

The Review

Hamtramck

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Spring Forward

Daylight Savings Time Begins March 8th



Quick Hits

State calls for students to enter election contest

By Charles Sercombe

School students may not be old enough to vote, but they can participate in the upcoming November election.

How's that?

Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson is once again inviting students to enter the "I Voted" sticker contest.

The contest proved to be popular in 2024, with Benson calling it a "massive success."

"This year, we look forward to seeing the creative ways Michiganders of all ages celebrate democracy. Submit your entry to help us continue the tradition and get voters excited to cast their ballot this fall," she said.

Secretary Benson laid out the rules: "Michiganders who wish to enter the contest must select one category, and can submit one design. The categories are elementary/middle school (grades K-8), high school (grades 9-12), and general entry (open to Michigan residents of all ages)."

Entries are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 1. Designs must be non-partisan, completed on an official entry form available at Michigan.gov/IVotedSticker, and must include the phrase "I Voted." Artwork must be original, not AI-generated, and must not contain copyrighted or trademarked designs.

The public will have the opportunity to vote for finalists online throughout the month of June. Winners will be announced later in the summer, and will receive special recognition from the MDOS. The winning sticker designs will be provided to local election clerks for the November Election, to give out to voters in their jurisdictions.

In 2024, the state received over 480 submissions for the sticker contest.

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

State agrees to help boost business on Jos. Campau in special program

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck businesses in the heart of the city's business district will be getting a helping hand from the state.

This week, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced that Hamtramck's is one of 22 business districts in the state to be a part of the Select Level Michigan Main Street Program.

The program offers five years of "assistance revitalization strategies designed to generate activity through new retail businesses and events, fostering pride in this culturally diverse and historically significant Southeast Michigan community," according to a press release.

Hamtramck Community Economic Development Manager Isabel Allaway said she has been working to be a part of this program "for years."

"Through the leadership of our DDA and city, we will fully leverage this opportunity to usher in a new era of investment, beautification, and long-term stability – building on the current momentum in our downtown," Allaway said.

"Hamtramck is a place known for giving newcomers to Michigan and the



The state is now offering a helping hand to boost Hamtramck's main business district on Jos. Campau, and it will commit to assisting the city for five years in developing the district.

U.S. their start, and that spirit positions us to turn challenges into opportunities through innovation and education. The Select designation provides critical support to help the seeds we've already planted grow..."

The program will focus on the Jos. Campau business district between Holbrook and Caniff.

Allaway said there is currently a 20-percent vacancy in storefronts in the area, "which is too high."

"A healthy rate is 5 percent," she added.

Hamtramck's Downtown Development Authority, which is supported by property taxes, and focu-

ses on the business district in the entire stretch of Jos. Campau from Carpenter to Hamtramck Dr., will also play a part in helping shape strategy in revitalizing the district.

Milo Madole, board chairman for the DDA, said the Jos. Campau district is a prime candidate for the state program.

"It's one of those few quintessentially American streets that has remained true to its roots," said Madole.

"Through several stormy decades of shaky public finances and intermittently encroaching blight, Hamtramck's historic core rode the waves and

served as a continual source of employment, recreation, and pride for the community. ..."

The state said the program has proven to be "a catalyst for job growth, private investment and community engagement."

Money-wise, Allaway said her goal is to get at least two businesses to qualify for \$50,000 grants that could be used for any number of things, including renovation or façade improvement, among a list of options.

Hamtramck's Jos. Campau business district had its heyday in the 1940s through the 1960s, when it was bustling with

Continued on page 2

City clerk fired over punching bag

By Charles Sercombe

Following a rocky November election marred by accusations of illegal ballot harvesting, a mayoral recount and 37 uncoun- ted absentee ballots, City Clerk Rana Faraj is now out of a job.

But none of those matters had much to do with her termination by the city. Instead, it was largely



Former City Clerk Rana (nee Faraj) Allen.

about a punching bag that sported a photograph of mayoral candidate Muhith Mahmood that was found in her office.

Mahmood, who is waiting for the state court of appeals to decide on the fate on the uncoun- ted 37 ballots, said he was outraged over the punching bag.

"How would you feel?" Mahmood told The Review. "It's a hate crime."

To the city, it was "in- appropriate," and they determined that, as city clerk, she failed to perform her job "in a professional and impartial manner," according to Faraj's termination letter, dated Feb. 5 and issued by former Interim City Manager Alex Lagrou that The Review obtained through a Freedom of In- formation Act request.

