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Volume 8 No. 5
 January 29, 2016
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The Review

Hamtramck

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Quick Hits

One thing you can say about Hamtramck history buffs: They sure do like their bars.

Due to overwhelming popularity, the Hamtramck Historical Commission's program on the history of Hamtramck bars will be repeated this Sunday (Jan. 31) at the Historical Museum at 2 p.m.

Thursday's presentation was so popular it sold out very quickly. The program is called "Cheers: The Story of Hamtramck's Bars," and it's a PowerPoint presentation on the history of Hamtramck's bars going back more than 100 years.

Sunday's event does not include dinner and is only \$5 to attend. There are no reservations, so be sure to get there on time.

The museum is located at 9525 Jos. Campau.

The Museum will continue to hold its regular monthly Hungry for History series on Thursday, Feb. 18, on the topic of "Legendary Locals of Hamtramck." This will features some of the notable – and notorious – people who made a name in Hamtramck.

For more information go to the Hamtramck Historical Museum website at www.hamtramckhistory.org. Or email hamtramckhistory@gmail.com.

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Dust off that crystal ball and take a look into the year ahead

By Charles Sercombe

Several weeks ago we took a look back at the year 2015.

This week, it's time to look forward to what the year 2016 will bring to Hamtramck.

In politics, the national and international media are still buzzing around town interviewing the mayor and other elected officials over the city's ethnic transformation and the city council now being led by a Muslim majority.

The November election produced what is considered a first for an American city.

Media outlets from all over the world descended on Hamtramck

Some of it was good and some of it was filled with distortions and assumptions.

As for the political mix of the council it's too early to tell whether having a Muslim majority affects anything one way

Continued on page 2

Professional soccer is about to come to Keyworth Stadium this spring, which is one of many highlights of what's in store for the year 2016. Photo by Konrad Maziarz

to report on this historical moment as well as dive into Hamtramck's diverse cultural environment.

Some of it was good and some of it was filled with distortions and assumptions.

As for the political mix of the council it's too early to tell whether having a Muslim majority affects anything one way

Continued on page 2

Take a walk on the wild side ...

(Editor's note: City Life is a column about walkable discovery in Hamtramck.)

By Walter Wasacz

We've made it to the end of January without taking a major hit from winter weather. That's good news for those of us who spend time moving around the city on foot.

Yes, we could get slammed in February – we

did last year with 17 inches on Feb. 1 – but the long-term forecast suggests a warmer than average last six weeks of winter with less snow.

The northern midwest, including Michigan, is enjoying the benefits of El Niño, a temporary warming of Pacific Ocean waters off the coast of the Americas. The last time this cyclical weather event took place was 2009-10, when we also had a relatively warm, dry winter.

Not good for California, where seaside cliffs are collapsing due to heavy rains and flooding; or for the east coast, where 30 inches of snow fell in Manhattan last weekend.

But it is good news for some late winter happenings in Hamtramck, starting with the Paczki Run on Feb. 6, a multitude of parties on Paczki Day (Feb. 9) and the Hamtramck Music Festival (March 3-6).

I was thinking of those

Continued on page 5

The Hamtramck Transition Advisory Board has been in place for one year, and by the looks of it, it will remain in place for the coming year.

all financial and contractual decisions here. When it was created, there was no end date to when it would be dissolved and local control would be fully restored.

Recently, though, Gov. Rick Snyder has called on the Flint TAB to begin transitioning power to that city's mayor. The Flint TAB has yet to do that.

Considering that Flint is now in a major health crisis because of lead-tainted drinking water and that Hamtramck has been coasting along without any crisis, health-wise or financial,

Continued on page 4

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Dust off that crystal ball and take a look into the year ahead

Continued from front page

or another. There have only been two regular meetings so far in the new year.

But Councilmember Anam Miah has started what may appear to be an ongoing dispute with City Manager Katrina Powell. He wrote an open letter to the community criticizing Powell for not including the council in her decision making on appointing a new police chief.

Powell shot back that she needs approval for appointments only from the state-appointed Transitional Advisory Board.

