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November 14, 2025
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The Review

Hamtramck

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Quick Hits

Get SMART about new bus service

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck is about to get a new bus route from the SMART (Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation) service.

And, to give the community an in-person update and explanation, representatives from SMART are hosting a public meeting next Tuesday, Nov. 18 at 5:30 p.m. at the Hamtramck Public Library (2360 Caniff).

Representatives from SMART say the meeting "is to give residents the opportunity to share their input with SMART, and learn about the proposed route at this final stage of the planning process."

You can take a look at the new route online at <https://www.smarter-mobility.org/mobility-study>

For those who can't make the meeting on Tuesday, you can join a live webinar online at Webinar Registration - Zoom this Monday, Nov. 17 at 6 p.m.

And for those with questions, you can call the city's Community and Economic Development Department at (313) 800-5233 (extension 818).

In other Hamtramck news, Wayne County recently announced a new program for expectant mothers, or those who gave birth on or after Nov. 1.

Here's the deal: You are eligible to receive \$1,500 during pregnancy and a monthly \$500 throughout the baby's first six months.

For more information, go online at: <https://rx-kids.org>

Once you are verified, you will receive a message letting you know when to expect your first payment. Payments begin at the point of enrollment.



— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Veterans gather to honor those who served ...

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck veterans and friends at the PLAV Post 6 once again raised a toast to all veterans on Veterans Day.

And, once again, it's noted that Hamtramck's once-populous veterans community is now a shadow of its former self. The number of veterans here has dwindled down to a couple of dozen – maybe even less.

Veterans Day in Hamtramck was once a citywide observation, but as the years marched on and the demographics changed, the significance of the day is now barely noticed.

Local elected officials who once clamored to share a microphone to honor vets no longer show up at any veteran holiday event.

At Post 6, at exactly 11:11 a.m., these vets gathered in front of a mural depicting the history of the U.S. military, where Post 6 Commander Mark Widzinski, himself a Vietnam War veteran, talked about the significance of the day and the contributions veterans have made to this country.

"The freedoms that we all enjoy did not happen by chance. There is a whole litany of freedoms that our military veterans have guaranteed for us," Widzinski said.

He continued: "That list goes something like this: it is not the priest or rabbi who gave us religious freedom, it is the soldier. It is not the politician who gave us freedom of speech, it is the soldier. It is not the campus organizer who gave us the freedom to assemble, it is the soldier."

The oldest veteran there was Raymond DeLoff, 97, who served in the now-long-ago Korean War of the early 1950s.

So, why did our vets hold a ceremony at exactly 11:11 a.m.? The time reflects when World War 1 ended in 1918. Once called the "Great War," WWI came to an end officially in the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

A few years later, in 1926, Congress officially designated Nov. 11 as Armistice Day – the day hostilities with Germany ended (but not before 15-22 million people died).

Years after that, in 1954, Congress changed "Armistice Day" to "Veterans Day" in order to better honor all veterans.

Flash forward to today: President Trump now wants to change the name again, this time from "Veterans Day" to "Victory Day for World War I," saying: "We don't like being politically correct."

Trump is also designating May 8 as "Victory Day for World War II."



Mayoral election now has potential of being a major scandal

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck's election took yet another twist and turn, with the results of the mayoral election now in question.

And what is developing has the potential of blowing up to be a major scandal. Detroit area media outlets have been digging into what's happening here.

Last week, mayoral candidate Adam Alharbi, who won with a slim lead of 11 votes over his opponent Muhith Mahmood, filed a lawsuit in Wayne County Circuit Court alleging that Mahmood is not qualified to hold office in the city if the county comes out with a different outcome.

Alharbi is accusing Mahmood of not being a resident and actually living with his wife and family in Troy.

At the same time, the results of the election are in the hands of Wayne County, which is going over the results and tabulating 150 absentee ballots that had to be "cured" by voters.

The 150 ballots were held up because voters either forgot to sign their ballot's envelope or the signature on the envelope did not match the signature on file.

The voters had a small window in which to respond to correct the errors: within three days. That deadline is set by state law.

It's not immediately known how many of those ballots in question were forwarded to the county. The county has said election results will be announced on Nov. 18.

According to sources, there is a chance that the mayoral election results could change from Alharbi being the winner in last week's election to Mahmood.

The matter has also been referred to the Secretary of State, which oversees elections.

On top of that, City Clerk Rana Faraj has been suspended, possibly in connection with 37 ballots that were not counted, according to sources.

In recent years, Hamtramck's election results have repeatedly been put into question because of allegations of ballot harvesting by candidates or their supporters.

