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# **Quick Hits**

Prepare to be inconvenienced.

Starting this evening, Friday, June 12, at 7 p.m., Jos. Campau will be closed from Caniff to Holbrook for one week.

It's going to take that amount of time to fix a water main break at Jos. Campau and Trowbridge and then repair the road.

The road is owned and maintained by Wayne County and the city has no say in the matter.

Mark Ragsdale, the Director of Public Services in Hamtramck, said the road repair is what will take longer. That's because Jos. Campau has to be able to support the weight of heavy trucks, and that means special care has to be taken.

In the meantime, all side streets leading into Jos. Campau will remain

Truck traffic will be redirected to Conant and the I-75 Service Dr.

Jos. Campau will be reopened on Friday, June 19 at about 6 p.m., or maybe as late as 7 p.m.





**Voter Registration Drive** Saturday, June 20 1 to 5pm SUBFIG

at PUBLIC POOL (next to Bozek's Market) 3309 Caniff • Hamtramck • 313-587-9572

## Your **Hamtramck Public School Board**

5001



Treasurer

**Magdalena Srodek** 



President

Vice President

**Mohammad Huda** 

Trustee





**Ataur Khan** 



**Jackie Starr** Trustee

# The best and the brightest

Valedictorian:

#### Amal Alzendani

Amal Alzendani is the epitome of a perfect student. Her high academic achievements and citizenship, coupled with her extracurricular activities and personal interests, make her not only an ideal candidate for valedictorian, but also the candidate for the best friend you could

ask for. Even though she enrolled in Hamtramck High

By Alexandra Paradowski during sophomore year, Amal didn't let being unfamiliar with the school and its inhabitants stop her from aiming high. She took both AP Physics and AP Calculus junior year, even scoring a very impressive 4 on the AP Calculus exam. And she didn't let Senioritis cripple her this year — Amal took both AP Literature and multiple dual enrollment classes.

And outside of the **Continued on page 5** 



**Susmetha Baidya** 



**Tazia Miah** 

## Start Here, **Stay Here Succeed Here**

**Bv Tom Niczay** Superintendent of Hamtramck Public Schools

The 2014-2015 school year brought continuous academic recognition by Hamtramck Public School students.

The 135th graduating class of Hamtramck High School earned \$2.3 million in scholarship money. Hamtramck High School ranked first overall in the University of Michigan 2015 Physics Olympiad held in early May in Ann Arbor, beating out Monroe High School and East Lansing High School, who finished second and third, respectively.

As impressive as that accomplishment is Hamtramck teacher Olympiad sponsor David Preston also said the students "represented Hamtramck very well" -meaning their composure, attitude and interactions with other students and the judges was top notch. That says the parenting and the schooling these students received paid dividends.

In a home design competition sponsored by the Engineering Society of Detroit involving students from Central Collegiate Academy, Cody High School's Detroit Institute of Technology, Denby High School, Melvindale High

Continued on page 2





- Furnaces
- Boilers
- Air

**Conditioners** 







### The Early Childhood Elementary School provides quality education for preschoolers through second graders

say that they have a high quality Great Start Readiness Preschool Program in their building for 4-yearolds. The program has a four star rating from The Michigan Department of Education. The preschoolers are included in many the elementary school's activities such as live animal shows. concerts, the annual Reading Rodeo, math night and science night.

The elementary school has had a strong focus on reading and writing this year. They have had several book give-a-ways, which are always a hit with the students. They invited students and parents to the Reading Rodeo in which a discussion was held on how to motivate children to read. The event ended with free books, cowboy hats, animal crackers and licorice lassos.

During reading month, the students celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday and invited community members in to read. The Hamtramck Police Department continued to

The school is proud to send officers to read to ay that they have a high the students the entire uality Great Start Readi-year.

to elementary students read tire individually to her. Each child added a link to the





At the Early Childhood Elementary School, students get a head start on reading and writing.



Mrs. Stevens, the principal, made a commitment to hear all of the

**Public Notice** 

Hanley International Academy will be holding a public hearing on its

2015-2016 Proposed Budget. The hearing will be held on Thursday,

June 25, 2015 at 7:00 am.

Location:

2400 Denton Street

Hamtramck, MI 48212

**Public Notice** 

Hanley International will conduct its Annual Organizational Board

meeting on Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 7:10 am.

Location:

2400 Denton Street

Hamtramck, MI 48212

reading chain in the office. She is proud to say that she heard all willing participants. The reading chain is on display in the office.

Each student kept a writing journal and was given interesting writing prompts. One of the favorite prompts was to write about their visit to The Detroit Institute of Arts.

After writing about the DIA, each class came back and created art in the style of a particular artist. In May the school had an art show with refreshments, crafts and a slide show of the year's events.

# Start Here, Stay Here, Succeed Here continued from front page

School, Osborn Collegiate Academy of Mathematics, Science and Technology of Detroit and Southfield Regional Academic Campus, Hamtramck High School took first, second and third place.

Forty-nine elementary and middle school students participated in the 58th Science and Engineering Fair of Metropolitan Detroit in March and all were awarded for their projects. Science Fair sponsor Eva Klikovac commented after the competition that "all of our students' behavior was outstanding at the event."

The common threads all Hamtramck Public Schools focus on are working collaboratively with different nationalities and races. Cooperation and respect are an extension of how HPS families raise their children. We want to instill the same universal values at school that are being taught at home.

Bridge Magazine ranked Hamtramck Public Schools 121st out of the 507 school districts in Michigan. The Mackinac Center for Public Policy ranks Hamtramck High at 120 out of 649 high schools. Both rankings came out during the 2014-2015 school year. These rankings take into account the poverty rate based on the number of free/reduced lunches a district and a school receives. The Michigan Department of Education does not use the poverty rate in their rankings. Therefore, HPS has two "priority schools" as defined by MDE. The staff is determined to have that "priority" designation removed and will do so rap-

Retiring State School Superintendent Mike Flanagan recently said that despite "15 years of education reform the system (state wide and nationally) is broken."