This could be the start of more friction to come. But then again, squab-

bling in city hall is nothing new.

Speaking of Powell, this will be year two of her two-and-a-half year contract. By the end of this year it's likely she will seek an extension.

If there is an offer to extend her contract – which might be a big “if” – the ultimate decision will be in the hands of the TAB, not the council.

The finishing touches on major improvements to the city's three parks will be completed this year, particularly at Zussman Park which received a major makeover.

What else is ahead? In no particular order, we have this to look for-

ward to:

Road repairs will continue this year, again thanks to a grant. Several streets will be lightly repaved or receive a major overhaul.

This past year we lost Wendy's and McDonald's. That leaves just one chain hamburger joint. But what have sprung up from that loss are two chicken and fish outlets that fry up your pick, ready for consumption on the spot.

This winter's property tax bill included what should be the very last hit on homeowners to pay for a housing lawsuit that stretches back to the 1960s. We're pretty sure we can say this case is over and done with.

But then again, this case has a way of sticking around like gum on a shoe.

Hamtramck's bar and restaurant scene continues to expand. We hear there will be a reinvention of a certain bar on Carpenter. Paired with Graveyard Records just down the street, Carpenter could turn into a happening scene.

The Leer Corp. is apparently eyeing the industrial park owned by American Axle, where its plant once stood. While

this site is not on the Hamtramck side of the park, Leer's interest could spark some major development on the Hamtramck side of the border.

Paczki Day comes a little earlier than usual this year, on Feb. 9. That will surely help us bridge winter and the coming spring. In recent years Paczki Day has exploded in popularity. Just what the doctor ordered for beating the winter blahs.

The Hamtramck Music Festival is all tuned up and ready to play for the third year in a row on March 3-6. From what we hear, there are nearly 200 bands and DJs set to perform this year.

It's sort of taken the place of the Metro Times Blowout, which in recent years expanded to Detroit and Ferndale and unfortunately diluted the Hamtramck aspect.

Also in the entertainment department, get ready for some soccer. The Detroit City Football Club is gearing up to make Keyworth Stadium its new home. The club is moving from Cass Technical High School to Hamtramck because they need a bigger venue.

The club has huge plans for renovating the historic stadium, which will be another boost to the city.

There is plenty more coming ahead this year, because after all, this is Hamtramck and stuff just keeps happening.

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- Search Section 3 Business Registry
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If you have any questions or concerns you may contact the Hamtramck Housing Commission at 313-868-7445.

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This week at the library...

ESL Class – Monday, Feb. 1 at 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

Citizenship Classes – Tuesday, Feb. 2 at 5 p.m. Hamtramck residents can get help in preparing for their citizenship exam. Classes are free. Registration is required.

ESL Class – Wednesday, Feb. 3 at 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

ESL Class – Friday, Feb. 5 at 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Black History Month - Art and History Exhibit, opening reception **Thursday, Feb. 4 at 4:30 p.m.** Exhibit runs from Feb. 1 - 28. Sponsored by The Creative Spirits

Black History Film festival – Thursdays in February. Thursday, Feb. 4: "Freedom Song," featuring choir and light repast; Thursday, Feb. 11: "X"; Thursday, Feb. 18: "Malcolm X"; Thursday, Feb. 25: "Selma"; 4:30 p.m. lecture before each film. Films will begin promptly at 5 p.m. Sponsored by the Hamtramck NAACP Committee.

Tax program – Mondays, through April 11, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wayne Metro's Free Tax Program offers accessible services throughout Wayne County, with different times and locations. While appointments are encouraged, walk-ins are also accepted. To make an appointment please call: (313) 388-9799.

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

For more information about events at the library call (313) 365-7050, or visit our website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> where you can also access our online catalog.

Second Front Page



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 Jan. 12, and all councilmembers were present. Councilmember Abu Musa was absent.

Before the regular meeting was held, the council met in a work session. During that meeting Councilmember Saad Almasmari questioned the cost of a dumpster while reviewing city expenses.

