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## Quick Hits

### Seed giveaway at the library

**By Alan Madlane**

The Hamtramck Public Library is about to grow.

No, not in size. They're getting a seed-growing station, courtesy of Gro-Town, this Saturday, April 6.

Gro-Town is the brain-child of local Grosse Pointe Danielle Carlomusto. Her idea is to start getting kids outside more, and to hopefully teach them an appreciation of both nature and of caring for something living.

Kids are encouraged to take one or two packets of seeds home to plant and nurture. Seed choices will include both edibles (honeydew melon, beets, tomatoes and pole beans) and flowers (petunias, amaranth and nasturtium).

The seeds are being donated by Great Lakes ACE Hardware, Annie's Heirloom Seeds, and Bordine's Nursery.

Her initiative, which she cheekily calls the "Motown is Gro-Town Initiative," is also coming to half-a-dozen of the 20 or so Detroit libraries, all three Grosse Pointe and all

**Continued on page 4**

## — HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

# Did GM refuse an offer for its Poletown Plant?

**By Charles Sercombe**

GM didn't have to close down its Poletown Plant.

According to Crain's Detroit Business publication, officials from Fiat Chrysler approached GM to purchase the plant.

The time frame when these discussions took place is unclear, but according to the report, GM rebuffed the offer. GM also changed its plan to idle the plant this June by extending the production schedule to next January.

And because of that delay, Fiat Chrysler is now building a plant on Detroit's east side, on Mack Ave.

For Hamtramck, it's a lost opportunity to have revenue continue coming into the city – although that amount could have



**According to a report in Crain's Detroit Business, GM scuttled an offer by Fiat Chrysler to purchase the Poletown Plant.**

gone up or down, depending on what kind of bargain Fiat Chrysler would demand.

Hamtramck has been receiving about \$850,000 per year from plant in lieu of property taxes.

That revenue stream is almost certain to dry up when the plant shuts down. That loss of money will be a huge blow to the city's yearly budget. The expected loss has city officials grappling with how to make ends meet.

**Continued on page 4**



**Hamtramck's newest club is Barter on Jos. Campau. The bar specializes in modestly-priced cocktails and has a big city vibe about it.**

## TOAST of the TOWN

**By Charles Sercombe**

A couple of weeks ago in this column we reminisced about the not-so-long-ago days when there were still "old geezer" bars that opened early in the morning.

We got a call from a distressed reader who objected to the term "old geezer."

She thought it was insensitive to those who had worked the third shift during the night, and would then go to the bars in the early morning to wind down – much like people do after work during the day.

What upset her was that her dad was one of those people, and he was no "old geezer."

Point taken, and like we said in the column we

**Continued on page 4**

## How the money will be spent

**By Charles Sercombe**

Now that The Friends of Historic Hamtramck Stadium have secured funding to replace the turf at the city's baseball stadium, just where will the money go?

The Friends and the Piast Institute recently sponsored an online fundraiser that attracted \$50,000 in donations.

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation will now match that amount, giving the group \$100,000 total to work with.

According to the Friends, here is the breakdown of how the money will be spent:

- Landscaping and Hardscaping: \$15,000
- Preparation of a new plaza at main entrance to the grandstand, facing Dan St.
- Educational & Interpretative Exhibits: \$33,000
- Installation of outdoor exhibits in the new plaza, telling the story of Hamtramck Stadium, of the Negro Leagues in Detroit, of Hamtramck's world championship youth baseball teams, and of the stadium's connection to the African-American and Polish-American communities.
- Field Restoration and Maintenance for 2019 season: \$24,000
- Restoration of the playing field for baseball,

**Continued on page 2**

**JOSE CAMPAU**

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# How the money will be spent

Continued from front page

soccer and cricket, plus field maintenance for the 2019 playing season (spring, summer, and fall). Includes a section of artificial turf be installed to cover the current concrete cricket pitch, which will make the pitch better for cricket, and less of an obstacle for baseball and soccer.

- Artwork: \$21,000
- Hamtramck Stadium streetlight banners for Jos. Campau and Dan St.,

plus large banners depicting the Detroit Stars and the 1959 Little League championship teams for the grandstand façade.

- Signage and Wayfinding: \$7,000
- “Welcome to Historic Hamtramck Stadium” sign for the grandstand façade, signage for self-guided tours, plus directional street signs at the major intersections on Hamtramck’s South Side.