Flanagan went on to say "differences in philosophies on reforms; differences in political influences; and entrenched ideologies at state and federal levels have kept our system of schools in a continuous wash of confusing redirection."

"Yes, the system is broken, but not the people in the system."

Flanagan added that "we don't want to lower our academic rigor and standards for Michigan's low income students and students facing tough personal circumstances." "But let's face it,

educators in nations like Finland are not being asked or expected to take on the heavy lifting many Michigan educators are asked to take on every day."

Flanagan hit the nail on the head and Hamtramck Public School educators do a tremendous amount of "heavy lifting" every school

As we close out the 2014-2015 school year HPS is a successful district because the staff and students are accomplishing remarkable tasks despite being in a broken system. Thanks for your continuous support of our diverse and great school system.





12002 Jos. Campau • (313) 892-9689

# This week at the library... Tutoring for High | Family Story Time for | dents.

School Students - Tuesdays and Thursday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. The APIA is offering tutoring for high school students and below. For more information and registration inquire at the circulation desk.

Children's Movie
Night - Tuesday, June 16
at 4 p.m. All children are
invited to see a movie
shown on high-definition
screen and enjoy a serving of popcorn. This
week's feature is "Inkheart."

Registrations for the Summer ESL Classes - Tuesday, June 16. The Summer ESL classes will be held on Mondays from 11 a.m. to noon.

Make & Take Workshop - Wednesday, June 17 at 4 p.m. All children are invited to an arts and crafts workshop. This week's theme is "Youth Art"

Family Story Time for Children - Thursday, June 18, at 6 p.m. Join your friends at the library for a reading of a story book for children "Dot." This is part of the Michigan Reads Program.

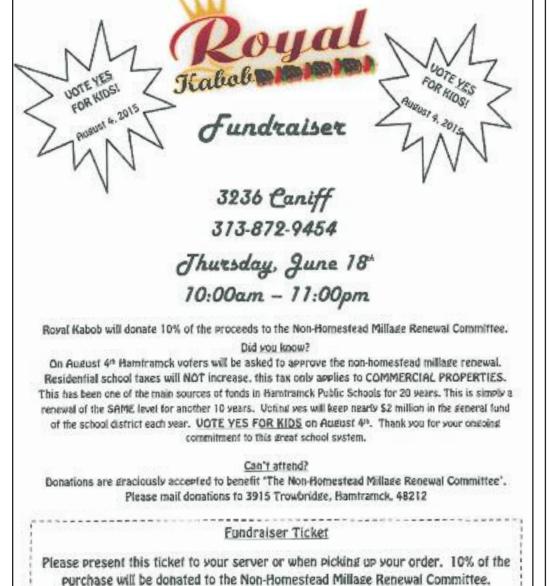
Friends of the Library
Meeting - Thursday, June
18 at 6 p.m. FHPL President Kathy Kristy and
Treasurer, George Gorday
invite all members and
volunteers to participate
in the regular monthly
meeting.

Registrations for the Children's Summer Reading Program - Monday, June 22. Children who want to participate in the 2015 Summer Reading Program can register for the program starting June 22. The SRP will be held every Wednesday at 1 p.m. from July 8 to September 2. This year's theme is "Every Hero has a Story."

Registration for the Teen Summer Reading - Monday, June 22. The SRP program for Teens will be held on Thursdays at 4 p.m. It will start on August 6 an continue to September 3. Students who are 12-17 are eligible to participate in the program.

Common Word Alliance of Hamtramck - Monday, June 29 at 7 p.m. The Hamtramck Common Word Alliance will hold its monthly meeting at the Library. For more information call Arif Huskic at (313) 999-5483 Refreshments will be served. Everyone is invited.

Meeting of the Library Board - Thursday, July 9 at 6 p.m. Regular meeting of the Library Board will be held in the auditorium. Open to the public.



THANK YOU!

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.

Free to Hamtramck resi-

# Second Front Page

## **A Year End Summary for Holbrook Elementary**

#### **By Colleen Murphy School Principal**

This year we had a large influx of new families join the community at Holbrook

We welcomed them and started the year with station days. This is a day when students rotate around the building becoming familiar with the important procedures policies to ensure a safe and engaging learning environment.

For families, we continue to have parent involvement nights including a Curriculum Night, Math Night, and Science Night. This year we have also had two book fairs, and during the last week of school books will be given to each child so they can participate in the summer reading program. We are hoping students read, talk about, and then trade their books with peers in the community despite school not being in session.

As always, our annual visit from the Brainstormers was a big hit at Holbrook. This group comes in and motivates our students to share their experiences by writing fiction stories, some of which are chosen to get acted out by the Brainstormer staff and our students.

The parents and staff at Holbrook were also able to start a collaborative conversation with a sister school in Dearborn. Becker Elementary hosted some teachers and then their staff visited Holbrook. They shared ideas, suggested fundraisers.

cussed how we can all help our communities develop stronger academic, social, and emotional foundations. A Mother's Day fundraiser was one of the results of collaboration

Teachers and community members assisted in the re-facing project.

**Hamtramck Review** 

Students went on some field trips this year including trips to the apple orchard, Belle Isle, The



The annual visit by the education group Brainstormers is a favorite among Holbrook students.



with Becker, and the event was very successful. Mothers were happy, children felt the warmth of giving, and the PTA raised some money to help purchase new playground equipment.

SOUP it is! Ms. Gallacher and some of our teachers, along with some student leaders in 4th and 5th grade, were able to secure a gift of over \$700 from the SOUP organization of Hamtramck. The playground has a new face and is welcoming and practical.

Detroit Institute of Art. nature centers and The Natural History Museum.

The 8th grade went to visit the high school as well, and the 5th graders went to Keyworth Park to meet up with their pen-pals from Dickinson East. Students really enjoyed these adventures. The trips facilitate learning beyond the day in the classroom.

We have had some visitors in the school as well. The sixth grade Social Studies class had presentations from the transportation planner, Joel Batterman, to uncover the mystery of civil engineering and students wrote opinion papers about the con-Woodward troversial Avenue project.

