

"Your Pharmacy Experts"

SAV-MORTM

DRUG STORES X

FRD PHARMACY

9811 Conant • Hamtramck
(313) 871-1115
Mon-Fri: 10am-8pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-3pm
www.sav-mor.com



Additional Savings on
OVER 5000
Brand and Generic
Medications

\$4.00 GENERICS
30-DAY SUPPLY*

\$9.99 GENERICS
90-DAY SUPPLY*

Over 500 drugs available.
See www.sav-mor.com for details.

TALK TO A DOCTOR
anytime, anywhere.

Introducing
My T Health Plus
Unlimited calls to a doctor,
for you and your family.
\$14.99 /mo.
www.MTHealthplus.com

Manage Your Meds Anywhere with the FRD Pharmacy MOBILE APP



HEANEY
PLUMBING & HEATING
(313) 371-3766
(586) 649-6300
Service • Installation • Repairs
www.HeaneyPlumbing.com
Proudly Serving Hamtramck Since 1965.
• Licensed & Insured
• Residential & Commercial

3020 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212 • (313) 874-2100

Like Us On:  Volume 13 No. 10
February 26, 2021 **50¢**

The Review

Hamtramck

www.hamtramckreview.com • e-mail news@thehamtramckreview.com

PUT YOUR \$ WHERE YOUR ♥ IS
BUY LOCAL

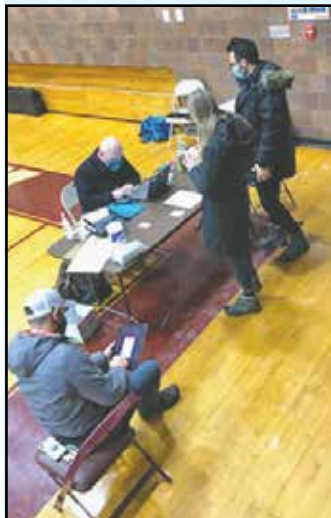


MICHIGAN RECONNECT

Quick Hits

Hamtramck pitches in

By Charles Sercombe
Way to go Hamtramck! After a last-minute plea for more volunteers to sign up for a blood drive last week, Hamtramckans came through. Russ Gordon was gushing with thanks for all of the folks who agreed to donate blood to the Red Cross.



Volunteers recently showed up for a blood drive that was held at the Hamtramck High School Community Center. Photo by Russ Gordon

Gordon is chairman of the Human Relations Commission, which teamed up with the Red Cross and Hamtramck Public Schools to sponsor the blood drive. There was a point where it looked like way fewer than 40 people would participate – which was a number organizers were hoping to show up. **Continued on page 5**

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Council comes around to allowing medical marijuana sales, sort of

By Charles Sercombe
Recently, a majority of city councilmembers rejected allowing the sale of medical marijuana in Hamtramck.

But then a curious turn of events happened.

A few weeks after rejecting a proposal to allow medical marijuana sales, which had been proposed by Councilmember Ian Perrotta, Councilmembers Fadel Al-Marsoumi, Mohammed Hassan, Nayeem Choudhury and Mohammed Alsomiri (Councilmember Saad Almasmari was absent) did an about-face and allowed it, in a new city ordinance regulating marijuana dispensaries.

So did they know that permission was included in the ordinance that they passed?

Apparently, maybe.

"I don't know what happened," admitted Councilmember Alsomiri.

Councilmember Has-



Puff Cannabis Company on Jos. Campau and Commor is the third dispensary to open in Hamtramck. A majority of the Hamtramck Common Council recently adopted an ordinance that reversed a prior decision to ban medical marijuana sales.

san said he allowed it because he was tired of the ongoing debate about whether to allow legal marijuana sales to happen in Hamtramck.

"How many more headaches do you want to take?" Hassan said.

Apparently, he may be asking for more. In a cryptic comment, he followed

up saying: "There will be changes coming next year."

He declined to elaborate. But next year is an election year for three council seats (Perrotta, Al-Marsoumi and Almasmari) and the mayor's position.

Councilmember Choudhury said that, when he

initially voted against allowing medical marijuana sales, he did "not fully understand" the issue.

Hamtramck voters voted in favor of allowing medical marijuana to become legal when it was proposed a few years ago, but voters here drew a line on legalizing recre-

Continued on page 2

The lore of Hamtramck ...

Black soldiers made an impressive presence in Hamtramck

By Greg Kowalski

It must have been an amazing sight – 800 soldiers marching down Jos. Campau to Keyworth Stadium.

There, they gave a fine demonstration of army drill and arms handling, to the delight of a large crowd. And a children's drum and bugle corps played a greeting as they arrived.

The occasion was a celebration of the "Spirit of America Day" on a Sunday in June, 1942. By all accounts, it was an impressive display of the American military, and it came at a meaningful time – six months after the attack on Pearl Harbor. It was a time when the full impact that America was at war was still sinking in.

Mayor Stephen Skrzycki gave an address, and there was a full lineup of military and political speakers.

In all, it sounds like it was a pretty impressive presentation, yet it barely rated a mention in the newspapers. That's probably because all of the soldiers were Black. This was before the military was integrated, and these

African-American soldiers did not get the same attention that their white counterparts received at that time.

The soldiers came from the 94th Engineer Corps, stationed at Fort Custer in Michigan.

They gathered at Davison and Jos. Campau at about 3 p.m. that day, and

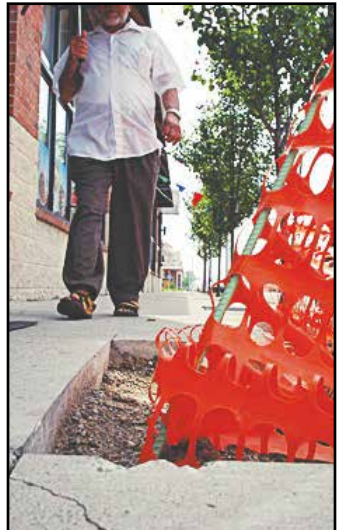
Continued on page 4

Sidewalk repairs put on hold

By Charles Sercombe
Don't count on Hamtramck's uneven and cracked sidewalks to get repaired any time soon.

