This Saturday (Aug. 22) available at press time.

Karen Majewski’s re-election possibility to shatter previous distance of upsetting Mayor Shahab Ahmed. Before the parade, a special performance of the Bengali voters helped people from the Hamtramck/Detroit temple. The event began at the park across the streets of Hamtramck. Developed to the upcoming holiday weekend — the city will be hosting its 29th Annual Hamtramck Labor Day Festival.
All the fun happens on Jos. Campau, Polish Cultural and Carpenter and starts Friday Sept. As in years past, there will be plenty of activities for everyone, for the younger, there will be carnival rides, games and other entertainments. For the older crowd, two stages will play host to a plethora of musical acts, including New York-based Ra Ra Riot, festival mainstay The Polyphonic Spree and 1990s rockabilly legend Jack Scott. For anyone 21 or older, a number of beverage stations will be serving up your favorite suds. Additionally, dozens of vendors will offer a variety of items for purchase. Diverse products from regional specialties, and the usual carnival drinks will all be available. Don’t feel like shopping? On Sunday Sept. 6 there will be an all-class Hamtramck High School reunion, and Monday will feature the Polish Day Parade. The celebration is not just about the national holidays, it’s also about the international diversity of Hamtramck as well. The city’s most ethnically diverse and has many multicultural offerings. Because the festival is a regional favorite, the event provides ample opportunity to showcase Hamtramck’s best qualities.

On Friday, with the changing ethnic makeup of the city, the festival has evolved as well,” says Eve Doster Knepp, Events Coordinator for the City of Hamtramck, “the festival is a cross-section of our ethnic diversity, and it is up to us to show that Hamtramck is not just a Polish city, but an inter-national city as well.”

The Hamtramck Labor Day Festival takes place on the friendly event open to the public.

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Hindu celebration puts emphasis on community

By Ian Perotta

Summary

The Durga Temple of Detroit held a parade on Saturday in celebration of the birth of Hare Krishna and the parade ended with a dinner at the Durga Temple in Detroit, just outside of Hamtramck.

The celebration is not just about the national holidays, it’s also about the international diversity of Hamtramck as well. The city’s most ethnically diverse and has many multicultural offerings. Because the festival is a regional favorite, the event provides ample opportunity to showcase Hamtramck’s best qualities.

The day celebrating the birth of Hare Krishna through song, dance and a host of incredibly fantastic food. The Durga Temple of Detroit is located at 4215 E. McNichols and encourages anyone who is interested in learning more to stop by. Hamtramck’s Hindu community held a parade on Saturday in celebration of the birth of Hare Krishna, Young Bengali candidates of "Hare Krishna" and the parade finished with a dinner at the Durga Temple in Detroit, just outside of Hamtramck.

By Ian Perotta

Review Special Writer

Last Saturday the Durga Temple of Detroit began the two-day celebration of Suvo Janmashtami (a birthday ceremony for Hare Krishna) with a parade through the streets of Hamtramck. The event began at the parking lot at Caniff and McDougall and was attended by about 200 people from the Hamtramck/Detroit Hindu community. Before the parade, a special performance of the Bengali natyam (an enactment of the Hindu epics through dance) was put on by the younger females of the temple. As the parade moved through the streets of Hamtramck, one of the city’s most ethnically diverse and has many multicultural offerings. Because the festival is a regional favorite, the event provides ample opportunity to showcase Hamtramck’s best qualities.

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Support for anti-gay rights campaign came from outsiders, says activist

By Charles Sercombe

Last year’s campaign battle over gay rights is still raging on.

Greg Manore is a supporter of the campaign, which was overwhelmingly defeated. He recently sent out an e-mail alert stated the Scott Smock was pat-

cients can now see who benefited from “No Antigay hate campaign.”

Manore, who is Communi-
cations Director for Ham-

tramck United, a group that was for the rights ordi-

nance, said campaign docu-
ments from the Wayne County Clerk’s Office show that 80 percent of the funding to de-

feat the proposal came from people living outside of the state. The group “Hamtramck Citizens Voting No” received $10,000 in donations.

“Last year, there was a breathtaking amount of anti-
gay hate spread in our beloved city,” said Manore in his e-mail. “And now Ham-

tramck residents have a pub-

lic resource to see who funded that campaign of ha-
ded and outright lies.”

The group opposing the rights claimed the law would allow men who dress as women to be able to use women’s public restrooms. Fr. Andrew Wosley of St.