**PUBLIC NOTICE of BUDGET HEARING FRONTIER INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

28111 Imperial Dr. Warren, MI, 48093 and 13200 Conant St., Detroit, MI, 48212 is holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., at 13200 Conant St., Detroit, MI 48212 to present their proposed 2019-2020 School Budget to the public. The proposed budget can be inspected during regular school hours, in the school offices, as of five days prior to the meeting. The public is invited to attend.

**PUBLIC NOTICE of BUDGET HEARING BRIDGE ACADEMY EAST and WEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

is holding a Public Hearing at 9600 Buffalo St., Hamtramck, MI, 48212 on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 5:30 p.m., to present their proposed 2019-2020 School Budget to the public. The proposed budget can be inspected during regular school hours, in the school offices, as of six days prior to the meeting. The public is invited to attend.

# Future of GM’s Poletown Plant doesn’t look hopeful

By Charles Sercombe

Mayor Karen Majewski has some harsh words about GM’s plan to close down its Poletown Plant. At a town hall meeting during a recent Saturday morning, which The Review was unable to attend, Majewski not only blasted GM about the closing, but also about how it developed the site in the mid-1980s, according to media reports.

“In the end, it’s only going to be an economic decision, not one that takes into consideration our families, jobs, schools and safety,” Majewski was quoted in a Detroit News story. “They did this in 1980 when they destroyed homes to build the facility. Did GM care? No, they sacrificed little old ladies, their churches and homes for that plant.

“They did not care, and I don’t think there’s any reason they do now. Hamtramck is an afterthought.”

Majewski and the city manager have met with GM officials to discuss

what the plan is for the plant if it does close, but so far, GM has been tight-lipped, she said.

“They’re not going to listen to me,” she told The Review in a telephone interview.

The city stands to lose about \$850,000 or more per year that GM has been paying in lieu of property taxes.

That loss will be a catastrophic blow to the city’s budget – possibly pushing Hamtramck into another financial emergency that would require the state to again step in.

Majewski said she is hoping that, with a new

governor in charge, the state will intervene in talks with GM.

“Hamtramck doesn’t have the clout to make something happen,” she said.

One idea she has is for GM to arrange a compensation package to ease the city’s transition to dealing with the budget loss.

That loss may require a drastic overhaul to either the fire or police departments – or possibly both.

There is little room for cuts in the city’s \$16 million yearly budget. As it stands now, the city will have to dip into its \$6

million budget surplus to balance next year’s budget.

But obviously, that can’t continue forever.

GM is closing four plants in the U.S. and one in Canada. At the same time, it is investing \$300 million in an upgrade to its plant in Orion Twp., where electric cars will be produced.

GM insists it needs to close the plants to remain competitive. Yet critics have pointed out that since 2015, the company has spent over \$10 billion to buy back its own stock shares.

## Metro news...

*It’s said that whatever happens to Detroit, so goes Hamtramck. Our friends over at modeldmedia.com have been reporting on fascinating development projects for the past several years.*

*This week, with their permission, we are sharing one of their features:*

It’s a common refrain these days: You don’t need a university degree to make a good living.

There’s a workforce shortage in the trades. The workforce is getting older without a sufficient

supply of young people lined up to take their place.

Many high schools are preparing students for standardized tests and college applications, and not so much for careers in dependable, sustaining fields of work.

Community colleges across the state, however, are working to change that.

Robert Feldmaier is the interim dean for Engineering & Advanced Technology at Macomb Community College. Two

“mega-trends” he can identify in mobility today are fuel economy and emissions regulations driving the electrification of vehicles, and the development and eventual proliferation of connected and autonomous vehicles.

“A lot of the information we develop for engineering techs rolls into mechanic techs, as well,” he says.

Institutions like Macomb Community College (MCC) are developing a bevy of programs to train the next generation in the trades.

Continued on page 5

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## This week at the library...

**ESL Class - Monday** April 8th 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

**ESL Class - Tuesday** April 15th, 12:00 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

**ESL Class - Wednesday** April 22nd, 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

**ESL Class - Thursday** April 29th, @ 12:00 pm. ESL classes are free to all Hamtramck residents. Registration is required.

**Toddler Time - April** 4th-May 9th, Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Children up to age 5 and their parents and caregivers are invited for songs, storytelling and playtime.

