the Hamtramck High School Community Center.

The Concerned Women have teamed up with the Public School District to include a student talent show.

Schools Superintendent Tom Niczay told students gathered at the center to view this holiday as a "unique opportunity to fight evil."

Darla Swint, one of the organizers of the event, said the breakfast also serves as a "coming together of diversity."

During the talent show portion of the event, district students performed instruments and read essays.



School Bell

Continued from page 2

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 20 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.

Compiled by
Janice Gandelman



The Holbrook Hawks Robotics Team had a successful year.

Batter up time for stadium

Continued from front page

players like Satchel Page and Turkey Stearnes played there.

The stadium was used as late as the 1980s, but then was abandoned and left to rot and decay. It wasn't until several years ago that its historical significance was discovered.

The city wants input from the public on what activities to include in the

park. The field will not only serve baseball interests, but other sports activities that reflect the interests of Hamtramck's ethnic diversity.

"Recognizing the stadium as an asset, the City of Hamtramck is moving forward in planning for the rehabilitation of the stadium's grandstands, facilities, and grounds as a

multi-purpose facility for public use and enjoyment. The project will enhance recreational opportunities in Hamtramck's largest public greenspace, including opportunities for cricket, soccer, baseball, and softball, among others," the city said in its press release.



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Feb. 3 - Blessing of Throats, Mass 10 am
Feb. 3 - Soup Kitchen, 2-4 pm
(Date Change)
Feb. 10 - Polish Dinner Fundraiser 4-7 pm
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Hanley Academy Principal's Award and Honor Roll Students

The following is a list of Hanley students who have performed well enough to earn the Principal's Award and/or be named to the Honor Roll. The Principal's Award is given to students who have earned all "A"s in all subjects. Honor Roll students have earned "A"s and "B"s in their subjects.

Kindergarten
MRS. MOSELEY'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Rafi Chowdhury
 Mariam Haidar

HONOR ROLL
 Rafi Chowdhury
 Mariam Haidar
 Nader Musleh
 Anhar Algohaim
 Alanude Saleh
 Ahmed Nabil
 Eliza Matusinski

MRS. VICKERS' CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Thuraya Almasmari
 Adil Chowdhury
 Anika Chowdhury
 Mohamed Deumah
 Kayla Lee-Spencer
 Wesam Alriyashi
 Azhaar Obaid
 Feras Saleh

HONOR ROLL
 Caleb Schefke
 Omar kassim
 Adil Chowdhury
 Kayla Lee-Spencer
 Azhaar Obaid
 Danya Almihtar
 Anika Chowdhury
 Michal Kamuda
 Wesam Alriyashi
 Thuraya Almasmari
 Feras Saleh
 Mohamed Deumah

MRS. HADI'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Layan Ahmed
 Hareth Al-Ward
 Sfwan Almadrahi
 Asmaa Hussein
 Kory Reeves
 Saleh Thabet

HONOR ROLL
 Husain Al-Hassuni
 Areej Algohaim
 Alijah Hanspard

First Grade
MS. GNEIWEK'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Dena Gaber
 Talal Naksho
 Andrew Tokarski
 Assma Algazali

HONOR ROLL
 Dena Gaber
 Talal Naksho
 Andrew Tokarski
 Assma Algazali
 Summer Al-Morisi
 Joshua Anderson
 Ava Moyoti
 Rami Rajeh
 Caprice Tartt

MRS. MCGREGOR'S CLASS
HONOR ROLL
 Khalil Abdullah
 Afnan Aljamali
 Aseel Fadel
 Walaa Nagi
 Noura Naksho
 Rayan Obahi
 Christopher Raglalnd
 Jada Said

MRS. WATSON'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Haitham Alhalmi
 Yahya Ashabi

HONOR ROLL
 Lila Al-Audi
 Amere Al-Jahim
 Luay Alhadai
 Marwa Alhaleni
 Haitham Alhalmi
 Rahaf Ali
 Zaid Alzaeem
 Yahya Ashabi
 Noland Brown
 Gabrielle Hardy
 Ivy Hopper
 Rua Mohamed
 Omar Obeid
 Layla Thomas