Law’s organized the Catholic and Muslim communities to defeat the ordinance. Conser-

ervative Catholic ac-

tivist Jay McNally pledged $5,000 to help organize a campaign against the ordi-

nance. The conservative group “American Family Association” also helped in the campaign against the ordinance. Manore said the AFA sup-

plied $6,000 to defeat the or-

dinance. The AFA has been on the forefront nationally and throughout the state to defeat similar gay rights ordinances.

“Unfortunately, there are people in America who make a living off of spreading hate, and Mr. Jay McNally is one of them,” Manore said.

The gay rights issue came back to haunt City Coun-

cilmember Scott Smock, who championed the ordinance. A number of voters said they would not vote for him in the recent Primary Election because of that issue. Klein did not make the cut for the No-

vember General Election.

Voters also held the issue against Mayor Karen Majew-

ski, who also supported the rights ordinance.
By Charles Sercombe

Former Emergency Financial Manager Louis Schimmel has returned to his hometown of Hamtramck, where he was working.
Schimmel was appointed by Gov. Granholm’s administration to oversee management of Hamtramck several years ago after city officials failed to agree on passing a balanced budget for three years in a row. He wanted little time in con-
tacting out DPW services and selling the DPW building and the department’s equipment. He also quickly made ene-
 mies with city officials who did not care for his brusque man-
ner. Schimmel, in turn, didn’t mince words when expressing his contempt for city officials and their bungling of finances.
Whatever his legacy will be, he left the city on the right path toward financial recovery.
Recently, Schimmel was among several municipal finan-
cial experts to write a guest ed-
Schimmel wrote in the Times editorial, “The bigger the deficit, the more places there are to cut.”
Schimmel was also a re-
cent guest on WDET’s public affairs program, “Detroit Today.” On the show he talked about the job of a fi-
nancial manager and what could be done about Detroit’s growing budget deficit, which will likely lead to massive lay-
offs of city employees.
Hamtramck Councilmem-
ber Scott Klein called into the live broadcast and ques-
tioned whether there was re-
ally any difference between what Schimmel could do in his role as financial manager and what local governments can do.
Schimmel agreed that local governments can take the same steps he took.
But, he pointed out, what’s usually the case is that city officials cannot agree among themselves on what to do.
Schimmel, however, neg-
lected to point out that a state-appointed financial manager does not need to get permission or the OK from local officials. When you don’t have to get permission to do something, taking charge is made a whole lot easier.

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck’s High School’s prin-
cipal, Kirk Goodlow, has been controversial for one more year.
But his hiring was a close one.
The School Board voted 4-3 in favor on Wednesday, with boardmembers Betty Zwolak, Heidi Shulgon and Joanne Birnholz voting against the appointment.
They did not think Goodlow was working well with the staff.
Goodlow is here on an in-
ternal basis while the district continues to look for a perma-
nent replacement. Goodlow is retired from the Detroit Public School District where he worked for 35 years.
His salary of $60,000 was also approved.
Goodlow said he would try to “restore” the confidence of those boardmembers who voted against his hiring.
In other school news, kids, better make the most of what re-
mains of summer vacation. The first day of school is Sept. 8.

Free flu shots offered to Hamtramck students

By Ian Perotta

Review Special Writer

This flu season, don’t let the cost of your children’s vaccina-
tions make you sick.
Through the Vaccines for Chil-
dren Program (VFC), kids may be able to receive free immu-
izations at the Hamtramck School-Based Health Center.
The VFC is a federally funded program that provides vaccines at no cost to children who might not otherwise be vaccinated be-
cause of the inability to pay. In light of recent reports that sev-
eral doctors in the Hamtramck area have charged $200 and $500 for local fami-
lies to receive vaccines, the Hamtramck School-Based Health Center would like the public to know that they have free health care services avail-
able to Hamtramck Public School students.
The parameters of the VFC program are simple: Children who are eligible for Medicaid, who are uninsured or are under-
insured qualify for the free shots. Those who are students attending or registered to Dids-
incnese East elementary, Hamtramck, and Early Childhood Elementary Schools, as well as Kossiakoff Middle School and Hamtramck High School may be able to re-
take the free immunizations.
According to Susan Pesar Wil-
son, a social worker at the health center, the high fees some clinics are charging are actually being charged by the doctors are probably charging for the vaccine itself.
“Through the program, a doc-
tor cannot charge anything for the vaccine,” she said, “but if they buy it on their own they can set the price. Unfortunately, what is likely happening is peo-
ple are not being made aware of their other options.”
For more information on the program stop by the Ham-
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HHS principal re-hired for school year

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Get to know your neighbor ...

