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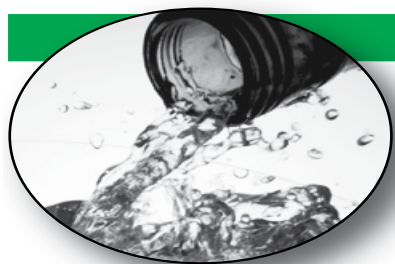
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— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —



TOAST of the TOWN

A celebration of Eid and a debate about privacy

By Charles Sercombe
If there's one thing Toast enjoys most in covering the social beat of Hamtramck, it's experiencing the various ethnic pocket communities within our greater community.

Last weekend was no exception, with the Eid festival held in and around Keyworth Stadium.

That's where adults and kids enjoyed amusement rides and just socially hanging out.

Hamtramck's Muslim community is almost certainly now the city's largest population and voting bloc.

At last week's festivities, which celebrated one of the holiest religious holidays for Muslims, the mix was mostly made up of those from Hamtramck's Yemeni community.

For the uninitiated, the gathering is socially conservative, meaning there is a separation of men and women with separate lines for rides, and even a special section reserved solely for women and children.

And this arrangement apparently sparked a debate on whether it is proper to photograph women and children. In fact, from what we have gleaned from social media reports, the issue became heated in some instances.

This clash of conservative and less-conservative values is nothing new. There's been a growing public debate for a number of years, as those conservative Islamic values have increasingly come face-to-face with western lifestyles.

Toast is not about to jump into this culture clash, even though, at times, it's difficult to tip-toe around it without causing a stir. Some day down the road, we have faith it will all be worked out.

In the meantime, Hamtramck has always been home to recent immigrants who bring with them their home customs and beliefs – and, most importantly, their energy.

Enjoy the social mosaic.

When it comes to good food and great times, Hamtramck has plenty to offer. In this column, we'll talk about what's happening at our bars, restaurants and at other events throughout the city.

Quick Hits

Night Bazaar returns to Pope Park

By Alan Madlane

How bazaar? This bazaar!

Well, it's time again for the popular monthly Hamtramck Night Bazaars to start happening, the first one being this Saturday, June 6.

Held from 6-10 p.m. in Pope Park, under the outstretched and welcoming arms of the late pontiff Pope John Paul II, the non-religious event welcomes one and all to its fun assortments of vendors of various types.

This month is promising sellers of art (KFly Art, Kaitlin Noelle Art, Fran's Art Space, Hannah Renee Art & Pocket Space) and crafts (The Fleeting Lens Studio); pastries and desserts for humans (Venla's Cakes – this month's sponsor, Lazy Daisy Pastries, Oh My Sweets by Paris, Deshi Delite, Lillyrose Bakery) and dogs (Paws by Purin); coffee (LAS Brew Coffee & Co., Two Rivers Café); clothing (Saracen/Little Villages); jewelry (Albidayah Jewelry); caricature drawings (Sigman's Caricature); tattoos (Tattoo_); and calligraphy (Ihsan Design Studio); among others.

Entertainment will be provided by Jade Nicole. Best of all, it's free to attend and there is free parking. Look for more every first Saturday through October.

And enjoy the melting pot, out in the melting hot.



Commissioner blasts fellow housing member

By Charles Sercombe

Mayor Adam Alharbi recently replaced two experienced housing commission members with two new faces, Tobin Sterritt and Salim Lodhi.

And now, ousted commission member Frances Sims is speaking out, and is urging the mayor to instead fire a fellow commission member, Bill Meyer.

"At this point, I have no choice but to request that you remove him as a Board member before his actions embarrass the community again, as he did on another commission and the mayor had to replace him," Sims said, in a letter to Mayor Alharbi.

The Review could not reach Commission member Karen Shulhan, who had been the longest serving commissioner, for comment about her removal.

Sims presented numerous reasons in her request to boot Meyer, which covered a wide-range of actions Meyer has taken, with one apparent overriding goal: To remove current Executive Director Chris Cornwell, who had succeeded former long-time director Kevin Kondrat.

Sims recently shared her letter to the mayor with The Review, and her list of reasons included, in her own words:

- Commissioner Meyer suggested that the HHC (Hamtramck Housing Commission) provide federal money and support to a private store owner across the street from the Colonel Hamtramck Homes to help the owner increase his business. He even suggested that the HHC approve an expenditure for the store's exterior lighting.