Councilmember Mohammed Hassan is facing

Thank You Veterans

Continued on page 2

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

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Thirty-Third Sunday in
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Nov 21 – Solemnity of the Presentation of
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Nov 22 – Drive-thru Take-out only
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(Pull into lot, pick up in front of church)
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Mayoral election now has potential of being a major scandal

Continued from front page

felony charges of election fraud from the 2023 primary election.

Councilmember Muh-tasin Sadman was also charged with election fraud in that election but those charges, for the moment at least, were dropped because two key witnesses failed to appear at his preliminary examination.

In the meantime, Alharbi is relying on a past investigation by the city that alleges Mahmood, who is finishing his first term on council but decided to run for mayor instead of another council term, does not live in the city.

Mahmood has not yet been criminally charged over his residency status.

The Review reached out to Mahmood via email and Facebook messenger for comment about the lawsuit but he has not responded.

Alharbi said he decided not to challenge Mahmood's qualifications to be on the ballot when he first filed because "I was consistently told that the city would disqualify him based on the findings in the official investigation report.

"I also assumed the voters in Hamtramck would reject a non-resident with a background of voter fraud. I did not realize the extent to which organized absentee ballot harvesting could sway the final election outcome."

Asked if he had additional evidence that Mahmood does not live in the city, Alharbi said: "I have the testimony of his neighbors. The house

he claims to live in is just four houses away from my own, and I can personally confirm he does not reside at that address. Everyone knows he doesn't live there."

Mahmood has steadfastly denied the accusation and says he does indeed live in the city as a resident.

He does admit he visits his wife and family in Troy. Councilmember Abu Musa, who was the top vote-getter in Tuesday's election and is also suspected of ballot harvesting in the August Primary Election, has also been accused of actually living outside Hamtramck, in

this case, in Warren with his family.

Musa has denied ballot harvesting and insists, like Mahmood, that he lives in the city but visits his family in Warren.

Musa faces no charges of election fraud or being a non-resident.

Back in May, the council considered a resolution to declare both Musa's and Mahmood's positions on council "vacant" because of accusations that they are not residents.

The vote also included removing them from the August Primary Election ballot.

The council, including Musa and Mahmood, vo-

ted not to kick them off the council, nor the primary ballot.

Alharbi says his attorney has asked Wayne County Circuit Court to speed up hearing his lawsuit. He said he would like to see the election be done over.

"It's only fair to let the people decide," he said.

Alharbi, who was endorsed by Mayor Amer Ghalib (who did not seek re-election, hoping to become the U.S. ambassador to Kuwait), was the top vote-getter in August's primary election, winning by about 900 votes over second-place finisher Mahmood.

On the campaign trail ...

Tidbits of this and that from the election

By Charles Sercombe

This year's election is now fodder for various media outlets, and now the courts.

Media attention and public outrage are not going away.

As we reported in this issue, there is a possible scandal brewing.

But besides all that attention, last week's election once again underscored how voters have turned to using absentee ballots (AV) instead of voting in person.

Or maybe it's more like it's the candidates who are dependent on AV ballots, as some suspect – for nefarious reasons.

Out of the 4,509 ballots cast in last week's mayoral election, only 1,575 were from voters actually voting in person. The rest were via absentee ballots.

In the city council election, 3,023 AV ballots were cast out of a total of 4,624 ballots.

That trend has been increasing in recent years, and it has also resulted in accusations of ballot harvesting by some candidates and their supporters.

Mayoral candidate Muhih Mahmood came in with the most absentee ballots with 1,501. His supporters who went to the polls numbered at 497.

At this point, Mahmood lost the election by a hair – 11 votes.

But that may change after Wayne County retabulates the ballots.

Alharbi garnered 1,203 votes from absentee ballots. Those voting in person for him totalled 806 people.

The issue of using absentee ballots has become a national debate, with President Trump seeking to end voting by this method despite his own history of voting by absentee ballot.

Last week's election also saw some vocal flare-ups outside polling stations. They seemed to focus primarily on an independent journalist whose prior writings many took issue with.

Most of the verbal exchanges were in Arabic, but the journalist was accused of "fake news" – a trademark rebuttal President Trump evokes when confronting reporters who he deems hostile.

The term "fake news" is apparently now in the national lexicon for good.

Another, um, interesting encounter on election day occurred between a voter and Councilmember Abu Musa, who ended up being the top vote-getter – as he was in the August Primary Election.

The voter recorded his encounter with Musa, a copy of which The Review obtained, about allegations of his ballot harvesting. A city hall security camera aimed at a ballot drop box during the primary election recorded Musa in the passenger seat of a car, handing over what appeared to be bundles of absentee ballots to the driver.

