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— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Activists call for action

By Charles Sercombe

Last year at this time, state Rep. Isaac Robinson introduced two bills that would ban a recycling center from accepting radioactive waste. Those house bills, HB4808 and HB4809, are still sitting in a committee with no promise as to when – or if – they will ever see the light of day.

On Monday, Robinson held a press conference in Hamtramck City Hall to bring attention to the stalled bills – and hopefully to ward off any sneaky bills from being passed through the state legislature, that might allow more toxins to be dumped off at Michigan recycling centers.

A few years ago, US Ecology, which is located a mile east of Hamtramck, won state approval to expand its facility, and also to allow hundreds of thousands of gallons of fracking waste to be stored at its site.

Robinson said it's a disaster waiting to happen.

"We know what happened in Flint," he said. "We must take radioactive waste seriously."

Michigan has over 1,000 recycling centers that accept this kind of waste – more than most states. For a state that has a prominent pro-

Continued on page 5

Merry Christmas

**A letter from the Publisher...
 A Christmas Gift: Peace,
 Through God in Christ**

By John Ulaj

I wish all the readers a joyous Christmas and a happy New Year!

The Review is celebrating the end of our 10th year, thanks to you – all of you, our readers and advertisers alike, have made our continued existence possible!

I'd like to talk about a particular subject that many of us experience from time to time; for some, it can be a lifetime struggle. The subject is ANXIETY, and how we should deal with it.

With the holidays upon us, people rushing to get from one place to another, it can all cause tremendous stress, and ruin the joy and blessings of

Christmas.

Anxiety is like having a divided mind, divided between positive thoughts and destructive thoughts. An anxious mind

call hearing a statistic once, to the effect that 40 percent of what you worry about will never happen; another 30 percent is related to past matters which now are out of our control; another 12 percent has to do with anxiety about personal health, even though there is often no illness except in the person's imagination; 10 percent is worry about friends or neighbors; and only 8 percent of worry seems to have its basis in immediate reality.

In other words, over 90% of what we worry about will NEVER HAPPEN!

Unfortunately, people who live with worry and anxiety

Continued on page 5

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‘Busia’ author is back for a book signing at Hamtramck’s museum

By Greg Kowalski

Author and historian Leonard Kniffel will hold a reception and signing for his new book “Busia: School Days on the Farm with My Polish Grandmother” 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 21, at the Hamtramck Historical Museum.

It is the follow up to his

earlier book “Busia: Seasons on the Farm with My Polish Grandmother,” and relates the story of his childhood growing up on a farm under the watchful care of Busia – his grandmother.

His stories are touching and inspirational, and his books would make excellent holiday gifts.

Copies of both “Busia” books will be available for purchase, and Kniffel will sign books. Light refreshments will be served free.

The Hamtramck Historical Museum is at 9525

Jos. Campau. Visit the museum website, www.hamtramckhistory.org. Email hamtramckhistory@gmail.com. Or call (313) 893-5027.

Mitten give-away returns to Dickinson East Elementary School

By Charles Sercombe

The holiday spirit could be felt on Monday at Dickinson East Elementary School.

That was the day the folks at Mittens for Detroit once again donated hundreds of brand-new mittens and gloves for the students to pick out and keep.

The mittens and gloves came in a wide assortment of sizes, styles and colors.

If a student wanted them in shocking blue or pink, no problem.

The students were ushered in class-by-class, and they hunched over

several tables with the goods neatly arranged. For some, choosing took only minutes, while others pondered a while over the varieties of styles.

The need for cold-weather clothing is great in Hamtramck. Many of the kids come from immigrant families who do not have a lot of money to spend on clothing.

At the very least, many of them will now have warm hands and fingers.

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December 23 – Mass for People on our Prayer List 7 pm
December 24 – Vigil of the Nativity of our Lord Mass 9 am
Christmas Sing-a-long 11:30 pm
Shepherd's Mass (Pasterka) 12:00 Midnight
December 25 – Solemnity of Nativity of our Lord 9 am
December 26 – Feast of St. Stephen, Proto-Martyr (Msza Sw. w.j. polskim) 10 am
December 27 – Feast of St. John, Apostle & Evangelist – Blessing of Wine 10 am
January 1 – Solemnity of Circumcision of our Lord 10 am
January 2 – Solemnity of Holy Name of Jesus 7 pm

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Merry Christmas


Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays

From Councilman Fadel Al-Marsoumi



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year


from Judge Alexis Krot!



Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year!

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Magdalena Srodek and Daughter Board of Education President



Happy and Safe Holidays to all Hamtramck residents and businesses from the Staff and Administration of the City of Hamtramck.

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Wednesday, Dec. 25th

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9:00 a.m. - Holy Mass

Thursday, Dec. 26th:

Feast of St. Stephen, Proto Martyr
10:00 a.m. Polish Holy Mass (Msza Św. w języku polskim)

Friday, Dec. 27th:

Feast of Saint John the Apostle
10:00 a.m. - Holy Mass (Blessing of Wine)

~ Serving the Hamtramck Community ~



Happy Holidays from everyone at the Hamtramck Recreation Department. We hope your holidays will be filled with joy and laughter through the New Year.



Merry Christmas

*Wishing Hamtramck Residents
A Blessed Holiday and
Happy New Year!*



**Mayor Karen
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Marianne Langlois, MSA
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On behalf of the staff at Henry Ford Medical Center - Hamtramck, I'd like to wish the wonderful residents of Hamtramck and the surrounding communities a joyous and healthy holiday season.

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Moortadha Obaid
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*From
Everyone
at*





Review: Opinion Page

The holiday season isn’t so joyful for three Jos. Campau businesses

By Charles Sercombe

Back in 2016, the folks over at Wheelhouse Detroit had high hopes for expanding their bike shop into Hamtramck.

“We just wanted to expand into a neighborhood that needed a bike shop,” Wheelhouse employee Tatiana Pastor said at the time. “We’re proud to be in Hamtramck. We love Hamtramck, and we’re just really excited to be there.”

Apparently, Hamtramck couldn’t show enough love back. The Hamtramck location, on Jos. Campau, will close on Dec. 23.

The owner of the business, Kelly Kavanaugh, was terse in her explanation of why she is closing the operation down.

“It just never took off quite as we’d hoped and, after three years of trying to make it work, we have decided to close the doors and focus our energies on the Detroit shop,” Kavanaugh said in an email.

If you haven’t stopped by the store yet, and are in

need of bike gear, now is the time to do it. There is a storewide sale of 25 percent off.

On its Facebook page announcing the store closing, several residents responded, mostly in shock.

“This is very sad news for you and sadder news for Hamtramck. I’ll be bringing my bikes down to the other store but I’ll miss you guys in Hamtramck,” said Catherine J. Roach.

This isn’t the only store closing happening on Hamtramck’s main commercial district.

Fresh Foods has also announced it is closing, although the actual closing date was not immediately known.

And rounding out the late-year business closings, Mom and Pop Toy store on Jos. Campau will be closing sometime this January.

“Our vision and dreams have come to pass,” said Sharon “Mom” Howell about her decision to end her business run.

As for her future, she said: “We have a lot of things in the fire.”

The closings have raised questions about the city’s ability to help in spurring economic development.

Former city councilmember Robert Zwolak blames a lack of support from city hall.

“We have done nothing in developing commercial development,” Zwolak said.

He also had harsh words for the city’s Downtown Development Authority for not spending money on promoting the Jos. Campau business district.

“I can’t comprehend why they don’t do more promotion,” he said.

He said the city has lacked a full-time economic development department director for the last few years.

“Even if they do hire one, it will take them a full year to get up to speed,” Zwolak said.

Odds & Ends

Bowing out... This election year proved historic. We don’t know the last time we had three incumbents get swept out of office, but that’s what happened this year.

Councilmembers Anam Miah, Saad Almasmari and Abu Musa will all no longer be serving on council. We wish them each the best, and a thank them for their community service.

Believe us, folks, it’s no easy matter serving on city council.

We also welcome aboard the three newly-

elected councilmembers: Nayeem Chowdhury, Mohammed Alsomiri and Mohammed Hassan.

For those who have followed Hamtramck politics, Hassan should be a familiar name. He is a former councilmember.

The year ahead, as usual in Hamtramck, will be challenging. Good luck, fellas.