A majority of the city council rejected a proposal by the city administration to hire the city's engineering firm, Hennessey, to identify which sidewalks need to be replaced.

Most cities periodically mark sidewalk slabs that are deemed damaged or a possible threat to pedestrian safety.



A proposal to begin a sidewalk replacement program was rejected by city officials. File photo

Hamtramck has not had a citywide program for 10 or 15 years, back to when officials targeted sidewalk slabs that had become upended by tree roots.

Otherwise, when repairs do happen, it's usually because a utility company dug up some slabs to install, or repair, gas or water lines.

In a note to the city council from the city administration, explaining the need from the program, it was said:

"As a walkable city, and **Continued on page 2**



CHICKEN & Waffles \$6.99

Burger, Fries & Beer \$6.99

We Cater! Gift Certificates
HOURS:
Open Monday-Saturday
6am-4pm
Closed Sunday

11650 Jos Campau • Hamtramck • 313-368-0500



We would like to thank our customers for their loyalty and support. —Management

Pick-ups & Delivery Available
Curbside Service

BE HEALTHY, BE CLEAN

CLEAN & DISINFECT

SOCIAL DISTANCE

PICK-UP & DELIVERY



Council comes around to allowing medical marijuana sales, sort of

Continued from front page

ational marijuana. Members of the Bengali and Yemeni communities have been strongly opposed to allowing recreational or medical sales to happen in Hamtramck, but four dispensaries managed to get their state permits in order before the council adopted a ban on allowing any more to open. Choudhury said that since recreational sales

outlets have opened, it makes no difference to allow medical sales to be offered at those dispensaries. “For the folks who need it, it will be helpful,” Choudhury said. He added that personally, he is not against the sale of marijuana. “I was representing the folks who didn’t want it,” Choudhury said. Councilmember Alsomi-

ri also said he personally “doesn’t care,” be he, too, felt compelled to follow the wishes of those who oppose it. “It’s the same as a liquor store,” he said. “Everybody uses it.” So, what’s the big deal about allowing medical marijuana sales? Not much. Having a medical marijuana card allows people to forego paying a 10 percent excise tax – so there is a little break there. But as one attorney knowledgeable about the marijuana business pointed out, there is nothing stopping dispensaries from voluntarily offering discounts to those with medical cards.

Sidewalk repairs put on hold

Continued from front page

to encourage our residents to walk in our city, sidewalk repair is an important part of the overall infrastructure improvement that is necessary. Having sidewalks in good repair, including having an active sidewalk repair program, is one way to protect the city from trip and fall lawsuits.” A majority of the council rejected the proposal because of one thing: the cost to property owners. It was estimated that it would cost \$175 per sidewalk slab, which homeowners would then be responsible for. The city proposed to earmark \$68,000, paid through a yearly state road repair grant, to hire Hennessey Engineers, Inc., to mark the slabs that needed to be replaced. The program was going to be spread out over three years, doing one section of the city per year. In all, there are 80 miles of sidewalks in the city.

City Attorney James Allen stressed that, by replacing damaged sidewalks, the likelihood of trip and fall lawsuits is reduced. “The program pays for itself, in terms of risk reduction,” Allen said. A few years ago, the Michigan legislature adopted a law that reduced the liability of trip and fall accidents that cities face. But there is still a risk for

a lawsuit. Councilmember Ian Perrotta suggested training a city employee to determine which slabs needed to be replaced, as a way to save money. “It wouldn’t be that hard to train someone to do it,” Perrotta said. When it came time for a vote on the proposal, only Councilmember Fadel Al-Marsoumi was in favor.



Support Your Local Businesses



Every Tuesday 11:45am

FREE HALAL MEALS

FOR CHILDREN 18 AND YOUNGER. CHILDREN DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT, DESIGNATED PERSON CAN COLLECT MEALS FOR MULTIPLE CHILDREN.

J&E Community Relief



KELLY'S BAR LIQUOR

2403 Holbrook Hamtramck 313-872-0387

Food served until 8pm

OPEN: Tuesday-Thursday 2-10pm Regular Bar Menu

Perch, Cod & Catfish FRIDAYS Only

Food served until 8pm



Hamtramck HOUSING COMMISSION

Hamtramck Senior Plaza

A HUD High Performer

“The Nicest Place in Town”

- Heat & Water Included
- Individual Kitchens
- Income Based Rent
- 24 Hour Security
- Recreation Areas
- On Site Mail
- Exercise Room
- Air Conditioned
- Library

2620 Holbrook St • Hamtramck • (313) 873-7878

Hamtramck Housing Commission (HHC) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, handicap or familial status

Cosmos winter sports schedule

WEEK 4

February 22 – Varsity Girls' Basketball vs. UPSM.	Home.	5:30 p.m.
February 22 – Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. UPSM.	Home.	7 p.m.
February 24 – Varsity Girls' Basketball vs. UPA.	Away.	5:30 p.m.
February 24 – Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. UPA.	Away.	7 p.m.
February 26 – Varsity Girls' Basketball vs. Taylor Prep.	Away.	6 p.m.
February 26 – Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. Taylor Prep.	Away.	7:30 p.m.

WEEK 5

March 1 – Varsity Girls' Basketball vs. Ecorse.	Home.	5:30 p.m.
March 1 – Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. Ecorse.	Home.	7 p.m.
March 3 – Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. Detroit Renaissance.	Away.	7 p.m.
March 5 – Varsity Girls' Basketball vs. Harper Woods.	Away.	5:30 p.m.
March 5 – Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. Harper Woods.	Away.	7 p.m.

WEEK 6

March 8 – Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. UPAD.	Away.	7 p.m.
March 8 – Varsity Girls' Basketball vs. Canton Prep.	Away.	6 p.m.
March 10 – Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. Trillium.	Away.	7 p.m.
March 10 – Varsity Girls' Basketball vs. Robichaud.	Home.	6 p.m.
March 12 – Varsity Girls' Basketball vs. River Rouge.	Home.	5:30 p.m.
March 12 – Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. River Rouge.	Home.	7 p.m.

