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December 17, 2021 **50¢**

# The Review

## Hamtramck

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## Quick Hits

### HPS will return to virtual classes

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck Public Schools students will get an extra week to stay home after their holiday break.

But that doesn't mean they get an extended vacation.

The school district is temporarily returning to at-home virtual learning, from Jan. 3 through Jan. 7.

Students will return to in-person classroom learning on Monday, Jan. 10.

The stay-at-home directive is a result of rising concern over the recent increase in COVID-19 cases.

Interim Superintendent Nabil Nagi said that he has been monitoring the Covid cases with the Wayne County Health Department.

The move comes after some teachers raised concerns over Covid at last week's school board meeting.

One teacher suggested returning to virtual learning because several of her students had talked about travelling over the break, and she feared that would cause a spread of the virus.

In a letter to district families, which can be viewed on the district's Facebook page, Nagi said:

"Across the state, coronavirus cases continue to rise and, unfortunately, our community is no exception.

"With this in mind, we want to ensure all

**Continued on page 2**

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

# Merry Christmas

## Christmas is hope...

**By John Ulaj**  
Review Publisher

First, let me wish all of our dear readers all a Very Merry Christmas, and a most Happy New Year!

This Christmas season is proving to be a most challenging one for me personally. I hope you'll allow me to expound on this difficult, and yet joyous, journey.

This journey is one that we almost all experi-



ence: a journey of losses and gains. You see, I recently lost one of my very best friends, at the too-young age of only 49.

While perhaps not com-

pletely a surprise, given that he had health issues, it nevertheless comes as a jolt.

While a great loss, it is, as I say, a part of life most of us will go through at some point, whether relatives, friends, co-workers or even beloved pets.

It got me to thinking about a lot of things, and one thing especially: the seemingly constant barrage of negativity emanating from all quarters these days – especially in the media.

While we might understand that

media companies are businesses that have a right to make a profit, we can still take issue with the fact that so much of what shrieks at us from our televisions or smart phones these days is the worst of the worst.

Do we need to be kept abreast of current events or upcoming concerns, be it inclement weather or rising prices or the like? Of course. But shouldn't media companies have a duty to

**Continued on page 5**



The city unveiled a new memorial to residents who died in service to the country.

## Hamtramck's war dead honored in city hall

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck veterans unveiled a new memorial for those who died in service.

Veterans, city employees and others gathered in city hall Wednesday afternoon for a dedication ceremony for a new plaque. The plaque bears the names – all 208 of them – of the Hamtramck residents who died in World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

(No Hamtramck residents have died fighting in Afghanistan or Iraq.)

Mark Widsinski, a member of VFW 4162, said the memorial is "not about war, but to freedom."

Another speaker, Mark Kabanowski, noted that his uncle's name is included in the memorial. That uncle, Stanley Kabanowski, was killed in World War II, on Nov. 10, 1944, while in France

after coming upon a German line.

He was 27 years old. Germany surrendered six months later, on May 7, 1945.

Mark Kabanowski said his uncle's body was eventually returned from France and reinterred in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

City Manager Kathy Angerer also reminded those gathered that Raymond Zussman's name

**Continued on page 2**



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# Hamtramck’s war dead honored in city hall

Continued from front page

is included among the names. Zussman is the only Hamtramckan to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic actions in WWII. The park across from city hall is named in his honor.

The new memorial was donated by PLAV 6 and VFW 4162. The new memorial also coincides with the 80th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, which abruptly ushered the United States into WWII.

# HPS teachers raise issues of school security after shooting

By Charles Sercombe

The recent shooting deaths at Oxford High School, located north of Detroit, has some local teachers concerned about their safety. At the monthly Ham-

tramck School Board meeting last week, several teachers spoke out about their concerns. One common complaint made was that some students were joking about the shooting, where four students died and several others were injured.

Tiffany Stano, a 5th grade teacher at Dickinson West, said that the district needs to adopt a “zero tolerance” policy when it comes to students joking about violence.

“If it can happen in Oxford, it can happen here,” Stano said.

She added: “We are worn down, we are tired and we are scared.”

Theresa Goodridge, an 8th-grade English Language Arts teacher, also echoed the need for beefed-up security.

“We need safety measures,” Goodridge said. “I’ve had kids joking about it too. We need to shut it down.”

A source knowledgeable about security issues confirmed that there is ongoing security training for staff and students.

The district has had occasional threats, but they have been rare, and ultimately proved to be hoaxes.

Days after the meeting, the district posted job offerings for hall monitors on the district’s Facebook page.

Also on the minds of some teachers and administrators was the work relationship with Interim Superintendent Nagi, who has been on the job for about a month since superintendent Jaleelah Ahmed took

a sudden family medical leave of absence. Anthony Kiner, an administrator, praised Nagi for being more communicative. “Anytime we call, it’s an open line,” Kiner said. “We really appreciate the direction we’re heading.”

Toni Coral, the president of the teachers’ union, also complimented Nagi.

“We no longer wait a week for a reply by email,” Coral said. “There’s a real desire to solve problems.”

Coral said, however, that she is concerned for when Superintendent Ahmed is scheduled to return in January.

Coral feared a “return to secrecy,” and also “farical transfers.”



