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Hamtramck

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— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Hamtramck Blowout was a weekend of music and fun

By Charles Sercombe

The Hamtramck Blowout weather curse didn't return this year.

That "curse" is usually an end-of-winter blast that manages to make travelling from one performance space to another a challenging obstacle.

But oh, the memories it did create.

Instead of ice and snow to battle, Hamtramck enjoyed a balmy weekend, marred only by a brief period of rain.

But enough about the weather.

Once again, the annual music festival attracted thousands of visitors to the city, and once again it appears the event went off peacefully.

(Strangely enough, there are some high-ranking city officials who had

no idea that it took place or even that the event exists.)

The organizer of the festival, the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival Committee, blasted out a message on social media thanking those who attended and performed.

"Hamtramck has always had a unique music community, and this festival is a celebration of that spirit," the committee said.

We had some help in covering the festival thanks to photographer Jon Sniezek, who graciously allowed us to reproduce some of his images of the revelry.

Until next year, music lovers.

Quick Hits

Happy birthday to Passenger Recovery

By Alan Madlane

Passenger Recovery Community Center is turning 10, and they want you to know it, and to help them celebrate it.

The Center, which utilizes ideals of community, togetherness, arts, music, and more, to help former musicians and others get clean if they've had prior substance issues, has been around for a whole decade already.

More than that, their new radio station, Passenger Radio WHCK, an internet radio station found at passengerradio.com, is celebrating a year of being live on the air.

They're celebrating on Saturday, March 21 from noon until 8 p.m. at the Center, located at 3901 Christopher St., Suite D, Detroit, 48211.

They are next to the Fowling Warehouse, just off of Conant, a bit south of Holbrook. Call them at (313) 288-0062, and they can talk you in if you get lost.

They're also looking to beef up their coffers via an in-person fundraising auction, featuring donated items from various musicians such as Patti Smith, Flogging Molly, Gary Numan, Andrew W. K., Lol Tolhurst, The Sword, and more, plus items donated by Third Man Records, "signature releases" from Detroit's Electronic Music Industry, and other "Hamtramck rarities."

DJs will be spinning all day, there will be free food, a raffle, giveaways, and there will be an exhibition of new, local artworks available for purchase as well in their newly opened Christopher Street Gallery on the first floor of the PRCC.

There will also be a special online auction leading up to the event, so watch for more about that on their website: passengerrecovery.com.

It's all for a worthy cause, so we'll hope to see you out there.



All photos by Jon Sniezek

Mayor accused of interfering in CM search

By Charles Sercombe

It appears the city's newly-hired city manager had a helping hand getting the position.

And that assistance came from Mayor Adam Alharbi, according to emails he sent to the city's director of the Human Resources Department.

The Review obtained emails between Alharbi and the HR Department via a Freedom of Information Act request. The director of Human Resources, Mashana Burton, accused the mayor of trying to steer the hiring of the city manager toward Adel Al-Adlani.

"The only person(s) being interviewed (are) the applicant you like from Dearborn and Alex (Lagrou), who is already interim city manager. Currently, we have 8 applicants with great resumes, and no sub-committee member has reviewed them," Burton said, in one email exchange with Mayor Alharbi.

Alharbi responded, saying: "I think you should stay out of politics and follow the hiring process."

Alharbi defended his role in the selection process, telling The Review that "email chains obtained through FOIA requests can easily be misinterpreted or misunderstood when viewed without the context of the larger, ongoing discussions happening at the time."

In another email, Councilmember Hassan, who chaired a council sub-committee tasked with overseeing the hiring of a city manager, complained about the mayor rushing the interview process, saying on Feb. 4 that the sub-committee had yet to meet.

"Please let the process finish, then we will let the council and mayor call for an interview," Hassan said.

The Review reached out to Hassan for comment, but he did not respond.

Despite that plea from Hassan to slow down, the council voted to hire Al-Adlani just six days later, on Feb. 10.

On Feb. 6, Mayor Alharbi, in an email to Burton, said that the search for a city manager was over, despite having only interviewed one candidate for the job — Al-Adlani.

"We will not be holding additional interviews, as we need to avoid further delays in city business," Alharbi said.

But other interviews did take place, despite what Alharbi initially said.

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2026 Hamtramck Business Directory

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Coming Soon

Mayor accused of interfering in CM search Continued from front page

The city's then interim city manager, Lagrou, was later interviewed. He had been on the job for only a few months.

also eventually interviewed, a night shift superintendent in the New York City Sanitation Department.