What he’s known for:
Lou Wojtalik

has lived in Hamtramck for his entire 88 years, well ex-cept for the first three months after being born when he lived in Belleview. Despite his age, Lou is up and about all the time and helps his neighbor-hood block club with cleanups. He’s a retired elec-tronics repairman, a job he held at three different compa-nies for 42 years. We caught up with Lou recently and talked about the city, his life and the secret to staying fit and well.

For a guy who’s 88, you’re pretty active and in good shape. What’s the secret? “There is no secret! If I feel like a rest, I take a rest. My only difficulties I run into are not of my doing. I was raised on the street and my-ers were crushed. That set me back. I lost a lot of mus-cle and strength because of lying in bed.”

Any special diet? “Nothing special. I eat everything but avoid things that are not good for you. When I was younger I had bacon but when I got into my 50s I gave that up. They said it was bad for me.”

You’ve lived in Hamtramck for a long time. What are some of the major changes you’ve seen? “The influx of different ethnic groups. It started about 25 years ago with immigrants from the Balkans – the Bosni-ans. They came here because they were persecuted. Albari-ans were already here. Now there’s the Bangladeshis. It’s good in a way but we can’t communicate with each other. It’s not bad though. Shopping has changed. There used to be a Fedorals, now there are dollar stores. There are fewer bars too, isn’t that all bad. Recently there’s been an in-crease in crime.”

You also participate in cleanups around your neigh-borhood. Has Hamtramck al-ways been this dirty? “Before we had garbage cans, in the 30s and 40s, people would throw out garbage into the alley. Garbage collectors would come by and shovel them into trucks. Because the garbage was all loose, we had trouble with rats. Now we don’t have as many rats.”

What makes a community strong? “When people are unified in how they want their govern-ment to grow.”

You’ve lived through one depression. Is the country in another one, and if so, is it different in any way? “Oh yeah. The last one I was a youngster and I didn’t understand it. My dad lost his market because he gave things away on credit and then they couldn’t pay. Now the problem we have is that people had good jobs but overspent. When this hit, they didn’t have money and lost their ability to pay for their house.”

What are your pastimes? “I used to ice skate and bi-cycle, but now I putter, do lit-tle jobs, painting, odds and ends. I walk more.”

Any advice for younger peo-ple? “Number one, really, really important: Don’t smoke. This is something I heard from my father. He very much regretted it in the end. Tobacco, you can’t quit.”

Parting words? “Try to pitch in and keep the city going. We need to do something about crime. Our city is too small for the amount of crime it has. If you see something unusual around the house, call the po-lice. They won’t hold it against you if nothing is happening.”

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Interested parties may also acquire a paper copy from the City of Hamtramck Clerks Office, located at Hamtramck City Hall, 4301 Eaveline, Hamtramck MI 48043

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
THE CITY OF HAMTRAMCK,
WAYNE COUNTY, MI

By Charles Sercombe

Fighting a fire is never an easy job. Add in the heat wave factor of last weekend and the job becomes life-threatening. A 24-year-old Hamtramck firefighter collapsed from heat exhaustion last Sunday morn-ing during a house fire on Faber St.

The firefighter has been with the department for two months.

Coming events
SEPT. 1, 5:30 p.m., the HHS student council is hosting a car wash by the parking lot on Gall-lagher. Cost is $3 per car and $5 for SUV’s, vans and trucks.
Yoga studio is a relaxing retreat from the city

By Catherine Gasior
Review Special Writer

On the busy, noisy street of Jos. Campau, a yoga stu-
dio has opened up to help relieve the stress of every-
day life for many people. 

Upon entering the Yoga Studio Center for Yoga Stud-
ies (YSCYS) a sense of re-
laxation is instantly felt. The
studio is filled with many an-
lities and flowing curtains
that gives it a Zen-like at-
pmosphere. And being barefoot is a must. Michele
Pearson, owner and director
of YSCYS opened the studio in
May. The studio is dedicated to
practice Iyengar yoga, and is
the first studio to open in
Hamtramck that type.

Pearson felt that since Hamtramck is an artsy com-

munity, a yoga studio was
needed. “We don’t have any-
thing like that around here,” Pear-
son said. “Now I just need
to educate the people about
the real need for yoga.” In
addition to yoga being
relaxing, it also helps
strongen your body and
stimulate your mind. Pear-
son says practicing yoga can help improve your stabili-
ity, concentration and focus.
Yoga also keeps your body
healthy, including your di-
gestive, hormonal and nerv-
ous system.