The voter in question was direct in asking Musa: "You have no shame stuffing a ballot box?"

Musa responded: "Do you know who you are talking to? You piece of s—."

Musa also repeatedly told the voter to "cover your face," before calling him a you-know-what a few more times.

It should be noted that Musa has not been charged with ballot harvesting – or any other type of election fraud, for that matter.

However, it is alleged, in a city-sponsored investigation, that Musa actually lives in Warren with his wife and family.

Musa insists he lives in Hamtramck, but that he does visit his family in Warren, and that he is not divorced or separated from his wife. In the past, he has invited the public to visit him at 11441 Mitchell if they had any doubts he lived in the city.

Speaking of residency, the Monroe County Prosecutor's Office told WXYZ Channel 7 news that it is expanding its election fraud investigations from previous years, and, according to Channel 7, charges are expected to

filed any day now.

According to sources knowledgeable about the matter, Monroe County is only going after two witnesses who failed to show up for Councilmember Muhtasin Sadman's preliminary examination where he was charged with ballot harvesting.

Monroe County was tapped by Attorney General Dana Nessel to take over her department's investigation in order to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest since she is Jewish and those involved in the election fraud allegations are Muslim.

Moving on to mayoral candidate Mahmood, what he posted on social media before the election could possibly come back to haunt him.

"Together, let us elect a leader who embodies the values of experience, dedication, and transparency – someone who has consistently demonstrated a commitment to serving the people," he said.

Mahmood is also alleged to actually live outside of Hamtramck, in this case with his family in Troy. He has admitted that his wife and children live there, while insisting that he lives in Hamtramck.

He has not been charged regarding his residency.

The residency issue begs the question about what would drive these folks to voluntarily live apart from their families just to serve in elected office in little old Hamtramck.

What's the allure? Certainly, it can't be the paltry few thousand dollars they receive each year as a stipend. Or is it the "prestige" or "honor?"

The Review welcomes all serious and non-serious replies.

Back to last week's election.

So far, at least as things stand now, the city has two new councilmembers.

It might be a bit misleading to say that Nayeem Choudhury, who came in

Continued on page 5

This week at the Library . . .

November 14, 2025

Winners: The 107th Anniversary of Library Services Breakfast Program that was held on November 12th, produced a number of winners of the door prizes provided by the Friends of Hamtramck Public Library. This is a list of the prize winners:

Lynn Perdue won a flat screen TV.

Md. M. Rahman a jumbo air fryer

Felicia Johnson won a coffee maker

Robert Mioczynski a popcorn maker

The Library Board of Directors would like to thank all patrons for participation and looks forward to future programs and more winners.

Story Time: These programs conducted by the library staff are scheduled for Wednesdays afternoon at 4:00 pm. All children are invited.

New York Weekly Journal: On November 17, 1734, its publisher John Peter Zenger was arrested and charged with libeling the colonial governor of New York. In his trial, held in August of 1735, truth was successfully used as a defense against libel, an important early step toward freedom of the press in America.

Exercise at the Library: The RIM Foundation was begun exercise classes again this fall. On Tuesdays, its back to Yoga at 2:30 pm. and on Fridays, it is Tai Chi at 10:00 am. To register for the program, stop by the library circulation desk.

U.S. Congress: On November 17, 1800, was the first meeting of the

Congress in the new capital at Washington D.C. President John Adams then became the first occupant of the Executive Mansion, later renamed the White House.

Preservation of Jazz: Continuing into the autumn and winter season, the Jazz Masterclass program will take place on Thursday evenings from 5 to 7 pm. Participants will cultivate a deeper understanding of this elegant artform through guided discussions, curated listening experiences, documentary screenings, and more. Heading this class will be Sky Covington, founder of The Preservation of Jazz. The sessions start on October 16th. Class size is limited to 20 individuals. Register on Eventbrite.com to secure your place. For more information about the program, please call Sky Covington (248) 383-3385..

First book in English: On November 18, 1477 William Caxton printed the first book in the English language, "The Dictes and Sayengis of the Philosophers".

Gerrysburg Address: On November 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address during ceremonies dedicating 17 acres of the battlefield as a National cemetery. Famed orator Edward Everett of Massachusetts preceded Lincoln and spoke for two hours.

ESL Classes: These classes are held Monday to Thursday at 9 am and 12 noon. To participate, you must register with the Horizon School.

Library is located at 2360 Caniff Avenue, Phone (313) 733-6822
Or visit its website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> for on line catalog
Attachments for printing, faxing or scanning send to
hamtramcklibrary@gmail.com

Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Sending out an SOS to state officials to act

As it turns out, the mess over the election results from last Tuesday is even worse than we feared.