- Commissioner Meyer has repeatedly questioned why the HHC would need a dedicated attorney and suggested that we should not have one on retainer, even though an attorney is a must for handling legal matters such as evictions, civil prosecutions, etc. and is highly advised by HUD.

- Commissioner Meyer agreed to an informal, backdoor arrangement with former Commissioner Kamal Rahman to clear the way for Mr. Rahman to assume the HHC Executive Director position. Commissioner Meyer made no secret of his intention to find a reason to fire the cur-

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

Sunday, June 7, Holy Mass
9:00 am Sunday with the
Octave of Corpus Christi

June 9 – For people on our Prayer List
Holy Mass 7 pm

June 11 – Feast of St. Barnabas
Holy Mass 9 am

June 12 – Solemnity of Sacred Heart of
Jesus Holy Mass 9 am

June 13 – Take out only
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Commissioner blasts fellow housing member

Continued from front page

rent highly credentialed Executive Director, Christopher Cornwell, and replace him with Mr. Rahman, even though the latter lacks the appropriate experience and whose appointment would certainly not hold up to HUD scrutiny. It would have placed the entire HHC and its Board members under legal threat from the federal government, not to mention the fact that this reeks of cronyism.

Commissioner Meyer shows no desire to educate himself on HUD practices, rules, laws, and regulations. He repeatedly asks the same questions in each meeting, even though the issue had been previously addressed, and in some instances, voted on by him. He also has expressed zero interest in attending HUD training, unless it's located somewhere that he wants to visit on the HHC's dime, another violation of federal law. Commissioner Meyer also, even one year into his commission, does not grasp the fact that the HHC is not governed by the City of Hamtramck, but instead solely by the HHC Board and HUD.

Commissioner Meyer has stated on several occasions that he would like to see the HHC absorbed by the Detroit Housing Commission, which is counterintuitive to the work that we do. If we have a commissioner that actively supports downgrading the living conditions of our residents, then it is clear that he does not have the residents' best interests at heart.

Bill Meyer, the former executive director of the now defunct non-profit group called OneHamtramck, has routinely called for the removal of Hamtramck's "white power structure" at city council meetings.

He told The Review that Sims' accusations are "groundless."

Meyer provided The Review with a lengthy response, and insisted his response be printed in full.

Here is his response:

"The Hamtramck Housing Commission (HHC) is the least known of all city commissions. It is run by the Federal HUD Agency independent from the city and with little oversight except for the five commissioners appointed by the mayor. It's always been in the hands of Hamtramck's century-long 'white power structure' even as the city's demographics have changed to a majority Muslim presence.

"Suspected corruption, cronyism, and lack of diversity in the HHC motivated the previous mayor in 2022 to appoint new commissioners that might help address these failings of the Commission. Replacing commissioners is a common practice when new mayors are elected.

"It was soon discovered that the former HHC Executive Director Kevin Kondrat, probably fearing changes might come with the new administration, called a special meeting

to extend his contract with the support of his old rubber-stamp commission, before the new commissioners were able to attend their first meeting.

"New commissioner Kamal Rahman took charge and exposed major corruption and cronyism in the Housing Commission."

(Editor's note: No charges or accusations of wrongdoing were ever made by the federal agency overseeing all local housing commissions, the Department of Housing and Urban Development.)

Meyer continued:

"Director Kondrat's 'Succession Plan,' reeking of cronyism that would have promoted hand selected officers without new Commissioners input, was also canceled.

"As for the charges my former colleague has raised against me specifically, they are statements taken out of context, based on misunderstandings and untruths, and none of them hold any legal consequence.

"I am willing to discuss any of these groundless charges, and explain any positions I took in regards to the HHC, with anyone who might be interested. I have no intention of causing controversy by attacking anyone or drawing any attention away from the good work of the HHC.

"My goal has always been to bring people to-

gether in the city to work for the benefit of everyone. Our new Commission is now working to make our work transparent and available for anyone to watch as we begin filming our meetings on the Hamtramck Library TV Channel.

"We are encouraging the public and especially residents of the Housing Project to attend our public meetings (the third Wednesdays of the month at 6 p.m.) and express their concerns about how we can improve our critical work of providing housing for those who are in need."