City Manager Katrina Powell said this was an “interesting” matter. She said the dumpster had been ordered by someone named “Scott” a year or so ago. The city was just now being billed, Powell said.

She said it might have been ordered by the district court for a community clean-up project.

City Assessor Jay Singh explained why the council needs to adopt a guideline on establishing federal poverty levels to help determine who qualifies for financial

hardship in the upcoming property assessment hearings.

Singh said that in previous years some people were erroneously allowed to make this claim for several years in a row. He said the exemption is good for only three years.

In some cases, Singh said, these same people purchased additional property while supposedly suffering from a financial hardship.

In order to prove financial hardship, Singh said, applicants must submit their income tax form. But that is no guarantee either, he said.

“Often I find their tax return is wrong,” he said.

If the tax return holds up, the next process is to fill out an eight-page form.

The deadline to challenge your property assessment with the Board of Review is March 11.

Later in the meeting the council approved

using the federal poverty rate for those claiming financial hardship in the upcoming Board of Review hearings.

In the regular council meeting, Cathie Gordon spoke during the public comment section. She wanted to know what the city is going to do about an issue she brought up about the mayor’s building on Jos. Campau sharing a water bill with a next-door business.

Later in the meeting, City Manager Powell said the issue is being addressed and that the mayor has “stepped up” in the matter.

Councilmember Andrea Karpinski noted that since it’s been hard for some councilmembers to attend the newly-established earlier time for council work sessions and regular meetings, she proposed to go back to the former schedule.

Work sessions were changed from 6 p.m. to

5:30 p.m., and the regular meeting was changed from 7 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The change back to the former start times was adopted at the next council meeting.

Karpinski also encouraged Anam Miah, who was recently selected as the new Mayor Pro Tem, to follow-up on an emergency manager directive ordering councilmembers to take classes on how to run government.

Karpinski said that as the former Mayor Pro Tem she completed the coursework, which Miah has not followed up on.

She stressed that the classes will help officials prevent the city from another financial crisis.

Councilmember Mohammed Hassan took issue with that assessment, saying it was “politics” that drove the city into a financial crisis.

Miah said he was confident that “we’re going to move this city forward.”



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- Feb. 3 - St. Blaise of Sebastea, Bishop, Martyr-Blessing of Throats, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 6 - Pre- Lenten Polish Dinner 4-7 p.m. Featuring Grammy-Nominated Accordionist Mike Zawojksy
- Feb. 10 - Ash Wednesday Mass- Blessing and Distribution of Ashes

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- ~ Bavarian Creme
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- Hamtramck Public Library (2360 Caniff)
- Or online at: DetroitSOUP.com/HAMTRAMCK

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School Bell

Kosciuszko Middle School News

The December art contest results are in.

The individual art contest, sponsored by the KMS student council, was an opportunity for KMS students to show their beautiful artistic talent.

The theme was winter, and it was judged on creativity and craftsmanship. The winners are: 1st place, Zannatul Tasnim; 2nd place, Shazmina Ahmed; and 3rd place, Nuha Ahmed. The winners won a goodie bag of snacks, pencils, erasers and pencil sharpeners.

• Thursday, February 18 – 2nd Semester Curriculum Night from 4:30-7 p.m. All parents are encouraged to attend and hear what their children will be learning 2nd semester in their classes and tips on how to help their children at home. Refreshments will be served.

Science Fair Projects-Best of Show

Wednesday, February 3 – The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Science Fair Projects that won 1st and 2nd place from Kosciuszko Middle School, Dickinson East and Dickinson West will be on display at Dickinson East from 5-6 p.m. The community is invited to attend the Best of Show Science Fair projects. Light refreshments will be served.

Hamtramck High School News

Students in Mr. Fathalla Abdel-Salam's Advanced



Anthony Battaglia, HHS Social Studies teacher, and students Charles Flemming, Mike Young and Henry Shockley Smith recently attended the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast. Bottom: HHS students in the Advanced Placement Physics class perform an experiment.



Placement Physics class recently performed the "Flying Cow" lab experiment in class.