Cracking down... Hamtramck is no stranger to “porch pirates” – you know, those lowlifes who steal packages from porches.

There has been an uptick in these incidents in recent weeks.

Apparently, state legislators are fed up, too. As of now, this crime is a felony.

If you get caught, you could be sentenced to a year or up to five years in prison, plus fines. If you are a repeat offender, expect to spend more time behind bars.

Get Out on the Hamtown!

Activists call for action

Continued from front page

tion called “Pure Michigan,” it sends a mixed message.

“Do we want our state to be known as a dumping ground, or known for our great lakes?” Robinson said.

Several states are already taking advantage of Michigan’s open toxic waste policy, and transporting their waste here.

City Manager Kathy Angerer was joined by several community leaders who expressed outrage over the practice.

“Being America’s dumping ground means we are cheap,” Angerer said. “It’s not right to take waste from other states.”

Sharon Buttry, a Hamtramck resident who has been leading the charge against US Ecology, echoed Robinson’s complaint that his bills are being ignored.

“We need hearings,” she said. “We need that process to move forward.”

Now that there is a new

governor, Gretchen Whitmer, who is also a Democrat like Robinson, there has been positive feedback, Robinson said.

He said the governor’s legal team is “aware” of his pending bills, but also that there has been no firm commitment yet to help move them forward.

One formidable problem, Robinson conceded, is that US Ecology has lobbyists working on legislators – which usually translates into campaign donations.

But what may financially

benefit some easily influenced legislators doesn’t trickle down to homeowners.

Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree pointed out that property owners near this recycling center will lose out, because property values will decline.

“Who wants to live next to a radioactive dump?” he said.

In the meantime, US Ecology is opening another recycling center near Hamtramck, near the former Detroit incinerator.

A Christmas Gift: Peace, Through God in Christ

Continued from front page

experience those feelings as being just as real as if what they were worrying over was happening right then.

They live inside the emotions of these worries, and their bodies create all the same chemical reactions as if the feared event was really happening. Worry takes tomorrow’s trouble and makes it today’s experience.

We can all be visited by worry and anxiety on occasion, but we need not move in and live there.

In Philippians 4:6, the apostle Paul wrote: “Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. (4:7) And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (4:8) Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if

there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. (4:9) Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

I myself was truly anxiety ridden two weeks ago; I thought my mother was not going to survive. She suffers from AFib, or atrial fibrillation, a condition where the heart beats irregularly.

Beaumont Hospital performed a procedure that involved shocking her heart to restoring the normal heart rate and rhythm.

Thanks to God, the operation was a success; what a great gift God has given her, and me, for Christmas.

Let’s take the energy that we spend on worrying, and channel it into prayer, and see the power of God working miracles.

Let us especially see that He gave us the perfect Christmas gift, His Son Jesus.

Once again, I hope you enjoy these wonderful holidays.

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and
Happy New Year*



Mohammed Hassan
Councilman Elect

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and
Happy New Year*



from **Dennis Lukas**
Treasurer
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Merry Christmas!
— Councilman
Ian Perrotta

*Don't forget the three
holiday lessons...*

LESSON 1

JEALOUS OF STUFF
EPIC SCREAMS OF THIS TEEN
DID NOTHING; WON'T.
KINDNESS WILL.
HIP TO IT IS **SANTA'S ELF.**



LESSON 2
STAY OFF THE NAUGHTY LIST!

*Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year*

from the Veterans of
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Keep CHRIST in Christmas!
*Merry Christmas "Wesołych Świąt"
& Happy New Year!*



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send to P.O. Box 12459, Hamtramck, 48212.*

Theft leads to a store employee being struck by a car

By Charles Sercombe

A Grinch-like criminal suspect almost turned a store theft into a homicide. According to a press release issued by the Hamtramck Police Department, an employee at a Metro PCS store at 3525 Caniff recently reported that he had been struck by a vehicle while chasing the suspect. The vehicle was driven by a man who had just grabbed a purple Samsung Galaxy S9 and run out of the store. Employees ran after the suspect, who got into a blue 2005 Honda Accord, with a Michigan license plate 4LVD06, and then drove away, striking one of

the employees in the process of fleeing. The car, as it turned out, had also been reported as stolen, from out of Detroit. The suspect is further described as a black male, about 6-foot, 1-inch tall, 220 pounds, with a medium to dark complexion, having a goatee or mustache, and wearing a black skull cap, a blue/gray/white Nike hoodie, blue and gray Nike sweat pants, and black and white Nike shoes. There was no further information about the extent of the employee's injuries. Anyone with information is asked to call Detective Luigi Gjokaj at (313) 800-5269.