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<b>Saturday, Dec. 25th</b>	<b>Christmas Day Solemnity of Nativity of Our Lord</b> 9:00 a.m. - Holy Mass
<b>Sunday, Dec. 26th</b>	<b>Solemnity of Humble Shepherds</b> 9:00 a.m. - Holy Mass
<b>Monday, Dec. 27th</b>	<b>Solemnity of Sainy John, Apostle &amp; Evangelist</b> 7:00 pm Holy Mass (Blessing of Wine)

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**December 17, 2021**

**This week at the Library . . .**

**World Arabic Language Day:** It is celebrated on Saturday, December 18th. Stop by the library to pick up some books from our children’s & adult Arabic collection. Enjoy a number of great digital stories for young readers in Arabic on our LOTE 4 Kids service (under the eResource tab on our website), and take your first steps in learning the language by taking advantage of our Transparent Language Online service (eResources).

**Battuta Originally:** May we suggest this week that you read the biography of this Muslim scholar and explorer of Maghrebi descent. This intrepid traveler journeyed throughout Africa and Eurasia documenting the people, places and customs along the way. Learn more about this fascinating historical figure at the library and enjoy an audiobook version of “The Travels of Ibn Battuta” by visiting [www.librivox.org](http://www.librivox.org) (type his name into search).

**Evolution:** How have we evolved as a species and what do these changes mean for us today? Authors and evolutionary biologists, Heather Heying & Bret Weinstein, explore the layers of our humanity in their new book “A Hunter Gatherer’s Guide to the 21st Century”. Join us on Friday January 21st to share your thoughts about what these authors propose.

**Checkers Library TV:** The latest episode of Checkers TV celebrates the Holiday Season. This week visit our website ([www.hamtrmck.lib.mi.us](http://www.hamtrmck.lib.mi.us)) and click on Checkers Library TV under the Programs tab.

**Christmas Goodies:** Stop by the library between Monday, December 20th and Thursday, December 23rd to pick up a holiday goodie bag just for them.

**ESL Classes:** The classes are held four days a week, from Monday to Thursday, from 9 am to 2:30 pm. The program is free to all Hamtramck residents.

**Current Library Operating Services:** - Present level of services provides for book pick-ups, copying, printing, faxing, scanning, limited use of computers (with proper distancing) and limited stay in the library (with proper distancing). To print files ahead of time please send attachments for printing to [hamtramcklibrary@gmail.com](mailto:hamtramcklibrary@gmail.com). Face masks are recommended.

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# Second Front Page

## Mayor: With the holidays here, get vaxxed now

By Charles Sercombe

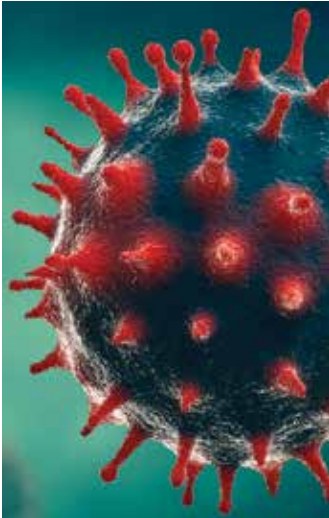
For the first time in several weeks, Mayor Karen Majewski had some encouraging news about the number of new Covid cases in the city.

In her weekly update on Covid, and other city issues, via her Facebook page, Majewski said the number of new cases dropped to 38 the past week.

Compared to the prior week's 59 cases, "our numbers have substantially gone down," she said.

The new total of cases for the past two years is now 3,483, with 58 deaths.

There were no new deaths reported this past week, although Majewski said she is aware of one that did happen the prior week that has yet to be



classified as Covid-related.

For over a month, the numbers have steadily climbed up, and recently the state was the nation's hotbed, recording the most cases.

"I know people were quite alarmed," Majewski said, as the numbers continued to go up and up and up.

Lurking in the back-

ground, however, is a new variant of Covid called Omicron that health authorities say is more transmissible.

With that looming threat, Majewski continued to urge residents to mask up while out in public, and to also get vaccinated. If you are already vaxxed, she urges residents to get a booster shot.

Lower-dose vaccinations are also available for children 5-12 years old.

You can get a vaccination or a booster at Hamtramck City Hall, where there is a medical team set up in an office on the first floor, across from the city clerk's office.

They are there Monday-Saturday, from noon to 7 p.m. No appointment is necessary. For those reading this outside the Hamtramck area, to find out

where you can get vaccinations go online to: vaccine.gov.

Majewski especially urged folks to vaxx up before the holidays "when you'll be around people."

In other updates, Majewski said the city is still waiting to hear back about how much state and federal financial aid is heading to the city to be used in the replacing of the lead water lines leading into residences.

The city recently found slightly high lead levels in drinking water from six sampled houses.

She also went through various rental and water bill assistance programs for the low-income. You can find out more information on those programs on the city's Facebook page.

## Student group encourages residents to be a good neighbor

By Sammi Samim

Special to The Review

The Be a Good Neighbor project is a youth community service project, sponsored by Hamtramck Community Initiative and

free T-shirt shopping bags to local businesses to offer to their customers, in an effort to reduce plastic pollution.

Some of the businesses in Hamtramck offering

use more reusable shopping bags when they go to the markets here in Hamtramck.