**Movie Night - Tuesdays** at 4 p.m. Family friendly movies, snacks provided.

**Talking is Teaching - Monday, April 15th at 11:30 am.** Do you love

and care for a child who is a baby, toddler, or preschooler? Join us for this discussion and information meeting with guest presenter: Greatstart.org

**Prime Time Family Reading - Thursdays, March 28th-May 2nd, 5:30-7 p.m.** Join us for a six-week reading experience for families with children 6 to 12 years old. Adults and children will participate together, sharing a meal, reading excellent books, discussing big ideas and learning tips for reading at home. Pre-registration is required.

**Community Garden Clean-up Day - Saturday** April 6th, 10 a.m.-Noon. Meeting in the garden next to the library. Register your plot and prepare for the growing season.

**Cut The Cord - 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 9th.** Cut your cable bill by \$500 or more each year (bring your cable bill). Watch all your channels, but cut the cost. Pre-

sented by Meteorologist Chris Edwards & Tech Expert Chuck Eglinton

**Spring Break @ HPL - Friday 4/5 3:00 pm** Money Smart Week: Making Cents Family Finances Workshop with Guest Presenter Motor City Credit Union

**Food For Fines - Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeast Michigan** is once again teaming up with The Hamtramck Public Library for the annual Food for Fines/Food for Thought campaign. **Between March 20 and April 30, 2019** The Hamtramck Public Library will be accepting non-perishable food donations on behalf of Gleaners as they work together to help our hungry neighbors in need. To thank you for your donation, you will receive library fine forgiveness for each item you bring! (See Library personnel for details. Fine forgiveness cap may apply.)

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

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# Second Front Page



## School Bell

### Dickinson East Elementary School News

Career Day was celebrated on March 28 by many staff members and students, including Ms. Housey-Johnson (robotics inspector), Amr Kaid (lab scientist), Yaren Alqasemi (dental hygienist), and Yazmeen Alwaisi (lawyer).

The Optimist International-Central Detroit Club presented their annual oratorical competition on March 21. Hamtramck Public Schools had a strong presence, with five contestants presenting speeches on the topic: “Is There A Fine Line Between Reality and Optimism?”

First place winner Fahim Uddin is an 8th-grade student at Kosciuszko Middle School, who has competed in previous years. His commitment finally paid off, and has secured him a spot at the next level on April 6.

Newcomer Maha Uddin, a 6th-grader at Dickinson East, won third place, which is impressive because not only is she new to speech competitions, she is also new to the country.

Both Fahim and Maha received monetary prizes, certificates, and medals.

Honorable Mention certificates were presented to these Dickinson East students: sisters Onanna Jacy (Ms. Hofert-Wentloff’s 5th grade) and Shinha Chanda (Mr. Glaze’s 6th grade), as well as Arifa Ahmed (Ms. Stachnik’s sixth grade).



Above: It was career day at Dickinson East Elementary School. Below: the winners of a recent oratorical competition. Bottom: Dickinson students had a blast painting.



The students were assisted by Ms. Housey-Johnson and Ms. Swords, both of whom teach sixth grade at Dickinson East.

Students at Dickinson East Elementary School had a blast painting on

real canvases on March 28. The activity was part of the building’s Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) initiative to reward positive behavior.

Art teacher Emily Finan taught the students to create an emoji of their choice. The paintings are currently on display at Dickinson East in the upper breezeway.

### Enrollment Information

Hamtramck residents may enroll their children in Hamtramck Public Schools at the HPS Business Office, 3201 Roosevelt. School of Choice applications will be accepted during the following dates: Kindergarten: Unlimited, March 14 through September 5; grades 1st through 12th: Unlimited, March 14 through June 28.

Late school of choice applications cannot be accepted. School of choice applicants may be denied based on the student’s attendance and/or discipline record.

You will need to bring with you: an original birth document (raised seal birth certificate, passport, green card, visa), an up-to-date immunization record, a final 2018-2019 report card/transcript, parental identification, two current proofs of residency (utility bill, mortgage statement,

seniors); PSAT 9 for 9th grade. No school for 10th graders and 12th grade seniors who took WorkKeys.

• April 19 – No school for students and staff.

### Recreation Department News

For more information,

give us a call at (313) 892-2635. Follow us on Facebook for the most up-to-date information:

www.Facebook.com/HamtramckRecreationDepartment

Compiled by  
Janice Gandelman

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Easter Schedule

**Palm Sunday - April 13-14**  
5:30pm Saturday (English),  
8:00 am Sunday (English); 9:30am Sunday (Polish)

**Holy Thursday - April 18 - 6:00 pm**  
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper (English & Polish), includes washing of the feet; after Mass the Eucharist will be reserved in the chapel for adoration until 9:00pm

**Good Friday - April 19 - NO MORNING MASS**  
12 noon - 3:00 pm - Gorzkie Żale, Stations of the Cross, Choir Tribute, Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 2pm followed by adoration until 6pm.