WEEK 7

March 15 – Varsity Girls' Basketball vs. UPSM.	Away.	5:30 p.m.
March 15 – Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. UPSM.	Away.	7 p.m.
March 17 – Varsity Girls' Basketball vs. UPA.	Home.	5:30 p.m.
March 17 – Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. UPA.	Home.	7 p.m.

This week at the Library . . .

Women’s History Month: March is here again and the Library will be celebrating Women’s History Month. Stop in and be sure to check out our selected books by female authors and the display honoring the achievements of women in the fight for equality. Maybe there is a certain special woman who you personally know. We would also like you to write a one page essay telling us her story and what she means to you. We will post it in the Library so other patrons can learn about her greatness.

Dr. Seuss’ Birthday: Tuesday, March 2 we will be celebrating the birthday of Dr. Seuss. It is a great time to check out our collection of Dr. Seuss’ classics. New items have been added!

Borrowed Book Week: The first week of March is also known as the Return of Borrowed Books Week. We are not complaining, but hint, hint.

Famous Birthdays: On March 1, famous Polish composer, Frederick Chopin was born. March 3rd is celebrated as birthday of American inventor, Alexander Graham Bell, and American poet and writer, Clifton Snider. Polish General, who joined

the United States Military and established the American Calvary, Casimir Pulaski, and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, famous poet were both born on March 6.

Born in March: People born in March are known to be extremely generous and sympathetic. They are always willing to help and ready for any sacrifices. They have hearts of gold and everybody can count on them. Their kindness toward ones in need has gained them the admiration and respect of others. They have a great intuition, that allows them to sense the slightest of scams. Thanks to that ability it is really hard to fool of cheat them. They really know people and once you lose their trust if is difficult to get it back

Hamtramck Library is operating as “Grab and Go” until further notice: - This service includes book pick-ups, remote printing, faxing and scanning. Computers will not be available for use until further notice. Please send attachments you want printed to hamtramcklibrary@gmail.com. Browse our catalog at home, If we have the title, please call 313-733-6822, and we will set it aside for you to pick up.

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

Second Front Page

Cosmos basketball team is racking up impressive wins

By Alan Madlane

The Hamtramck High School boys' varsity basketball team just might be a slam-dunk for a championship year.

The Cosmos has been beating some top-ranked teams this season, and it looks like they could go all the way.

So far, their record is 5 wins and one loss and are currently ranked number six in the district stats.

We spoke with the team's head coach, Dennis Foster, by phone (along with HHS Athletic Director Brian Anderson) about the team's success this year.

The Review: So, what's the story with this year's team? Have they been

anything of a surprise to you, with their performance so far?

Coach Foster: Honestly, no. But maybe they have been for everyone else?

They were good already last year. Even better this year.

The Review: To what do you attribute their recent success?

Foster: These kids have all been together for quite a while, since elementary school. They've travelled all over the U.S., together. They've been following this thing called "Change the Mentality" – you can look it up on Youtube.

They really pull for each other.

The Review: How many

years have you been involved with the team, or with Hamtramck High School athletics?

Foster: I've been coaching here for eight years now. I've been the head coach of the boys' varsity for, let's see, this is my third... no, fourth year.

Before that, I coached the girls' varsity team, and also the boys' junior varsity team.

I'm also the Assistant Athletic Director here.

The Review: Have certain players upped their games this year, shown sudden improvement? If you can say so without causing any issues...

Foster: This is a very unique group. We have six or seven guys who are all doing well.

I can mention one player – Javier (pronounced "JAH-vee-air" – Ed.) Whitaker. He's a senior, combo guard, plays the point and shooting guard.

He's "on the bubble" for consideration for Mr.

Basketball (a state-wide award bestowed upon the top player annually. – Ed.) Born and raised here, went all through school in the city.

He's had a 40-point game this season. He was All-City, All-State last year.

The Review: What's the rest of your schedule?

Foster: We have a game today (Feb. 24) against University Prep. Another against Clover Academy. These are top-10 teams.

The Review: How about the playoffs?

Athletic Director Brian Anderson: They start March 22. Everyone is in, the whole state, split into four divisions.

We're in Division One.

The Review: Well, best of luck to you, and to them!

LEADERS

in Short-Term Rehabilitation



The Renaissance

Providing **quick recovery** and **quality care** through our **comprehensive rehabilitation program**.

ST. JOSEPH'S
NURSING & REHABILITATION CENTRE

StJosephsHealthcare.com
Hamtramck • 313-874-4500

OLYMPIA



It's Time to Pray, Please Join Us

We are a Multicultural Parish Family
Sunday English Mass 9 a.m.
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Everyone is Welcome to Worship with Us

Sunday Service is now being held
MASKS are mandatory – HAND SANITIZER on site. Six foot separation seating & social distancing. A complete list of safety guidelines is provided

February 28 - Mass at 9:00 am
March 3 - The Stations of the Cross 7 pm
March 10 - The Bitter Lamentations (Part 2) 7 pm
March 13 - Soup Kitchen Take-out Only 2-4 pm Everyone Welcome!

We are an Active Parish Serving the Community
Celebrating 99 Years of Traditional, Catholic, and Democratic Church
Holy Cross Parish Polish National Catholic Church
2311 Pulaski, Hamtramck • Very Rev. Jaroslaw Nowak, Pastor
313-365-0218 www.HolyCrossPNCC.com

Support Your Local Businesses



Coming Events

SATURDAY, March 13, 2-4 p.m. – Take-out only, Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski, at Fleming. Everyone is welcome!

Hamtramck Recreation Department

In-Person DANCE Academy

FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 27

Pre-Ballet (3-6) - 1:00 pm

Jazz/Hip Hop (7-14) - 1:45 pm

Class Every Saturday

\$15

resident & non-resident

The Hamtramck Recreation Department is following the Governor's orders and CDC guidelines. All programs are subject to be changed, postponed, or cancelled. 1 parent allowed to wait inside building. No extra kids allowed.