We had a guest author, Ruth McNally Barshaw, who displayed the process of writing in an interesting and engaging evening. Holbrook held a community reader day as well with many members from the community joining us for a day of reading. Finally, we hosted the NED show.

This is a new show to Holbrook with NED sending positive messages: Never give up, Encourage others, and Do your best. This message was strategically planned just before we started our MSTEP testing.

The new MSTEP was a challenge for our students. The 8th grade started in early April and the first test took a whole day for our students. They were dedicated to showing their knowledge and persevered with determination to succeed.

The rest of our students followed as the testing cycle spans from April to June. Results will come out quickly as Holbrook chose to take the computer test this year. We expect student growth to be strong.

Go Hawks!



It's Time to Pray, Please Join Us We are a Multicultural Parish Family

Sunday English Mass 9 a.m. Everyone is Welcome to Worship with Us

**June 13** - Soup Kitchen 2-4 p.m.

July 11 - Soup Kitchen 2-4 p.m.

We are an Active Parish Serving the Community — Celebrating 92 Years of Traditional, Catholic, and Democratic Church

**Holy Cross Parish Polish National Catholic Church** 2311 Pulaski, Hamtramck • Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak, Pastor 313-365-5191 www.HolyCrossPNCC.com



# Get Out on the Hamtown!





# School buildings are being improved, thanks to voters

By Wayne Satterfield **Director of Buildings** & Grounds; Hamtramck **Public Schools** 

Hamtramck, a Sinking Fund Millage was passed that will provide much needed maintenance dollars for the next 10 years.

Thanks to the voters in

The district has many



**Wayne Satterfield** 

repair needs that could not have been funded without this critical millage. Most of our roofs are beyond their lifecycle and in need of full replacements. Updates and reare needed to electrical/heating/plumbing systems, windows,

Continued on page 9

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For a same-day primary care appointment, call (313) 972-9000 or visit henryford.com/sameday

#### Friday, June 12, 2015

### **Hamtramck High School General Motors School of Excellence GM Student Corps**

The 2015 General Motors Student Corps has already begun planning their projects for this summer.

These Hamtramck High Students have researched needs and costs and spoken with Kathy Angerer, Director of Community and Economic Development, to plan and implement a project that will benefit the city of Hamtramck.

These 10 students were chosen after a rigorous hiring process that included essay writing and two different interview panels representing General Motors, Hamtramck High Champions Council.

Along with working with GM retirees, the students

Dining For Kids

will take field trips that will include the GM Tech Center. They will present their project and accomplishments to Mark Reuss, President of General Motors North America.



Back row: Agron Berishaj, Alexandra Paradowski, Jabeda Begum, Aysha Begum, Tapia Miah, Rakhia Chowdhury, Michael Young. Front row: Ahmed, Tahmim Siddique, Iftiar Rahim

## A special ceremony for **Horizon High School seniors**

On Monday, June 3 a special candlelight ceremony was held for Horizon High School's graduating sen-

Phone (313) 874-2100

At this event, each senior was accompanied to the stage by a significant person in their life. While being pinned, teachers said a few words about the student's character and positive attributes.

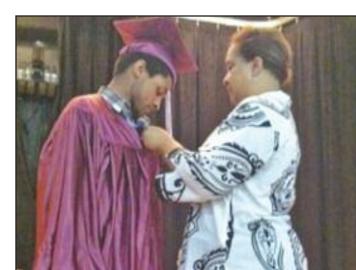
There were not many dry eyes in the audience or on the stage. This ceremony will definitely be a distinctive tradition for years to



Abriana DiCiacca with mother Kristi Adkins.



Amina Floyd with father Ephraim Shabazz.



**Devon Brady with his mother Arianna Brady.** 

### DELITE CAFÉ **FUNDRAISER**

3135 Caniff St. Hamtramck 313,305,4244

Invite your friends and family to dine with us on

June 17th and June 18th

Delite Café will donate 10% of the proceeds to the Non-Homestead Millage Renewal Committee.

#### "Can't attend?"

Donations are graciously accepted to benefit 'The Non-Homestead Millage Renewal Committee'. Please mail donations to 3915 Trowbridge, Hamtramck, MI 48212

#### Did you know?

On August 4th, Hamtramck voters will be asked to approve the non-homestead millage renewal. Will my residential school taxes increase? NO. THIS TAX ONLY APPLIES TO COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES. VOTE YES FOR KIDS on August 4th.



#### Fundraiser Ticket



Please present this ticket to your server, delivery person or when picking up your order. 10% of the purchase will be donated to the Non-Homestead Millage Renewal Committee

# New reading program at Kosciuszko Middle School

Two of our English Language Arts classes at KMS have adopted a new Literacy Program from Pearson called iLit.

This revolutionary program is designed to personalize reading instruction and promote literacy growth. The research-driven instructional model is built and delivered entirely on the iPad, enabling back and forth functionality between teacher and student, making accessible, adaptive, and engaging for today's teachers and students.

iLit uses a gradual reteacher models an in- to a journal prompt about

structional skill, such as using textual evidence to make inferences. Then, the teacher guides the class as they work together to practice the skill. Students then apply the skill at their own level on adaptive activities. The iLit instructional model is broken into stages that are delivered over a 90 minute double block class

Every day the class starts off reading an instructional level book of their choice on the iPad during Time to Read. After reading for 10 minutes, the students are lease approach. First, the then required to respond

their reading in their digital notebook.

Next, students are introduced to two new vocabulary words that will be used in their class reading for the day. Students are sent a survey via the iPad and are asked to respond to their prior knowledge about that word. Then, a brief explanation of the word is given by the teacher using pictures and an example sentence.

After, the teacher reads aloud a class book as the students follow along on their iPads. The teacher models a specific skill for the day and guides students to their own under-

Continued on page 5

Friday, June 12th 3:30 p.m.

50/ 50 Raffle

Suzy's Bar

2942 Evaline St. Hamtramck, MI 48212

\$5 Admission Includes light food

5 Cash Bar 5 10% Donated by Suzy's

> \$1 Jello Shots Donated by Suzy's

"Can't attend?"