Second Grade
MRS. OHRYN'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Malak Alhalmy
 Amina Holcomb
 Farhanul Rajin
 Melena Smith

HONOR ROLL
 Malak Alhalmy
 Amina Holcomb
 Farhanul Rajin
 Melena Smith
 Ghazal Abazzed
 Haroun Al-Awdi
 Jabir Alawdi
 Hizam Alhalmy
 Ali Alshahabi
 Omar Alwageh
 Ibtehal Balwi
 Davion Bell
 King Mc Donald
 Amir Mohamed
 Naima Mojamal
 Khadeegah Mosleh
 Azhar Nagi
 Mohamed Nasher
 Brooklyn Robinson
 Jasmine Sumpter

MS. BAUER'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Oliver Hopper

HONOR ROLL
 Musa Alhuthafi
 Oliver Hopper
 Nour Saiban
 Laiba Ahmed
 Maria Almasmari
 Nada Algazali
 Kayden Lee
 Abdo Fadel

MRS. BIBBEE'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Harmony DeBrossard
 Omar Mokrzan
 Ariq Chowdhury
 Mohammed Abrar
 Ranen Alameri

HONOR ROLL
 Shima Almasmari
 Bashayr Saleh
 Ameena Alnahari
 Aowla Alshaibah
 Ilyas Albadaany
 Hadil Almurisi
 Kamirah Mims

Third Grade
MRS. KANDT'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Sarah Aldahan
 Jamal Alwageh
 Ishika Chodhury

HONOR ROLL
 Sarah Aldahan
 Ramsey Ali
 Jamal Alwageh
 Shafa Choudhury
 Ishika Chowdhury
 Qahtan Daghar
 Khaled Hassan
 Christian Miller
 Andre Neal
 Julius Olinger

MRS. GOETTE'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Reem Samet

HONOR ROLL
 Reem Samet
 Ala Abdullah
 Rafeq Al-Zamzami
 Malak Fadel
 Omnia Farea
 Ameir Hanspard
 Fatima Hassan
 Adriana Moyotl
 Medina Sinanovic

Third Grade
MS. KRIEGER'S CLASS
HONOR ROLL
 Layla Alhuthaifi
 Rimas Ali
 Nama Almasmari
 Mohammed Saleh
 Khadejah Algahim
 Reem Fadel

Fourth Grade
MS. ALSHABI'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Ekhalas Balwi
 Darionna Mims
 Ghaida Mohamed
 Ibtisaam Muhammad

Nuseibah Obeid
 Zechariah Powell

HONOR ROLL
 Ghaida Al-Jamali
 Nouradein Al-Ziyadi
 Rashed Alhayani
 Rami Almadrahi
 Alanood Alwdy
 Jordan Brown
 Ava Drake
 Quave Drew
 Muhannad Farea
 Zy'Kea Futrell
 Lena Gaber
 Mohamed Hassan
 Larry Lutchter
 Reem Rajeh
 Serenity Waugh-Burres

MRS. CHUN'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Ella Thabet

HONOR ROLL
 Walleed Abbas
 Hamdan Alaghbari
 Ibraheim Alagi
 Aryam Fadel
 Salwa Al-hariri
 Christopher Bragg
 Ella Thabet
 Noor Mugamal
 Najib Al-Kablani

MRS. MARTEL'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Ibrahim Paric
 Abraham Naksho
 Linda Almreisi

HONOR ROLL
 Adina Almursi
 Eness Alameri
 Zakareia Alkhadhri
 Dawoud Almhitari
 Joseph Cicao
 Norah Dahgar
 Mariyam Ismael
 Wafaa Jobeh
 Amir Milton
 Malak Musleh
 Deyanna Oglesby
 Juel Robinson

Fifth Grade
MS. PEARSON'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Doaa Thabet
 Chase Schefke
 Kyle Reeves
 Spirit Miller-Davis
 Carley Bush
 Aliliana Burzynski
 Nadeen Algaadi
 Ahmed Alhaiga