HHS Community Center
11350 Charest St
(313) 882-2636

Registration

Register Day of 9am - 2pm
5 weeks, 45 mins., mask required,
10 spots/class



Governor Whitmer Executive Order 2020-59

Any individual able to medically tolerate a face covering

must wear a covering over his or her nose and mouth

such as a homemade mask, scarf, bandana, or handkerchief

when in any enclosed public space.





HENRY FORD MEDICAL CENTER

Hamtramck

Henry Ford is here for you during COVID-19

The Henry Ford Medical Center - Hamtramck is temporarily closed during the COVID-19 crisis. Our doctors have been moved to other Henry Ford Medical Centers and can see you there. Here are some ways you can get care with your doctor.

- A video visit on your computer or smart phone.
- A telephone appointment.
- An in-person appointment at another Henry Ford Medical Center.

Learn how to have a video visit from your home at [HenryFord.com/videovisits](https://www.henryford.com/videovisits).

For help deciding the best way for you to get care, call us at **(313) 972-9000**.



ALL FOR YOU



**One Year Remembrance
Live Virtual Ceremony**

*In Loving Memory of
Rep. Isaac Robinson*

Monday March 29, 2021 at 6:30 P.M.
Program will include remarks & special tributes.

AMPAC
The American Arab and Muslim
Political Action Committee

For more information and advance RSVP,
please Email: office@ampacmi.org
www.ampacmi.org



HAIR REPAIR

MEN'S HAIRCUTS
313-875-8972
*Best quality for the
best prices.*
Walk-Ins Welcome!
Call for Hours



9517 Jos. Campau • Hamtramck
586-879-8058 Call for Appt.



ANSWER THE CALL

If you get a call from the health department, keep your family and friends safe by answering the call. To break the chain of infection, we're calling anyone who has been exposed to coronavirus. The process is called contact tracing and it has been used to control diseases for decades. But you have to answer the phone for it to work.



If you need medical care, call ahead to let the doctor's office, hospital or 911 know you might have coronavirus so they can take the appropriate precautions to keep you and their staff safe. Avoid ride shares, taxis and public transport.



**IF YOU
TEST
POSITIVE**

If you test positive for COVID-19, you'll be asked to stay home to stop the spread of the virus. The health department will provide information about how to keep you and your loved ones safe while you recover.

They'll also ask for a list of people you were within six feet of for more than 10 minutes during the two days before you had symptoms.



**REACHING
OUT TO YOUR
CONTACTS**

Then the health department will reach out to anyone you've been in contact with to contain the spread of the virus.

Contacts are given information to understand their risk and how to keep others safe. They're asked to stay home, monitor themselves for illness, and seek help if they become ill.

YOUR IDENTITY PROTECTED

We will not release your name to anyone we call, including your contacts. We will never ask for personal identification, like your social security number, driver's license or credit card information.



Black soldiers made an impressive presence in Hamtramck

Continued from front page

marched down Jos. Campau to the stadium. What media that was present there noted that hundreds of people lined the sidewalks.

They were accompanied by a fleet of vehicles that were later parked at the city's D.P.W. yards.

Over at Keyworth Stadium, Common Council President Walter Serement told the crowd: "This is the first time the city of Hamtramck has had the honor and privilege to welcome members of the United States army. We now fully realize the importance of the man in the uniform. With this fine group in front of me today, there is no question that America and her allies will be victorious in the end."

And the significance of the racial implications of the event was not missed by Mayor Skrzycki.

"Today, because of the crisis facing the world, all nations and races are facing danger, forcing us to become united together. We have a great cause to stand united today," he said.

Commanders of the 94th Regiment Major Arthur H. Frye and Col. R.G. Lovett also spoke.

"I am mighty proud of the regiment," Col. Lovett said. "They're as fine as you will find in the United States Army. We're going to try and do the job we have to do. This trip has proved to the boys that the people of Hamtramck are behind them."

The event was arranged by the American Legion Triangle Post No. 198. Leo Whittaker, commander of the post, said the objective of the event was to stimulate patriotism, as well as salvage scrap items for the effort.

Admission to the event was 25 cents, plus a bit of reusable scrap.

The event didn't get the media attention it deserved, but it is significant that it was held at all at that time in our history. And it's notable that the soldiers received the respect they deserved.

Like Hamtramck history? You can join the Friends of Historical Hamtramck, located at 9525 Joseph Campau, Hamtramck, MI 48212. For more information, call (313) 893-5027.



ERIC R. SABREE
Wayne County Treasurer

WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE

OPEN BY APPOINTMENT

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT: TREASURER.WAYNECOUNTY.COM

Appointments can be made for the following transactions:

- Required in person cash transactions
- "Pay as You Stay" transactions
- Payment Plans
- Deed Certifications
- FOIA requests and pick-ups
- Bankruptcy Case Inquires

Masks required while visiting the WCTO.
Please practice social distancing.

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

For additional questions:
Email taxinfo@waynecounty.com
or Call (313) 224-5990

**FREE
NEIGHBORHOOD TESTING**

Southwestern Church of God
3032 Fort Street
Detroit, MI 48217





**FREE
NEIGHBORHOOD TESTING**

Wayne County Community College District Northwest Campus
8200 Outer Dr. W.
Detroit, MI 48219





Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Schools taking smart approach to re-opening

Hamtramck Public School officials are undertaking one of the hardest decisions they have had to make: Bringing students back into classrooms during a pandemic.

It's been a year since students have been in school. At the last school board meeting, the board was presented with a plan to begin gradually bring back students.

The district is starting with students who have the most need: those who are learning the English language, special

needs kids and those students who are falling behind.

Without a doubt, virtual learning is a challenge, and one that most folks agree is a distant second to actual in-person learning.

But then, no one expected a deadly pandemic to descend on the country and the world.

Teachers are understandably hesitant to return to classroom learning. They are putting themselves in direct contact with the students, some of whom could end up being carriers of the

virus.

Fortunately, teachers were given a chance to be vaccinated – but there is no proof that it will keep them immune to any of the new strains of COVID that are emerging.

We are confident, however, that district officials are taking the proper precautionary steps.

We all want to return to our normal lives. But we have to do it in a smart way, and listen to what medical officials are telling us.