Another candidate was The applicant with the

most experience was the city manager of Royal Oak Twp.

That candidate was given a one-day notice to be interviewed, but she was unable to adjust her schedule in time, according to sources.

Alharbi and Al-Adlani have one thing in common that the other candidates didn't have: Both are Yemeni-Americans. None of the other city manager candidates were Yemeni-Americans.

Alharbi told The Review that, while it appeared he was pushing the matter, "my insistence on a robust process might be perceived as stepping over a line, my goal was actually to prevent favoritism toward the incumbent and



Emails that The Review obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request reveal that Mayor Adam Alharbi sped up the hiring process of City Manager Adel Al-Adlani (above).

move away from the status quo. Ultimately, when all candidates sat down at the table, it became clear to everyone involved that Mr. Al-Adlani was the most qualified individual for the job."

The "incumbent" in question was Hamtramck's interim city manager Alex Lagrou, who was apparently favored by the

council sub-committee.

The city whittled down over two dozen applicants for the job to a final four.

Al-Adlani has a doctorate degree in public administration. He came from Dearborn, where he worked for the mayor's administration in the economic development department.

In total, the council spent only six weeks in its

search for a city manager. When it came to a vote before council a few weeks ago, Councilmember Nayeem Choudhury objected to being "rushed" into a decision.

The previous city manager was Max Garbarino, who also had no prior experience being a city manager. He was fired for his handling of the matter of former police chief Jamiel Altaheri.

Altaheri eventually reached an agreement with the city to leave his position voluntarily.

Garbarino has since filed a lawsuit against the city. He is now City Manager and Zoning Administrator for the Village of Lexington, which is located in Sanilac County.

It's Time to Pray, Please Join Us

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

**Sunday, March 15,
Holy Mass 9:00 am
Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Mar 17 – For those on our Prayer List
Holy Mass 7 pm

Mar 18 – Holy Mass 9 am
The Stations of the Cross 7 pm

Mar 19 – Solemnity of St. Joseph,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Holy Mass 9 am

Mar 14 – Take-out only Soup Kitchen
2-4 pm Everyone Welcome!



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The following vehicles will be sold as-is:

2012	Mercedes-Benz E-Class White	WDDHF8JB0CA576739
1988	Lincoln Mark VII Black	1LNBM93EXJY805706
2008	Cadillac DTS Black	1G6KD57Y58U197180
2020	Dodge Journey Gray	3C4PDCAB7LT262495
2010	Honda Accord Crosstour	5J6TF2H53AL002245
2020	HD Road King Base	1HD1FBC17LB605515
2011	Jeep Grand Cherokee Brown	1J4RR4GG0BC515339
2016	Chrysler 200 Gray	1C3CCCDG5GN147932
2016	Freightliner Cascadia	3AKJGBDV8GDGY4228
2018	Ford Escape	1FMCU0GDJUC47042
2022	Jeep Wrangler Unlimited	1C4HJXDG5NW140520
2011	Chevrolet Cruze	1G1PG5S90B7254183
2023	Seadoo Spark Blue	YDVB1169F323
2007	Chrysler Aspen	1A8HW582X7F516452
2018	Nissan Altima	1N4AL3AP6JC159958
2012	Ford Focus Red	1FAHP3M22CL221894
2019	Ford Escape	1FMCU0HD9KUA39976

All sales are final. For more information, please call
313-388-9200.



City Hall Insider ...

What is our City Council up to these days?

We have the highlights of the latest council meeting.

By Charles Sercombe

The city council met on Jan. 27, and all councilmembers, except for Muh-tasin Sadman, were in attendance.

Timothy Price of the city's Arts & Culture Commission said the commission has taken on a request by Mayor Adam Alharbi to oversee a new design of the city's logo/seal.

Price said the commission is seeking public input.

The Downtown Development Authority submitted its annual report. The DDA gave a recap of developments in 2025.

"As members of the com-

munity will have noticed, improving the physical space along the Joseph Campau corridor has been a top priority of the DDA over the past few years.

"Where 2024 saw replacements of the old banners lining the streets, the accelerated pace of improvements in 2025 included upgrades to holiday décor, more consistently maintained planter boxes and new hanging flower baskets. This winter,

as snow falls have been heavier than in recent years, the DDA and City are collaborating to provide a more robust snow removal and salting service along Joseph Campau. ...