**Holy Saturday - April 20**  
Blessing of Baskets - 12 noon, 1pm, 2pm;  
Solemn Vigil Mass of Easter - 7pm (Polish/English), new fire will be kindled and blessed, Liturgy of the Word, Blessing of Water, Liturgy of Baptism/ Renewal of Baptismal Promises, Liturgy of the Eucharist

**Easter Sunday - April 21**  
7:00 am Resurrection Procession and Mass (English & Polish)  
9:30 am Easter Mass (Polish)

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April 10 - Bitter Lamentations (Part 3) - 7 pm  
April 13 - Soup Kitchen 2-4 pm – Everyone Welcome  
April 14 - Palm Sunday Blessing & Distribution of  
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## Quick Hits

Continued front page

three Livonia libraries, as well as those of Garden City, Flat Rock, Northville and Novi.

Carlomusto is a mother of three-year-old twins. She is also a musician and competitive line dancer, and an avid backyard gardener. In conjunction with this initiative, she has recorded a kids album also called “Mo-town is Gro-Town.”

We wonder if Barry

Gordy Jr. will want some seeds?

But we digress.

The green-thumbed mastermind will give an acoustic performance of songs from her record on Tuesday, April 9 at 10:30 a.m. in the children’s area of the Detroit Public Library’s main branch.

Ms. Carlomusto wrote and performed all instruments on the 17-track album. She also sang all the songs, save for one. It is available on Amazon and iTunes, and is offered as a pledge reward on Detroit PBS Kids.



## TOAST of the TOWN

Continued from front page

meant no offense since Toast of the Town is now officially of old geezer age.

The reader said a better term would have been “old school.”

Well, Toast is old school as well.

Anyway, the days of early morning bars here in Hamtramck are gone – likely for good. Hardly anyone has a night shift these days – or at least there aren’t enough of those folks to warrant any bar opening early.

So, we mention this because Toast and friends went to the opening of Hamtramck’s newest bar, Barter.

To tell the truth, we weren’t expecting to like it. In fact, we wanted to hate it.

Barter is part of a trend of bars specializing in fancy cocktails – and in most cases they have “fancy” prices to go along with their “crafted” cocktails.

And as just mentioned, Toast is old school. A shot and beer for us.

But times change, and Hamtramck is not immune to new trends.

The only way our bars are going to survive is to

tap into new customers – people who appreciate the finer things in life, but maybe are feeling crowded out of the swankier joints in the metro area.

Barter, though, is not swanky or pretentious. Thank goodness. Instead, they serve up a nice range of specialty cocktails that are priced at \$9 each.

That may seem like a lot, but these drinks are meant to be sipped to allow a warm glow to gradually take over. One member of our crew ordered a variation of a vodka and soda that she said smelled like summer.

On an unseasonably cold and snowy Saturday night, that was just the kind of thing needed.

And this place is down-to-earth enough to offer Pabst and a shot for a mere 5 bucks – which beats the price at a lot of other local bars.

The new owners came from New York, and wanted to be a part of the rebirth of Detroit.

They found their dream spot right here in Hamtramck – the “heart” of Detroit – and went to work restoring the building,

where a travel agency had once operated. They peeled away a whole bunch of ugliness and uncovered a treasure.

You have to visit here to understand just what great care they invested to make this jewel sparkle again.

The atmosphere has a subdued big city vibe. The music, something like New York in the mid-70s – our favorite period.

It’s cool without being obnoxious about it.

And the clientele? We have no idea where they’re from, but definitely not Hamtramck.

It’s a welcome relief from the typical unwashed rabble we see week to week. (Kidding, folks, ease up.)

But be forewarned locals, these folks are pinning to move to Hamtramck. They are

youngish professionals being priced out of Midtown and Royal Oak and Ferndale.

They represent Hamtramck’s changing demographics.

Back to Barter (which is located at 11601 Jos. Campau, across the street from Woodward Throwbacks). Coming soon too is the opening of a backroom space ideal for live music performances.

If this is the wave of the future for Hamtramck bars and nightclubs, sign us up. Toast is low-rent at heart, but we also realize that in Hamtramck, there’s room for everyone.