HONOR ROLL
 Ali Abdonagi
 Amnah Albadani
 Haneen Almasmari
 Nada Al-zaeem
 Jasmine Mohamed
 Zakaria Nagi
 Garnett Thomas

MS. PARRISH'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Layla West
 Ilda Livadic

HONOR ROLL
 Autumn Brown
 Layla West
 Ilda Livadic
 Jamea Robinson
 Karolina Stryjecka

MRS. SKELLY'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Rifat Chowdhury

HONOR ROLL
 Ayah Allaw
 Rifat Chowdhury
 Ruqaya Qara

Sixth Grade
MS. RAKOWSKI'S CLASS

HONOR ROLL
 Malak Omar
 Fouad Hussein
 Eman Saiban
 Jalona Wingo
 Abdul Razza Al-Zaeem
 Daood Alkhadhri
 Jakyra Bonner

MRS. BLAQUIERE'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Amani Ali
 Aliyah Almasmari
 Ravy Badi
 Akia Eashi-Islam
 Sara Sulejmani
 Tahsin Tafanunnum

HONOR ROLL
 Aziza Mojamel

MRS. PALIMINO'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Metaiah Burns
 Zhanyla Coley
 Aminy Jobeh

HONOR ROLL
 Abdulrahman Alghazali
 Nagi Almasmari
 Kelsey Escamilla

Seventh Grade
MS. GRAY'S CLASS
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Rana Alaneri
 Hannan Hussein

HONOR ROLL
 Salwa Ali
 Alhussan Algehaime
 Hamza Thabet

MRS. FOWKE
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Mohamed Almasmari
 Aida Atic
 Zahra Badi
 Ashjan Salah
 Zumra Sinanovic

HONOR ROLL
 Hannah Almasmari

Rana Almasmari
 Azaal Balwi
 Moatasem Fadhel
 Wiktorina Matusinski
 Kennedy Taylor

MRS. FASHHO
PRINCIPAL'S AWARD
 Basbmh Alnagar

HONOR ROLL
 Anwar Al-Gaadi
 Samah Ali
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MRS. BROWN-HINTON
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 Shahd Al-Gahim
 Amel Al-Huthaifi
 Marwa Alduais
 Reham Musaid
 Maryem Nasher

HONOR ROLL
 Leena Alhariri
 Hemyar Aljamali
 Yasmin Morshed
 Saad Nusair
 Suhaib Obahi
 Mohamed Rahman
 Ajanae Sanders
 Emari Stephenson
 Yousef Thabet

Eighth Grade
MS. ANDERSON'S CLASS
HONOR ROLL
 Dynasty Byrd
 Gamir Coleman
 Ashley Escamilla
 Sulaiman Fadel
 Abdullah Mashrah
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MS. MANIFOLD'S CLASS
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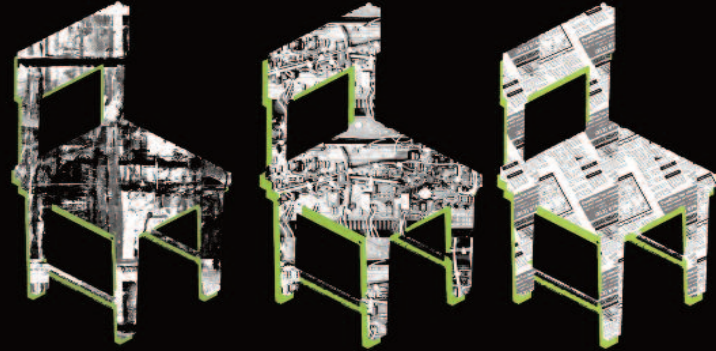
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Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Hamtramck’s historic baseball stadium could use a helping hand

We’re at a crossroads with the future of a Hamtramck jewel.

The city’s historic baseball stadium is currently being studied and analyzed to determine what renovations are needed and how much they will cost. The study is funded through a \$50,000 grant from the National Park Service.

It has been estimated that renovations will run around \$1 million – but that was just a guess. It is thought, and with fin-

gers crossed, that the city will be able to win another grant to make repairs.