"Additionally, in 2025, the DDA's Discover Hamtramck social media campaign continued to serve as an effective voice across and beyond Hamtramck's two square miles.

"Whether through promoting the Hamtramck

Night Bazaar, advertising the new Hamtramck Amanah Financing program, or highlighting specific local businesses, the reach of Discover Hamtramck remains a major benefit to our local business and Downtown community. As is the Hamtramck Night Bazaar, the much-loved DDA-sponsored event, which completed its first full season in 2025 and drew thousands of visitors to the City."

During public comment, a resident emailed their opposition to a proposal to allow property owners

Continued on page 3



Oakland International Academy Legal Notice of Open Enrollment

Oakland International Academy is a nonprofit, no-tuition, Michigan public school academy (charter school) offering grades K-12. Please stop by the Academy's middle school location at 8228 Conant St Detroit, MI (<http://oiacademy.net/>) or contact the Academy's office by phone at: (313) 925-1000 if you are interested in seeking enrollment or information about the Academy. Select weekend dates and evenings are available during the open enrollment window.

Re-enrollment for current students and their siblings is from March 2, 2026 through March 13, 2026.

Open enrollment for all new students is from March 16, 2026 through April 10, 2026. Current students and siblings may also apply during open enrollment but will not receive preference based on current enrollment or being a sibling of a current student. If any grade receives applications that exceed class limits, a lottery will be held Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 4:00 pm, at the Academy's Middle school library. The Academy cannot enroll any student who is not a resident of this state, except a foreign student who is not a United States citizen. The Academy is an equal opportunity public educational institution and does not discriminate based on intellect/measures of achievement, race, sex, religion, national origin, and shall comply with all state and federal civil rights laws.



Caniff Liberty Academy

Legal Notice of Open Enrollment

Caniff Liberty Academy is a nonprofit, no-tuition, Michigan public school academy (charter school). Please stop by the Academy at 2650 Caniff Street, Hamtramck, MI (<http://www.canifflibertyacademy.com>) or contact the Academy's office by phone at: (313) 872-2000 if you are interested in seeking enrollment or information about the Academy. Select weekend dates and evenings are available during the open enrollment window. Open enrollment begins March 2, 2026, for current students and their siblings and March 16 – April 10, 2026 for all new students. Current students and siblings may also apply during this window but will not receive preference based on current enrollment or being a sibling of a current student. Should any grade receive applications that exceed class limits a lottery will be held Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 4:00 pm, at the Academy's school library. The Academy cannot enroll any student who is not a resident of this state, except a foreign student who is not a United States citizen. The Academy is an equal opportunity public educational institution and does not discriminate based on intellect/measures of achievement, race, sex, religion, national origin, and shall comply with all state and federal civil rights laws.

This week at the Library . . .

March 13, 2026

Medicare: A team from Priority Health will conduct a meeting answering questions about Medicare options. The next presentation will take place on Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 2:15 pm.

Patrick Henry: On March 23, 1775, he ignited the American Revolution with a speech before the Virginia convention in Richmond, Stating, "I know not what cause others may take, but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death".

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.

Philippine Islands: On March 24, 1934 these South Pacific islands were granted independence by President Franklin D. Roosevelt after nearly 50 years of American control.

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

Exxon Valdez: On March 24, 1989 one of the largest oil spills in U.S. history occurred as this oil tanker ran aground on Prince William Sound off Alaska, resulting in 11 million gallons of oil leaking into the natural habitat over a stretch of 45 miles.

ESL Classes: These classes are held Monday to Thursday at 9 am and 12

noon. To participate, you must register with the Horizon School.

Camp David Accord: On March 26, 1979, this ended 30 years of warfare between Israel and Egypt. Prime minister Menachem Begin of Israel and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat signed the treaty of mutual recognition and peace, fostered by U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

LOTE4Kids: This collection of over 2000 digital books in 50+ languages can be accessed by you anytime from your computer or other smart devices. All this is free with the use of your library card. They even have stories in ASL. Find a link to this awesome resource for kids on our website www.hamtramck.lib.mi.us under the eResources tab.

OverDrive: What more can your library card get you? How about OverDrive's enormous collection of digital materials. Whether searching overdrive.com or using their Libby App, you will have quite the selection of ebooks, online periodicals and audio books to pick from. Plus, Kanopy, with its smorgasbord of foreign and classic films, documentaries, and educational series, is now under the OverDrive umbrella. Find links to both of these media repositories on our website www.hamtramck.lib.mi.us.