There was no explanation provided about why the punching bag was in her office, or what caused the apparent animosity between Mahmood and the clerk's office.

The letter went on to say: "Failing to remove the punching bag and/or discipline the staff member who affixed the photograph demonstrates a dereliction of your duties and (raises) concerns regarding your judgment and ability to manage."

Faraj, whose married name is now Rana Allen, had already been placed on paid suspension after the election.

The Review reached out to Faraj for comment, but she had not responded by the time The Review went to press on Thursday.

Faraj filed a lawsuit against the city while on paid

Continued on page 2

This weekend, prepare yourself for a musical 'Blowout'



Music will be in the air this weekend with the return of the Hamtramck Blowout that includes performances in over a dozen local venues.

By Alan Madlane

The Blowout is upon us. Now, while that rather generic appellation could be referring to anything from a Detroit City Football Club laugh- er of a win to a bad night after too many coney dogs and booze, what it actually refers to is Hamtramck's own DIY music-mania celebration.

Once propped up by the Metro Times, nowadays, the little music festival that could appears to be operating only on guile, volunteerism and good

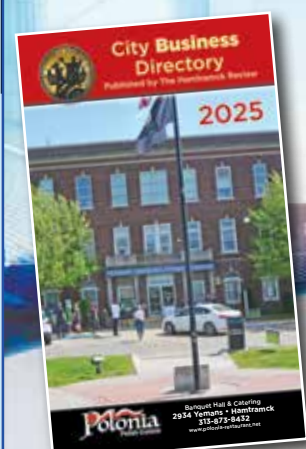
old Detroit grit.

And that just might be enough – again.

In this version of "Hamtramck vs. Everybody," we see all the usual suspect bars lining up once more to provide weekend homes to the numerous acts that come out of the woodwork to entertain you, the great unwashed masses.

Only three bars kicked it off last night, Thursday, March 5: Paris Bar, The Outer Limits Bar, and the P.L.A.V. Post 10.

Continued on page 2



2026 Hamtramck Business Directory

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**Mar 11 – The Bitter
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**Mar 14 – Take-out only Soup
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313-365-0218 www.HolyCrossPNCC.com

This weekend, prepare yourself for a musical 'Blowout'

Continued from front page

That's it for Paris Bar for the weekend, but the other two join in Friday and Saturday, March 6-7, with another dozen and more places to keep it "Right 'round baby, right 'round, like a record. ..."

Let's start with two all-ages venues that are free – that's right, you heard right, FREE – Book Suey and Café 1923. Two others are also All-Ages, but don't mention being free, and those are CoffeeTRON and Henrietta-Haus.

In general, these locations begin their shows earlier than their pay-for counterparts; in one case (Café 1923, Saturday), as early as 4:15 p.m.

Beyond that, you have the following 21-plus locales for both nights (except for The Strays, formerly New Dodge Lounge, Saturday only): Bumbo's; Florian East; Ghost Light Lounge; Kelly's Bar; The Outer Limits Lounge; P.L.A.V. Post 10; The Painted Lady; the Polish Sea League; Polka Dot Bar;

Small's; and Whiskey in the Jar.

The schedule is too dense to replicate in this article, but you can do what we did and just go to hamtramckblowout.com, scroll down a tad to the Thursday schedule, and hit the "View Full Schedule" blue elliptical button to unlock it.

Best of all: it's an incredible bargain for a music lover. If you go to hamtramckblowout.com, click on the "Wristbands" button toward the upper right,

and, on that page, click on the "Buy Wristbands" button, you can score 'em for a mere double saw-buck each (that's \$20).

Twenty bucks for access to any and all venues, all three days.

Now, that's blowing it out.

You can also buy individual ones for a given bar on a given night for \$10, if you just need a taste.

Point being: You should go.

SUPPORT OUR FOOD PANTRY

Our Pantry Program is a testament to our community's strength and resilience. Together, we can help our community members in finding their path towards stability and self-sufficiency.

FOOD ITEMS NEEDED:

- Canned tuna
- Peanut butter
- Fresh fruits and vegetables (share your garden surplus)
- Water
- Pantry staples: oil, salt, spices, flour, sugar

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- Monday- 10am-1pm
- Tuesday, Thursday and Friday- 9am-4pm
- Saturday - 9am-12pm

Drop off location:

9540 Conant St.
Hamtramck MI, 48212
Phone: 313-871-7443



City clerk fired over punching bag

Continued from front page

suspension, and she is seeking \$5 million in damages.