When it comes to good food and great times, Hamtramck has plenty to offer. In this column, we’ll talk about what’s happening at our bars, restaurants and at other events throughout the city.

## Did GM refuse an offer for its Poletown Plant?

Continued from front page

GM’s response to Fiat Chrysler has Mayor Karen Majewski questioning GM’s motives.

“I was disappointed that these talks fell through, and it makes me question what GM’s end game really is,” Majewski told The Review.

“But it doesn’t surprise me that there are manufacturers interested in the plant – several companies have approached me already to express an interest in working with the city to explore the opportunities this property offers.”



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8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> &  
Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. - 12 Noon

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The Review is celebrating  
our 10-year anniversary!



Thank You  
HAMTRAMCK

Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

With fingers crossed, good things are happening at the old ball park

A huge thanks is due to the good folks at The Friends of Historic Hamtramck Stadium and the Piast Institute.

They recently sponsored an ambitious online fundraising campaign to replace the turf at Hamtramck’s historic baseball stadium.

The two non-profit groups raised \$50,000, and that amount will be doubled when the Michigan Economic Development Corporation

matches it.

The online campaign beat its deadline to raise that amount with a week to spare.

Another big thanks goes out to Detroit rocker Jack White, who kicked the campaign off with a whopping \$10,000 pledge.

If things continue to go in the right direction, the city’s and the school district’s joint grant application with the Ralph C. Wilson. Jr. Founda-

tion will result in a multi-million donation to restore the stadium, as well as build an expansion to make it an entertainment and sporting facility.

Wouldn’t it be a special treat if Jack White opened the stadium with a concert?

OK, we’re jumping way ahead here, but the point is, Hamtramck has a lot of friends. And when we organize, good things happen.

Odds & Ends

**Sign of spring...** If it’s April, it’s time to gather up your yard waste and put it out for collection.

Once again you can place your tard waste in containers (which may not be larger than 32 gallons) or landscaping bags for Monday pick-ups.

The city asks that you place your waste out on the curb no earlier than 6 p.m. on Sundays.

Tree limbs may be tied into bundles no longer than four feet and no larger than 18 inches in diameter.

**A fond farewell...** Ron Sweed, the lovable guy who played “The Ghoul” on television, had a special fanbase here in Hamtramck.

Sweed died a few days ago at age 70. He be-

came a cult favorite in the 1970s hosting late-night television on the weekend that featured horrible old movies and plenty of fun commentary and antics.

You can read more about him on page 6.

Sweed performed a number of times at the former Lili’s 21 Club here in Hamtramck.

Alan P. Karwowski’s family owned the bar where he was the cocktail wizard extraordinaire.

He had this to say about Sweed’s passing:

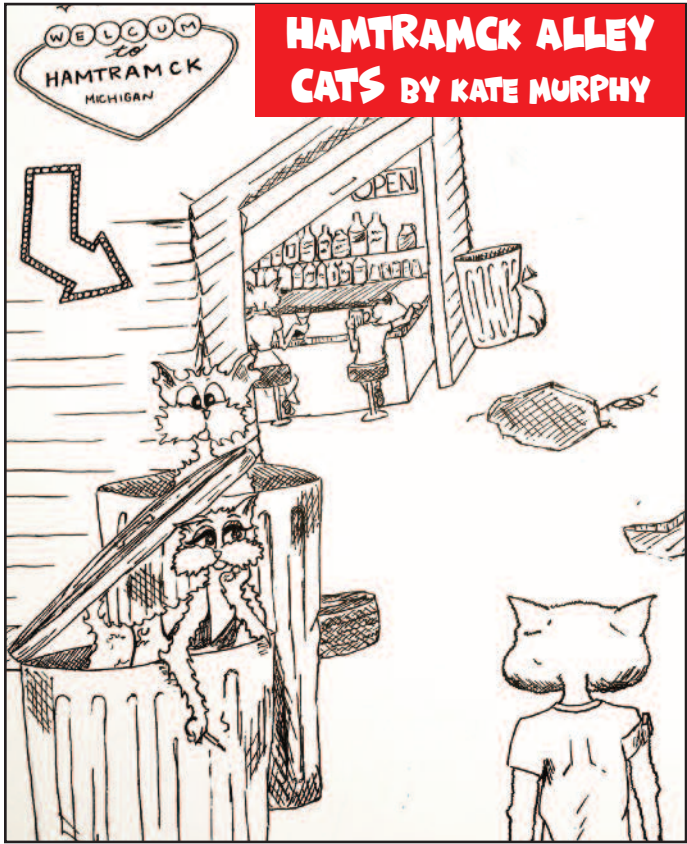
“We were the ONLY BAR in the World that was the ‘True Home of The Ghoul’... Our family friend and hero... Rest in Peace Ron... Our love and prayers to your family. Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him.