Kanopy: Have you watched absolutely everything on your streaming services and are still in need of thoughtful entertainment? Give Kanopy a try.

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

After decades of asking for help, state is stepping in

Hamtramck's main business district on Jos. Campau has been struggling for decades.

The glory days of the district ended in the 1970s, with the 1980s seeing the fading away of most of those businesses that had still managed to hang on.

Consumers had fled to suburban malls – leaving Hamtramck's business district mostly just a memory.

Since its heyday, there have been a few brave entrepreneurs who have attempted to breathe some life back into what was once

known as Hamtramck's jewel.

Now, after decades of the city seeking help, the state is stepping in and offering assistance. It's not a total cure for the district's ills, but it's a start.

We applaud the city's Community Economic Development Department for bringing the state to the table. And, we thank the state for finally hearing our S.O.S. after these many years.

We don't expect a miracle turnaround, but, with the state willing to give some businesses a financial boost, well,

it's a start.

Also – in every government program, there is a certain amount of red tape.

For business owners, there will still be some cumbersome paperwork to fill out – typical of any state program – and there will be a requirement to use your own money upfront, with reimbursement coming after your project is completed.

Look at this as a beginning – one which may lead to more state assistance down the road.

And, for that, we are thankful.



City Hall Insider ...

Continued from page 2

to install shipping containers and large sheds to be used for dry storage.

The council later approved the proposal.

In another email, a resident said there is an "urgent need for improved snow removal" in the city.

The resident said other cities are more aggressive in clearing streets when it snows, and this need should take priority over the council's attention being focused on approving honorary street names.

"Currently, streets remain difficult and unsafe to use," said the resident.

Interim City Manager Alex Lagrou said the city's Public Works Department has been "working relentlessly to get this (snow removal) all done."

Hassan Aoun of Garden City said he is in favor of a proposal to hire Hussein Farhat as police chief for Hamtramck.

"He will engage with everyone in Hamtramck, no matter your race, your ethnicity, your religion, or your neighborhood because he does not discriminate," Aoun said.

"He treats people equally, and focuses on doing the job right," Aoun added.

Later in the meeting, the council hired Farhat as acting police chief.

During that council discussion, interim City Manager Lagrou praised Farhat, who is retired from

the Romulus Police Department, and is the former police chief of Dearborn Heights.

"I don't think I've met anybody who could be more qualified for this job," Lagrou said.

Farhat said he is honored to be offered the job.

"Hamtramck is a unique and diverse city, and serving this community – especially in this leadership role – is something I do not take lightly," Farhat said.

"I am here not to cause chaos. I am here to run this Police Department efficiently."

Councilmember Yousef Saed took issue with his hiring, particularly with Farhat serving as "acting" police chief.

"Calling this 'Acting' just sends a mixed message," Saed said.

He accused Lagrou of trying to "sneak in" Farhat's appointment by designating the position as "Acting Police Chief."

Saed also questioned why the city is hiring someone from outside the department. He was the sole vote against the appointment.

Continuing on in public comment, Naji Chowdhury urged the city not to cooperate with ICE agents and their round-up of suspected illegal immigrants.

He said city officials need to "calm" the fears some residents have about ICE.

Choudhury also said the city needs to do something about high property taxes "before people are forced to leave Hamtramck."

Ibrahim Aljahim said he has noticed that a number of city commission members don't live in the city. And he said that some commission members have attacked the mayor and some candidates.

"They should live in the city," he said.

Aljahim also said that the state attorney general and Hamtramck Police Department are working against current elected officials.

He added: "This is not a joke."

Bill Meyer said he "celebrates" a proposal to rename the Human Relations Commission as the Unity Commission.

He also said that Hamtramck was once dominated by a "white power structure." Meyer said that he has worked to "even things out so that everybody could be treated equally, but it was a big struggle."

Meyer said the city now has an administration that is "willing to open jobs for everybody – not because of your color."

In new business, the council honored Gary Gillette for his "sustained and instrumental efforts in preserving, restoring, and securing historic designation for Hamtramck Stadium."

In the council's resolution honoring Gillette, it said:

Continued on page 5

Odds & Ends

Siren call ... Highland Park "activists" have set up an emergency alarm system to warn residents when immigration enforcement is underway in their city.