Early Childhood Elementary School

The snow didn't slow down the students nor the teachers this week. Students celebrated the snow fall with lessons about the weather and art related to snow and winter.

We did have snow day last Tuesday which everyone enjoyed!

Wednesday, Feb. 17 was the 100th Day of School.

There was a lot of counting going on in the classrooms as the teachers and students celebrated enthusiastically. Some students and teachers even dressed up to celebrate the day.

Alexander Tyler, first grader in Mrs. Haacke's class, even made his own video as a 100-year-old man saying he has been married seven times with 17 grandchildren. He enjoys driving around town in his old Cadillac. He goes to Florida with his grandchildren to Disney and has lots of money. He says he doesn't play any sports because he's old.

On a more serious note, the staff has been getting ready for mandates of partial reopening by getting their vaccines.

The outstanding staff at the Detroit Medical Center had a very organized production to check in

staff, process paperwork, distribute vaccines and observe afterwards.

The second vaccine is scheduled for the end of February.



Above: ECE kindergarten teacher Carla Timocko gets a COVID vaccine. Below left: Music teacher Deanna Daly got her vaccine. Below right: Rayan Saleh and sister, Hadeel Saleh, enjoying and learning about snow. Bottom left: Hasheem Kassim is a kindergarten in Mrs. Timocko's class. Bottom right: Mrs. Seppala, preschool teacher, Mrs. Liz Kochut, paraprofessional, and Mrs. Bogdan, kindergarten teacher at the DMC getting their vaccine.



Odds & Ends

Fightin' words... WJR-AM radio personality Frank Beckmann and his listeners got ticked off at a comment Mayor Karen Majewski made about the recent death of radio personality Rush Limbaugh.

For years Limbaugh was the voice of the conservative movement, and reached millions of listeners.

To say that he was controversial is an understatement.

Well, Majewski was no fan of Limbaugh, and had these choice words to say about his passing:

"I look forward to this asshole getting just what he deserves in the afterlife/his future lives. Good riddance and f— you."

Well, that caught the attention of Beckmann, conservative, who threw some barbed comments at the mayor. Since we're not listeners to Beckmann's show, we're not sure what he said. Whatever it was it also set off angry comments from his listeners.

If anyone knows our mayor, you know she isn't going to take that quietly.

On her Facebook page she had this say:

"Evidently Frank Beckmann, or whoever he is on WJR, made a big deal of this post today on his radio show so the right-wing crazies are calling city hall demanding that I be fired, threatening to pull their money out of Hamtramck (!), etc., (and) leaving vile voice mail messages. Ironical that they're offended by

a couple of swear words but not by the vile s— with which Rush polluted this country for decades. But typical."

Apparently, it must be a slow news week in the Beckmann world because Majewski says comments are still flying her way from critics.

The mayor is doubling down and not mincing her words:

"In the Frank Beckmann dustup (still getting nasty emails – can these snowflakes not move on already), I find especially offensive the 'sweet little old lady' comments I'm getting. As in, 'How can a sweet little old lady say such hateful things,' and 'I thought you were a sweet little old lady.'"

"I'm not a 'sweet little old lady.' The stereotype is demeaning and disempowering."

As you might expect, Beckmann invited Majewski to be interviewed but she turned him down.

Reminder... Never got a college degree? Wanting to go back to school for some training in a hot field, but don't have the income?

The State of Michigan has got your back.

Michigan residents over 25 years old, who have been residents for at least a year and have a high school diploma but no college degree yet, can now apply for funding to cover community college or trade school costs.

The program is known as Michigan Reconnect,

and it's being funded by a \$30 million budget appropriation that both Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and the Republican-majority state legislature got behind. The governor first suggested the program right after beginning her term.

There's a little more to it, however.

The program will only pay any tuition and fees not already covered by any other standard federal or state aid, if any, so those must first be applied for.

Over four million state residents may be eligible for the assistance. As of Feb. 4, there were 19,000 applications that had come in over the first 24 hours the program was open.

The state has recently offered a pandemic-related incentive program for frontline workers without any degree who were classified as essential. It was called the "Futures for Frontliners" program, and well over 100,000 people took part in it at the time.

In fact, about 30,000 people who signed up for that program, but didn't qualify, will automatically be made eligible for this new program.

One can assume that you would still be eligible if you had taken some previous community college coursework, but never finished up your degree.

Check the state's website (Michigan.gov) for updates or more info.

Quick Hits

Cont. from front page

Well, they did.

When it comes to answering a call for help, you can count on Hamtramck.

In the next blood drive, Gordon promises that there will be more offerings to entice volunteers. For those who did participate last week, they received an Amazon gift card worth \$5.

OK, not a huge sum, but we'll take it!

Scenes from last week's blood drive. Photos by Russ Gordon



FUNERAL DIRECTORY

When the need arises, these caring professionals are ready to help.

Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home

MICHAEL A. WILK, DIRECTOR ROBERT A. WILK, DIRECTOR

2396 Caniff at Brombach | 313-365-9600

The Hamtramck Review

Published every Friday

3020 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212

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

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

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

Editor: Charles Sercombe

Office Manager: Jean Ingenthron

Sales Manager: Dave Sweet

Copy Editor: Alan Madlane

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

Mayor: COVID takes a new twist and turn

By Charles Sercombe

There's a new curious thing about COVID these days.

On the one hand, it appears the number of new cases is on the decline both nationally and in Hamtramck. On the other hand, there are new strains of the disease popping up.

Mayor Karen Majewski acknowledged that predicament in her weekly address to the community via Facebook.

"We're not quite sure what this situation will be with them," Majewski said, about the new strains appearing.

In her Monday morning COVID update, she said last week's COVID count was skewed because of a problem Wayne County experienced in coming up with totals.

Not counting this past weekend, Majewski said there were 15 new cases, bringing the total for the past year up to 1,864 in Hamtramck. The number of deaths remains the same as last week, at 42.

Nationally, the nation hit a milestone, with over 500,000 deaths attributed to COVID for the past year.

Majewski noted that the rollout of vaccines is ongoing, and expanding, almost weekly. She said she received her first vaccination last week through a free program at Meijer.