“It’s an alternative to the
health care system. It gives
people an opportunity to
maintain their health, instead of just
going to the doctor,” Pear-
son said.

Pearson stressed the fact
that anybody can do it. Keep-
ing a comfortable envi-
ronment is important so the
students feel at ease. Her
down-to-earth tactics helps
all the students keep up
with the different poses.

Each yoga session is an
hour-and-a-half and costs
$10 per class.

Continued on page 8
Frank talk about the city's finances is needed

By Abu S. Mahfuz
The Aug. 4 Primary Election has turned out to be a historical victory not only for the Bangladeshi community but also for the city of Hamtramck. The victory was a surprise for all and it was immediately followed by some unexpected decisions.

A city that is the most the government officials are not sure about the future of the city. The city is facing a $1 million deficit and the following year the city will have a $1.5 million deficit. The city has to consider merging with the other cities to make them shake. It was criticized for talk- ing about the city's financial outlook as being “political or out of line.”

Regarding a walkability study of the city, a former mayor said that “it would’ve been nice if someone had been looking for a city.”

For Bengali community, election was a ‘silent demonstration’

The Aug. 4 election proved not only that there is a “New Political Force in Town,” but it was also the message to all Hamtramckians and to the modern world, that the whole city is united under all races, colors, countries, and cultures.

Several former and current city officials and candidates are looking at similar cuts. The city will have a $1 million deficit and the following year the city will have a $1.5 million deficit. The city is facing a $1 million deficit and the following year the city will have a $1.5 million deficit.

The city has turned out to be an historical victory not only for the Bangladeshi community but also for the city. The victory was a surprise for all and it was immediately followed by some unexpected decisions.

The city of Hamtramck has enjoyed a good run, financially-speaking, for several years. For example, a couple of years ago Hamtramck was under the supervision of a state-appointed emergency financial manager. The city had a $1 million deficit and the city had a $1 million deficit and the city had a $1 million deficit.

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We cannot be 100% familiar or accus- yachts. We never claim to be 100% experts. We never claim to be 100% experts. We never claim to be 100% experts.

Mr. Tom Jankowski
Hamtramck

Letters

In the most recent edition of the Hamtramck Review (Oct. 1, No. 14/10), an article titled “Hard Times Heading Our Way,” located on the editor’s page, says that the city and the state are not ready to meet our future prob- lems and that with easy eyes and open

In the most recent edition of the Hamtramck Review (Oct. 1, No. 14/10), an article titled “Hard Times Heading Our Way,” located on the editor’s page, says that the city and the state are not ready to meet our future prob- lems and that with easy eyes and open
Once a year, the state enforces an antivandalism campaign, led by Cardinal Adam Maida, to ‘protect property’ by setting artificial discrimination into its constitution. ... It is appealing for these forces to pretend that their sworn words and organizing have no connec- tion to the plague of hate vio- lence against gay people, including the murder of Mr. Anthos. http://www.marias.com/index.php/news/releases/prMF_022307.'

"If HB 4836 becomes law, we urge that the so-called "hate crime" bill be defeated. ... If a criminal bor- rows a gun and then uses it to kill an innocent, and, presumably, a victim's membership in any particu- lar category of individuals who en- able others to perform acts that are committed or falsely alleged to be hate crimes against others, including the murder of Mr. Anthos, then the state should not pretend that their venomous words and organizing have no connection to the state's propaganda strategy of accus- ing anyone who speaks out against their political agenda of being guilty of "encouraging" crim- inal activity any time a crime is committed or falsely alleged to have been committed against an individual involved in homosexuality behavior or cross-dressing."

"Jeffrey Montgomery is calling for a reduction in violence against homosexuals, he says, has failed a steady stream in hate crimes against gays and lesbians. ... We've seen an increase in rhetoric, xenophobia, demeansment, denying RHETORIC against gay and lesbians," said Montgomery, the openly homosexu- al executive director of the Triang- le Foundation, a Detroit-based foundation. "It also criminalizes any VOICE activist act should be held to the same ACCORDANCE to these crimes because, many times, it is the RHETORIC that led the perpetrators to believe that hate crimes are OK. ... A criminal bor- rows a gun and then uses it to kill someone, the law considers the gun over to the necessary to the crime. So, too, are the people who own the gun that incite vio- lence," Montgomery said.

"An example in 2007, the Na- tional Gay Task Force issued a news release regarding the death of a senior citizen in Detroit who the county medical ex- aminer's office ruled had died from a blow to the head after a fall. ... The chief of staff of Michigan's largest homosexual lobby explained its position in the Sapp News, April 27, 2007."
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