We're not sure who these activists are, but their preventative actions might be something folks here in Hamtramck want to consider tapping into – since this is a city of immigrants.

Those who set up the alarm system are advising residents to take shelter when they hear the alarms, and stay off the streets until all is clear.

Clothing swap ... Most of us have way too many clothes, and also way too many clothes we no longer wear.

Time to pass those extra shirts, pants, socks, underwear, skirts, shoes – and whatever you have stuffed in your closet – onto someone in need.

Stepping up to help you unload your inventory (and make sure our less-fortunate neighbors have something to wear), the Hamtramck Parks

Conservancy is holding a clothing swap on April 26, from noon to 3 p.m.

The location will be in Veterans Park, at 3201 Dan St.

Here's what the Conservancy has to say:

"Bring items that no longer excite you, and refresh your wardrobe. Contribute to a circular economy – where we reject fast fashion, and help keep usable clothing out of landfills. Please only bring clothing that is clean and with life still in it (no holes or stains please)."

"We are excited to partner with Hamtramck Mutual Aid. Look forward to announcements here for additional partners and instructions!"

Reminder ... The Hamtramck 31st District Court is once again looking to give folks a financial break.

This time, it's an amnesty for overdue parking tickets, civil infraction tickets, and disposed misdemeanor cases.

Driver license clearance fees will not be waived

or discounted, so if you need to have your license reinstated, there will still be the normal charges.

The grace period begins this coming Monday, March 2, and runs through Friday, May 29, 2026.

The court paints it as a win-win in its press release: It allows people to clear their outstanding cases, and save some money while doing so, and it also helps the courts by clearing out a lot of the backlog of open or stalled cases.

Payments can be made in person at the court, on the third floor of City Hall at 3401 Evaline, Mondays-Fridays from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Call (313) 800-5248 first to make sure they're open.

Alternately, you could elect to pay online. It is recommended, if you do, that you contact the court administrator by phone first, at (313) 800-5248. They can look up your exact due balance to let you know how much to bring with you, after the amnesty discount is figured into it.

Other Voices: Guest Editorial

The Power of Diversity; How Hamtramck stands out in a crowd

By Aida Mandic

I grew up in Hamtramck. I spent my childhood pitching balls in Pulaski Park. I loved to haphazardly rollerblade down the streets of Joseph Campau, Norwalk, Edwin, Conant, and Com-

mor. My friends hailed from all over the entire world. One moment, I would talk to my girls from Bangladesh, Yemen, Poland, Albania, and Macedonia and the next moment I would find myself conversing with my boys from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Senegal, Pakistan, India, and Mozambique. I would eat bits of cevapi, samosas, paczki, Polish kielbasas, curry, French fries, turmeric, and tacos over the course of a day.

The entire planet seemed to be packed into two square miles. Every single day felt like a walk through an airport. A multitude of nations, cultures, religions, and eth-

nicities surrounded me at every corner. It was a truly magical upbringing and I treasure it dearly.

I was born in Bosnia and Herzegovina. My family escaped the Bosnian Genocide in order to find a place that would accept us and provide us with the opportunity to live in peace among our neighbors.

Before we relocated to Hamtramck, Michigan, my mother and I lived in Croatia, a refugee camp in the Czech Republic, and in Paris, France. I was reunited with my father at the age of four in Malaysia.

He was shot in his leg by a Serbian Chetnik sniper and narrowly evaded death. Since my father had to have extensive surgical operations performed on his leg, he stayed behind in Bosnia. He helped to arrange an emergency escape through the Children's Embassy in Sarajevo (the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina)

convoy for my mother and I. There were only women and children onboard. The convoy was not shot at by the Serbian Chetnik snipers. We did not have any direct contact with them. We were exceptionally lucky.

It's important to have access to different ideas, attitudes, lifestyles, and perspectives. They are valuable assets that can effectively guide one through their life journey.

Formidable and clever problem-solving techniques can be learned when one has awareness of multiple possibilities. Hamtramck is truly a unique city.

It is the only Muslim-majority city in the United States of America. It is the first city to have a Muslim-majority city council in the history of the United States. It is also the first city in the USA with an all-Muslim city council.

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Editor-in-Chief - Sarah Leach, Sarah@BuriedLedeMedia.com

Editor: Charles Sercombe

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Sales Manager: Dave Sweet

Copy Editor: Alan Madlane

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3/13

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Place an Ad in The Review Today
Call
(313) 874-2100

March 13 2026

Hamtramck Public TV-19

Broadcasting on Comcast Channel 19 in Hamtramck area and YouTube Live world wide (Hamtramck Library Channel)

What's on this coming week?