While city officials are scrambling to get that done, the public is being asked to partner up. The city wants to hear from you on what activities you’d like to see at the park.

Of course baseball is going to be a part of the new stadium, but there are plenty of other physical activities and sports that can be accommo-

dated to make sure all ethnic communities in the city can be active members and make this their home as well.

A public meeting will be held on Jan. 29, 7 p.m., at the public library (2360 Caniff).

All ideas and concepts will be welcomed. It will be up to city officials to figure out how to incorporate the needs and wants of the community.

Come and share your ideas and wishes.

Odds & Ends

School news... The Hamtramck Public School District will be hosting a “State of the District Address” next Wednesday (Jan. 24), 4 p.m. at the Hamtramck High School Community Center.

The presentation will be approximately 45 minutes long. The district will be giving an update on a number of issues and some upcoming new programs. Some pretty exciting developments are happening in the district.

After the presentation, the public is invited to a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house at the district’s newly acquired Tau Beta School, located at 3056 Hanley.

Be sure to take a tour of this amazing and historic building.

Other Voices: Guest Editorial

Thanks to the organizers of the annual MLK Prayer Breakfast

By Tom Niczay

Hamtramck Public Schools Superintendent

A memorable MLK Day Prayer Breakfast took place at the Hamtramck Community Center on January 15. It was the 21st annual breakfast sponsored by the Concerned Women of Hamtramck.

On behalf of the Hamtramck Board of Education thanks to Madelyn Porter, Darla Swint and Sharon Strean for a job well done organizing the breakfast.

Also thanks to Thomas Course Jr. and the HHS band, Eric Porter and the Dickinson West Choir, Kosciuszko teacher Theresa Comor, Dickinson West secretary Vanessa Gray, Brian Swift and his staff from food service, Rich Wawrzynski and his staff from maintenance, Cindy Crank and her custodial staff and Marc Wilkinson department.

A special thanks to the Concerned Women founder Yvonne Myrick.

The following Hamtramck Public School students will be receiving a prize from the Concerned Women:

1st Place \$50 each: Tarik Cusotvic – Kosciuszko-essay “The Dream” Al-Khalil Mashrah-Kosciuszko – essay “Where are the Roots of My Optimism”

2nd Place \$25 each: Emad Kaid – Hamtramck High-musical selection “You Lift Me Up” Fadel Muthana – Hamtramck High- A Poem

3rd Place \$25: Onanna Jacy, Dickinson East – An Essay

Winter sidewalks and streets

Continued from front page

schools should not be acceptable in any city.

A dialogue needs to begin between the city, the public schools and neighborhood block clubs to address this very basic human issue: sidewalk accessibility in winter.

Some sidewalks on Jos. Campau, including in front of the four-story building on the northwest corner of Belmont, have remained covered in snow all winter. That cannot happen in any city’s central business district.

There are ways to plow streets without disrupting daily routines of people who walk by necessity or choice. On the walk that runs beside my house on Gallagher I needed to shovel several times a day to keep up with the plows throwing snow against the side of my house and garage.

The message sent is that pedestrian traffic is less important than motor traffic - part of a long discredited suburban model that puts the car on top of the transportation chain.

On the flip side, winter also has a way of slowing the speeds of motorists on city streets. Sure, speeders are still out there, but only the most foolhardy drive recklessly on slick pavement.

Which suggests to me that if city and community leaders develop strategies to slow down traffic most motorists will respond. They just need a reason.

On my walks I have done an informal inventory of speed limit signs in the city. There are far too few, less than 10 in a city that has three major commercial roads – Jos. Campau, Caniff and Conant – and several others where motor traffic often flows at high capacity. Those streets include Holbrook, Gallagher, Buffalo, Carpenter and the service drives for I-75.

All of those streets need more signage to remind motorists that the speed limit is 25 mph unless it is marked otherwise (Conant is 35 mph as it flows slow toward the viaduct south of Holbrook).

How many residents know that the speed limit is 25 unless marked? A good guess is that not many do. This is nothing new. In my lifetime of residence in Hamtramck I don’t recall the city ever making that clear; nor has it taken seriously efforts to calm traffic down. The models are out there, many communities have dedicated strategies to create safer streets shared by cars, bikes and pedestrians alike.