"Plastic shopping bags create litter, fill landfills, and are harmful to birds and animals," said Rev. Sharon Buttry.

"Fabricated shopping bags use as much or more carbon to make than plastic bags. So the Be a Good Neighbor Project students sewed 50 shopping bags from gently used T-shirts, to promote a cleaner environment in Hamtramck."

TEKLA was the first business in Hamtramck to use these new shopping bags. Now, two years after the project started, our bags are in stores, being offered to customers in place of plastic ones.

Given the numerous benefits of reusable shopping bags, Be a Good Neighbor encourages Hamtramck residents to join their efforts to reduce plastic pollution and

make Hamtramck more sustainable by adjusting to them.

(Sammi Samim is a Hamtramck High School student.)



A group of high school students are encouraging businesses and shoppers to get away from using plastic disposable bags.

led by Rev. Sharon Buttry.

The project brings together high school students in order to encourage change in our community. Members of the project meet monthly at Bank Suey, located on the corner of Caniff and Jos. Campau, with the goal of transforming Hamtramck into a more clean, safe, and sustainable city to live in.

Students have the opportunity to earn community service hours by attending meetings and participating in the various projects that Be a Good Neighbor organizes. Some of these projects include informing and encouraging Hamtramck residents to recycle and to reuse; helping out at community gardens; and sewing T-shirt shopping bags.

On Nov. 20, the Be a Good Neighbor Project members provided 50

these T-shirt bags are Surma Bazar, Jomir Grocery, Fresh Valley Market, Tekla Vintage, and Euro Mini Market.

Switching from plastic bags to reusable bags, such as these T-shirt bags, can save businesses a great deal of money. According to a spokesman at Fresh Valley Market, "almost \$1,000 is spent each year on plastic bags."

Not only are the T-shirt bags reusable, they are very easy to make since all you will need is a clean old T-shirt and needle and thread.

Above all, using these T-shirt bags could be a great way to reduce plastic pollution in our community.

In 2019, BGNP had a discussion about how many plastic bags we see littering the street. This sparked an idea to encourage residents to



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**Dec. 22** – Rorate Holy Mass 7 pm  
**Dec. 24** – Vigil of Nativity of our Lord  
Holy Mass 9 am  
Shepherds Mass (Pasterka) Midnight  
**Dec. 25** – Christmas Day - Solemnity of the  
Nativity of our Lord Holy Mass 9 am

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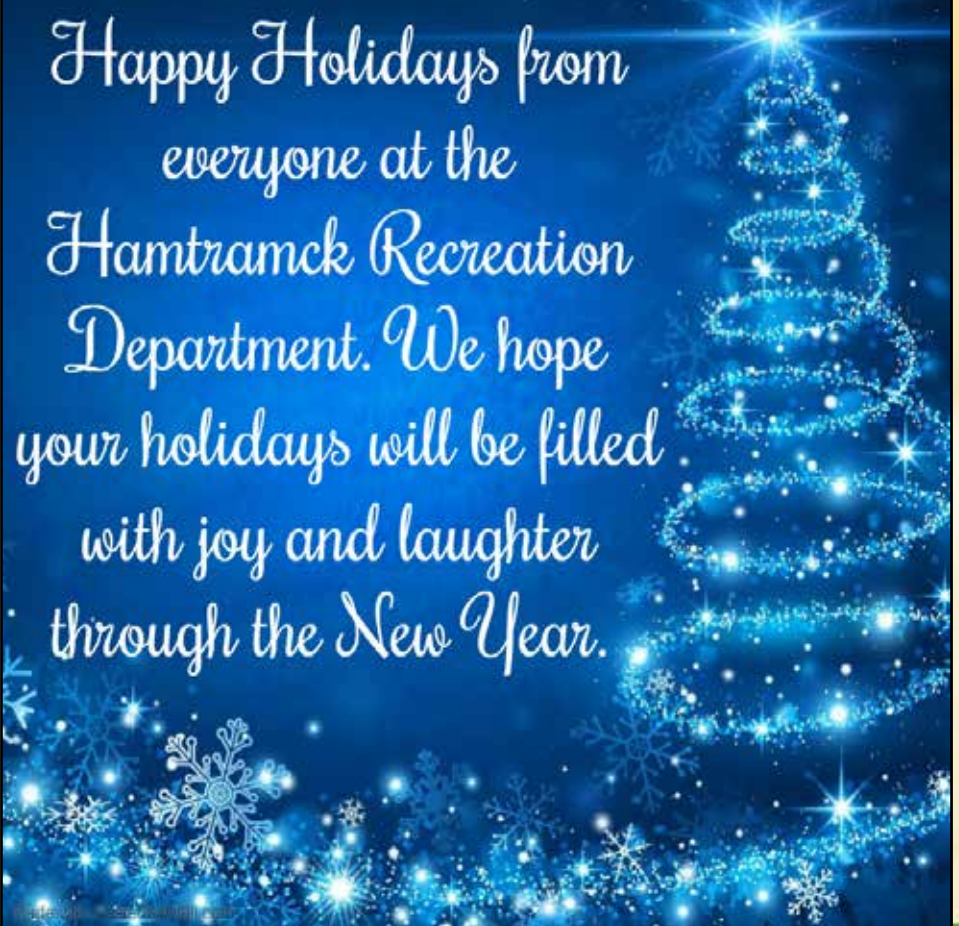