“May he rest in peace. Amen.

“May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

“Amen.

The Karwowskis”



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The Chief's  
Corner...

By Hamtramck  
Police Chief Anne Moise

How to protect against  
being a victim of fraud

Greetings from Chief Anne Moise, and the Hamtramck Police Department. I am providing some information to make sure you are aware of some steps you can take to protect yourself from frauds and scams.

Scammers often pretend to be someone you may trust, such as a family member, government official or charitable organization.

A common scam is someone calling pretending to be a government official or the IRS. They demand payment for clearing a criminal record or may say you owe back taxes and must make a payment over the phone.

**DON'T:**

- Don't send money or give out personal information in response to an unexpected request – whether it comes by phone, email or text.
- Don't believe your caller ID. Technology

makes it very easy for scammers to fake-call ID information so the name/number you see may not be real.

- Don't pay upfront for a promise. This includes debt relief services, credit or loan offers, clearing criminal records or job offers. They might even say you won a prize but you have to pay for the taxes up front.
- Don't deposit a check and wire money back. Uncovering a fake check may take weeks but if the check you deposit is fake, you are responsible for repaying the bank.
- Don't send money via gift cards, reloadable bank cards, or money grams. Government offices and legitimate businesses will not require payment in these forms.

**DO:**

- Do online searches for recent scams by typing in the search engine words like “IRS scam” or

“phone/email scams”

- Do talk to someone before giving up money or personal information. Con artists want you to make decisions in a hurry and may even threaten you. Slow down, do some research and consult an official, such as your local police department.
- Do research companies, and be cautious about free trial offers or offers that seem too good to be true.
- Do sign up for free scam alerts from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at [FTC.gov/scams](https://www.ftc.gov/scams).
- Do report scams to your local police department and also to the FTC at [FTC.gov/complaint](https://www.ftc.gov/complaint), or by calling the FTC at 1-877-382-4357.

*The Hamtramck Police Department's non-emergency phone number is (313) 800-5281.*

Metro news...

Continued from page 2

And while cultural trends may tell students that they're supposed to attend universities rather than become mechanics, Feldmaier has a message for today's students: Tomorrow's mechanics aren't yesterday's mechanics.

We call them “mobility technicians”

As technology drives mobility forward, the next generation of auto workers will need a whole new chest of tools to develop and maintain tomorrow's vehicles. Let's call them mobility technicians.

The field includes opportunities in maintenance, development, and manufacturing tech.

“The skill sets technicians need to learn today, they have to understand mechanics but now also electrical systems and IT,” Feldmaier says.

MCC offers a host of opportunities for students to prepare themselves to develop and maintain the future of mobility.

The Electric Vehicle Development Technology certificate program, for instance, is designed to prepare students to become Electric Vehicle Technicians. Such a title can work in a variety of fields, including development, electrical testing, sales support, service, mechanical testing, and manufacturing.

Students that complete the Vehicle Development Technician program earn an Associate of Applied Science. It's a degree that demonstrates just how multi-faceted today's workforce must be. Over the course of the degree, students work on electrical, flammable, and high-pressure systems while also writing software programs to acquire data and control test systems.

The school also offers associate degree programs with direct ties to major automotive companies, like the General Motors Automotive Service Educational Program and the FCA Automotive Manufacturing Program.

Each is designed to funnel students into the local workforce, and typically for the major auto companies and their suppliers, Feldmaier says. MCC and its Center for Advanced Automotive Technology is funded by the National Science Foundation and its Advanced Technological Education program to help develop the curriculums.

One way in which MCC is achieving that is through its annual Auto STEAM Days event, which promotes education in automotive, science, technology, engineering, art, mathematics, and manufacturing.

The two-day exhibition exposes students to careers in automotive design, robotics, and advanced manufacturing and the exciting technologies driving each. Over 20 companies and prospective employers are on hand as students walk from table to table, learning about each.

**By ML Galbraith**

The Hamtramck Review

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This newspaper is not responsible for mistakes in advertising beyond the cost of the space involved.

# The Review is celebrating our 10-year anniversary!



# Thank You HAMTRAMCK

## Obituaries

### MICHALSKI



Ronald J. Michalski, 81, died March 29, 2019.