Gallagher would benefit not only from speed limit signage (presently there are none) but could use a double line running down the middle, the universal indicator that passing is prohibited.

Cars passing each other is a daily occurrence on Gallagher (and other streets). I invite city administrators and police officials to join me any day at their convenience to see this in real time. Signage that simply says ‘no passing zone’ is also a good start to safer streets.

Another thought is to add stop signs at three intersections along Gallagher: at Belmont, Norwalk and at Hanley, where the public schools are moving students to the newly-named Tau Beta Elementary School.

Gallagher is used as a cut-through street for drivers, with only one four-way stop at Evaline. Two more stop signs will help calm the street down, with the byproduct of encouraging most traffic to use main commercial corridors, Jos. Campau and Conant, as they should. Business would benefit from increased traffic volume, at least theoretically, not residential sections of town.

Finally, I’ve long thought of a launching a media campaign that would sell the idea of Hamtramck as a walkable community. This campaign would target all major media across the state - newspapers, magazines, television and web-based media. It would also sell the idea to motorists close to home,

Continued on page 6

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Obituaries

HENRY

Theresa Henry (nee Zwierzchowski), 82, died January 16, 2018.

Mrs. Henry was the beloved wife of Jack; mother of Kathleen (Gary) Koliba, Jack Jr. (Patrice), Gregory (Nancy), Paula (Earl); grandmother of Stacey (Rob), Melanie (Chris), Jack III (Kylie), and Adam (Jennifer); great grandmother of Samantha, Kyle, Austin, Annabelle, Madison, Alyssa, Emily, Legacy, Legend, Mythic, Miren. Many brothers and sisters also survive.

Visitation is Friday, January 19, 2-9 p.m., with Rosary at 5, at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home. Mrs. Henry will lie in state Saturday, January 20, at 11 a.m. until time of funeral mass at 11:30 at St Ladislaus Catholic Church in Hamtramck.

HUCZEK

Henry Huczek "Hank", 83, died January 16, 2018.

Mr. Huczek was the beloved husband of Aurelia (Lillian); father of Linda (Alan) Letkowski, Barbara (Jeffrey) Bartold, the late Richard; brother of Virginia (Gerald), the late Theodore; brother in law of Eddie (Jeanette), the late Jimmy; grandfather of Pamela, Kristina, AJ

(Tiffany), Jeffrey, Lori, and Tommy; great grandfather to Grayson, Madison, Elizabeth, Lily. Mr. Huczek was also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Hank was a lifetime resident of Hamtramck.

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

MERGEL

Leonard Mergel, 93, died January 15, 2018.

Mr. Mergel is survived by his sister, Sr. Mary Lydia S.S.J and F.; many loving nieces and nephews; many great nieces and nephews. Mr. Mergel was preceded into God's care by his parents, Joseph and Anna and eight brothers and sisters.

Mr. Mergel was a U.S. Army veteran of WWII. He served in England, France and Germany as a physician's assistant. Leonard was a lifelong Hamtramck resident, member of St. Florian Parish and retiree of Parish Publication Co.

Visitation is Friday, January 19, 3-8 p.m., parish Rosary at 5:30, at Krot Funeral Home in Hamtramck. Mr. Mergel will lie in state Saturday January 20, 9:30 a.m. at St. Florian Church with the Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. Burial will be at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Detroit.

Winter sidewalks and streets

Continued from page 5

both residents and drivers passing through, that above all else we value safety on the streets for everybody.

Market Hamtramck near and far this way: that we are a city that cares about its children and its elderly; its walkers, runners and cyclists. The message being that a 'slow city' is a place to invest in and live; it implies there is no reason to hurry, nowhere better to be than here.

There is simply no practical reason to go above 25 mph (I'm on record saying the limit could be reduced to 20 mph, especially on side streets) in a city so dense, so vibrant, with classic walkable urbanism contained in only two square miles.

In the next column I will talk about setting reasonable goals that can be achieved over the next few years. It will take a community effort to make that happen, including creating a groundswell of advocacy for public safety that pushes the entire city to become more engaged.