For those wondering, the shot was not painful, Majewski said.

"I barely even knew my arm was touched," she said.

Vaccinations are still reserved for frontline workers and those 65 and older. Residents in the Hamtramck Senior Plaza were also vaccinated, the mayor said.

Majewski encouraged residents to continue to

wear masks while out in public, and to maintain social distancing.

Health officials are saying that we may have to get used to wearing masks while in public throughout next year.

The COVID crisis has affected many businesses that had to close down or severely limit their services.

Several Hamtramck businesses were awarded state small business grants, which ranged from \$5,000 to \$15,000, Majewski said.

COMCAST is also offering free consultation for minority-owned businesses. The company will help re-do their social media presences, Majewski said.

The state's Michigan Reconnect free community college tuition program has proven to be popular, the mayor said. In the first two weeks it's been offered, over 40,000 Michigan residents applied.

Moving on, the mayor once again gave a run-down on the free food distributions that are offered weekly.

Friendship House, on Conant Ave., continues its program on Tuesdays and Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m.

Our Lady Queen of Apostle parish hands out food packages every Thursday, starting at noon and continuing to all supplies are gone.

The Parish is also seeking donations of bars of soap and toothpaste for an upcoming toiletries giveaway on March 19.

Majewski ended her 17-minute talk with some optimism and humor.

"It's a step-by step process taking us back to normality," she said. "Or when you are talking about Hamtramck, so-called normality."



City Hall Insider ...

What is our City Council up to these days?
We have the highlights of the latest council meeting.

By Charles Sercombe

The city council met on Jan. 26, and all councilmembers were present.

Included in the council's information packet was an annual report by the police department.

In 2020, there were 597 arrests, out of which 225 were for felonies and 428 were for misdemeanors. Some people were charged with both felony and misdemeanor violations.

Officers issued 11,598 traffic citations, out of which 2,420 were for speeding.

Councilmember Saad Almasmari said "many people" have complained to him about police misconduct. Chief Anne Moise said that all complaints about officers are investigated "and handled internally."

The fire department also submitted its annual report. There were 225 responses, out of which 40 percent were cancelled en route, or else turned out to be false alarms.

State Rep. Abraham Aiyash, whose district includes Hamtramck, talked about the ongoing debate over whether to allow recreational marijuana sales outlets to operate here.

He said an outright ban at this point is not possible. He said city officials need to find a "balanced approach" on the subject.

Aiyash also noted that some participating in the debate have been indirectly engaging in Islamophobia.

"Folks need to think how they engage in this discussion," he said.

Two proposed resolutions were removed from the agenda. Councilmember Nayeem Choudhury withdrew his resolution

to increase the pay for councilmembers and the mayor, in light of the city's financial situation.

Councilmember Mohammed Hassan removed his resolution to ask voters to remove the establishment of the fire department from the city charter.

Had this second ballot proposal been passed by voters, it would have then been up the city council to provide fire protection services. Voters previously rejected this proposal.

During public comment, former Councilmember Andrea Karpinski said that proposing to raise council salaries was a "slap in the face" to community members.

Carrie Beth Lasley objected to the council voting on a proposed ordinance regulating marijuana sales outlets that was on agenda. She said it was "irresponsible" because the community had no prior knowledge of what it contains.

(The proposed ordinance was added on late to the council agenda.)

Sam Alasri questioned how many marijuana outlets are needed in the city.

"One on each corner?" he said.

Joe Marecki said that marijuana sales outlets are "a great thing for the city." He said that they bring in needed tax revenue.

Another resident said that marijuana sales is a legal business.

A person who went by the moniker "iPhone" said that the city should not seek marijuana businesses. He said it would be better to seek "multi-million dollar" businesses.

A Holmes St. resident

said voters ought to decide on whether to allow marijuana sales in town.

"This way, the council doesn't have to take the blame," he said.

A public hearing was held on a proposed Parks and Recreation plan.

Bill Meyer criticized the plan, saying it does not include input from the Bangladeshi and Yemeni communities.

He also spoke out against spending money on Pope Park because it is a religious matter.

Casey Copp, who is part of the city administration, said the plan is "not set in stone," and can be further changed. He said, that the plan is needed, in order to receive various state grants.

The council adopted the plan.

City Manager Kathy Angerer said budget sessions will be held in March to address the city's financial situation. She said that she invited state officials to help review the city's finances.

Councilmember Hassan said the city's budget needs a "major restructuring."

He also said the city cannot afford the fire department, as it is now.

Councilmember Ian Perrotta said that it's "weird" to pin the city's financial troubles all on the fire department. He reminded the council that it OK'd spending \$500,000 for alley repaving and the repaving a city parking lot.





**Place an Ad in
The Review Today**

Call (313) 874-2100



Did You Know?

**The Hamtramck Review is Online
Never miss an issue!**

www.TheHamtramckReview.com



**Get It Sold in the
Real Estate Corner**

**Call Dave at
(313) 874-2100 to
Place Your Ad!**



**Villa Realty
& Associates**

31800 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 200
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
248-866-1110

John Ulaj
Commercial Broker/Owner

**Commercial Unit Available
2339 Caniff**

Prime Location For Sale or Lease - 3 Units
Across from Hamtramck Library.
Beautiful location, 3,000 sq. ft.

A HUD Certified Agent
JohnUlaj@comcast.net

Drowning in Mortgage Debt? I Can Help...
I buy properties in as-is condition for CASH!

**Looking to buy single &
multi-family dwellings - CASH!**

• REAL ESTATE • CLASSIFIEDS

APARMENTS & FLATS FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT

HELP WANTED

LOST PASSPORT

YOUR AD HERE
(313) 874-2100

YOUR AD HERE
(313) 874-2100

ROOM FOR RENT

Room for rent, utilities included, no pets, 313-290-1095. ^{3/12}

Furnished, 11380 Mitchell, Hamtramck, everything included, 313-368-2164. ^{2/26}

HOUSE FOR RENT

3869 Fredro, single family, 1 bedroom, call Palo or Dianne, 248-818-6542, 248-818-8378.

13446 Dwyer, single family, 3 bedrooms, call Palo or Dianne, 248-818-6542, 248-818-8378.

12829 St. Louis, 2 story, 5 BR, upper and lower each have kitchen, bath, dining and living rm, Palo and Diane 248-659-2325.