Donations are graciously accepted to benefit "The Non Homestead Renewal Committee". Please mail donations to 3915 Trowbridge, Hamtramck, MI 48212

#### Did you know?

Caus

On August 4th, all voters in the community will be asked to renew the 10 year non -homestead millage. This is a small tax ONLY on local businesses, and has been one of the main sources of funds in Hamtramck Public Schools for 20 years. This is simply a renewal of the SAME level for another 10 years. Homeowners and renters do NOT pay anything. Vating yes will keep nearly \$2 million in the general fund of the school district each year. Voting no will take away that part of the existing budget. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to this great school system.



Refreshments provided by John Ulaj, publisher of The Review

# The best and brightest

**Continued from front page** 

schoolroom, Amal is even more impressive. She's a part of many extracurricular activities including Student Council, National Honor Society, FIRST team, Physics Olympiad and Quiz Bowl. While this might seem like a very full plate to the average student. I think we can easily say Amal is no mere mortal. If anything, Amal is the Class of 2015's personal superhero.

Graduating with a stellar 4.1923 GPA and an impressive 34 ACT score, Amal will be attending the University of Michigan -Ann Arbor on a full ride scholarship. She hopes to major in international studies and minor in business, but her ultimate dream is to become a civil rights attorney — and if there's anything Amal is passionate about it's social jus-

There's not a doubt in anyone's mind that Amal will achieve great things in life. The end of her high school career is only the beginning of what looks to be a very bright future. So bright in fact, you might need shades.

#### By Laki Ali **Salutatorian: Susmetha Baidya**

In everything from excelling academically, to being actively involved in her school and community, Susmetha Baidya always exemplified a model student in her four years at Hamtramck High School.

Susmetha entered high school with high aspirations and a burning passion to succeed. She continually challenged herself throughout the years by taking all the advanced

classes she could get her hands on. In just her freshman year, Susmetha took on three Honors classes in Physical Science, World History, and English 9. Even after honors classes were removed, she continued to go above and beand took yond Calculus. AP Literature. dual enrollment courses to earn college credit.

Susmetha acts as a role model not only to students in her school, but also to people all over the community because of her immense involvement in extracurricular activities. During her time at Hamtramck High School, she was involved in Girls' Varsity Tennis, Band, FIRST Robotics, and Physics She Olympiad. demonstrated her leadership abilities and passion to make a difference in her school and community as the vice president of Student Council and secretary of National Honor Society. Even through the immense stress she had to endure to succeed, she never forgot to put a smile on her face.

After four long years of hard work, perseverance, and dedication, Susmetha will soon be able to throw off her graduation cap and start a new chapter in her life at the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor. She will undoubtedly accomplish anything she sets her mind to, and continue on her path to success.

#### **By Jenny Ghose** Salutatorian: **Tazia Miah**

Tazia Miah is an exceptional young woman composed of big dreams, impressive accomplishments, and a successful academic track record that has led to her well-de-

served position as the Co-Salutatorian for the Class of 2015.

Tazia consistently challenges herself with rigorous coursework, and has maintained a 4.15 GPA throughout her high school career. She has taken courses such as AP Calculus AB in the eleventh grade, earning a 3 on the AP exam for the subject. In her senior year, Tazia continued her streak by taking AP English Literature and Composition and dual enrollment Psychology and Sociology.

Outside of her schoolwork, Tazia's devotion and intelligence has shined through in her numerous extracurricular activities. She held prominent positions in several organizations: as President of her class for four years; a flautist for the Symphonic/Marching Band for seven years; an editor of The Cosmos Times; Vice President of National

Honor Society; and cochairman for Student Council.

Tazia has dedicated much of her free time to volunteering in her community, at the Wayne Metro Community Action Agency, Horizon Alternative High School, and Hamtramck High School, as well as during her time as one of the first interns hired for the 2013 GM

Summer Corps Program. Her family of a single mother and younger sister, although small, has played an enormous role in her motivation to excel: to make them proud. Thrilled to continue the tradition of bringing immense joy to her family, Tazia plans to attend the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor for a bachelor's degree in Biomedical Sciences Global Health. Shortly after graduating, would like to enroll in medical school.

# New reading program at Kosciuszko Middle School happenings

**Continued from page 4** 



Kosciuszko Middle School students participate in a new literacy program that is molded to each student's needs.

standing during the read-

versation, where students can talk in pairs about two questions that help students connect their own lives to the reading of the day. After the conversations, students are engaged in a whole group lesson where the teacher provides direct instruction on reading skills, vocabulary terms, and elements

of writing.

Finally, students get the Next is classroom con- chance to apply the skills being taught independently during work time. Each day students are sent an assignment on their iPad and they are required to complete the assignment daily. The teacher then grades the assignment on the teacher iPad and sends the assignment back to the student with feedback

so they know how they

iLit incorporates new age technology with good old fashioned teaching. The students are engaged and are able to be successful due to the individualization of the lessons. They are interested in the material being learned and excited to come to class each day.

# **Board of Education targets** areas for improvement

by Dr. Leonard Rezmierski

The Hamtramck Board of Education, in cooperation Superintendent Niczay, requested Board of Education implementation of Study Sessions to review all present and "ever changing" Rules and Regulations for effective Board of Education governance of the School District.

Superintendent Niczay contacted Dr. Leonard Rezmierski, Administrative Advisor to the Wayne County Superintendents and Boards of Education. Dr. Rezmierski has over 50 years of experience in Michigan Public Education. He last served 20 years as Superintendent for the Northville, Michigan Public

Schools.



**Dr. Leonard Rezmierski** 

The Study Sessions, open to the public, began in January of 2015 and are on-going.

The major issues, discussed by the Board of Education, focusing on the future of the Hamtramck

Public Schools, range from

raising student academic

achievement, communication with all parent groups, effective staff recruitment and retention, to necessary repairs/upgrades of school buildings.

The Board of Education has identified at least 16 major issues facing the Hamtramck Public Schools in the next five years.

The Board of Education, Superintendent Niczay and the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency (WCRESA) Administrative Advisor are actively engaged in creating and supporting systemic changes affecting the future for the students, families and staff of the Hamtramck **Public** Schools.