We're not talking here about who won or lost, but instead about the massive suspicion that some candidates cheated through ballot harvesting.

On top of that, 150 absentee ballots could not immediately be counted because voters either forgot to sign their ballot before returning it, or their supposed signature didn't match what was on file.

That's 150 ballots – something in our three-plus decades of covering elections here that has never occurred.

And, on top of that, there is now the mysterious matter of 37 ballots not being initially counted.

It's now unclear who won the mayoral election, and it looks like the matter won't be resolved until Nov. 18 when Wayne County election officials review the count.

On top of all this, mayor-elect Adam Alharbi has filed a lawsuit against his opponent, Muhith Mahmood, who Alharbi says is ineligible to serve in the role of mayor because he does not reside in the city.

This election is in shambles, and once again calls are coming in for outside investigators to look into the re-

sidency of two elected officials, Mahmood and Councilmember Abu Musa, who are suspected of living in the suburbs, and the ongoing likelihood of ballot harvesting by some candidates and their supporters.

So far, the state has shown little interest in preserving the integrity of our elections, despite the outcry from residents.

To the state Attorney General's Office and Secretary of State: Consider this an SOS from Hamtramck.

Do something.

The people of Hamtramck deserve honest elections. Is that too much to ask?

Odds & Ends

A message from the current mayor-elect ... Well, it's actually up in the air now as to who is Hamtramck's new mayor.

But, as it stands now, by a mere 11 votes, it's Adam Alharbi. And he has a special message to the Bangladesh community.

That community is now feeling sore that mayoral candidate Muhith Mahmood didn't become the city's first Bengali-American to serve in that position.

Here is some of what Alharbi had to say, verbatim:

"You have been an important part of my campaign for the past six months. Many of you voted for me, none may, but I respect everyone equally. I went to your mosque, attended your function, ate your sweets at your home and this relationship is very precious to me.

"Please don't listen to those who want to show it as Yemeni versus Bengali. It was never like this, never will again. I STAND IN ELECTION TO SERVE ALL.

"It's about our own city that we all love and care about. It's time we all say together enough against corruption and vote fraud. ... We want everyone to believe their votes are worth, their voices will be heard, not theft."

Alharbi has filed a lawsuit against the city and Mahmood, saying that Mahmood is not eligible to serve as mayor because it is alleged that he is not a resident of the city.

That has angered some in the Bengali community.

On social media, Abdullah Ahmed lashed out at Alharbi, saying, "If you have any respect for the Bangladeshi community, you should accept the final vote count and stop pursuing legal action."

Michelle Wagenaar-Mohamed says she is fed up with election shenanigans the city has been experiencing.

"None of these people are here for the best interest of the city. It's all an ethnic competition and a popularity contest. That's it. They couldn't care less about the city. At this point we might as well be taken over by the state or absolved (sic) into Detroit. I give up. The

amount of corruption in this city is absurd, and anyone who tries to do their job correctly gets fired."

The final election results are in the hands of the Wayne County Board of Canvassers who say the results will be revealed on Nov. 18.

Ice, ice baby ... No, we're not talking about the federal agency that everyone is talking about.

What got our attention is how Sweden deals with ice on their roads.

And it's something Hamtramck might – or should – look into.

Swedish scientists have been at the drawing board again, coming up with something to help save wildlife.

In this case, we're talking specifically about birds.

Birds, you see, have a habit of ingesting road salt during the winter months when it is used to make roads, driveways and sidewalks less slippery, not realizing that it harms them, sometimes to the point of killing them.

But the clever Swedes have originated a road salt that saves birds, and other animals, from deadly dehydration. Unfortunately, it's not yet available in the U.S., according to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) latest info.

The salts they are using are made from a combination of beet extract and starch from the maize plant (think corn starch, or very similar). We may be seeing some fatter birds, but at least they won't be dying in droves from dehydration.

We'll update if we hear that anything like this has become available to Hamtramckans.

No word yet on pricing, but one should note that

regular salt is far more than 100 percent cheaper in Sweden than in the U.S., in spite of us having plenty of the stuff – even right here in Detroit.

That statistic comes courtesy of GlobalProductPrices.com, which sets the price of salt in Sweden at \$1.36 per kg (kg = kilogram; about 2.2 pounds), versus the U.S. at an even \$3.

That's enough to make someone feel a bit salty.

End of an era ... Yet another longtime publication has called it quits.

This time it's not a local newspaper, but instead the long-trusted Farmer's Almanac, which is calling it quits after publishing for an incredible 208 years.

We always enjoyed reading the yearly weather predictions, which rarely appeared to be accurate – or so it seemed to us.

But it was something to ponder and talk about while we were "rotating the crops," or whatever.