HOUSE FOR SALE

Detroit, 3904 Eldridge, 2 family, garage, lower level, 2 br., living, dining, kitchen. Upstairs 1 br., living rm., kitchen, 586-634-2502.

COMMERCIAL FOR LEASE OR SALE

2339 Caniff, across from Hamtramck Library, 2 lofts at \$1,500 each/mo, floor \$3,000/mo. full basement, boiler system for whole building, 3,000 sq. ft. 248-866-1110. ^{3/15}

Commercial unit available for sale or lease, 2339 Caniff, across from the Hamtramck Library, beautiful location, 3 units, full basement, boiler system for whole building, 3,000 sq. ft. 248-866-1110. ^{2/19}

Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. The newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad, for a typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day's insertion. Adjustments for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. We reserve the right to classify, revise or reject any classified advertisement.

Cook needed, Ivanhoe Café, Tues. – Fri., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., call Patti, 313-433-7929. ^{3/5}

Part-time Office Manager for a nonprofit food pantry in Hamtramck. Duties include managing client in-take, bookkeeping, Payroll, data entry, written correspondence, monthly reports, answer phone, assist in supervising volunteers. Qualifications include high school plus 1 year in an office environment and computer skills. Must have Strong interpersonal skills. Bilingual in English and Bangla preferred. Contact Cathy at 313-874-7443 or cathymaher@att.net.

Position available as an Americorps VISTA at the Piast Institute located in Hamtramck, ages 18+. Call 313-733-4535 for more information. ^{3/12}

Deadline for classifieds for next week is Thursday at Noon
Call (313) 874-2100

Lost passport and green card, from Yemen. If found, please call Mahyooob Alqaderi at 313-413-1992. ^{3/5}

OFFICE EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Hewlett-Packard copier, good working order, 5 trays, includes legal size, \$550, 248-866-1110. ^{3/19}



LOST WALLET

Women's brown wallet with a wolf's head embroidered on it was lost on Joseph Campau between Srodek's and New Palace Bakery. Reward, 313-873-2334. ^{3/5}

YOUR AD HERE
(313) 874-2100



By Charles Sercombe
This week's Crime Log covers Feb. 16-22.

Tuesday, Feb. 16
• At 10 a.m., a Detroit resident was arrested for a domestic assault that happened on Selfridge St.

• A white pit bull was found on Trowbridge near Conant, and taken to Westland Humane Society.

• A resident was arrested for drunk driving.
• A hit-and-run accident occurred in the 3800 block of Trowbridge St.

Wednesday, Feb. 17

• At midnight, officers took a report of a domestic assault that happened in the 12000 block of Grand Haven St.

• A resident on Selfridge St. reported a theft.
• A Trowbridge St. resident reported being the victim of fraud. A Faber St. resident also reported being the victim of fraud.

Thursday, Feb. 18

• A suspicious situation was reported in the 2900 block of Roosevelt St.

Friday, Feb. 19

• A resident was arrested at Lumpkin and Caniff

for possessing narcotics, for obstruction, and for being wanted on a felony warrant.

Saturday, Feb. 20

• An Evaline St. resident reported being the victim of a domestic assault.

• A hit-and-run accident occurred at Carpenter and Charest.

Sunday, Feb. 21

• At a little after 11 p.m., a Detroit resident was arrested in the 3800 block of Yemans St. for carrying a concealed weapon without a permit.

• At 11:45 p.m., officers responded to a fight taking place in the 3200 block of Belmont St. Upon their arrival, two vehicles sped off.

• A Casmere St. resident reported a suspicious situation.

• A suspicious incident was reported in the 12000 block of Conant Ave.

• A hit-and-run accident occurred on Ellery near Yemans.

• A Selfridge St. resident was arrested for being disorderly.

• A hit-and-run accident occurred on Conant and Yemans.

Continued on page 8

Service Directory

HEATING & COOLING

We Repair & Install

- Furnaces
- Boilers
- Air Conditioners

• Licensed & Insured
Financing Available

Ask for Details

A&E HEATING & COOLING

Family Owned & Operated Since 1964
11653 Jos. Campau
313-892-2122

Heating & Cooling Systems

WHATEVER IT TAKES:

PAINTING

IN"VINCE"ABLE PAINTING
Interior / Exterior & Power Washing

Patching and Drywall Repair

Free Estimates Vince 586-838-7598

DUCT CLEANING / SANITIZING

X-PERT DUCT CLEANING DETROIT

Residential & Industrial Duct Cleaning and Sanitizing

Call Mike 586-209-6445

Servicing Metro Detroit and Surrounding Suburbs
Licensed & Insured

PLUMBING

HEANEY PLUMBING & HEATING

Celebrating 52 Years of Service!

(313) 371-3766
(586) 649-6300

★ Fast Same Day Service ★

Furnace Start-Up \$89

Must present coupon at time of estimate. With coupon. Expires 4-16-21.

10% Discount
Off Labor on Any Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning or Sewer Cleaning Job, Installation or Repair.
Not valid with any other offer.

Furnace & Boilers, Heating Air Conditioning Freon Recharge Sewer & Drain Cleaning

Drain Cleaning
Starting at **\$175**

Must present coupon at time of estimate. With coupon. Expires 4-16-21.

40 Gallon Hot Water Tank
Starting at **\$1075**

Upgrades extra. Must present coupon at time of estimate. With coupon. Expires 4-16-21.