# Kosciuszko Middle School







**Spanish 1** - 125 KMS students completed the 1st year of the world language requirement. They are able to answer 31 questions and write three paragraphs in Spanish. We had so many fun activities. The students made three Latino foods: Mexican pico de gallo, South American empañadas with dulce de leche and Latin America's favorite cake, pastel de tres leche. They also participated in carnaval in which they got to make their own song and dance routine.

**Spanish 2** - 32 KMS students completed the 2nd year of the world language requirement. They are now able to make a 5 minute oral presentation about traveling and write three well-developed paragraphs in which they created language, instead of memorized phrases. They also made Latino foods: día de los muertos calaveritas, homemade tortillas, and Costa Rican gallo pinto. In addition, they went on a field trip to Los Altos, an authentic Mexican restaurant at which they had to order their meal in Spanish.



**Student Council** – 35 KMS students participated in Student Council this year. They organized multiple candy gram fundraisers as well as a Mother's Day fundraiser so that students could order roses for their moms. They also hosted a talent show, monthly art contests, an 8th grade celebration dance and an end of the year festival.

### **Kosciuszko Middle School**

On Thursday, May 28, 65 KMS students took a field trip to Michigan Adventures in Muskegon, Michigan.

The annual field trip, which is open to eighth grade students at KMS, is a reward for students completing middle school with passing grades.

It is an incentive that students work towards throughout the year and helps to encourage them to keep up their good grades. This year the weather was perfect with temperatures ranging from 70-75 degrees and sunshine all day.

The water park was open and students were able to enjoy riding roller coasters and the waterpark facilities. All students, though tired, all agreed that it was the best day of the year.

### **Hamtramck High School**

Hamtramck High School students Benjamin Blazevic, Laki Ali and Tapia Miah were recently selected as finalists in the Detroit Junior Achievement "Be Entrepreneurial" Competition.

They were supported by HHS teacher Mr. Victor Evanoff. Laki Ali earned a \$2,500 scholarship for winning first place and Tapia Miah won a \$1,500 scholarship with a second place finish.

Sixteen students recently toured WXYZ studios as guests of news anchor Carolyn Clifford. The group is shown here on set with Carolyn and Stephen Clark, co-anchors of the Channel 7 evening news.

#### Holbrook **Elementary School**

On Saturday, June 6, twenty students four staff members from Holbrook Elementary came together to make "Project" to make their vision come

Turn Parking Lot into Fitness and Well-Being Paradise" come to life.

In January, students from Holbrook were among one of four groups selected by Hamtramck SOUP organization to pitch their idea on how they could improve their Hamtramck commu-

This past Saturday, the soccer field, free throw lines, hopscotch and foursquare were added to the parking lot. The remaining grant money will be used to purchase new rims and nets for the bas-

ketball hoops, removable

soccer goals and various

to life.



Hamtramck High School students were finalists in a recent Junior Achievement contest.



High school students toured WXYZ Channel 7's news studio and posed for a photo with co-anchors Stephen Clark and Carolyn Clifford as well as weathercaster Keenan Smith.



Holbrook students transform a parking lot into a fitness area.

Seven students sented an idea that included painting a soccer field, free throw lines, hopscotch and foursquare onto the concrete of the parking lot across from Holbrook Elementary.

The Hamtramck community selected their idea and Here's to a healthier Hamthey were awarded a microgrant of over \$700 in order

other sports equipment.

The students had a blast beautifying their community and were happy to report that members of their community were using the parking lot to play basketball and soccer the next day after the paint dried. tramck.

# **Horizon High School's Class** of 2015 shining stars



strong GPA since enrolling Hamtramck Public Schools in 2013. During his

senior year, he maintained a 3.44 GPA. He plans to attend Wayne County Community College in the Fall and has his sights set on becoming a computer engineer. Jumel enjoys playing soccer in his spare time and is currently employed full-time at Texas de Brazil as a server. Congratulations Jumel!

Nazia Chowdhury arrived



United States in February of 2014. She enrolled at Hamtramck

High School and then transments! to Horizon High

**Jumel Ahmed** has carried a School. She maintained a 3.47 GPA this school year. Nazia plans on attending Wayne State University in the Fall and major in Engineering. She enjoys listening to music when she is not studying. Her favorite part of this year was working with all of her teachers. "It was a fun and educational year. The teachers are the best"

> Sherron Carter has been a model student

> Thanks Nazia and Congratu-

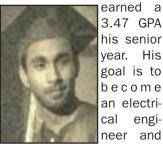


lations!

during his year here at Horizon High School. earned a

full ride academic and athletic scholarship to Tiffin University in Ohio. He will be playing defensive back, the position he has played for the past four years. Way to go Sherron! We are very proud of your achieve-

#### **Mohammed Abdul Rahim**



3.47 GPA his senior year. His goal is to become an electriengineer and will begin

his college career at Wayne County Community College. Congratulations Moham-



# Hamtramck High's 2015 top scholars



**Abdul Haque Saucedo** 



**Abida Khanom** 



**Demaia Coleman** 



Elsa Nilaj



Fabiha Sultana



**Mahmuda Mouri** 



Maksuda Haque





**Muna Algehaim** 



**Nadim Ahmed** 



Tasnima Laska



**Famida Parvin** 



**Fariha Shadiah** 



Hana Berishaj



**Ilma Bilic** 



**Jenny Ghose** 



**Kenan Hatibovic** 



**Lubna Begum** 

**Get Out & Vote** YES **Tuesday, August 4th** 

# Review: Opinion Page

## **Guest Editorial**

# Vote 'yes' on school millage renewal

ers in the community will be asked to renew the 10 year non-homestead millage.

ONLY on local businesses and commercial properties. It has been one of the main sources

On August 4th, all vot- of funds in Hamtramck Public Schools for 20 years.

This is simply a renewal of the SAME level for an-This is a small tax other 10 years. Home owners and renters do NOT pay anything. Voting yes will keep nearly \$2 million in the general

fund of the school district each year.

Voting no will take away that part of the existing budget. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to this great school system.