Mr. Michalski was the loving husband of Shirley; dear father of Lori (Paul) Davis, Paul (Marge), and Michael (Jennifer); grandfather of Amy (Caleb) Cox, Justin, Jason, Brandon, Ethan, and Evan; great-grandfather of Oliver.

Ronald was a member of the Knights of Columbus and a lifetime member of St Florian Parish where he taught, coached and cooked for the Strawberry Festival. He was famous for his homemade horseradish.

Visitation was Sunday March 31, 2019 at Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home and the funeral Mass was held at St. Ladislaus Catholic Church on Monday. Private Cremation and Inurnment were at Christian Memorial Gardens West, Rochester MI.

### OLSZEWSKI



Ernestina G. Olszewski (nee Martinez), 88, died tragically on April 1, 2019.

Mrs. Olszewski was the loving wife of the late Raymond. Ernestine is survived by her children, Nina (Michael) Rath, Frank (Elisabeth) Cona; grandchildren, Edward J. (Carrie) Gniatkiewicz, Paulette (Sam) Cusmano, Nina (Mathew) Mulawa, Frank S. (Lisa) Cona, Grayce (Alexander) Cloutier, Ashley Milgie. She is also survived by her two great great-grandchildren Ayden and Justin Satterfield. Ernestine is truly loved by her whole family and will be greatly missed.

Mrs. Olszewski will lie in state Friday April 5, 2019, at 10:30 a.m. at St Bonaventure Chapel in the Solanus Casey Center at 1740 Mt. Elliot Ave., Detroit MI 48207, until the funeral Mass at 11:30. Interment will be at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Detroit. Arrangements were made by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, Hamtramck MI.



### Memorial Sunday, April 7

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## Ron Sweed 'The Ghoul' dead at age 70

By Eric Villa  
Special to The Review

On April 1, 2019 Hamtramck lost a good friend.

Ron "The Ghoul" Sweed passed away, five months after suffering a heart attack; he was 70 years old.

Sweed was born January 23, 1949 in Cleveland, Ohio. At age 13, Sweed got his big break by wearing a gorilla suit at a local event featuring famed Cleveland television host Ernie "Ghoulardi" Anderson.

"Ghoulardi" was an already established TV beatnik ghoul who popularized the phrases "stay sick" and "turn blue." Anderson spotted the young Sweed in the audience, and invited him on stage.

After a little back-and-forth banter, Sweed ended up as production assistant for Anderson's show.

Sweed later landed his own spot, and debuted as "The Ghoul" in Cleveland in 1971 after Anderson's departure. Late-night television would never be the same.

Sweed's ability to make unwatchable B-movies entertaining through his hilarious commentary and segues made him a hit.

He and his sidekick "Froggy" would routinely blow up anything from pierogi to a cardboard cutout of then-President George H.W. Bush in the 90s (how he got away with that, we'll never know).

"The Ghoul" came to Detroit via syndication in the early 70s on WXYZ TV-50, gaining local celebrity status.

After a well-received run for several years, and the permanent closure of



**Television legend Ron Sweed, known as The Ghoul, poses with Art Lyzak at Lili's 21 Club where Sweed performed.**

hosting station WKBF in Cleveland, Sweed moved down the television dial to WXON TV-20 in 1976.

For the better part of 50 years, he made Detroit and Hamtramck his second homes, making appearances at malls, conventions, our own local bars, and even a Harlem Globetrotters game, where his costume was ripped from him as if he were in The Beatles.

"Ghoul Power" was here to stay. It didn't matter who you were or what music you liked, everybody could agree that "The Ghoul" was cool.

Back in Cleveland he would poke fun at the city of Parma, which had a large Polish population; he would crack Polish jokes and play "The Parma Polka."

Sweed easily likened this to our own Hamtramck, where he could find plenty of "kielbaski" as well as eager fans, wondering what he would blow up next with his beloved "boom booms."

A later revival saw him hosting movies at high school auditoriums and The Redford Theatre (where the fire marshal wouldn't permit him the enjoyment of explosions, and so he showed rare outtakes of his earlier

performances routinely included body slams into tables and stop signs slammed across bloody heads), things got weird.

Guitarist Amado Guadarrama recounts: "It somehow involved our 'arch nemesis' Inferno beating on us and then going after Froggy, with The Ghoul making the save."

Bass player and self-proclaimed "World's Tallest Midget" Rob Dziak adds: "That frog was a-fixin' to get molly-whopped proper."