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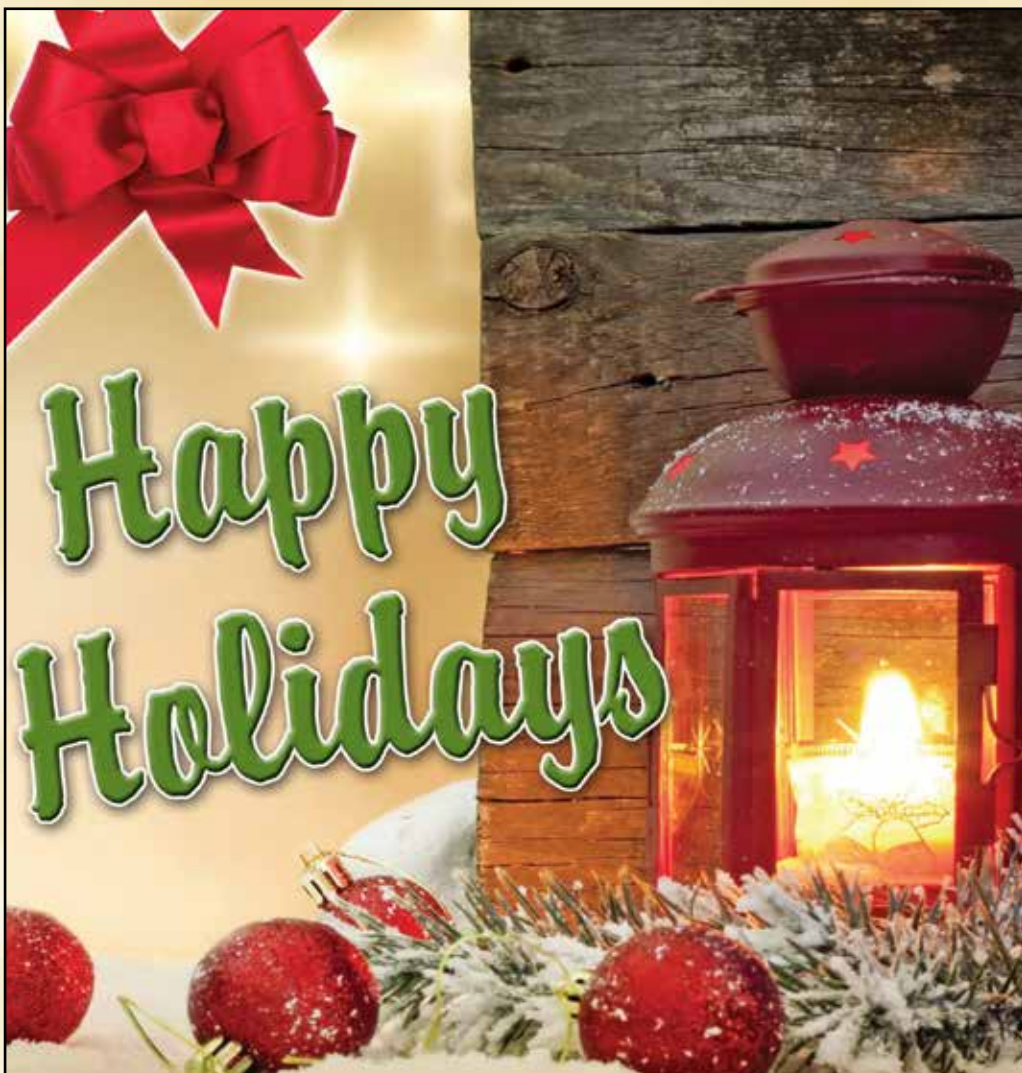
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# Review: Opinion Page

## In Our Opinion

### As usual, Hamtramck has had a rollercoaster year

We were leafing through the back issues of this past year, and whew! What a year. The pandemic was obviously raged on during the year, and it's still with us – with no sign of letting up. But, folks are no longer in a lockdown like we were about a year ago, although it could be argued that another one is needed. The difference between then and now is that a lot of people have been vaccinated. About 80 percent of the new cases are people who have not received their vaccinations. Folks, the message is simple: get your shot, which you can do for free

in Hamtramck City Hall every day (except Sunday). City finances are always an issue, and will continue to be a main headache in the coming year. Things are going to get dicey. And then there was the seismic shift in local politics, with longtime Mayor Karen Majewski being voted out of office as she sought one more term to celebrate the city's 100th anniversary being an incorporated city. Instead, voters brought in a political newcomer, Amer Ghalib, who is also the first Yemeni-American to hold this position in the city. For all of Hamtramck's

100 years, the city has been led by Polish Americans. Majewski is not only the last Polish-American to be mayor, but she also holds the distinction of being the city's first female mayor. The city's new council make-up is now all-Muslim, meaning – for the first time in Hamtramck's history – the political leadership is also all-Muslim. Lots of history was made this year. For the next two weeks, The Review will do its annual "Year in Review." The yearly review always has one common denominator: Hamtramck is a city of change, and forever moving forward.