— **COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS** —
Heating & Cooling Rooftop Units
www.HeaneyPlumbing.com

Proudly Serving Hamtramck Since 1969
Licensed & Insured
Residential & Commercial

Service • Installation • Repairs

Serving our community for over 100 years since 1904.
* Senior Rates available *

BISAGA PLUMBING & HEATING

(313) 365-8630

HOME IMPROVEMENT

BROTHERS HANDYMAN SERVICES

ALL HOME REPAIRS Interior • Exterior

TOP QUALITY WORK AT LOW PRICES

• Handyman Services • Roof Repairs
• Sidings & Gutters • Chimney Work • Porches

Ask for Frank Located in Hamtramck
313-365-4913
FREE ESTIMATES
Senior Discount 10%

FMIC Food Ministries in Collaboration

To make a tax deductible donation send to:
Harp of God Ministry
FMIC
P.O. Box 2542
Detroit, MI 48202
P.S. Send copy to friends

Advertise Your Business in the Service Directory

Call (313) 874-2100



Continued from page 7

Monday, Feb. 22 Jail was arrested on a
• A person incarcerated at the Wayne County Hamtramck felony warrant.

Place an Ad in The Review Today

Call (313) 874-2100

MEET UP and EAT UP

Healthy food served here!

KOSCIUSZKO MIDDLE SCHOOL & DICKINSON WEST

2333 BURGER, HAMTRAMCK, MI 48212

SEPTEMBER 8 – JUNE 30

BREAKFAST, LUNCH, SNACK & SUPPER

9:30 am – 12:45 pm Mon-Fri

MEET UP and EAT UP

Distribution Location: FLEMING ST. DOOR OFF THE PARKING LOT

This is an equal opportunity provider.

Crime Watch:

The reason catalytic convertors are stolen

By Charles Sercombe

Almost every week, the Hamtramck Police Department report the theft of catalytic convertors from cars.

It's been a problem for a number of years. But it could actually start to accelerate.

According to a recent New York Times report, there is a national increase of thefts of this emission control device because of the precious metals, such as palladium, platinum and rhodium, contained in it.

The price for those metals has soared in recent years, as demand grows to reduce pollution both nationally and worldwide. In Hamtramck, the thefts can happen any time of the day or night. Thieves are brazen enough to steal them in broad daylight.

There's a reason for that.

It only takes seconds for a thief to crawl under a car and cut off the catalytic convertor. They usually escape with an accomplice in a waiting car.

Back in 2019, we reported on this crime trend, and we were told that a thief typically steals 10 to 15 of the convertors a day.

It was reported that

each convertor can fetch several hundred dollars. They are often sold to scrap yards. Buyers extract the valuable metals.

Not a bad pay day.

So, are there ways to prevent these thefts?

Yes, says national insurance agency Allstate.

On that company's website it suggests following these prevention tips:

• When possible, park in well-lit areas and close to building entrances.

• If you have a garage at your house, park your car inside and keep the garage door shut.

• Have the catalytic converter welded to your car's frame, which may make it harder to steal.

• Consider engraving your vehicle identification number (VIN) on the catalytic converter — this may help alert a scrap dealer that it was stolen and make it easier to identify the owner.

• Calibrate your car's alarm to set off when it detects vibration.

So how do you know if your convertor has been stolen?

Well, you'll know as soon as you start your vehicle, because it will make a tremendous roar.

The cost to replace a catalytic converter can be anywhere from \$1,000 to over \$2,000 – which includes the device, parts and labor.

COVID-19 Know The Facts

COVID-19 spreads primarily from person to person

- Droplets released when someone sick sneezes or coughs can land on the mouths or noses of people nearby
- Close contact with someone sick – like hugging or shaking hands

COVID-19 mainly spreads from person to person But it can also be left on objects and surfaces...

So if you touch something contaminated and then touch your face or another's face, you might all fall ill.

MEET UP and EAT UP

Healthy food served here!

DICKINSON EAST

3385 NORWALK, HAMTRAMCK, MI 48212

SEPTEMBER 8 – JUNE 30

BREAKFAST, LUNCH, SNACK & SUPPER

9:30 am – 12:45 pm Mon-Fri

MEET UP and EAT UP

Distribution Location: CAFETERIA DOORS, MAIN ENTRANCE

This is an equal opportunity provider.

MEET UP and EAT UP

Healthy food served here!

TAU BETA ELEMENTARY

3056 HANLEY, HAMTRAMCK, MI 48212

SEPTEMBER 8 – JUNE 30

BREAKFAST, LUNCH, SNACK & SUPPER

9:30 am – 12:45 pm Mon-Fri

MEET UP and EAT UP

Distribution Location: MAIN DOORS ENTRANCE

This is an equal opportunity provider.

MEET UP and EAT UP

Healthy food served here!

EARLY CHILDHOOD ELEMENTARY

11680 McDOUGALL, HAMTRAMCK, MI 48212

SEPTEMBER 8 – JUNE 30

BREAKFAST, LUNCH, SNACK & SUPPER

9:30 am – 12:45 pm Mon-Fri

MEET UP and EAT UP

Distribution Location: MAIN OFFICE DOOR BY PARKING LOT ON CHAREST STREET

This is an equal opportunity provider.

MEET UP and EAT UP

Healthy food served here!

HAMTRAMCK HIGH SCHOOL

11410 CHAREST, HAMTRAMCK, MI 48212

SEPTEMBER 8 – JUNE 30

BREAKFAST, LUNCH, SNACK & SUPPER

9:30 am – 12:45 pm Mon-Fri

MEET UP and EAT UP

Distribution Location: WEST FRONT DOOR OF HIGH SCHOOL ON CHAREST STREET

This is an equal opportunity provider.

MEET UP and EAT UP

Healthy food served here!

HAMTRAMCK HOUSING COMMISSION

12025 DEQUINDRE, HAMTRAMCK, MI 48212

SEPTEMBER 8 – JUNE 30

BREAKFAST, LUNCH, SNACK & SUPPER

9:30 am – 12:45 pm Mon-Fri

MEET UP and EAT UP

Distribution Location: COMMON AREA IN FRONT OF ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING MAIN ENTRANCE

This is an equal opportunity provider.

MEET UP and EAT UP

Healthy food served here!

SITES

Hamtramck High School, Kosciuszko Middle School, Hamtramck Housing Commission, Early Childhood Elementary, Tau Beta Elementary, Dickinson East Elementary

BREAKFAST, LUNCH, SNACK & SUPPER

9:30 am – 12:45 pm Mon-Fri

MEET UP and EAT UP

This is an equal opportunity provider.