According to the internet, the almanac was also a somewhat trusted source for information on "gardening and planting tips, and articles on topics like natural remedies, folklore, and recipes. It included calendars with information on full moon dates, sunrise and sunset times, and daily fishing guides. The weather forecasts were based on a proprietary formula combining factors like solar science, climatology, meteorology, and astronomical cycles."

The Farmers Almanac made the prediction of their demise on Nov. 5 at 3:32 p.m., and predicted it will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2026 at 12:01 a.m.

Okay, we made that up.

But we are genuinely sorry to see it go.

Police chief says he never got city's letter firing him

By Charles Sercombe

Former Hamtramck Police Chief Jamiel Altaheri has been insisting that news outlets erroneously reported that he was fired from his job.

In a press release issued by his attorney, Amir Makled, he said "such action was never taken" – despite the city council instructing the then-interim city manager to "terminate" the chief.

Altaheri has made several demands to The Review to remove an online article saying he was "officially fired."

"I will take the necessary legal action," Altaheri said at one point. "This is really unprofessional of you."

But, as it turns out, the city's interim city manager at the time, Syed Aamir Ahsan, did send Altaheri a certified letter, dated Aug. 28, saying: "Your employment and any employment termination immediately."

The Review obtained a copy of the letter through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

The three-page letter listed seven "deficiencies" as the reasons for his firing, saying they "warrant your employment termination for cause."

Altaheri, who was the

city's first Yemeni-American to be police chief, told The Review that he did not receive that letter, and that "I will assure you that this letter was never written on that date nor was it ever presented to me or my attorney."

Altaheri had previously retired from the New York City Police Department.

He went on to say that "the problem with the city is that there are too many games and lack of honesty and integrity."

The former chief says he now wants to "move on and share my side."

As for the reasons the city listed for his firing, Altaheri said, "I was never able to respond to these claims." However, he did tell The Review the internal investigation was a "hoax."

Altaheri's downfall started when former City Manager Max Garbarino became aware of some accusations of wrongdoing. Garbarino eventually put Altaheri on paid suspension, which led to the mayor and city council stepping in.

The city council decided to place Garbarino on paid leave, and then hired the legal firm Miller Johnson to conduct an independent investigation into Altaheri, as well as

into Garbarino and police officer David Adamczyk.

Adamczyk was involved in an investigation into Altaheri, but the Miller Johnson investigation alleged he also committed wrongdoing and violated department policy.

All three were in fact subsequently fired for alleged wrongdoings, based on the findings of the Miller Johnson investigation.

Adamczyk and Garbarino followed up with lawsuits against the city, mayor and city council, and have denied any wrongdoing.

The results of the investigation were released by the city, who accused Altaheri of:

- Driving a city-issued vehicle after consuming alcohol.
- Reducing another officer's discipline for overtime fraud in exchange for the destruction of evidence of his own alleged reckless driving.
- Handing a loaded gun to a civilian and instructing her to put it to someone's head.
- Pressuring officers to help in a custody dispute.
- Destroying evidence by having his city-issued phone wiped clean, and obstructing the internal

Continued on page 5



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The Hamtramck Review

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November 14, 2025

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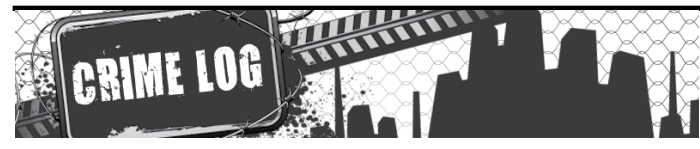
What's on this coming week?

Veteran's Day Ceremonies at Hamtramck VFW Post 6
Congressman Thanedar addresses City Council Senate Hearings with Mayor Amer Ghalib
Preservation of Jazz Lecture by Sky Covington
Interview with New Interim City Manager, Alex Lagrou
October 28, 2025 Council Meeting
and more

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Hamtramck Public TV is broadcasting from Hamtramck Public Library
On Comcast Channel 19 and streaming on YouTube Live (24/7) Google "Hamtramck Public TV", and click on link "Hamtramck Public TV"
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To place community announcement call the Library at 313-733-6822
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Announcements submitted by 10 am
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By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers Nov. 4-10.

Tuesday, Nov. 4

- A suspicious circumstance was reported in the 11400 block of Charest.
- A complaint was made about a juvenile in the 1900 block of Belmont.
- A complaint was made about a disorderly group of people in the 2600 block of Holbrook.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 3300 block of Holbrook.
- Gunshots were fired in the 5000 block of Yemans.
- Suspicious persons were reported in the area of Brombach and Trowbridge.
- A dispute was reported in the 3800 block of Yemans.