Holbrook Elementary School News

ESL classes began at Holbrook Elementary School. Please contact the school if interested at (313) 872-3203.

• Wednesday, February 3 – Muffins for Moms Meeting at 9 a.m. All moms are encouraged to attend.

• Thursday, February 4 – Donuts for Dads Meeting at 9 a.m. All dads are encouraged to attend.

• Wednesday, February 10 – Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) meeting at 9 a.m. All parents are encouraged to attend.

• Tuesday, February 16 – Parents of Great Students (P.O.G.S.) meeting at 9 a.m. All parents are encouraged to attend.

All Schools

• Friday, January 29 – Half day all for all schools. Hamtramck High School, Kosciuszko Middle School and Horizon High School, Semester Exams. Half day at Elementary Schools.

• Thursday, February 4 – Half day for all schools. Parent-Teacher conferences from 12:30-3 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. Report Card #2 distributed.

Compiled by
Janice Gandelman

Will local control ever return?

Continued from front page

cially-speaking, how much longer must the city wait for the return of local control? Terry Stanton, a

spokesman for the state's Treasury Department, said while the TABs were never meant to be "here for years

and years and years," there are a number of factors to consider.

Hamtramck's financial crisis a couple of years ago was one thing, but the state pointed to another problem when the city applied for state intervention: The city's culture of disruptive politics has to change.

Mayor Karen Majewski said that is still a problem. "I'm alarmed by the statements of some council members who, with not one iota of understanding of sound municipal management principles and with a questionable commitment to the city's overall well-being, still seem intent on outsourcing our fire department, among other actions that, rather than making Hamtramck more attractive and desirable as a place to live, work, and play, would actually walk back the progress the city has made and make us less viable and less desirable to investors and residents," Majewski said without identifying who those councilmembers are.

Continued on page 8



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- Blueberry
- Plain
- Old Fashioned Raisin
- Custard
- Lemon
- Powidla
- Pineapple
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- Apple
- Apricot
- Sugar

Two-Flavor Combos:

- Strawberry & Custard
- Chocolate w/ Custard Swirl
- "Presidential" Cherry w/Chocolate Top
- Pink Ribbon Ribbon Candy Top
- Cookie Crunch
- Rose Hips
- Caramel Cream
- Chocolate/ Marshmallow Crunch

Three-Flavor Combos:

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- "The Hamtramck Boat" - Banana Custard, Strawberry & Pineapple
- Chocolate Hazelnut/ Buttercream

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Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

School Board took the right action in declaring vacancy

It wasn't an easy decision, to be sure, but one that had to be made.

Recently, the Hamtramck School Board, except for Boardmember Ataur Kahn, voted to declare the seat held by Mohammad Huda to be vacant.

That action culminated a months-long investigation into Huda's residency status and a long wait to hear back from the Governor's Office on what to do next. The governor's people finally said that if the board thinks there is enough evidence proving Huda is not a resident of the city then all the board has to do is declare the seat vacant.

That was no small move on the board's part. It's not every day an elected official is kicked out, although in this case it was a matter of Huda disqualifying himself.

The Review initially set things in motion after we uncovered evidence that Huda was living in Warren at the time of his election and afterward.

This isn't the first time an elected official and candidate for office has come under suspicion of being a non-resident.

Hamtramck has too often become a political playground for some folks.

We need to continue to root these folks out. It comes down to this: Is it too much to ask someone to actually live here while serving in office?

Odds & Ends

Huh?... This past week WXYZ Channel 7 had a bizarre news report of a supposed Hamtramck police informant who claimed two detectives ordered him to illegally dump used tires in Detroit.

As the story goes the detectives even supplied the informant with a van to carry out this act.

Naturally, the story raised a lot of eyebrows. City officials declined to talk on the record, but we can tell you that what we heard off the record painted an entirely different picture.

After all, if you can't trust a wannabe informant, who can you trust?

Soup's on... Once again the fundraising campaign called SOUP will take place this Sunday (Jan. 31) at 4:30 p.m., with dinner and presentations at 5 p.m.