- Islamic Iftar observance program
- Sky Covington Jazz Concert at the Library
- HHS Hall of Fame Basketball star, Rudy Tomjanovich
- Historic Iftar during Ramadan,
- Information of the Enterprise Zone info session
- Presentations by Piast Institute and Passenger Recovery and more

BECOME A LOCAL REPORTER: If you know how to take photos or make film clips on your phone, you can download them to Hamtramck TV along with a news story, to be aired the same day. Send in event announcements, comments to city officials, facts you want to share with the community, etc.

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", and click on link "Hamtramck Public TV"; Or go to YouTube; Hamtramck Public TV; Hamtramck Public Library; Videos, or Live

To place community announcement call the Library at 313-733-6822
Or email: HamtramckTV@gmail.com
Announcements submitted by 10 am
Will go on air the same day (evening)
To upload video files go to bit.ly/hamtramcktv

CRIME LOG

By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers March 3-9.

Tuesday, March 3

- A vehicle was reported stolen on Yemans.
- Suspicious incidents were reported on Dequindre and on Danforth.
- A break-in was reported in the 12000 block of Dyar.
- A weapons violation was reported in the 11400 block of Jos. Campau.
- Disorderly juveniles were reported in the 2300 block of Faber.

Wednesday, March 4

- A stolen license plate was reported in the 5100 block of Yemans.
- Trespassing was reported on Dyar.

Thursday, March 5

- A break-in was reported in the 3400 block of Carpenter.
- A domestic fight was reported in the 2600 block of Whalen.
- A complaint was made about an animal on Conant.
- A theft was reported in the area of the 9600 block of Conant.
- An incident of fraud was reported in the 11400 block of Charest.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 2700 block of Caniff.

Friday, March 6

- Property damage was reported in the 11500 block of Jos. Campau.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 12000 block of Grand Haven.
- A suspicious incident was reported in the 11600 block of Jos. Campau.

Saturday, March 7

- A fight was reported in the 9400 block of Jos. Campau.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the area of Jos. Campau and Norwalk.
- A gunshot victim was reported in the 2200 block of Yemans.

Sunday, March 8

- A hit-and-run accident happened in the area of St. Aubin and Holbrook.
- A complaint was made about noise in the 2300 block of Yemans. Noise complaints were also reported in the 2900 block of Caniff and in the 2600 block of Norwalk.
- A hit-and-run accident happened on Jos. Campau, and another on Fleming.
- A business on Conant reported a disorderly customer.
- A suspect was arrested for property damage in the 11400 block of Sobieski.
- Family trouble was reported in the 5100 block of Yemans.
- Illegal dumping was reported in the 9400 block of McDougall.
- A person was reported missing in the 11400 block of Gallagher.
- An assault was reported in the 12000 block of Selfridge.

Monday, March 9

- Officers, responding to a break-in on Commor, arrested four juveniles.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 2400 block of Botsford.
- An attempted vehicle theft was reported in the 2300 block of Commor.
- A juvenile was cited for a curfew violation.
- A complaint was made about disorderly people in the 9700 block of Jos. Campau.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 9100 block of Jos. Campau.
- A vehicle was reported stolen in the 2400 block of Holbrook.
- A complaint was made about noise in the 2200 block of Bernard.
- A vehicle was reported stolen in the 2700 block of Trowbridge.
- A domestic dispute was reported in the 12000 block of Selfridge.

Coming Events

SATURDAY, March 14, 2-4 P.M., Take-out only Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. Everyone is welcome! (Please come in person to pick up your meal.)

The Power of Diversity; How Hamtramck stands out in a crowd

Continued from page 3

Hamtramck has represented every religion. In two square miles, you can see a mosque, church, and Buddhist temple. You can pay your respects at the Beth Olem Cemetery (the oldest Jewish cemetery in Michigan). Hamtramck is multicultural, multi-religious, and multinational. It has a rich history that deserves to be celebrated. It accepts anyone from anywhere with open arms.

Chances are that, no matter where you are

from, you will find at least one person in Hamtramck that has your nationality and cultural background.

I think that Hamtramck is a crucial testament to the incalculable resilience of immigrants and refugees. It represents their indomitable spirit and unrelenting desire to conquer whichever obstacles life may send their way. Hamtramck is a hidden gem that makes the leaders of tomorrow!