# Odds & Ends

**Hearing ...** The city was unable to place a notification in this issue about a proposed budget hearing taking place this coming Wednesday (June 17) at 6 p.m. in city hall because we went to press too late to meet legal notification requirements.

But a notice was placed in the Free Press and News.

The hearing is the second attempt to get the city council to adopt a budget for the upcoming fiscal year, which starts July 1.

Three councilmembers, Anam Miah, Mohammed Hassan and Robert Zwolak, rejected the proposed budget at last Tuesday's council meeting, which forced a second hearing.

The councilmembers argued that they were left out of the budget-making process and are generally left out of much of the decision-making process in city hall.

Those supporting the budget, which was created by former Emergency Manager Cathy Square before she departed last December, say if the city fails to adopt it, there will be farreaching consequences.

Just what might happen

if state officials are displeased is not clear, other than they will be upset.

So, as we go to print on Thursday afternoon, it is unclear if those opposing the budget will change their vote.

This issue just may be the beginning of something that has been simmering for a long time among some city officials.

We'll have more on this next week.

Roll on ... We're not sure how pothole repairs has become the story of the year, but there it is.

In the apparently neverending twist and turn of potholes in Hamtramck, the city now has a brand new contract to get repairs going again after state officials put a halt to it over some technicality that may or may not have been true.

Sheesh, state officials, do your homework and get your facts straight.

Now the only hold-up is for those very same state officials - who are part of what's called a Transition Advisory Board that overlooks all financial decisions made here in Hamtramck – to give their blessing to the new con-

At press time Thursday we did not hear back from the city as to when those officials will meet next to OK the contract and allow repairs to move forward.

In the meantime, keep dodging those holes.

Hold off ... Who doesn't like a tree in the city and the shade it provides? Well, apparently not all trees are appreciated.

We received word from City Manager Katrina Powell that some people are inappropriateplanting sized trees in that space between the sidewalk and curb, which is technically the city's "right of way."

Powell said folks are planting maples and other trees that are going to become too big for that space.

Powell said the city will be asking households to remove those trees, so be prepared.

Before you plant anything in that space you'll need to get permission from the city. For more information on this, call Mark Ragsdale, the Director of Public Services, at (313) 876-7700, exten-

# **Dickinson East Elementary:** A successful year in review

**By Christopher Vraniak School Principal** 

As the hundreds of spectators — students. staff, and family members — left the year-end Multicultural Night at Dickinson East Elementary on June 2 the huge smiles said it all: it was another successful year in the long tradition of Dickinson East Elementary.

The 2014-2015 school year brought success in many different forms: academics, community involvement, extracurricular fun.

Academically, the Dolphin students proved that their hard work in the classroom paid off when their end of year NWEA tests showed that the average student learned well over one year of material in both math and reading during the 10month school year.

The continued academic success can be at-

tributed to the hard work of the outstanding group of students coupled with the most dedicated, and one of the most experienced, staff of teachers that can be found anywhere around. In the greater community, Dickinson East students shined in the National Elementary Honors Society and by earning top awards at the Michigan Science Fair and the Michigan Oratorical Contests.

Families of Dickinson East Dolphin students got very involved this year by creating a very successful Parent Teacher Association (P.T.A.) that hosted several fun events. During the course of the year, the P.T.A. hosted a Spring Carnival that was attended by over 300 students.

Highlights from the carnival included teachers and local police officers being pied in the face. Parents also hosted

events for the mothers of Dickinson East. The organization raised a few thousand dollars that will go back to bettering the environment in which all Dickinson East students go to school each day.

Dolphin students had extracurricular opportunities this school year that few students in the area get to experience. Beyond their weekly studies in physical education, music, art and visits to the extensive library, students had the opportunity to perform in front of hundreds of community members in two building-wide concerts, and also left the building for enrichment activities at the Belle Isle Aguarium, The Greenfield Village Museum, the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, the Cranbrook Science Center and the Detroit

Hundreds of students Continued on page 9

# Hamtramck High School – the year that was

The 2014-15 school year was a busy and successful one at Hamtramck High School. What following are just some of the great things that took place.

#### **Scholarships**

The Class of 2015, to date, has been offered a total of \$2.3 million in scholarships for college. A number of students have received full-ride awards to attend college at almost no cost.

#### **GM** Foundation/United Way Schools of Excellence

Hamtramck High School continues to participate in the Schools of Excellence program sponsored by the GM Foundation and the United Way. This program provides our students with a multitude of opportunities and supports. The program also helps fund several of the programs listed below.

**Wayne State Law School Mock Trial** 

More than 20 HHS stu-

dents participated in the mock trial competition held at Wayne State. The Cosmos came up with the first place trophy and some great legal experience. The competition was the culmination of a joint program between Hamtramck High and Neighborhood Legal Services to teach students about the legal system.

Ann Arbor. Their efforts paid off, as they took first place overall in the competition.

to prepare for the Physics

Olympiad held at U of M

#### **Lawrence Technological** University SMArT Engineering Competition

To compete in the SMArT Engineering Competition, student teams must design an energy-ef-



WXYZ news anchor Carolyn Clifford featured a story on the Princess Prom program.

#### **University of Michigan Physics Olympiad**

A group of Hamtramck High students worked diligently building catapults, pasta bridges and devices to catch falling eggs

ficient building and present their designs to a panel of judges. Three teams of five students each competed this year, and they earned trophies

**Continued on page 10** 

#### health depends on millage By Sherry A. Lynem, CFO **Director of Finance Hamtramck Public Schools**

School district's financial

After falling into deficit five years ago I am pleased to report that Hamtramck Public Schools is emerging from deficit with a positive fund bal-

ance at the end of the

2014/2015 school year.

Funding cuts by the State of Michigan of nearly \$500 per student along with a huge spike in mandatory retirement costs forced the district into a deficit that it has been fighting to recover



Sherry A. Lynem

from.

Fax: 313-874-2101

www.hamtramckreview.com

The district was forced to make some very deep and difficult cuts including layoffs, restructuring programs and outsourcing several non-instructional positions. All of our employees stepped up to the plate and shared in the pain and ultimate recovery by taking wage cuts for four years.