The effort helps raise money for local projects, which in the past have included building and placing small library boxes throughout town and providing funding for a local soccer team to buy a bus for transportation.

The event is held at Eight & Sand, 3901 Christopher. Admission is \$5 and includes a bowl of soup.

Those attending will hear presentations on community projects and at the end of dinner vote on who should take the proceeds from the door.

Take a walk on the wild side ...

Continued from front page

upcoming events as I walked home from the north end of Jos. Campau earlier this week. When I get a craving for burek, the savory pastry that is a staple of countries that stretch across southern Europe, northern Africa and Turkey, I usually walk up to the American European Market just south of Commor.

The owners are originally from Macedonia, where some of the first variations on this delicacy were imported from Turkey during the rule of the Ottoman Empire over 500 years ago.

The store offers meat, cream cheese and butter, spinach and cheese burek. I love the spinach and cheese equally, and got one of each of the big spirals (there are also small sizes) to eat for the rest of the week.

You can also find burek at the Euro Mini Mart a few blocks south on Jos. Campau between Casmere and Holmes; and at the Family Donut Shop at the corner of Conant and Caniff. It is also occasionally on the menu board at the Living Zen Organics Cafe inside the Detroit Zen Center on Mitchell at Casmere. You can also find the Living Zen burek at Cafe 1923.

So, yes, why did I start thinking of Fat Tuesday events and, in particular, the music festival, now in its third year?

This is why: the parking lots between the American European Market and the Ukrainian Self Reliance Credit Union to the immediate south once contained buildings that were destroyed by fire decades ago.

In one of the buildings was a bar called the Misty Inn, later renamed the Crest Lounge. It was here where a strong argument can be made that the roots of the Detroit independent rock scene were planted, roughly 1974 through 1976.

It was where you'd find members of Hamtramck bands like Shazam, Harlow and later the Mutants, the Romantics and the Reruns hanging out or performing. The Mutants played here a lot, in fact, leading up to some showcase gigs in New York in the fall of 1975.

I was at the Misty Inn/Crest Lounge a lot. Saying it was nearly every weekend for two years would be no exaggeration. My 45s — records by the Yardbirds, the Kinks, Jackie Wilson, the Underdogs and other Detroit soul and rock artists — were in the jukebox. It was one of the first music venues of that era where cover bands doing sometimes awful, sometimes perfect versions of Bachman Turner Overdrive tunes were not the norm. If original music inspired by then cutting edge artists like Roxy Music and David Bowie (may he rest in peace) was your cuppa tea, this was the spot for you.

When the Mutants went to New York in September 1975, I flew out separately with my friend "Worm" to hang out on the scene. We stayed at the then dingy and druggy Chelsea Hotel, where Patti Smith and Robert Mapplethorpe were living and making art together. The band performed across the street at a club called Mother's, where a transgender artist named Wayne County held

Continued on page 6

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Tuesday, February 8, 2016, 7:00 p.m. CITY OF HAMTRAMCK COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PY 2016

Pursuant to Federal guidelines, the City of Hamtramck is announcing its objectives and possible uses for developing projects using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

For Program Year 2016, the City of Hamtramck anticipates receiving an allocation of approximately \$236,826.30 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds.

City of Hamtramck, City Council will be holding the initial Public Hearing on **Tuesday February 8, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.**, in the City Council Chambers on the 2nd Floor of City Hall, 3401 Evaline, Hamtramck, MI 48212, to receive initial comments related to the stated objective below from the public on the PY 2016 allocation. A list of possible projects allowable under this funding is available in the Hamtramck City Clerk's Office.

CITY OF HAMTRAMCK OBJECTIVE

To promote economic health and financial equity through activities that improve the business environment, facilitate regionalism and collaborations, create and retain jobs, improve job skills, and provide an overall high quality of life in the City of Hamtramck.

The public is invited to attend and comment at the public hearing or to make written comments on or before the dates of the hearing. Written comments should be made to the attention of the Kathy Angerer, Community and Economic Development Director, 3401 Evaline Street, Hamtramck, MI 48212. Complete copies of all materials are available in the Hamtramck City Clerk's Office.