Sims, in her letter to Mayor Alharbi, said that "Meyer will not change his behavior, and if anything, will become more combative in retaliation for my speaking up."

As for the reason Alharbi replaced Sims and Shulhan, he told The Review:

"My goal for Hamtramck's boards and commissions is to ensure a consistent rotation of new voices and ideas. I believe that periodic change is healthy for any governing body, as it brings fresh eyes to long-standing challenges, and ensures that every decision is the result of independent, diverse perspectives.

"This transition is simply about opening the door for more residents to participate in our city's future, and maintaining a dynamic, independent approach to our housing policy."

Foreclosed property owners may be due to financial boost

By Charles Sercombe

Did you lose your property due to a tax foreclosure?

As unfortunate as that is, Wayne County is offering a possible financial lift for you.

Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree is reminding resident and property owners whose properties were foreclosed in March 2026 that they may be eligible to claim surplus proceeds if their property sells for more than the minimum bid amount at upcoming auctions in September and October.

"We encourage people whose property was foreclosed in March 2026 to file a claim for surplus proceeds by the July 1, 2026," said Treasurer Sabree. "If your property was foreclosed in March 2026 and sells in the upcoming auctions for more than the minimum bid amount, you may be eligible to claim any remaining, surplus proceeds from that sale."

Under Michigan law (MCL 211.78t), property owners or those holding a meaningful equity interest (such as a mort-

gagee or lien holder) at the time of foreclosure must submit a notarized Notice of Intent form by July 1, 2026, to begin the claims process.

Claimants must download the Notice of Intent form from the "Claims and Auction" page at WayneCountyMI.gov/Treasurer, complete all application and property details, and have the form notarized. The completed form must be hand-delivered or sent via certified mail to the Treasurer's Office before the deadline.

Property owners who file a claim by July 1, 2026, will receive notification from the Treasurer's office by January 31, 2027, regarding any available surplus.

Because foreclosure and surplus-proceeds laws are complex, individuals seeking guidance

are encouraged to contact the State Bar of Michigan's Legal Referral Center at Irs.michbar.org, or (800) 968-0738.

"Surplus Proceeds" are any monies remaining from the auction sale of foreclosed property, after back taxes and sales costs have been paid.

"Our office is committed to working with Wayne County resident and property owners to help people keep their property whenever possible, and we have taxpayer assistance programs to help people struggling to pay their property taxes," said Sabree. "However, in the event that a property is foreclosed and sold at auction to pay back taxes, we want to make sure that eligible property owners receive any surplus proceeds from the sale of their property – but they must file

This week at the Library . . .

June 5, 2026

Detroit Lions: Hamtramck Public Library's Summer Reading Program is partnering with the Detroit Lions Sport Team in creating an experience that would combine excitement and recognition with reading engagement. In the near future we will announce how the partnership will work. Only 15 of Michigan Libraries have been selected for this program. To participate you will need to register children in the Hamtramck Library Summer Reading Program. Registrations will start in June.

Comedy and Magic: The Summer Reading Program will start with the first show on June 24th at 2 pm. All children are invited to participate in this Magic Show that is filled with laughter and fun.

Inflatables: On July 1st, the Summer Reading Program will start at 2 pm. with a challenge to climb and explore huge floaty shapes. The main hall in the library will be filled with structures that will allow children to climb high toward the ceiling and explore caverns constructed from inflatables.

The Power of Plants: July 8th Summer Reading Program is dedicated to growing. The show will start at 3 pm. with a presentation by NEWCC. Children will get a chance to get their hands dirty with soil and seeds, making plants grow.

NERF: One of the more popular programs of the summer is the NERF wars. It is scheduled to July 15th at 2 pm. That is when the NERF wars

begin with blaster battles and opposing teams making the best of it.

Music of Africa: This concert is scheduled for July 22nd at 2 pm. Bring your friends and family to listen and participate in lively music that originated on the African continent.

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

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.

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.

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.

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

Time for a reset on city council

The recent re-do of a councilmember's censure provides some insight into the state of affairs of this council.

Namely, that it's fast becoming directionless, as well as prone to making rash or poor decisions.

In a word: dysfunctional.

We say this not to beat up on, or shame, councilmembers, but rather intend it as a cautionary warning

that, if this kind of spontaneous decision making continues, it could ultimately lead to pure chaos.