The city's decision to fire Faraj (Allen) was made after an internal investigation by the law firm Miller Johnson, who interviewed her and others connected with the November election.

As for the uncounted absentee ballots, they were discovered after the election. Wayne County election officials refused

a request by Mahmood to count the ballots because they had been left unattended and therefore could have been tampered with.

Mahmood appealed that decision to the Wayne County Circuit Court, where a judge sided with Wayne County election officials.

Mahmood then requested the state supreme court to hear his appeal, but that court first bounced the case back

down to the state court of appeals, which is now considering the matter.

Hamtramck has posted a job seeking a new city clerk. The position pays

\$90,000 a year. For more information on how to apply, go to the city's website at: hamtramckcity.gov.

State agrees to help boost business on Jos. Campau in special program

Continued from front page

shoppers. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, however, the district experienced instability and the closures of many longstanding businesses.

Mayoral and city council candidates have long run on campaigns to revitalize the business district – none of which ever came to fruition.

Gov. Whitmer said the aim of the Michigan Main Street Program is "to create jobs, grow small businesses, and make our communities vibrant places to live, work, and play."



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This week at the Library . . .

March 6, 2026

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.

Salvation Army: This organization was founded in the United States on March 10, 1880. The social service institution was first started in England by William Booth and operates today in 90 countries.

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

Great Blizzard: On March 12, 1888 this blizzard struck the northeastern U.S. The storm lasted 36 hours with snowfall totaling over 40 inches in New York City where over 400 people died from the surprise storm.

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.

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

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.

Salvation Army: It was founded on March 10, 1880, in England by William Booth and now operated in 90 countries.

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. Dive into the humongous collection of critically acclaimed films both foreign and domestic, as well as documentaries and educational series that Kanopy has on offer. Stream titles anywhere on your personal smart device for free after signing up with your library card info. Find a link to this awesome resource on our website www.hamtramck.lib.mi.us by checking under the eResources tab.

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

SUPPORT LOCAL
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Forgotten Harvest Mobile Pantry at MDHHS



LOCATION

MDHHS Hamtramck
12140 Joseph Campau Ave
Hamtramck, MI 48212



DATE & TIME

4th Tuesday
of every month
10 AM – 2 PM

How to Register

There is no online registration at this time. Please choose one of the following options:



Pick up a registration form in the lobby and return it to the lobby window.



Email your request to: MDHHS-FH-Wayne@michigan.gov. Include:

- Include your name
- Phone number
- Preferred appointment time

Important Information

- Appointments are limited!
- They are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.
- You will receive confirmation once your appointment is scheduled.

MDHHS

FORGOTTEN HARVEST

Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

City council: Take a look at what the city charter says

There has been increasing community anger over the city council's abuse of adding items to their meeting agendas at the last minute.

At most meetings, you'll hear one or more councilmembers asking to add on resolutions.

Most of the time, this is for items that are not of timely importance, despite the city charter saying this action is to be strictly reserved only for time-sensitive matters or matters of urgency.

And, the charter clearly says that including additional agenda items at the start of a meeting is the sole duty

of the city manager.

Councilmembers who insist on inserting items into the agenda at the beginning of council meetings are being unfair to the public, who have had no time to review these proposed matters.

This practice also reeks of dishonesty.

We strongly urge councilmembers to read the city charter – particularly what it says about adding items onto meeting agendas.

But we know they won't do that – and we suspect they don't even care to play by the rules.

For those unfamiliar with what the city char-

ter has to say about all this, look no farther than Chapter 30, Section 30:004.

The shorthand of all this is that only the city manager can add items to the council agenda at the last minute – and such items must relate to urgent matters.

Why is it that this council has such a hard time understanding this? Or, is it a case of mass hubris among some council members?

No matter, this is a practice that has become all-too common.

In short, this practice is eroding public trust in our elected leaders.

Odds & Ends

Canceled ... Hamtramck city councilmembers, who are now in their third month of a new term, canceled their regular monthly meeting for next Tuesday, March 10.

The city, through its Facebook page, said the reason for the cancellation is because there won't be enough councilmembers who can attend the meeting to qualify for a quorum.

And, this being Hamtramck, folks on social media didn't hold back from critical comments.

Former Councilmember Joe Strzalka posed the question:

"Maybe they have subpoenas or court dates?"

Hmmmm ... what could he be talking about?

Well, recently Councilmember Muhtasin Sadman pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of loitering about an illegal business. And that "illegal business" in question was where certain, unnamed, folks were involved in alleged ballot harvesting for a Hamtramck election.