PLEASE NOTE: This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.71 a (2)(3) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

City of Hamtramck will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the Meeting to individuals with disabilities at the Meeting or Public Hearing upon 10 days notice to the City Clerk's Office. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Hamtramck City Clerk by writing or calling the Clerk's Office at (313) 870-0342 or (313) 870-0343.

Published January 29, 2016

The Hamtramck Review

Published every Friday

3020 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212

Phone: 313-874-2100 Fax: 313-874-2101

www.hamtramckreview.com • email news@thehamtramckreview.com

Publisher: John Ulaj • (248) 866-1110 • julaj@thehamtramckreview.com

Editor: Charles Sercombe Office Manager: Jean Ingenthron

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


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Take a walk on the wild side ...

Continued from page 5

a residency. Two years later, in London, I saw her as Jayne County with her band the Electric Chairs. That conjures up more still vivid memories I'll save for another time.

The Misty Inn predated Lili's (where the Painted Lady is now) by about five

years. Other small venues popped up on the east and west sides of Detroit in the late 1970s. The biggest and best was Bookie's Club 870 in Palmer Park. But the Hamtramck scene, which featured music that can be properly described as new wave or power pop,

before those terms were being commonly used, was critically important to the shape of things to come.

Those memories are also coming in handy for an exhibition I am working on with Greg Kowalski at the Hamtramck Historical Museum. One of my partners in this project is Tim Caldwell, an artist, collector and historian who helped assemble the recent MC5 50th anniversary exhibit at the Lincoln Park Historical Museum. We are meeting to plan something to acknowledge and celebrate Hamtramck music history.

Stay tuned for more info soon.

Walter Wasacz spends most of his time walking, reminiscing and writing in Hamtramck, where he was born and still lives.

Obituaries

KARWOWSKI

Roman Karwowski, 81, died January 20, 2016.

Mr. Karwowski was predeceased by his parents, Felix and Genevieve; brother, Felix (Phil). Mr. Karwowski is survived by his niece, Kathleen.

Roman was an attorney at law, a four time president of the Polish American Legal Society, parliamentarian of the Metro Detroit Ski Council, and an accomplished card player.

Mr. Karwowski had a private cremation. A memorial visitation will be held Saturday, January 30, 2016 from noon till 4 p.m., at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, 2396 Caniff, Hamtramck MI 48212.

Visitation is Friday, January 29, from 3-9 p.m., with Requiem Prayer at 7 p.m., at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, 2396 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212. Mr. Stasyk will lie in state Saturday, at 9 a.m., at St Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, 26401 St. Josaphat Dr., Warren MI 48091. There will be a private cremation following the Mass.

ROMANOWSKI



Bernard Romanowski, 62, died January 23, 2016.

Mr. Romanowski was the son of the late Frank, and Joan. Mr. Romanowski is survived by his siblings, Cynthia (Bruce) Choinski, Kathleen (Scott) Shiveley, Theresa Mischel, Christine (Theodore) Pypkowski; many nieces and nephews. Mr. Romanowski is predeceased by sister, Maryann (Victor) Carnecki.

A Funeral Mass was held Tuesday, at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Catholic Church. Arrangements were entrusted to Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, 2396 Caniff, Hamtramck MI 48212.

STASYK



Walter Stasyk, 66, died January 26, 2016.

Mr. Stasyk is survived by his loving wife, Nancy; children, Jacob (Maryanne) Wilk, Natalie; grandchild, Henry. Mr. Stasyk is the son of Sophia & the late Jaroslaw, brother of Stefan (Irene), Krystina (Donald) Kustarz and the late Eugene and Greg.

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Coming events

SATURDAY, Feb. 13, 9-3 p.m. – Hamtramck's Recycle Center is open at Caniff and McDougall. Drop of your recyclables for free.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 17, 7 p.m. – The Hamtramck Midtown Block Club will not meet during December 2015 and January 2016. 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.