On June 23, 2015 the administration will ask the school board to approve a final amended 2014/ 2015 budget. This budget will be in compliance with the state mandated deficit elimination plan in which the district agreed to be out of deficit by June 2015. At that time the

Continued on page 8

The Hamtramck Review Published every Friday Publisher: John Ulaj · (248) 866-1110 iulai@thehamtramckreview.com 3020 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212 Phone: 313-874-2100 Editor: Charles Sercombe

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# Students awarded grants for community involvement

Hamtramck United Social Services (HUSS) is comprised of area social service agencies with the purpose of coordinating soservices in Hamtramck.

The group is committed

to planning, developing, and implementing programs or actions in response to needs within the Hamtramck community.

Every year HUSS awards scholarships to outstanding high school seniors who

are in good academic standing, and have contributed to the city of Hamtramck through their community involvement and volunteerism.

To qualify for a scholarship, seniors were required to submit a written essay describing their community involvement in Hamtramck. This year's scholarship winners received awards of \$250 and \$600.

Five scholarships were awarded to 2015 graduates: Mahmuda Mouri for volunteering at Hamtramck Library; Nada Algaderi for involvement with General

Motors and the Princess Project through Hamtramck High School; Sidratul Muntha for her contributions to the Princess Project, Hamtramck Library, Liberty Academy, and Muslim Family Services; Azra Muhic for assisting with the Hamtramck Health Hike;

and Amina Floyd for providing tutoring services and helping with community gardening.

HUSS is proud to support these students as they enter into their chosen institutions of higher educa-



The HUSS organization awarded students for their community involvement.

### School district's financial health depends on millage

**Coming events** 

SATURDAY, June 13, 9-3 p.m. - Hamtramck's Recycle Center is open at Caniff and McDougall. Drop off your re-

SATURDAY, June 13, 2-4 p.m. - Holy Cross Parish will

WEDNESDAY, June 24, noon - The Daughters of

Isabella Mystical Rose Circle 736 will host a picnic,

card and bunco social at Queen of Apostles Activity

Center, entrance on Harold, featuring lunch, door

and table prizes, share the wealth, admission \$7,

**NOTICE OF** 

**PROPOSED** 

**2015-2016 BUDGET** 

The Board of Education of the School Dis-

trict of the City of Hamtramck will hold a Public

Hearing on Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at 6:30

p.m. in the Administration Building, 3201 Roo-

sevelt Street, to review and consider the

school district's 2015-2016 proposed budget.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will

Copies of the 2015-2016 Proposed Budget will be available for examination in the Super-

intendent of Schools Office, 3201 Roosevelt,

from 8:00 a.m. June 22, 2015, until the time

Complete Foot & Ankle

host a Soup Kitchen 2-4 p.m., 2311 Pulaski. All are wel-

**Continued from page 7** 

board will also be asked to adopt proposed а 2015/2016 budget; state law requires that a budget be adopted by June 30.

Although the district is once again in a positive financial position it is critical for all to realize and remember that a big part of the revenue to pay for dayto-day operations comes from the non-homestead millage.

This millage brings in approximately \$1.88 million annually and without it the district will quickly fall back

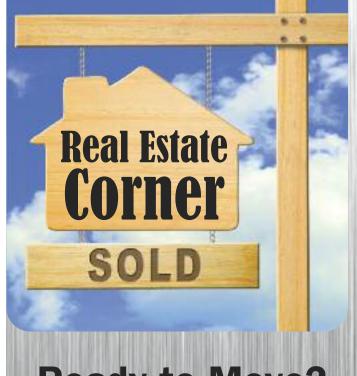
cyclables for free.

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into deficit and could possibly face state takeover.

We must get the word out that:

- · The millage is not a new tax, it is a renewal.
- If it passes it will not increase taxes on homeowners or renters.
- · If it fails it will not save homeowners or renters any money.
- If it fails Hamtramck Public Schools will not have the money it needs to educate the children of this fine community.



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of the Public Hearing.

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2 br. lower, stove, fridge, washer/dryer, call for appointment, 586-604-0553. 7/24

Beautiful flats in Hamtramck, 2 and 3 br., by appointment only, leave message, 313-893-7357. 6/19

6035 Charles, Detroit, very nice area, brick house on a good street, call Palo and Diane, 248-659-2278, 248-659-2325.

Hamtramck, lower 2 br. flat, nice neighborhood. looking for retired individual, no pets, 313-598-0175. 6/12

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Detroit, 8 Mile + Schoenherr, 3 br. brick, full basement, 1.5 bath, garage, \$750/mo. + sec. dep., no pets, excellent credit, Section 8 ok, 586-945-0317. 6/26

5 br., single house, rent w/option to buy, no pets, 313-366-1527. 6/12

### **Your Ad Here** (313) 874-2100

#### **HOUSE FOR SALE**

Warren, between 8 + 9 Mile at Ryan, 3 br. brick ranch, full basement. 2 car garage, near school, ready to move in, nice house and yard, asking 313-610-\$49,900. 8371. 6/12

2 family house, 3 br. on each floor, with basement, land contract ok, 313-366-1527. 6/12

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Hamtramck, 3973 Belmont, completely remodeled, 2 family, 5 br., 2 new kitchens and bathrooms, living, dining, full basement, new roof + windows, \$87,000, ask for Mahbub, 313-721-6552. 6/12

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Research assistant wanted. must have diploma or equivalent, be dependable, enjoy taking reading and notes, historical search project on routes and practices of indenture. Reply with letter of inquiry only, Forrest Press LLC, 535 Griswold Ste. 111-511, Detroit, MI 48226. 6/19

# A look at Hamtramck's earliest days

There was a time when latest Hungry for History the Dolland farm house was a landmark in Hamtramck. It was when the streets were paved with mud. Well, actually they weren't paved at all. That's when Hamtramck was a township and later a village and had few amenities like paved streets and sewers.

Compared to what was to come, Hamtramck's earliest days were simple. This was basically a farming community that drew little attention. Pictures of that time are few, but fascinating. See for yourself.