That guilty plea resulted in a \$500 fine, and a one-year, non-reporting probation. If he doesn't commit another crime for a year, his criminal record will be wiped clean.

Sadman originally faced felony charges of election fraud, but those charges were dropped after witnesses failed to appear at a court hearing.

(That matter is far from over, according to sources.)

Sadman is not alone.

Councilmember Mohammed Hassan is facing felony charges of election fraud, and has a court trial scheduled for April.

Other people are also under investigation for ballot harvesting from the August Primary election, but they have not been charged yet.

The council meeting cancellation occurs during the month-long Ramadan observation, when Muslims worldwide fast during the day. The council is all male, and all Muslim. Ramadan ends on March 19.

The next scheduled council meeting is March

24.

Fighting back ... State Sen. Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit), whose district includes Hamtramck, has joined other state lawmakers in urging the federal government to overturn President Trump's decision to end Temporary Protection Status (TPS) for over 1,000 Yemeni immigrants.

That move leaves those immigrants vulnerable to being deported.

Hamtramck is home to a sizeable Yemeni immigrant population, although it is not immediately known how many are here under TPS protection.

In a press release, Chang said:

"The impact of termination of this program would be disastrous, given the humanitarian needs that exist in Yemen, including the ongoing conflict, cholera epidemic, and more. We'll keep working to advocate for our Yemeni residents who have become contributing members of our communities here in Michigan."

Condolences ... Hamtramck recently lost one of its good guys.

Richard "Dick" Kaleski, former long-time Hamtramck resident, died Feb. 18. He was buried at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly on Feb. 24.

Our condolences go out to his family. His daughter is Keely Ann Rusnak, who some may remember by her then-married name of Keely Wygonik when she was the editor of the now defunct Hamtramck Citizen.

Dick Kaleski, who was also a former newsman, might best be remembered for his effort to recycle plastic bottles into plastic park benches – a program that Hamtramck High School students were enthusiastically behind.

Former Hamtramck City Councilmember Phillip Kwik posted the following on social media:

"I first met Dick 30-plus years ago when both of us were active in Preserve Our Parks, a community group that stopped the City from bulldozing Veterans Park for a police station, in a highly questionable and

possibly illegal project.

"Tall and lean, Dick was a 'wonderful soul,' as a friend of ours put it. He was kind, funny, a great neighbor, and an avid biker, who loved his adopted home of Hamtramck. He always had time to chat or lend a hand.

"Dick turned his passion for biking into a dream: linking city neighborhoods together and then to the broader metropolitan area via bike paths.

"Dick was an organized advocate and a tireless activist for biking. I attended many meetings Dick organized, with corporate foundations, Wayne County bureaucrats, other community groups, architects – all with one focus: to bring a bike path through Hamtramck, which would eventually end at the riverfront. The idea of the Joe Louis Greenway was still in its infancy.

"Dick was three decades ahead of his time. Michigan's trails program was fledgling. The thought of a bike path through the heart of the motor city was unheard of. But Dick dreamed big – even working to collect funds to hire an architect to draw the first version of a bike path through our city in 1999.

"Today, Hamtramck has a bike path. Unfortunately, the moment is bittersweet. Dick's vision of unity, economic diversification, and environmental health has not, yet, come to fruition, as there are some in the city who see bike paths as a negative, and not desirable in our community. But the moment will come. As Dick has shown, anything worth having is worth working on for 30 years. ... Rest in power, Dick. You will be missed."

Amen to that.

Food availability reminder ... The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is reminding people of their partnership with Forgotten Harvest in their On-the-Go pop-up food distribution events.

They are also letting people know that they've added a fourth location for the pop-ups to their

Continued on page 5

Crime Watch:

A car theft crew is working late at night

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck: Make sure to lock your car doors.

That should be common sense – especially in a dense urban area like Hamtramck – but you'd be surprised.

Last week, Hamtramck police were kept busy with multiple reports about a crew of suspects who were seen trying to break into cars, and also being successful in breaking into some of those cars.

The crew was active throughout the city, but mostly on the west side of Jos. Campau, and they operated in the early morning, around 2-3 a.m.

In some instances, they stole items left in the open, and in a few

incidents, they stole whole vehicles.

Police came close to catching them on one occasion, but the suspects were able to speed off from a police chase. Officers followed protocol and called off their chase because of the threat to public safety.

Deputy Police Chief Andy Mileski said the department has "some" leads on the identity of the suspects.