OPEN ENROLLMENT

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visiting the website at www.academyofinternationalstudies.com or visiting the school office during the day Parent information meeting schedule:

Tuesday, February 9 from 10 am – 11 am

Thursday, February 18 from 4 pm – 6 pm

Saturday, February 20 from 9 am – 12 pm

Wednesday, February 24 from 1 pm – 2 pm

Saturday, February 27 from 9 am – 12 pm

If the number of applications per grade exceeds the number of spaces available, a random selection drawing (open to the public) will be held at the school on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 11:00 am.

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By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers Jan. 19-25.

Tuesday, January 19

- A resident in the 11000 block of Grand Haven reported someone busted out her car window.
- Children's Protection Services filed a child abuse complaint.
- A resident reported someone used her name to open an account.
- A resident was arrested following a traffic stop for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.

Wednesday, January 20

- A Detroit resident was arrested following a traffic stop for driving without a license and being wanted on three warrants. The driver has 17 previous convictions for driving without a license.
- Two residents were arrested following a traffic stop. The driver was driving without a license, and the passenger had an open intoxicant, allowed an unlicensed driver to drive his car and was wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.
- Michigan State Police asked for assistance in capturing a driver of a stolen car that was being pursued on I-75. The chase ended at Davison and the Lodge where the driver was arrested.
- An Oliver resident reported the theft of his

2006 Honda.

- A Fleming resident reported damage to property on his backyard.
- A St. Clair Shores resident reported someone broke into her vacant house on Roosevelt.
- A Burger resident reported two men attempted to rob him after knocking him to the ground.
- A Faber resident reported someone damaged the rear bumper of his car.

Thursday, January 21

- At almost midnight a Detroit resident was arrested following a traffic stop for having an improper license plate, driving with an expired license and being wanted on a warrant.
- A Detroit resident was arrested following a traffic stop for providing fraudulent proof of insurance.
- A resident reported someone opened a Comcast account in his name.

Friday, January 22

- A Detroit resident was arrested following a traffic stop for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.
- A woman reported that someone opened her car door and stole her purse from the front seat while the car was parked on Fleming.
- Detroit police reported recovering a car stolen out of Hamtramck.
- A Detroit resident reported being assaulted by his girlfriend while at a residence on Selfridge.

Saturday, January 23

- Grosse Pointe Park police reported recovering a car stolen out of Hamtramck.
- Officers took a report of retail fraud at CVS Pharmacy.
- A resident in the 5000 block of Belmont reported her ex-boyfriend assaulted her.

Sunday, January 24

- At a little past 2 a.m. officers responded to a report of two gunshots being fired in the area of Jos. Campau and Casmere. No suspects were found but officers recovered two shell casings in the parking lot of the former L. Georges Restaurant.
- A business in the 12000 block of Jos. Campau reported a break-in during the night and the theft of cash registers.
- A resident reported that he was assaulted by two men in a robbery attempt while he was at Jos. Campau and Roosevelt.
- A resident reported two men attempted to rob him while in the area of Florian and Brombach.

Monday, January 25

- An agent for the Michigan Department of Human Services reported being threatened by a person who was being investigated for welfare fraud.
- A McDougall resident reported being assaulted by her boyfriend.
- A resident reported fraudulent charges on her American Express card.

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Will local control ever return?

Continued from page 4

Former Emergency Manager Cathy Square agreed that the city's political culture – which some have said is more in line with a wrestling show – is still toxic and would only plunge the city back into crisis if local control was restored today.

“One of the major things is cooperation,” Square said. “Everybody has to get on the same page. It's one of the things the state looks at: Are they getting along”

Despite some lingering division on council, Majewski is upbeat about where the city is heading.

“We've made great progress in the past year—bringing some city services in house, making long-needed personnel adjustments, continuing to work on our aging infrastructure, attracting new businesses and residents, and rebuilding our fund balance,” Majewski said. “However, that progress needs to be shored up by an administrative foundation that still needs time to stabilize.”

“Despite some abominable management by the state-appointed emergency manager, we are now in a position to put policies and personnel in place to address long-standing issues like our infrastructure. While the TAB process is sometimes onerous, I believe that overall it is still a helpful short-term tool in helping the city continue to stabilize.”