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Obituaries

VUJIC



Vladimir "Joe" Vujic passed away on December 15, 2019. He was born in a house on Goodson Street on January 12, 1952. His second birthday, the day of his lung transplant and second chance at life, was January 1, 2011.

Joe was known for his love of animals, useless (but actually very useful) knowledge, and great taste in books, music, television shows, and movies. He had a passion for writing short stories and camping in the Upper Peninsula. Joe's affinity for solitude in nature, when he felt most himself, was evident in the quiet courage he displayed facing his many health challenges and contemplating his uncertain future.

Joe was a strong advocate for rescuing animals and shelter adoption for many years, most recently to his dog, Zoe, and his cat, Luke. He was always proud to share photos and video of their camping trips and excursions

to Belle Isle.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Paul and Lydia, and his brother, Bohdan. He is survived by his nieces, Stephanie, Kristina, Maria, and Kenlee; sister-in-law, Janice; close friends, Gary Sagan-ski, Anita Surma, Gary McLaskey, and Eddie Laska; and other friends and extended family.

The celebration of Joe's life will take place at his childhood home at 2608 Neibel in Hamtramck on Friday, December 27. Please come by between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. to spend time with his family and friends. At 5 p.m. we will share stories and Crown Royal.

"When you're exhausted and sure you've got nothing left, I guarantee you can reach down and get more. And a lot of that reserve and strength comes from the people who care about you and are there for you." -Joe Vujic



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Coming events

MONDAY, Dec. 23, 9 a.m. — Wayne County Commissioner Martha G. Scott hosts a free Community Coffee Hour every fourth Monday of the month at Maine Street Restaurant, 11650 Jos. Campau.

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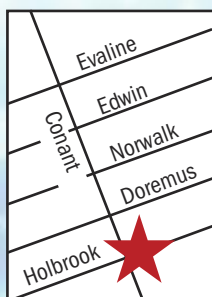


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School Bell

Dickinson East School News

On December 17, retired Dickinson East teacher, Ms. Nancy Shipman, visited the sixth grade classroom of Ms. Rahiel Housey-Johnson.

In support of the HPS district's positive initiative for mindfulness, Ms. Shipman sponsored a classroom set of stress-relieving squeeze balls.

The appreciative students were able to choose their squeeze ball design – from happy faces, soccer balls, the earth, footballs, stars, and other shapes and designs.

The students will enjoy

them, and keep them at school. We humbly thank Ms. Shipman and all the generous retirees who continue to support Hamtramck Public Schools students and teachers!

y students just finished studying cause and effects of the War of 1812. The content being taught next is the Age of

Students are working on linear equations and analyzing the rate of change in graphs and tables using slope intercept form. ACE Questions are given for homework.

Early Childhood Elementary School

The holiday spirit is apparent, as the last week of school winds down before winter break.

Second grade teacher Ms. Amanda Lesko and paraprofessional Mr. John Burge decked the halls in their finest holiday attire to greet the students Monday morning.

Also on Monday, high school students, as part of the High School Heroes program, visited the first grade classrooms.

MD Hamja, Hifa Almar-dahi, Sadika Begum and Naseem Hasson presented a program about who is in your neighborhood.

The students looked at what businesses the students go to, and what products are bought.

Students got involved in

reading, creating both their own neighborhood book and a take-home book to work on with their family.

Students were very enthusiastic with the high school students as they participated in discussions and activities. We look forward to the high schoolers next visit after winter break!

Upcoming Events

- December 23 – January 5 – No school for students and staff. Winter Break.
- January 6 – School resumes.
- January 20 – No school for students and staff. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Breakfast sponsored by HPS and The Concerned Women of Hamtramck. The breakfast will take place at the Hamtramck Community

Center from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Adult ticket prices are \$20, child ticket prices are \$10, and a table for eight people will be \$150.