Wednesday, Nov. 5

- A missing person was reported in the 3300 block of Doremus.
- A complaint was made about fireworks in the 11400 block of Jos. Campau.
- Property damage was reported on Dequindre.
- A complaint was made about an animal in the 2300 block of Poland.
- A business in the 9500 block of Conant reported trouble with a customer.

Thursday, Nov. 6

- Family trouble was reported in the 12000 block of Grand Haven.
- A business in the 10300 block of Conant reported trouble with a customer.
- A reckless driver was reported in the 3300 block of Holbrook.

Friday, Nov. 7

- A business in the area of Conant and Caniff reported trouble with a customer.
- A complaint was made about an animal in the 5000 block of Yemans. A complaint about an animal was also made in the area of Dequindre and Norwalk.

Saturday, Nov. 8

- An assault was reported in the 12100 block of Dequindre.
- A fight was reported in the 9400 block of Jos. Campau.
- A complaint was made about a weapon in the 9400 block of Jos. Campau.
- A missing person was reported in the 3300 block of Comstock.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 12000 block of Grand Haven.
- A vehicle was stolen in the 3100 block of Roosevelt.
- Littering violations were reported in the 2600 block of Casmere.
- A stolen vehicle was recovered in the 2900 block of Holbrook.
- A business in the 9000 block of Jos. Campau reported trouble with a customer.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 2100 block of Belmont.
- A trespassing complaint was made in the 11600 block of Jos. Campau.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 2300 block of Caniff.

Sunday, Nov. 9

- At about 5 a.m., a suspect was arrested in the 5100 block of Yemans for domestic assault.
- A possible fight was reported on Grand Haven.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the area of Buffalo and Yemans.

Monday, Nov. 10

- A business on Conant reported trouble with a customer.
- A complaint was made about a juvenile on Norwalk.
- A suspicious person was reported in the area of Evaline and Jos. Campau.
- Gunshots were reported at Evaline and Ellery.

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School Bell

Parent Night

Kosciuszko Middle School is hosting a free "Parent Health Night" on Monday Nov. 17 from 3:30-5 p.m.

The Hamtramck Drug Free Community Coalition and Piast Institute are partnering with Hamtramck Public Schools to also host this event. This is an opportunity for parents and community members to learn about a variety of local health resources.

Coming Events

SATURDAY, Nov. 22, 3:30-5:30 p.m. – Drive-Thru Take-out Polish Dinner at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski Street at Fleming. \$15 Adult/\$8 Child 12 & under. Menu: Pork Chop, Kielbasa, Pierogi/sour cream, Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes/gravy, Dessert. Cars will be staged in parking lot for delivery in front of church.

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

On the campaign trail ... Tidbits of this and that from the election Cont. from page 2

second in the election, is "new" to the council. He had served before but then lost his re-election bid four year ago.

It's also been alleged that Choudhury has ballot harvested in the past, although no criminal charges were ever filed.

And coming in at third is a newcomer, Yousef Saed, who is an immigrant from Somalia who speaks Arabic.

We don't know too much about him, but he says he is self-employed, and he is a member of the city's

Planning Commission.

On Facebook, one of his supporters, Khaled Al, said this about Saed:

"Saeed's victory is a victory for all the voters of our community who gave him their votes. He is one of us and our brother, and there is no difference between him and the other candidates. Also, Saeed is a character that represents diversity in running for elections. Being one of the members of the Somali community, whose number of people in Hamtramck is

not very high."

The Review reached out to him for comment, but he has not responded.

As it stands now, the mayor and city council will remain all-male and all-Muslim.

Finally, city council candidate Joe Strzalka, who ran as a write-in candidate in this election and served on council in the 1990s, had this advice (warning?) for the new mayor, whoever that may ultimately be, and the city council:

"Our city faces some extreme challenges, and

hard choices need to be made. While we currently have a rainy day fund, that fund is projected to disappear within four years. That four-year projection, however, did not take into consideration losing over a million dollars from the closing of the jail, a \$200,000 loss from parking meter revenues, a cut to state revenue sharing funds, cutbacks at the GM plant, a \$500,000 investigation of the police chief and city manager, and any payouts from pending lawsuits."

'Deadline Detroit' podcast focuses on mayor's Senate hearing

By Charles Sercombe

Veteran Detroit journalists, and others, have weighed in on Mayor Amer Ghalib and his chances of being confirmed by the U.S. Senate for a job as ambassador to Kuwait.

In a discussion on Deadline Detroit's podcast, the consensus is: Ghalib's chances are slim to none.