Councilmembers need to take a moment, breathe deep, and clear the air. If there were a reset button for them, we would urge someone to press it.

On social media, the public is clearly fed up with the constant arguing and disrupt-

tions caused by some on council. Even the mayor seems frustrated at times.

Come on, council.

This behavior is not helping anyone, and all it does is foment a deepening distrust among the community.

Let's all step back and reexamine where this city is going – and, where it needs to go – especially now that we have a looming financial crisis.

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 April 28, and all councilmembers were in attendance.

A discussion was held on a proposal to allow an increase of five feet to the height of residential dwellings.

The proposal would allow dwellings to have a new maximum height of 40 feet.

In a note to city council from the Department of Community Economic Development (CED), it was said:

"This increase will allow existing 3-unit homes to have the option of a thatched roof rather than limiting the option to have a flat roof, increased floor spacing, and move toward the city's goal of incremental and vertical growth."

The council approved the proposal.

In another matter presented by the CED, the council OK'd creating a light industrial zone to allow "low-intensity and medium-intensity productive, fabricating, assembling, workstations, artisan goods, studios, home businesses, and warehousing uses, especially for businesses that are not open to the public. ..."

The council approved the proposal.

A lengthy discussion was held on whether to apply for a loan or grant to continue funding the replacement of lead water lines leading into houses.

The city is mandated by the terms of a past lawsuit

to replace all of its lines.

So far, the city has replaced over 2,000 lines, and still needs to replace about 4,000 more.

Councilmembers were confused whether this would mean the city would be committed to seeking a loan, which a majority of the members seemed opposed to.

However, the council was told that the city is obligated to complete the project.

Councilmember Nayeem Choudhury said that, for too many years, the city had been "kicking the can down the road" to take care of the matter.

Councilmember Abu Musa agreed, saying the city should have replaced the lines 50 years ago.

Finance Director Syed Aamir Hassan said that the cost to replace the remaining lines is \$42 million. In the recent past, the city has received \$32 million in state grants to do water line replacement.

Last year, the city didn't receive a grant, and had to pay for that part of the project through its water and sewer fund.

The council approved the project, with Councilmembers Mohammed Hassan and Yousuf Saed objecting. Councilmember Mohammed Alsomiri kept insisting, with his "yes" vote, that he was only voting to accept a grant, even though this was just an application.

The city will find out whether it qualifies for a grant or loan by September.

In a related matter, the

council approved hiring Hennessey Engineers to oversee the work, at a cost of almost \$400,000, which will come out of the city's water and sewer fund.

Another lengthy discussion was held on whether to pass a resolution that would mandate that the city accept results for the Nov. 4, 2025 election from the Wayne County Board of Canvassers.

The resolution had to do with 37 absentee ballots that had not been counted because they were discovered by the City Clerk's office a day after the election.

That matter has been a continuing point of contention for the mayor's race, and is now being handled by the courts.

Mayor Adam Alharbi, who has been trying to prevent the ballots from being counted, was against the resolution, saying:

"I don't see the point of this. First off, if you're trying to help the other candidate this is not going to have no weight in court, whether you votes yes or not, it's not going to have any weight. It just puts the city in risk for a lawsuit."

(The Board of Canvassers verified that Alharbi won the mayoral election.)

Councilmember Hassan then got into an argument with Mayor Alharbi, and, at one point, Alharbi said to Hassan: "You're not making any sense."

Alharbi added that the city should file a lawsuit to prevent the candidate who

Continued on page 6

Odds & Ends

Flag Day ... With June freshly here and Flag Day coming up on June 14, the good folks at PLAV Post 6 are asking you to drop off your ragged and soiled American flags.

The vets there will properly dispose of the flags in a "retirement ceremony" on June 14 at 5 p.m.

If you have an Old Glory that's not quite so glorious anymore, and needs to be disposed of properly, feel free to drop it off at the Post, located at Evaline and McDougall.

Tree Shepherd ... Hamtramck has some glorious trees, but there is one that stands alone.

And you can find it in the 2900 block of Belmont. Recently, the Hamtramck Beautification Commission handed Steve Hughes and his business partner Kevin Lynn a Tree Stewardship Award for their Linden Tree (Tilia Americana).

According to the commission, the mature tree is 280cm in circumference, which – for those who are metric-impaired – comes out to about 9 feet around.