Tickets are available at the HPS district office or any HPS public school. HPS students will be performing at the breakfast.

• January 22 – Hamtramck High School Semester Exams. Half day for Hamtramck High School (HHS).

• January 23 – Hamtramck High School and Kosciuszko Middle School (KMS) Semester Exams. Half day for HHS and KMS. Records day in the afternoon for HHS and KMS.

• January 24 – Hamtramck High School, Horizon and Kosciuszko Middle School (KMS) Semester

Exams- Half day for HHS, Horizon and KMS. Records day in the afternoon for HHS, Horizon and KMS.

• January 24 – Half day for all elementary schools. Records day in the afternoon for all elementary schools.

• January 24 – End of 2nd Quarter and 1st semester.

• January 30 – Report Card #2 distributed.

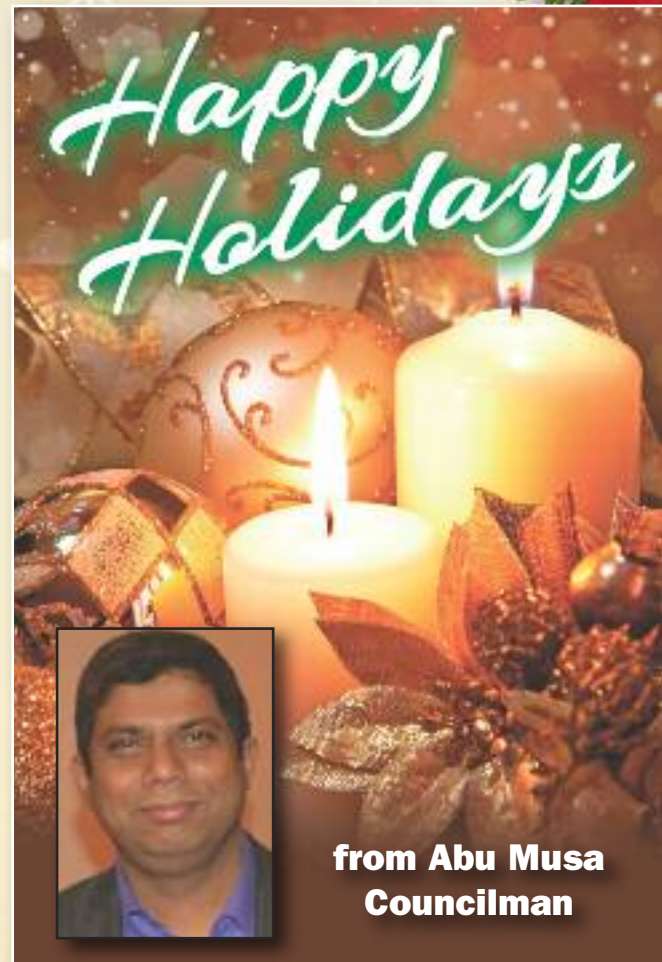
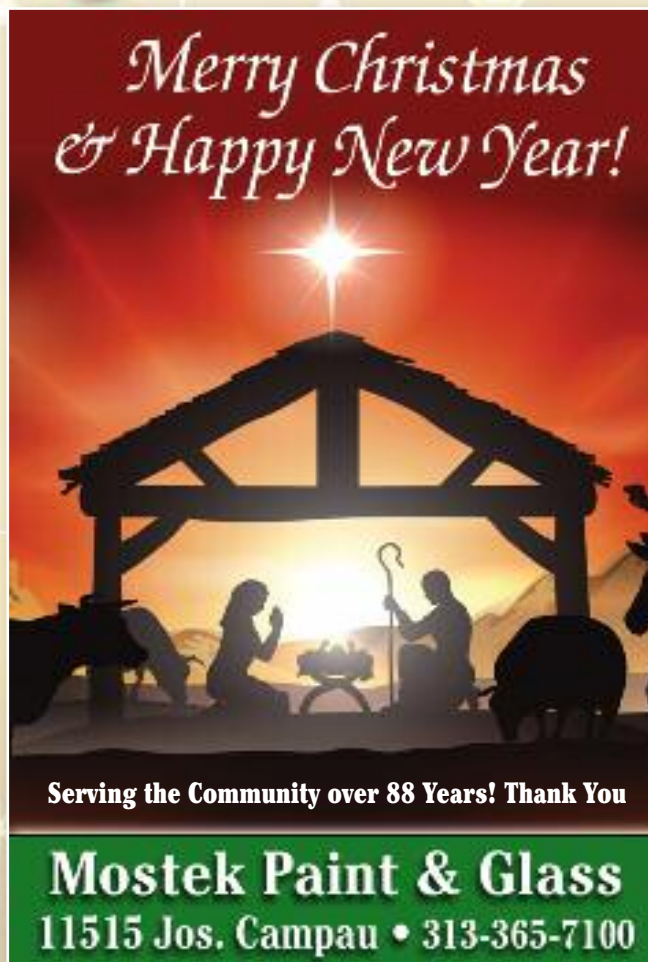
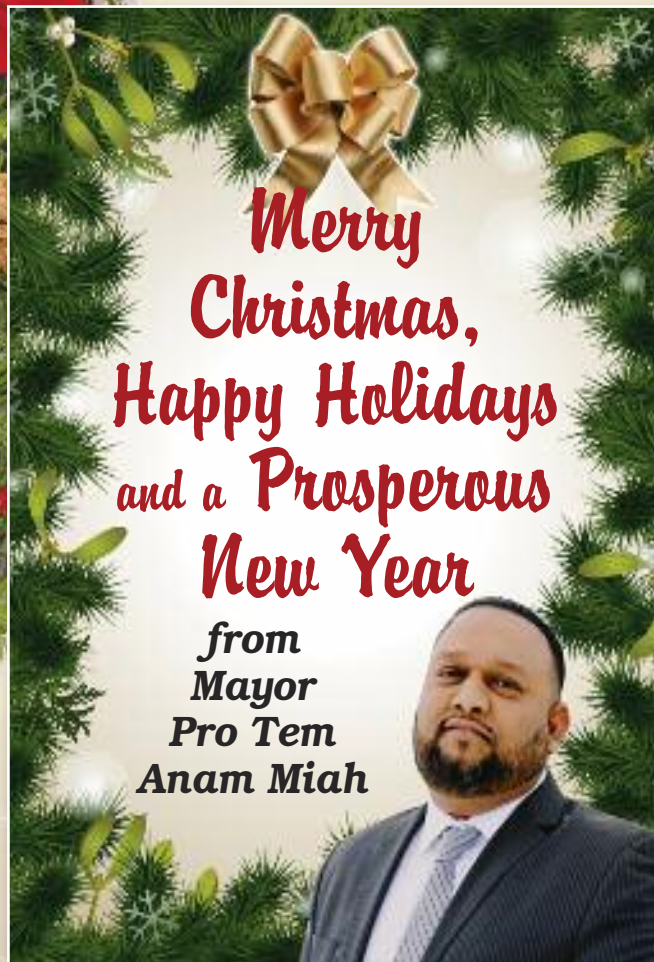
Recreation Department

For information about recreation activities, 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

Merry Christmas



As the church bells ring proclaiming the birth of Christ we at

Our Lady Queen of Apostles Parish

wish you a Merry Christmas and for the coming New Year - health, happiness and prosperity.

Pastor Fr. Janusz Iwan and Parish Staff

Christmas Season 2019

3851 Prescott, Hamtramck, MI 48212 • 313-891-1520

Saturday, December 14

Sacrament of Reconciliation11:00 am
Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick (during Mass).....5:30 pm

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Vigil - Family Mass (English).....4:00 pm
Solemn Midnight Mass - 12:00 am (English & Polish).....12 midnight
(preceded by singing of Christmas carols at 11:30 pm)

Wednesday, December 25

Christmas Day, Mass in Polish & English9:30 am

Wednesday, January 1

New Year's Day - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (English & Polish)9:30 am

Saturday, January 4 - Mass (English)5:30 pm

Sunday, January 5

Epiphany of the Lord MassEnglish 8:00am, Polish 9:30 am
Blessed chalk and Incense available

Email address: qofaparish1917@gmail.com