"We're doing everything we can," he said.

In the long run, Mileski said, the city's crime rate has been trending down in recent years.

Last year, the department reported that vehicle thefts were down to just 120 thefts – a dra-

matic downturn from 2024, when there were some 700 autos stolen.

Despite that drop in car thefts, Mileski said it's impossible to put an end to thefts and crime in general.

"I'd love to say we can stop everything," Mileski said.

So, with a crew working the city looking for unlocked cars, what can residents do?

Obviously, the top preventative action you can take is to make sure you lock your vehicle – no matter if it's just for a few minutes.

Here are some other frequently cited actions you can take to lessen your chances of having

Continued on page 6

Zoning Ordinance Changes for Section §155.111

On January 27th, 2026, Ordinance Section §155.111 was modified to include additions of two new accessory structures: Shipping Containers and Sheds. The new additions allow for shipping containers to be placed within the Multi-Use and Industrial District and sheds to be placed within the Residential, Multi-Use, and Central Business Districts. Shipping containers and sheds over 80 square feet will be used for pure dry storage purposes only and will require general use permits to be pulled for their placement. All shipping containers must be properly maintained and will require an opaque fence or wall installation that matches the height of the structure, screening the shipping container from street view, avoiding any gaps, holes, or missing sections.

For more information, please visit

https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/hamtramck/latest/hamtramck_mi/0-0-0-22425

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March 6, 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?

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
Black history month programs,
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"
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



By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers Feb. 24-March 2.

Tuesday, Feb. 24

- A complaint was made about trespassing on Jos. Campau.
- A loose dog was reported on Mitchell.
- A business on Holbrook reported trouble with a customer.
- An assault was reported on Selfridge.
- A theft was reported in the 12000 block of Selfridge.
- Trespassing was reported in the 12000 block of Conant.
- Trouble between neighbors was reported in the 3500 block of Caniff.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the area of Holbrook and Conant. A hit-and-run accident was also reported in the area of Jos. Campau and Casmere.

Wednesday, Feb. 25

- Family trouble was reported in the 3400 block of Norwalk, and in the 3200 block of Yemans.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 2400 block of Andrus.
- A theft was reported in the 8800 block of Conant.
- A vehicle was stolen in the 12000 block of Sobieski.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the area of Holbrook and Lumpkin.

Thursday, Feb. 26

- A domestic assault was reported in the 3900 block of Evaline.
- A complaint was made about trespassing in the 11600 block of Jos. Campau. A female suspect was later arrested.
- A suspect was arrested in the 12000 block of Lumpkin for being disorderly.
- A theft was reported in the 11800 block of Dequindre.
- A juvenile in the 2900 block of Evaline was reported as a runaway.

Friday, Feb. 27

- A domestic fight was reported in the 12000 block of Selfridge.
- At 3:30 a.m., a complaint was made about noise in the 3000 block of Belmont.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 11300 block of Fleming.
- A fight was reported in the 12100 block of Sobieski.
- A vehicle was reported stolen in the 2300 block of Caniff. A vehicle was also reported stolen in the 5100 block of Evaline.
- An illegal dumping was reported in the 11400 block of Lumpkin.
- Gunfire was reported in the 3100 block of Jacob.

- An incident of fraud was reported in the 3200 block of Belmont.
- Trouble between neighbors was reported in the 12000 block of Klinger.
- **Saturday, Feb. 28**
- Officers, responding to an assault in progress in the 2300 block of Caniff, arrested two suspects.
- At almost 3:30 a.m., multiple people were reported to be attempting to break into vehicles in the 3900 block of Edwin.
- Thefts from vehicles were reported in the 3800 block of Evaline and in the 2200 block of Grayling.
- Officers, responding to a call about people breaking into vehicles in the area of Brombach and Norwalk, chased suspects in their getaway vehicle. No arrests were reported.
- Thefts from vehicles were reported in the 2200 block of Norwalk, and in the 2200 block of Florian.
- A theft was reported in the 2600 block of Evaline.
- A theft from an auto was reported in the 3800 block of Norwalk.
- Family trouble was reported in the 3300 block of Yemans.
- A vehicle was reported stolen in the 5100 block of Belmont.
- A suspect was arrested in the 2300 block of Neibel for domestic assault.
- **Sunday, March 1**
- Officers, responding to a call about property damage caused by an accident, arrested a driver for possessing open intoxicants.
- Gunshots were reported in the area of Dequindre and Carpenter.
- A vehicle was reported stolen in the area of Fleming and Caniff.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 2200 block of Norwalk.
- A business on Jos. Campau reported an incident of fraud.
- A suspect was arrested on Conant for trespassing.
- Two suspects were arrested on Oliver for home invasion, and for possessing stolen items.
- A fight was reported in the 2700 block of Yemans.
- A stolen vehicle was recovered in the area of Buffalo and Belmont.