Ghalib faced critical questioning over his past social media comments and "likes" that were viewed as antisemitic by both Democrats and Republicans in the Senate Foreign Relations Commission during his recent confirmation hearing.

Ghalib attracted the attention and support of President Trump when Ghalib influenced a number of fellow Arabs and Muslims in Hamtramck and the Detroit area to switch political parties and endorse Trump.

He was credited with helping Trump win Michigan in the presidential election.

It has been assumed that Trump repaid Ghalib the favor by nominating him to be ambassador.

Saeed Khan, who is a professor at Wayne State University, noted that Ghalib's confirmation chances are in "jeopardy by members of his own political party," and that he was "bleeding support."

Allan Lengel, who has worked with the Detroit News and other publications, said that, since Ghalib switched to siding with President Trump in the 2024 presidential election, "he was com-

ported by the Republican Party – he got swept up on it."

But, judging by the sharp questioning from Republicans who have "kissed the ring of Trump," attorney Bill Seikaly said, makes it "clear, to me, they got approval to do that from Trump ... because they cannot ever come out against Trump."

Seikaly continued: "Trump doesn't support non-white nominees in the same way that he supports his white nominees."

Lengel said that if Ghalib is not confirmed, Trump can still say, "Look, I did what I could, but you're not going to make it."

As for Ghalib's performance under intense questioning, journalist Nancy Derringer said Ghalib "is amazingly unsophisticated, and really underprepared for this."

Lengel, who worked for the Washington Post, agreed, saying "when you go to Washington (D.C) it's a whole other level."

Derringer replied: "It's many levels above."

Khan said it came down to Ghalib having too much "baggage."

He said Dearborn Heights' former mayor, Bill Bazzi, who also is Muslim and also endorsed Trump for president, survived his confirmation hearing to be ambassador to Tunisia without a hint of controversy over past remarks and social media posts – in contrast to Ghalib's hearing.

Bazzi's nomination, Khan said, "pretty much slipped through."

Notice of Public Hearing

City of Hamtramck – Planning Commission

NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Hamtramck Planning Commission will meet on the 2nd Floor Council Chambers of Hamtramck City Hall (3401 Evaline Street, Hamtramck, MI 48212) on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of holding three public hearings and considering the requests pertaining to the following:

The subject of the 1st hearing is Proposed Zoning Amendments:

- Proposed Amendments to the City of Hamtramck Zoning Ordinances
 - To allow shipping containers for pure dry storage in the Multi-Use District (C2).
 - To allow sheds for pure dry storage in the Central Business District (CBD) and the Multi-Use District (C2).
 - Revisions to § 155.111 to include shipping containers and sheds.

The subject of the 2nd hearing is 11667 Joseph Campau, Parcel Number 41 004 01 0476 301:

- Applicant Hakeem Adam is requesting special land use approval of the property for an event hall, subject to subject to §155.185 and §155.187 of the Hamtramck Code of Ordinances. The parcel is zoned within the Central Business District (CBD) per §155.066.

The subject of the 3rd hearing is 1825 Caniff, Parcel Number 41 004 06 0032 301:

- Applicant Gamal Fadhel is requesting rezoning approval to Multi-Use (C2) of the parcel, subject to subject to §155.200 of the Hamtramck Code of Ordinances. The applicant plans to build a gas station and convenience store on the parcel, should it be rezoned. The parcel is zoned within the Residential (R) District per §155.050.

Written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Community & Economic Development Manager via email at mmiszczak@hamtramck. Written comments will be accepted until 12:00 p.m. on December 3, 2025. The City of Hamtramck will provide necessary and reasonable auxiliary aids, and services for individuals with disabilities at the public hearing upon advance notice by writing or by calling the Clerk's Office at 313-800-5233 x821. Please contact the Clerk's office at least 10 days in advance.



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For more information or to register, email WCTOCommunity@WayneCountyMI.gov

Police chief says he never got city's letter firing him

Continued from page 3

investigation into him.

- Violating policies and procedures regarding stolen property.

- Violating other policies and procedures.

Altaheri, through his attorney Amir Makled, blamed his departure from the city on former City Manager Garbarino.

"This entire matter was a circus created by former Hamtramck City Manager Max Garbarino – who has been fired by Hamtramck City Council – when quiet discussions could have sufficed," said Makled.

"We all know that workplace disagreements and misperceptions arise from time-to-time, but Mr. Garbarino chose to make this matter a media spectacle," Makled added.

Garbarino's attorney, Jonathan Marko, responded to Makled's comment, and told The Review that, "The claim that Mr. Garbarino 'created' this situation is ridiculous. This matter began because of Chief Altaheri's own

serious and disturbing conduct and because Mr. Garbarino was required to report that conduct under the law.