## Odds & Ends

### Swearing in...

Hamtramck will kick off 2022 with a bang – and secure a place in history too. On Jan. 2, 2022, there will be the ceremonial swearing in of the city's new elected officials at the Hamtramck High School Community Center. The address is 11350 Charest St., which is just a block's length north of Caniff Ave. The community center is adjacent to the high school, to the south. The doors will open at 12:30 p.m., with a planned beginning for the program of 1 p.m. Current remaining council members Mohammed Hassan, Nayeem Choudhury and Mohammed Alsomiri are expected to attend, to witness the swearing in, to their new offices, of:

- Mayor-Elect Amer Ghalib (the city's first Yemeni-American mayor)
- Councilmember-Elects Adam Albarmaki, Amanda Jaczkowski and Khalil Refai (giving the city an all-Muslim council, thought to be the first in the nation; while Ms. Jaczkowski's last name is undeniably of Polish origin, she converted to Islam)

Light refreshments will be served. Masks are strongly encouraged. For any questions, contact the office of City Manager Kathleen Angerer, preferably by email at [kangerer@hamtramckcity.com](mailto:kangerer@hamtramckcity.com). And so begins a new era.

### Holiday spirit...

The Christmas spirit has been spreading in Hamtramck lately. First up, the good folks at De La Salle Collegiate High School in Warren dropped off food donations on Tuesday at the Our Lady

Queen of Apostles food pantry. Thank you De La Salle, and a special thanks to Christine Wilk (wife of former city Treasurer Mike Wilk) for letting us know about the donation. The Wilks, by the way, operate Hamtramck's last remaining funeral home, Jurkiewicz & Wilk, on Caniff at Mackay. Also pitching in were Hamtramck's firefighters,

come residents for years, and could always use a helping hand, financially speaking.

### Checks are in the mail...

Start watching your mailboxes after the new year – the state's about to have a check ready for most of you. Gov. Whitmer just announced that the state is refunding of \$400 to every driver whose car was



De La Salle High School recently donated food to Q of A's food pantry. From left to right: John Berlin (of De La Salle), Christine Wilk, and parish members Stan Bloch and Bob Pachla. Not pictured is pantry manager Kathleen Thomas.

who donated warm coats for needy kids. Here's what they had to say on their Facebook page: "Hamtramck Firefighters Local-750 donated and dropped off 83 brand new winter coats of various sizes to children in need. We worked closely with the Hamtramck Public School district to help determine need. "A special thanks to Hamtramck Public Schools, Ferrous Processing & Trading Co. and Burlington Coat Factory in Westland, for all their assistance in making this possible." Way to go guys! For those who would like to make a financial donation for a local food pantry, we recommend Friendship House on Conant. They have been serving low-in-

insured as of Oct. 31 at 11:59 p.m. The monies are coming back to people from the surplus built up, over time, in the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association (MCCA) Fund. The way it works is this: these surplus funds will be transferred by the MCCA to the various state-licensed auto insurance companies by March 9, at the latest. The insurers, in turn, have until no later than May 9 to get the checks out to the refundees. Which is you. There is also a consumer FAQ page, put together by the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS), to explain, and ease, this process for all involved. The page, located at

**Continued on page 6**

## HPS sports round-up

*The Hamtramck High School Cosmos' winter sports season is underway. Here's the latest team results, supplied by Athletic Director Brian Anderson:*

Last week, the Cosmos boys basketball team got off to a great start. On Dec. 7, they defeated Lutheran North in the home opener 72-47. Leading the way for the Cosmos was Amari Allen with 24 points and 10 rebounds while Robert Davis Jr. chipped in with 10 points. On Dec. 10, the Cosmos defeated Detroit Loyola 85-59. Robert Davis Jr. exploded for 40

points while Hershel Marion had 22. Amari Allen had a great all-around game with 10 points, 10 assists and 10 rebounds. On Dec. 13, the Cosmos traveled to Plymouth Canton and won 54-52 in overtime, coming back from an 11-point deficit at halftime. Davis had 19 points and Marion had 18. The Cosmos girls basketball team is also off to a strong start. They currently sit at 3-0. They defeated Dearborn Heights Robichaud 52-6. Kyndal Farver led the way with 12 point, 4 rebounds and 4 assists.

Rakiyah Beal and Aniyasia Lewis each had 11 points. On Dec. 9, they defeated a tough Detroit Mumford team 56-49. Rakiyah Beal led the way with 17 points, 3 assists and 3 steals. Aniyasia Lewis had 15 points and 4 rebounds. Aaniyah Sims had 9 points and 3 assists and Zoe Rodgers had 6 points, 4 rebounds and 3 assists. The Cosmos wrestling program also had a strong week, defeating Royal Oak Shrine in a dual meet 30-6.