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.)

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Odds & Ends

Continued from page 3

existing Hamtramck, Madison Heights and Taylor ones, now in Clinton Township.

The plan is to continue to offer these mobile food pantries on a monthly basis at these select MDHHS offices in the Tri-County (Wayne – Oakland – Macomb) area.

So far, by their record keeping, over 17.5 tons of groceries have been made available that have benefited some 850 families, per Elizabeth Her- tel, MDHHS director.

These pop-up pantries allow people to make appointments to come to these select MDHHS offices and choose groceries, from an array that includes fresh produce to grains to proteins.

Culturally appropriate foods may be offered as they are available, such as halal or kosher items.

The next Hamtramck pop-up event will take place on Tuesday, March 24, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the local MDHHS office, 12140 Jos. Campau Ave.

This location always holds their pop-ups on the fourth Tuesday of the month, typically at these same times.

You can make an appointment to go there by emailing MDHHS-FH-WC-Hamtramck@michigan.gov.

Taxman ... The Michigan Department of Treasury wants you to know that it's working hard to get you your rightful refund.

The state has already received over 1.6 million returns, an incredible increase of more than 45 percent over what they had received by this time last year.

The department has already processed 1.1 million returns, in the process issuing \$565 million in returned funds.

They say that you should, generally, receive your refund within four to six weeks of your filing.

The prevailing wisdom says that your refund will probably be expedited some if you filed through a tax filing company or

assisting agency, such as the Accounting Aid Society.

It will likely be even quicker if you are having it deposited directly into your bank account, rather than waiting for a physical paper check to be cut, issued and mailed.

You can track a submitted tax filing refund by going to Michigan.gov/wheresmyrefund.

"We appreciate the public's patience during this unusually busy period, and encourage taxpayers to carefully review their returns before filing to help reduce errors," said Deputy State Treasurer Kavita Kale.

Tempus fugit... Meaning, if you don't speak Latin, "Time flies," and so it does, which brings us to the point here, which is that time has flown and we're at that yearly point once again of welcoming in Daylight Savings Time this weekend, specifically in the "wee hours" of this Sunday, March 8.

At 2 a.m., the clocks will "magically" spring forward to 3 a.m., shifting our time with the endgame of later sunsets. The flipside of that equation, of course, is that we also lose time at the beginning of our days, at least until it all reverts back in November.

Meanwhile? Enjoy it while you've got it, we say.

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 "What You Didn't Know About
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 in the 1920 and 1930"
 with Gary Gillette

Dinner and Talk - \$25 (must preregister), Talk Only - \$5

Thurs., March 19th: 6 p.m. Dinner, 7 p.m. Talk

Hamtramck Historical Museum, 9525 Jos. Campau

Tickets here: hamtramckhistory.com

Crime Watch:
**A car theft crew is
 working late at night**

Continued from page 3

your vehicle broken into: to secure them in your trunk.

- Do not leave any valuables visible in your vehicle while it is parked and unattended. This would include (but not be limited to) your cellphone, wallet, purse, laptop computer, iPad/iPods, GPS, etc.
- If for some reason you cannot take your valuables with you, be sure
- Park in a well-lighted place if possible – if you don't have a garage.
- Get an alarm, or at least a locking device for your steering wheel, or consider installing what's called a 'kill switch' to make it harder for thieves to hot-wire your vehicle.

sudoku

The rules to play Sudoku are quite simple. Fill in the blanks so that each row, each column, and each of the nine 3x3 grids contain one instance of each of the numbers 1 through 9.

		8				9	7	
		7		3				2
		3		8	4			
6			2					
			4				2	
	3				9	6		5
1			8					
	7			9				4
		5						9

3	6	7	9	4	8	1	5	2
9	5	1	6	2	7	3	4	8
8	4	2	1	3	5	7	9	6
7	8	4	3	1	6	9	2	5
2	3	5	8	9	4	6	1	7
6	1	7	5	2	8	3	4	9
4	7	3	5	8	1	2	6	9
1	2	8	4	6	9	5	7	3
5	9	6	2	7	3	4	8	1

**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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