(Aida Mandic is a Detroit-area author.)

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City Hall Insider ...

Continued from page 3

“In 2008, Gary Gillette identified discrepancies in published historical sources regarding the history and location of Hamtramck Stadium. Through his research, he discovered that the original stadium structure remained intact, despite reports that it had been demolished and replaced by Keyworth Stadium.

“Beginning in 2009, Mr. Gillette worked to correct the historical record. In 2010, following public discussion and an editorial in *The Hamtramck Review* calling for demolition of the stadium’s grandstands, he met with the Mayor and addressed the Hamtramck City Council regarding the site’s historic significance and its potential eligibility for federal preservation funding.

“In 2011, Mr. Gillette, together with professional preservationist Rebecca Binno Savage, conducted extensive historical research to support an application to the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). In 2012, Mr. Gillette presented the findings in Lansing, resulting in Hamtramck Stadium being approved as a State of Michigan Historic Site.

“Following SHPO’s recommendation, the National Park Service approved Hamtramck Stadium for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, after which Mr. Gil-

lette formed the nonprofit organization Friends of Historic Hamtramck Stadium to support preservation efforts.

“Subsequent milestones included approval of a state historical marker in 2014; securing a \$50,000 National Park Service African American Civil Rights Grant in 2016 in partnership with then-City Planner Melanie Markowicz; a successful 2019 fundraising effort that raised \$115,000; and collaboration with Wayne County to secure \$409,000 in funding from the Detroit Tigers Foundation.

“In 2022, the stadium restoration construction project, managed by Wayne County, was completed, ensuring the long-term preservation of this nationally significant historic and cultural landmark.”

The council then approved accepting a \$100,000 grant from the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The funding will be used to create a fitness station in Veterans Park.

Tom Habitz, the executive director of the Hamtramck Parks Conservancy, which oversees management and development in the park, said: “It’s going to be great for aerobics classes. ... We don’t have a thing like it in Hamtramck.”

The council also approved a \$108,699 grant

from the Council of Michigan Foundations.

The money is part of a \$1 million project connected with the “Campau Cut.”

That project, according to a note to council, “will allow for the installation of traffic calming measures, pedestrian amenities, and public art that prioritizes safety for pedestrians.”

That funding will convert nine blocks of a Jos. Campau alley to be pedestrian friendly, and transform the alley in order “for people to walk or slowly

ride bikes. The city plans to incorporate public art into the redesign, either on building murals or on street art installed directly on the alley itself.

“At several spots there is potential for green infrastructure design, which will add natural elements to the alley that it is currently lacking. The green infrastructure will help collect storm water runoff while also providing shade and the extra benefit of wildlife attraction.

“The project will also install ‘BICYCLES MAY USE FULL LANE’ signs

along Joseph Campau, which runs parallel to the alley. This will provide fast cyclists or bike commuters with the opportunity to continue onto Joseph Campau, allowing slower pedestrian traffic.”

In round two of public comment, Ibrahim Aljahim spoke, saying that he used to work for a “school department, and that we have a lot of mental illness in our community.”

(Aljahim was once employed by Oakland International Academy. In 2024, he pleaded guilty to a second degree sexual as-

sault charge involving an 18-year-old mentally disabled male.)

Aljahim, a Yemeni-American, continued: “I can tell you every Yemeni family – I don’t know about the Bengali – has a son or daughter that has mental illness, and I’ll say it very loudly.”

He said the police department needs to be trained on how to deal with those with mental illness.

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

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, April 1, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of holding a public hearing and considering the request pertaining to the following:

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

- Proposed Amendments to the City of Hamtramck Zoning Ordinances
 - Revisions to § 155.050 to increase the maximum height limit from 35 feet to 40 feet (Residential District).
 - Addition of new “Light-Industrial” zoning

Written comments may be submitted to the Assistant Community & Economic Development Manager via email at mmiszczak@hamtramckcity.gov. Written comments will be accepted until 12:00 p.m. on April 1, 2026. 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.

Notice of Public Hearing

City of Hamtramck – City Council

The City of Hamtramck City Council will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 7:00pm. The meeting will be held at Hamtramck City Hall, 3401 Evaline St, Hamtramck, Michigan 48212. The public is invited to attend and comment at the public hearing or to make written comments before the date of the hearing. Written comments should be made to the attention of Omar Thabet at othabet@hamtramckcity.gov before 12:00 p.m. on April 14, 2026.