"That is what set this in motion and nothing else. Allowing him (Altaheri) to resign on paper does not change why he was removed from authority."

Altaheri recently settled his lawsuit with the city so that it now designates his leaving as a "resignation," and stipulates that he will be paid for five months of work.

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Obituaries

WILLIAMS



Barbara Ann Williams, 79, of Ebensburg, PA, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her three loving daughters, on October 24, 2025.

Born on January 21, 1946, in Detroit, Michigan, Barbara was the daughter of Walter J. Williams Sr. and Helen T. (Lapczynski) Williams. She is preceded in death by her parents, and brother Walter J. Williams Jr.

Barbara is survived by her beloved daughters Eileen (Julius) Thomas, Leila (Tom) Wolfe, and Allison (Richard) Stancombe all of Johnstown, PA; grandchildren Julius Thomas III and Hunter Thomas, Brianna and Annalise Martin, Dalis Wolfe, and Jenna, Ryan, Cassidy and Jorja Stancombe; brother Robert T. Williams, St. Clair Shores, Michigan; sisters Lorraine Kolodziej, Hamtramck, Michigan, Marie (David) Bargiel, Troy, Michigan; several nieces and nephews.

Barbara was a 1964 graduate of St. Ladislaus High School in Hamtramck, Michigan. After graduation, she was employed by the Detroit Tigers Baseball Club as a Professional Secretary.

Barbara's daughters and grandchildren were the most important people in the world to her, and she shared her love and pride in them with everyone she met. "1 Corinthians 13", the Love Chapter, was Barbara's theme in life. She spread God's love everywhere she went,

sharing her infamous God Bless You and Jesus Loves You bookmarks as often as she could. Barbara had an outgoing personality and great sense of humor, making friends and leaving an impression on everyone. She loved to laugh (even at herself), dance, sing, paint, and show her Polish heritage pride. She was the biggest cheerleader for her grandchildren, attending as many sporting events, performances, activities, graduations, ceremonies, and special events as she

could. She made sure they always knew she loved them and was proud of them.

Barbara had a great passion for people, volunteering and helping others in so many ways including The Backpack Project, The Girl Scouts of America, The American Red Cross, Windber Palliative and Hospice Care, Pastoral Ministries, St. Stephen Ministries, and serving as a nurse's aide. Her strength, independence, and faith in the Lord, will continue to be an inspiration to her family and friends. She will be greatly missed.

The family would like to thank Pastor Rob Wolfe of Pleasant Hill Community Church, Johnstown, PA, and Father Brian Warchoła of Holy Name Catholic Church, Ebensburg, PA, who visited and provided comfort and care to her and her daughters

during her hospital and nursing home stay. They would also like to extend a special thanks to the amazing caregivers at UPMC Presbyterian Hospital, Arbutus Park Retirement Community Skilled Nursing Unit, and Cone-maugh Memorial Medical Center Emergency Room and especially Palliative Care Unit, who provided such skilled and compassionate care to not only Barbara, but to the family as well. Her daughters will forever be grateful for their support, as well as the support and love from family and countless friends and loved ones.

At Barbara's request, there will be no public viewing or service. She will be inurned with her mother Helen at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Detroit, Michigan. Arrangements by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home.

From the Office of Wayne County Treasurer Eric R. Sabree



PROBATE ASSISTANCE

If you are facing foreclosure and need assistance in starting a Wayne County Probate Court Case because a property is in the name of a deceased family member, please contact one of the following community partners for assistance:

Michigan Legal Services: 313-774-1527 | 313-725-4890

United Community Housing Coalition: 313-405-7726

Legal Aid & Defender: 313-967-5800

Contact the Wayne County Probate Court by calling:
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Public Hearing - Tuesday, November 18, 2025, 5:30PM Hamtramck Public Library 2360 Caniff St Hamtramck, MI 48212

Notice is hereby given that Public Hearings have been scheduled to consider the following proposals to modify service on the following routes:

- 100 Hamtramck - introduce new route
- 162 Fort Street - introduce new route
- 250 Ford Rd - increase frequency and add Saturday service
- 255 Ford Rd Express - eliminate route
- 261 FAST Michigan - increase frequency
- 305 Grand River - increase service hours
- 430 Main St/Big Beaver - extend route
- 461/462 FAST Woodward - increase frequency
- 494 Dequindre - extend route
- 510 Van Dyke - extend route
- 562 FAST Gratiot WSU - eliminate route
- 563 FAST Gratiot - increase frequency
- 610 Kercheval-Harper - extend route
- 710 Nine Mile - extend service hours
- 750 Wixom - introduce new route
- 796 Perry/Opdyke - eliminate route