## Christmas is hope...

society as well, to more than balance the awful with the good, with the hopeful? We here at The Hamtramck Review strive to provide you with what you need to know, while still maintaining a positive outlook about our city. Constant fear-mongering serves no one well. My doctor once said to me, "Mr. Ulaj, the battle is between your ears." I have learned what he meant. The vast majority of people today seem almost too willing to allow these waves of negativity to wash over them. I believe that, if we want to stay mentally and spiritually healthy, we must rewire the way that we think, and stop putting garbage into our minds; rather, we should look for the peace such as that which Christmas provides us. God has not wished FEAR upon us, but rather LOVE, the power of which gives us sound minds, in turn. And we should exercise this power, just as we would exercise any other physical muscles in our bodies. This should become a lifetime commitment, and one from which we should never slacken or grow weary. We must fight, stay vigilant and be joyful. That great teacher the apostle Paul wrote: "Christians are persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down but not destroyed." We all

**Cont. from front page**

look at our neighbors, and imagine that they have lives that are in some way(s) better than our own. This too, is a form of negativity, pushed by advertisers and merchandisers to make us feel inadequate. But we are enough – God assures us that this is so. We must all learn to laugh more, to not fear sickness or even death, for if we dwell in fear, then the devil has truly won: we are not living our lives to the fullest. Christmas is the perfect time to remember that God has come to us in the form of Man – he has sent his only begotten Son, Jesus, to the world, to teach us

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 2021

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

<p><b>Friday, December 24 ..... Christmas Eve Vigil</b></p> <p>Family Mass.....4pm (English)</p> <p>Solemn Midnight Mass .....12:00 am (English/Polish)</p> <p>(Preceded by the singing of Christmas Carols at 11:30pm)</p>	 <p><b>Our Lady Queen of Apostles, A Century of Faith and Community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 184 pages of Parish history</li><li>• Photographs and memories</li><li>• \$35 (plus \$5 S&amp;H)</li></ul> <p>Email or call the Parish at <b>313-891-1520</b> for more info on how to purchase the book.</p>
<p><b>Saturday, December 25 ..... Christmas Day</b></p> <p>Mass in Polish/English..... 9:30am</p>	
<p><b>Saturday, January 1, 2022 ..... New Year's Day</b></p> <p>Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.....5:30pm (English)</p> <p>(Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)</p>	
<p><b>Sunday, January 2, 2022 ..... Epiphany of the Lord</b></p> <p>Mass ..... 8:00am (English) and 9:30am (Polish)</p> <p>Blessed chalk and incense available</p>	

### The Hamtramck Review

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# Odds & Ends

Continued from page 5

Michigan.gov/MCCAre-fund, contains important information about the re-fund timeline, eligibility requirements, and questions or concerns about their re-funds.

“I am pleased with how quickly the plan was developed, and appreciate the clear guidance provided

to both insurers and consumer,” Whitmer said in a press release.

“The bulletin and website lay out the timeline and requirements so that insurers understand that they must process the re-funds as quickly as possible,” she added.



## Hamtramck Public Schools news

From Interim Superintendent Nabil Nagi:

Holiday break offers families time to travel and visit loved ones, whether they be in Michigan or outside our state.

To protect our school community and help reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our buildings, out of an abundance of caution, we're implementing a week of virtual learning upon the break's end.

Hamtramck Public Schools will be transitioning to remote learning for all scholars beginning MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2022 UNTIL FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 2022. In-person learning will resume on MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2022.

Thank you for your patience and for prioritizing the health of our community. We wish you a wonderful holiday break and look forward to the safe return of our staff and students on January 10.

## Kosciuszko Middle School

KMS Computer Literacy Teacher LeAnne Horne sent us an update about the school's animation and

gaming course.

Here's what she had to say:

“What's up in the KMS Computer Lab? Animation and interactive gaming!

“Middle school students are using their reasoning and problem-solving skills to learn how to create an interactive game. By the end of the current unit, students will have created a game that they can share with their friends and family.

“Students currently have been creating and coding animations. In lesson 7, students had to imagine that they were working for a video game company and were given the task of creating a crab.

“There was collaboration

across all classes and the students generated the code below using Code.org.

“Students are now acquiring more skills to create an Interactive Greeting Card. This will be a two-member team project that combines 17 different skill lessons and will serve as their midterm exam. We will post some of the best in a future edition.”

### Help wanted

Hamtramck Public Schools is looking for professional hall monitors to work at our schools. If you are interested or have additional questions about this opportunity, please call (877) 944-8400 for more details.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CITY OF HAMTRAMCK

The City of Hamtramck is holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom to receive comments from the public on the following topics:

The City Council will hold a public hearing for the purpose of an Honorary Naming of Winfield Street between Evaline and Yemans Street as Mayor Karen Majewski, PhD. Street

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83006326532>

Meeting ID: 830 0632 6532  
Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcBq0DX2u>

Please note: In person City Council meetings are to be announced. Please check BoardDocs to stay current on any changes.

Full and complete text of the changes is available on the City of Hamtramck's website through Boarddocs. The public is invited to view and comment on the amendment during the Public Hearing or to make written comments before 4pm January 11, 2022 to the City Clerk at [Rfaraj@hamtramckcity.com](mailto:Rfaraj@hamtramckcity.com).

Rana Faraj  
Hamtramck City Clerk

## Readers write: On the past election and ‘defunding’ police departments

By Charles Sercombe

*It's been a while since we checked in on what our readers are saying on our website about past stories in The Review.*

*Let's dive in.*

John A. Joslin wrote in regard to an opinion article on modeldmedia.com by Hamtramck-based writer Elizabeth Garrett, who proposes to abolish the police department and replace it with “a civilian-led organization with unarmed

first responders trained in de-escalation (community solutions workers).”