The subject of the public hearing is: Amendments to ordinance Chapters 31 and 32 of the Hamtramck Code of Ordinance to formally codify the administrative reorganization, placing Code Enforcement and the Building Department as divisions of the Community and Economic Development.

This second reading and public hearing is contingent upon City’ Council’s approval of the 1st reading on March 24, 2026.

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.

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Replace faucets older than 2014.



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Construction Manager: Frank Rewold and Sons Inc.
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Estimator: Nick Vestevich
(248) 229-8232
nvestevich@frankrewold.com
Questions addressed ONLY to Nick Vestevich

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<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/v0ize5v2hfojufivgnzk8/ALeEZ0o1ACrbq0rcUr0guKA?rlkey=09l3seai7dhgheap4f6dy8qon&st=bt90ldp5&dl=0>
Bid documents will be available on or after March 17, 2026

Mandatory Prebid Walk-Through: **10:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 24, 2026** – Meet at Hamtramck High School 11410 Charest St. Hamtramck, MI. Meet at the main entrance. After Hamtramck High School, the pre-bid walk through will proceed to Kosciuszko Middle School and Horizon High School.

Bid Due Date: **2:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 31, 2026**
Bids will only be accepted on forms provided. Proposal forms must be in a sealed envelope, mailed or delivered in person prior by 2:00 p.m. EST on the due date to:

Attn: Bruce Coltman, Hamtramck Public Schools
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Prevailing Wage Rates: Not applicable.

Bid Bond: 5% bid security required. Bid bonds are required, however, certified or cashier checks are acceptable for bids under \$50,000.

Nonexempt: This project is not tax exempt for state sales tax and/or use tax. All materials and supplies incorporated and used in construction and becoming a permanent part of this project will not be exempt from state sales tax and/or tax

Disclosure Statements: Each bid proposal must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between owner or any employee of bidder and any member of board of education or superintendent of Hamtramck Public Schools. Each bid proposal must also include a signed Iran Economic Sanctions Affidavit. The board of education will not accept a bid proposal that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement or the Iran Economic Sanctions.

Crime watch ... Car theft crime ring busted in late-night patrols

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck's Police Department has busted a ring of suspects who have been stealing items from vehicles, and, in some cases, the cars themselves.

And they are teenagers from next-door Detroit and Highland Park.

The Hamtramck Police Department issued a press release on Wednesday, explaining what had happened.

The break in this crime wave started in the early morning hours on March 8, when officers responded to a call from the 2400 block of Commor about a possible break-in. While searching the area, officers spotted a stolen vehicle from which four suspects then fled on foot.

Officers were able to catch all of them, and the teens were taken to the Wayne County Juvenile Detention facility. Their parents were also issued tickets for the teens' cur-

few violations.

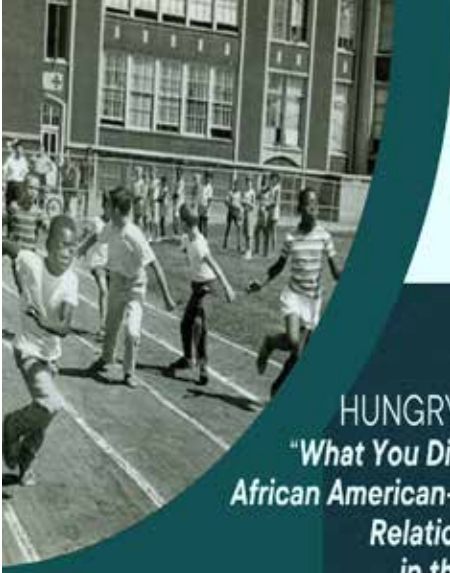
Two days later, on March 10 at about 5 a.m., officers checked out a report of suspects breaking into vehicles in the area of Lumpkin and Edwin.

Once again, officers located a stolen vehicle being driven by the suspects, and once again there was a foot chase.

Only one suspect was apprehended, a 14-year-old from Detroit, who was taken to the county juvenile jail.

In the police department's press release, it said that, going forward, there will be a "zero-tolerance approach toward curfew violations and criminal activity in order to ensure the safety and security of the community."

The department has also stepped up patrols. In the meantime, residents are encouraged to report any suspicious activity by calling 911.



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From the Office of Wayne County Treasurer Eric R. Sabree

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