There is also concern among some in city hall that there is a faction on city council waiting to remove City Manager Katrina Powell, who still has a year-and-a-half remaining in her employment contract with the city.

In two letters that Councilmember Anam Miah made public, he has heavily criticized Powell. He acknowledged in one letter that while Powell has protection of the state TAB, which would have to approve any firing of a city official, he is willing to wait until the day the TAB leaves.

“Yes, we all understand,

you are the lord and master of our community,” Miah wrote. “For now. But I am a patient man. And, I know that there will come a day in the not-too-distant future that your powers as the governor's viceroy will be removed.”

Miah is upset with Powell not including the council in her decision-making process in hiring Anne Moise as the new chief of police.

As for the timeline in transitioning back to local control, Miah said there has been no direction from the TAB or Powell on what benchmarks the city has to meet.

“Where are we with a transition? I don't know,” Miah said. “Are we at level one, or level 10? That's the gray area.”

Although there are differences on council and some division at times, it could be said that's just part of the democratic process. Sometimes democracy can be messy, noisy – even impolite.

Cathy Square isn't buying

that.

“Were hiding behind democracy for bad behavior,” she said. “Folks have to find a common ground.”

Successful cities, Square stressed, don't have battling elected officials.

While it can be said that Hamtramck is financially stable, there is serious trouble down the road. Square said that in five years – 60 months – there will be a large number of employees retiring.

That, she said, is going to break the city financially – unless something is worked out beforehand. That's a task she laid out in her final directives before departing as emergency manager a year ago in December.

“The pension is the bogyman,” Square said. “The road map ahead for the city is to keep the finances stable and solve the pension issue.”

(Next week: Just where is the city at in solving pension funding? We will talk with City Manager Powell where she is at in dealing with this issue.)

NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2015

To the Qualified Electors of
HAMTRAMCK CITY – WAYNE COUNTY,
MICHIGAN

Notice is hereby given that **Monday, February 8, 2016** is the **last day to register** to vote or change your address for the above stated election.

If you are not currently registered to vote or have changed your address in the above stated jurisdiction in which you live you may do so at the following locations and times listed in this notice.

IN PERSON:

- At your city or township clerk's office or at the office of any county clerk during normal business hours.
- At any of the Secretary of State Branch offices located throughout the state during normal business hours.
- At the specified agency for clients receiving services through the Family Independence Agency, the Department of Community Health, Michigan Jobs Commission and some of the Commission for the Blind.
- At the military recruitment offices for persons enlisting in the armed forces.

BY MAIL:

- By obtaining and completing a Mail Voter Registration Application and forwarding to the election official as directed on the application by the close of registration deadline. Mail voter registration applications may be obtained by contacting:

CITY CLERK
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NOTE: A person who registers to vote by mail is required to vote in person unless they have previously voted in person in the city/township where they live or are at least 60 years of age.

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- সশস্ত্র বাহিনীতে তালিকাভুক্ত ব্যক্তিদের জন্য সেনা নিয়োগদানের অফিসগুলোতে।

ডাক মারফত তা করতে পারেন:

- একটি ডাকযোগে ভোটদানকারীর নিবন্ধন আবেদন ফরম প্রাপ্তি ও পূরণ সাপেক্ষে এবং আবেদন ফরমের উপরে নির্দেশিত নিবন্ধন সময়সীমা অনুযায়ী নির্বাচনী কাছে পাঠাতে হবে। নীচের ঠিকানায় যোগাযোগ করে ডাকযোগে ভোটের নিবন্ধনের আবেদন ফরম পাওয়া যেতে পারে:

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লক্ষ্য করুন: ডাক মারফত ভোট দেওয়ার জন্য নিবন্ধিত যে কোন ব্যক্তিকে স্বশরীরে ভোট দিতে হবে, যদি না তারা তাদের বসবাসের শহর/নগরে পূর্বে ভোট দিয়ে থাকে তাদের বয়স কমপক্ষে ৬০-বছর না হয়।