That stirred up a hornet's nest of backlash. Joslin, however, defends Garrett's position, saying:

“Whoa! Garrett offers us a super-startlingly clear-eyed, & long overdue look @ why we are still stuck today w/ the ultra-expensive, dangerously armed, and clumsily unfit-for-purpose institution called police departments!

“Which is nuttier/sillier, that we love to pretend these police departments actually prevent crime, when in REALITY we know they show up (maybe ...) AFTER the fact to take a report, OR that not a soul, from politicians to police chiefs & pundits, seems to have the faintest idea WHY they ever popped up in the 1st damn place?!

He continues: “Ms. Garrett's brilliant, must-read article completely demol-

ishes the notion that all these publicly funded uniforms were dreamt up as a perpetual gift to America's dry cleaning industry!”

Along that same issue was a recent proposal by Councilmember Fadel Al-Marsoumi, who first proposed to hire four police officers, and when that was rejected, came back with the idea of hiring three officers. That also was rejected.

Attorney Mark Koroj to say:

“City Council is now in a lame-duck status and was reluctant to support the measure advanced by Fadel when it could be rescinded by the Council that will assume control in a few months.

“Expect the new City Council not to be cheerleaders of the H.P.D. but to explore defunding issues and the impaneling of a civilian police oversight

**Continued on page 8**

WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE

The logo of the Wayne County Treasurer's Office, featuring a circular seal with a building and the words "WAYNE COUNTY MICHIGAN", "INTEGRITY", "RESPECT", "ALINDO", and "TREASURER'S OFFICE".

# Property tax payment plans are available now!

### Interest Reduction Stipulated Payment Agreement (IRSPA)

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### Distressed Owner Occupant Extension (DOOE)

This program is not available to everyone. If you own and live in the property, and are suffering financial hardship you may qualify for this program. Proof of ownership, occupancy, and hardship are required.

### Pay As You Stay Payment Agreement (PAYSPA)

Only for those who have first applied for their local municipality's Poverty Tax Exemption (PTE) and received an approval. Once notified by your local Assessor's office and deemed eligible, our office will mail you a notification letter with your Reduced Amount Due. You will have the option of paying a lump sum (additional 10% off) or enrolling into a PAYSPA.

### Stipulated Payment Agreement (SPA)

Available to everybody, this plan allows a taxpayer to pay taxes pursuant to a payment schedule. The plan will avoid foreclosure provided that payments are submitted per the agreed upon schedule.

## Many of these plans are available online at

# treasurer.waynecounty.com!

The final date to enter into a payment plan will be **March 14, 2022**, and the last day to pay your forfeited taxes will be **March 31, 2022**.

For more information email [WCTOPaymentPlans@waynecounty.com](mailto:WCTOPaymentPlans@waynecounty.com) or call (313) 224-5990.

## Obituaries

A portrait of Jennifer Tabroski, a woman with dark hair.

### TABROSKI

Jennifer Tabroski, 44, died December 1, 2021. Jennifer was the daughter of Karen (Zak) Stout and the late Thomas Tabroski; mother of Stephanie and Shyanne; grandmother of Aubree; sister of Tracy, Kelley (Todd) Jacobs, Thomas, and the late Renee Duvall. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Jennifer was raised in Hamtramck and currently lived in Lincoln Park. She loved being with her family and spending time with her daughters and granddaughter, shopping, and listening to music. Private services were held by the family.

## Christmas is hope...

**Continued from page 5**

mercy and show us the way to salvation.

To give us an abundance of JOY and HOPE!

“I am come, that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”

This is what Christmas is all about, to me. It is up to us to harness this immense power, and use it to battle fear and negativity.

“For unto us a Child is born,

A portrait of Paul George Gubin, a man with a beard and glasses.

unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor; the Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace will make this promise come to pass.”

Be joyful. See you in the New Year!

**Paul George Gubin**  
**April 29, 1972 -**  
**December 1, 2021.**  
**Rest In Peace.**







# A look back at Hamtramck’s history...

## Recognize these two down-and-out guys?

They are two of Hollywood’s biggest stars: Gene Hackman and Al Pacino. But for a day in October, 1972, they were Hamtramckans as they shot a critical scene for the movie “Scarecrow” at a phone booth at Lumpkin and Caniff.