It's unclear whether Sweed knew it was an act.

In the words of "The Ghoul" himself: "Detroit has the best fans I could ever ask for. ... They always have been from Day One!"

So scratch glass and climb walls Ghoul, to that big pierogi in the sky!

(Eric Villa is a Hamtramck-based musician and writer.)

## Get Out on the Hamtown!

SINCE WE ALL FALL SHORT OF THE GLORY OF THE LORD AND WE ARE ALL OUR OWN WORST ENEMY HERE IS A PRAYER YOU CAN SAY BEFORE YOU START OUT EACH DAY HEAVENLY FATHER PLEASE SAVE ME FROM ME

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Continued from page 7

rested after a traffic stop for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.

- At almost 4 a.m., a hit-and-run accident occurred at Caniff and Conant.
- A hit-and-run accident happened at Jos. Campau and Carpenter.
- A Doremus St. resident reported that their vehicle was stolen.

**Sunday, March 31**

- At almost midnight, a Detroit resident was arrested in the 3800 block of Yemans St. for being disorderly.

- At 2 a.m., a Redford resident was arrested for drunk driving and possessing a gun while being intoxicated.
- A resident reported that his city-issued trash can was stolen.
- A hit-and-run accident occurred at Danforth and Jos. Campau.

**Monday, April 1**

- At 11:30 p.m., a resident in the 3500 block of Caniff reported she was assaulted by her live-in boyfriend. The suspect left the scene before officers arrived.

# Despite cold and snow, a vigil is held for terrorist victims



Scenes from a recent vigil held for the victims of a terrorist shooting at two New Zealand mosques.



**By Charles Sercombe**

A second vigil was held for the victims of a terrorist shooting in New Zealand that had targeted Muslims specifically.

The first vigil was held two weeks ago, and then another one was held on a recent Friday afternoon.

About 150 people, mostly from the Yemeni and Bengali communities, gathered at Zussman Park.

Despite the cold and a combination of hail and snow, people braved the weather and a 45-minute delay.

The terrorist, a self-described white supremacist, shot and killed 50 people at two mosques. Scores more were wounded. The suspect was arrested and faces multiple charges.

A dozen or so elected officials and community members spoke at the gathering.

Mayor Karen Majewski

once again reassured the city's Muslim community that their security is a concern. She urged those attending to contact the police department if they see anything suspicious.

"We are against hate speech, even at the highest level of our federal government," she said.

Councilmember Saad Al-masmari, a Yemeni-American, echoed the mayor's advice about reporting suspicious activity that could be interpreted as a threat to safety.

"If you see something, say something," he said.

Hamtramck Public Schools Superintendent Tom Niczay said the district has trained staff members to help students and their parents if they are suffering from anxiety.

"Hamtramck Public Schools stands in solidarity with our Muslim students, staff and families," Niczay said.



**Upcoming Dinners**

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or contact the Early Risers Facebook Page



## Crime Watch ...

### The case of the missing trash cans

**By Charles Sercombe**

Regular readers of our column Crime Log notice that every week or so, someone reports that their city-issued trash can was stolen.

Well, the mystery of who is doing this so-called stealing may have been solved by your crack team of investigators here at The Review.

Recently, one of our cans was possibly stolen.

Or so we thought – until we reviewed our security camera footage.

We're not sure if what we witnessed is the answer to all of the missing cans, but we like to think: Case closed.

The recording revealed that one of the cans got smashed by the garbage truck's "packer panel" –

that blade looking thing that pushes the garbage load into the body of the truck.

And then, the can got swallowed inside.

The worker loading the can did not leave a note explaining what happened.

The Review asked the company, GFL, if this is a common occurrence. After waiting for about 30 minutes on the phone for someone to talk to, we reached an employee named Mike.

He said that most cans are stolen, and that malfunctioning trucks are a rarity.

"There is a lot of theft going on," said Mike.

He then transferred us to a public relations person for an official comment. We're still waiting for a call back.

For those who reported a theft of their can, the city issues one for free as long as a police report is made. But City Manager Kathy Angerer said the city's next contract with the company will likely no longer provide free replacement cans.

We asked Police Chief Anne Moise several months ago about the trend, but she admitted she didn't know exactly what was going on.

"Maybe people need them to clean out their houses," she said when pressed.

As far as we know, there has not even been one arrest of a person for stealing a can. In fact, can anyone who is reading this ever recall seeing someone scurry down an alley or street with a trash can?

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