Hamtramck native Walter Wasacz writes about walkable discovery and adventures close to home for the Review.

Trucks, innovations take center stage at this year's Auto Show

Story and photos by John Kovach

Special to The Review

Pickup trucks have made up over fifty percent of vehicles sold in the domestic auto market for a few years now.

Judging by this year's North American International Auto Show (N.A.I.A.S.), that trend seems likely to continue. The annual Auto Show is once again being held at Cobo Center, this year from Jan. 20-28.

The 2019 Chevrolet Silverado had already made its debut at Eastern Market ahead of the official show. This updated version has a longer wheelbase, and is also 450 pounds lighter. Many refinements suggested by consumer panels during development appear on the new model.

Not to be outdone, Chrysler is debuting its new 2019 Ram 1500 pickup. It will also be offered in a hybrid model.



Above: The 2019 Ram 1500 pickup truck. Below: The "Enverge" concept vehicle by GAC Motors, a Chinese manufacturer entering the United States market next year.



These new Ram trucks will be a boon to the Detroit area, adding jobs at the Van Dyke Assembly Plant.

Ford is offering a revamped styling of its F-150 pickup. The F-150 will be offered in a hybrid model as well. Also, the

Ford Ranger is making a comeback in the newly popular mid-sized truck market.

Passenger cars are still popular, and many 2018 models have received facelifts and styling updates.

Three totally restyled sedan models are the Honda Accord and the Toyota Camry and Avalon. Both the Camry and Avalon exhibit sporty new lines. The Honda Accord has a sleek new look, and will be a favorite in the hot family sedan market.

Meanwhile, Chinese automaker GAC Motor Group is making news and turning heads with their offerings.

The most dramatic is the Enverge concept car. This stunning vehicle has gullwing- (Lambo) style doors that swing up for elegant passenger entry. At the GAC press conference, it was announced that a dealer network is in

Continued on page 8



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Coming events

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MONDAY, Jan. 29, 7-8 p.m. – The City of Hamtramck is hosting a Community Open House for the Pre-Development Planning of Hamtramck Stadium. The Community Open House will take place at the Hamtramck Public Library (2360 Caniff) and is open to everyone.

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

SATURDAY, Feb. 3, 2-4 p.m. – Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross Parish, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming, one week early. All are welcome.



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Continued from page 7

rested in the 12000 block of Dyar for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.

- A Ferndale resident was arrested after a traffic stop for carrying a concealed gun without a per-

mit.

- A Mitchell resident reported receiving harassing calls.
- A Mitchell resident reported someone damaged her vehicle.

- Officers assisted ambulance personnel with a homeless person needing medical attention. The person was taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital.
- A resident reported receiving harassing telephone messages from a person threatening to kill them.

Saturday, January 13

- A Livonia resident was arrested during a car crash investigation for drunk driving. The driver had a blood-alcohol level three times over the legal limit to drive. The driver also had no license.
- A resident in the 5200 block of Belmont reported a domestic assault.

Sunday, January 14

- A resident in the 3000 block of Holbrook reported she was assaulted by her husband.
- A resident reported a hit-and-run accident in the 3300 block of Comstock.
- Officers recovered a stray dog in the Grand Haven/Woodland area and it was taken to the West-

land Michigan Humane Society.


- A resident in the 12000 block of Gallagher reported a break-in.

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Trucks, innovations take center stage at this year's Auto Show

Continued from page 6

the process of being set up, and GAC vehicles may be offered to American drivers by next year.

Electric and self-driving cars are again being featured, with the technology being explained by suppliers at this year's show. The self-driving feature would also be used for people movers in cities, shuttles and, of course, passenger cars.

Automakers and suppliers have teamed up with Detroit Metro schools and vocational centers to offer education to high school students, in order to prepare them for job opportunities in the development, electronics, and programming needed for autonomous vehicles.

Along with these exciting new vehicles and this new technology being developed come jobs for our area. More suppliers are locating here than ever before.

So check out the auto show for more details on these and other exciting developments!

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