The Hamtramck Historical Museum is hosting its

program on Thursday, June 25. at the Museum. 9525 Jos. Campau.

For \$12 you get a sitdown dinner (\$5 is tax deductible) followed by a PowerPoint presentation of photos of Hamtramck's earliest days. You'll see pictures of Jos. Campau when it was a dirt road, and places in Hamtramck few today have even heard of, like an old racetrack down by the river and the Peninsular Brewery.

They tell a fascinating tale, showing how a rural township developed into a major industrial city in the space of just a few years.

There's a fascinating story with each photo.

If you're not hungry, skip dinner and just come for the show. It's free, but donations are welcomed.

The doors open at 5:30 p.m. with the dinner at 6 p.m. followed by the program at 7 p.m.

Please make your reservation by calling (313) 893-5027 or emailing the museum at hamtramckhistory@gmail.com. Please let us know by noon Monday, June 22.

Enjoy a meal and get a glimpse of Hamtramck's fascinating history.

## **Hamtramck Public School District Curriculum Department**

Lexia Core 5 Reading Program - Helping Students Achieve Greater Proficiency in Reading.

The Hamtramck Public School district has Lexia Reading Core 5, which is a technology-based reading program designed to help students of all abilities meet the Common Core Standards in reading.

The program covers six areas of reading: phonological awareness, phonics, structural analysis, automaticity/fluency, vocabulary and comprehen-The program

provides "structured, sequential, scaffolded instruction" to help students master reading skills more quickly and achieve greater proficiency

Hamtramck **Public School District Offers** Summer School to Students

The Hamtramck Public School District will be offering summer school to students. It is an opportunity for students to improve their skills and prepare for the coming school year.

Programs will be offered at Early Childhood, Dickinson West and Dickinson East Elementary Schools. The dates are as follows: June 22-July 17, 2015. 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

The Holbrook Elementary School Summer program is scheduled to begin on July 20, 2015 and conclude on August 14, 2015. 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Breakfast and lunch are provided.

Enrollment is limited and students must be registered, in advance, in order to participate in the program.

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3 Lucky Customers Will Win! Offer good thru August 15. Restrictions apply.

#### **Dickinson East Elementary:** A successful year in review

**Continued from page 7** 

every day after school.

Both students and staff are already looking forward to continuing the Dickinson East tradition in the 2015-2016 school year. Students can expect

also enjoyed the after- the same dedicated, exschool HOPE program perienced staff that has kept Dickinson East tradition alive, well, and producing community and academic leaders for over 100 years come next September.

## School buildings are being improved, thanks to voters continued from page 3

doors, restrooms and the

list goes on. This funding can only be

used for building repair, maintenance, and renovations. It cannot be used for salaries or to buy materials such as computers and books. A complete new roof

installed was Kosciuszko Middle School in the fall of 2014. This \$321,000 project could not have been done without the support of the Hamtramck voters. Other roofing projects will follow as collections of this levy continue. Hamtramck

Public Schools applied for a grant through the Michigan State Police School Safety initiative and received \$127,600 for accontrol to our

buildings. In conjunction with some Sinking Fund dollars, doors will be replaced at Hamtramck High School, Holbrook & Early Childhood Elementary. All buildings will be fitted with card access controls to improve building security throughout the district. The Buildings

Grounds Department, along with the Hamtramck Public School Board's Building & Site Committee, will continue to be excellent stewards of your tax dollars to get the absolute most out of this funding. Our goal is simple: to preserve the integrity of your school buildings and to provide a safe and comfortable environment to the students and community we serve.

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# Hamtramck High School - the year that was

place, sweeping the top awards.

#### **FIRST Team Robotics**

The HHS Robotics team has a long record of success, and this year was no exception. Not only did the team win several awards in local competitions and make it to the state competition in Grand Rapids, they were selected to attend the FIRST World Championships in St. Louis.

#### **DECA**

DECA competitions help train students for careers

for first, second and third in marketing, finance and business. This year's DECA team did very well at the state competition in Grand Rapids, with 12 students bringing home special awards. One student, senior Demaia Coleman, was the first-ever HHS student selected to compete at the national competition in Orlando, Florida.

#### **Junior Achievement**

Three Hamtramck High students were chosen as finalists in the Junior Achievement Entrepreneurial, with Laki Ali earning a scholarship of

Rehabilitation

cnaissance



WXYZ news anchor Carolyn Clifford featured three stories on Hamtramck Public School students this past year.

missed out on their 4th

straight district title by

just a few runs, but hopes

to regain their champi-

WXYZ Channel 7 and

the

anchor Carolyn Clifford

Princess Prom and sev-

eral students in three dif-

ferent news stories this

year, bringing the school

much-deserved recogni-

The 2014-15 school

year has been a great

New for 2015-16

onship form next year.

**Media Recognition** 

featured

tion.

\$2,500 and Tapia Miah bringing home a scholarship worth \$1,500.

#### **Athletics**

2014-15 was also a great year for sports teams at Hamtramck High School.

The varsity football team improved significantly this year, finishing with a 4-5 record and competing for a spot in the state playoffs.

Boys varsity soccer finished the regular season with 17 wins, one tie, and no losses. Their tie was with Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, who made it to the state championship.

The ladies of the varsity volleyball team won the Metro Athletic Conference Championship.

The girls basketball team earned their highest number of wins in the past six seasons, while the boys varsity won 15 games for the third straight year.

Junior Wasam Kasem made it to the state finals in wrestling.

Girls varsity soccer finished 16-2, winning the DMHSSA league champi-

Girls varsity tennis had another great year, advancing into the regional planning for the year to come. There are several new and exciting changes coming to Hamtramck High School in September of 2015:

We are expanding our offerings for top students. In addition to our college-level Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment classes, we will

Math, Science, English and Social Studies.

In addition to new honors courses, we are expanding our class offerings with an Applied Mathematics class for 11th and 12th graders, an additional semester of Literature in grade 12, and a college prep physics course.



the counter & REDO Art!)

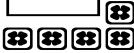
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**\*\*** 

**3** 

**33** 

**33** 



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