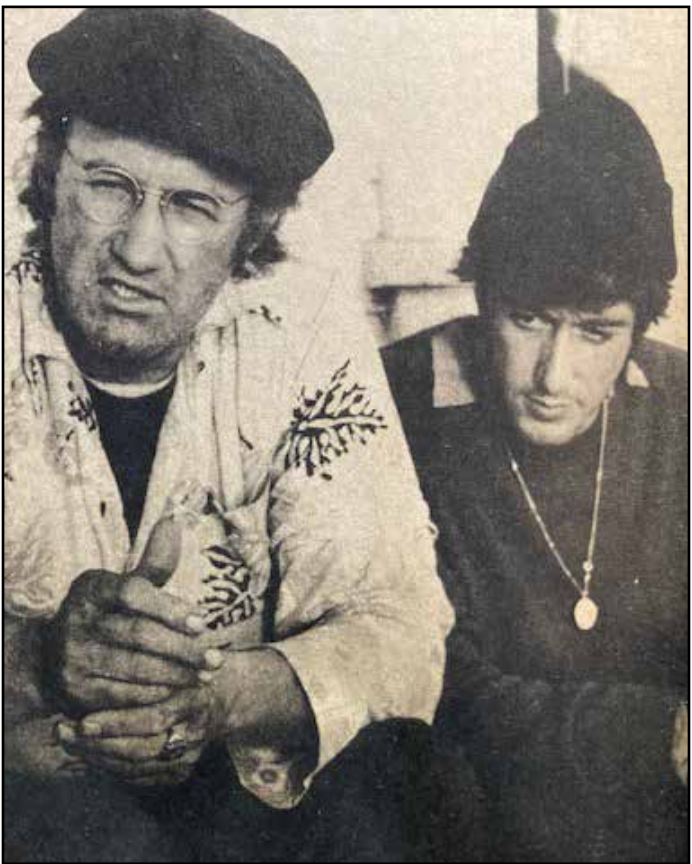
“Scarecrow” got good reviews and still turns up on TV every so often. It is one of a number of movies filmed in Hamtramck.

Help the Hamtramck Historical Museum continue to preserve and present

pictures like this. Donate to the Friends of Historical Hamtramck, which owns and operates the museum.

Help the Hamtramck Historical Museum continue to preserve and present pictures like this. Donate to the Friends of Historical Hamtramck, which owns and operates the museum, located at 9525 Jos. Campau, Hamtramck, MI 48212.

Visit our website [www.hamtramckhistory.org](http://www.hamtramckhistory.org). And for those of you who have donated, thank you so much. We deeply appreciate your support.



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### City of Hamtramck – Plan Commission

#### Public Hearing Notice

NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Hamtramck Plan Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom to consider Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments. Proposed zoning ordinance text amendments include the following sections: Definitions (155.007), Residential (155.050), Multi-Use District C2 (155.065), Central Business District CBD (155.066), Site Plan Review Process (155.166), Special Land Use Standards (155.187) and other related provisions. Information about how to log on to the Zoom meeting can be found at <https://hamtramck.us/>.

Public Comments may also be heard by submitting a written public comment to Assistant Community and Economic Development Manager, Karolynn Faulkner at [kfaulkner@hamtramckcity.com](mailto:kfaulkner@hamtramckcity.com) by Wednesday, January 4, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. Public comments will be limited to three minutes.

Please note: This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.71 a (2) (3) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The City of Hamtramck will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the Meeting to Individuals with disabilities at the Meeting or Public Hearing upon 10 day notice to the City Clerk’s Office. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Hamtramck City Clerk by writing or calling the Clerk’s Office at 313-800-5233 x. 821.

## Readers write: On the past election and ‘defunding’ police departments

Continued from page 6

board.”

Moving on, the recent election of three new councilmembers and a new mayor prompted this observation by, once again, Mark Koroi:

“There have been some rumblings that turnout was low – about 36% of registered voters casting ballots.

“In reality, that figure far surpasses the 28.22% registered voter turnout rate when Karen Majewski defeated Mohammed Hassan by a 61%-39% margin in the 2017 mayoral election.

“‘Voter demographics’ did NOT work against Karen – ethnic composition did not change THAT MUCH since 2017 when Karen won her landslide victory over a Muslim candidate.

“In reality, it was a ‘perfect storm’ working against Karen – the lead contamination of residents tap water, the flooding crisis, and other issues made Karen a lightning rod for anger of residents and a convenient scapegoat.

“Amanda Jaczkowski, another Polish-American, was the top vote-getter in four of seven voting precincts in the City of Hamtramck. She is a young vocal activist seeking change and scored well in all seven voting precincts. She has come up with a recipe for

electoral success.

“Former City Council member Abu Musa finished near the bottom in the City Council race – yet he did well in prior elections and is Muslim; his poor showing – as in Karen’s – reflects voter dissatisfaction with prior city leadership.

“Voters wanted fresh blood on City Council and in the office of Mayor.”

The city’s new, hi-tech parking meter system has caused some flap over hourly fee rates and the price of tickets for those who fail to pay.

A reader by the name of “Yasmin” doesn’t think the meters are a good idea:

“This is the most outrageous money scheme idea. Going to a business in your own city to buy things but you get ticketed? This makes no sense, especially if it should be free on weekends!

“This is the only reason I never liked Hamtramck and didn’t even stay for long. Not even by choice I stayed in Hamtramck. This city has always found ways to ticket you, now this. Wow, no wonder it can’t grow – it’s all tickets bringing money to the city. You won’t be getting my money anymore.”

*That’s it for now. We’ll have more reader feedback in the weeks to come.*

**Start Here, Stay Here, Succeed Here!**  
**Počni tu, ostani tu, ostvari uspjeh tu!**  
এখানে শুরু করুন, এখানে থাকুন এখানেই সফল হোন  
**Filloni ketu, qendroni ketu, korri sukses ketu!**  
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**Tau Beta School**  
3056 Hanley  
(313) 892-3811  
K – 8th Grades

**Kosciuszko Middle School**  
2333 Burger  
(313) 365-4625  
7th – 8th Grades

**Hamtramck High School**  
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(313) 892-7505  
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9th - 12th Grades