Perhaps even more impressively, this stout tree has been watching over Belmont St. for 100 years.

In a press release, the commission noted that "trees are a key to supporting wildlife, purifying the air we breathe, and reducing the impact of high wind, water erosion and basement flooding. Caring for these trees is critical for the quality of life in our historic town."

The press release continues, describing this particular work of nature:

"It (the linden tree) has heart shaped leaves with fragrant spring flowers and is heavily visited by bees. Their honey is known as 'linden honey.' It is one of the most important nectar producing trees supporting pollinators in our region!"

"The nutlets are food for Blue Jays and songbirds. It captures an estimated 158 TONS of CO2 over its lifetime!"

Nutlets, we like the sound of that ... Maybe it would make a good name for a band?

Still popular ... According to the Detroit Regio-

nal Chamber, Michigan's own Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has the distinction of still commanding popular support and approval ratings.

That, we are told, is a rarity for second-term governors facing the end of their terms.

This is, indeed, Whitmer's last term, and she has not yet announced what her next step might be, although it's been hinted that it could include a run for the presidency.

To get down to the nitty-gritty, the Detroit Re-

being constructed in their backyards.

No matter; congrats, governor, and good luck in your future endeavors.

Pride Month ... Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist have issued a joint proclamation officially designating June in Michigan as "Pride Month."

The proclamation, signed by the governor at an LGBTQ+-owned juice bar in Grand Rapids a couple days ago, aims to honor the contributions, history, and resilience of the state's LGBTQ+ community.

Erin Knott, executive director of Equality Michigan, said "Pride Month is a reminder that progress is never inevitable.

"It is built by people who choose courage, compassion and inclusion," they continued.

LGBTQ+ rights have become a touchstone issue in Hamtramck, as the conservative Yemeni-Muslim majority in the community has become embroiled in related issues, such as the flying of rainbow "pride" flags on city flagpoles or property.

Nevertheless, Hamtramck is home to many ethnicities and people of all persuasions. Hamtramck has always been a welcoming community.

We stand with our LGBTQ+ community, and share in their celebration. Take pride, Hamtramck.

Pick your favorite ... Voting for this year is rapidly drawing to a close.

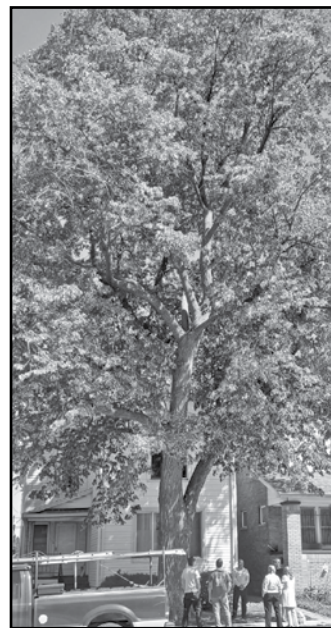
What's that, you scream, sure that it's not even summer yet, and not already early November?

Relax, it's just the voting for this year's design(s) of the "I Voted" sticker they give out at all the polls.

Go to Michigan.gov/ivotedsticker and vote no later than the last day of this month, June 30. Held for three years now, the number of design submissions has more than quadrupled in that time.

Three winning designs will be selected from each of three separate age-divided categories: Grades K-8, grades 9-12, and adults.

Then: hope your faves made it, pick one out at the polls when you go, and, most of all, Vote!



The Beautification Commission recently spotlighted this tree on Belmont as being an example of good tree management.

gional Chamber says the "average net approval rating declines 13 percentage points during governors' second terms, but Whitmer's approval rating has increased over 15 percentage points since the start of her first term."

The Chamber credited her "willingness to work with anyone" to get stuff done and her "bipartisan work on issues such as road funding, the Selfridge F-15EX Fighter mission, and expanding the working families tax credit."

Also, the Chamber says that Whitmer "ranks 5th highest (in) overall approval rating among the 27 second-term governors."

While all of this is good news for the governor, there is one issue that might throw some cold water on those good vibes: her support for the construction of those massive data centers, which suck up equally massive amounts of electricity and water.

A number of communities have been on the losing side of trying to prevent these centers from

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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?

Regular monthly meeting of the Housing Commission, Memorial Day Celebrations at PLAV post 6 Piast Institute 5k Run/Walk for Health Changes in the City Council Chambers, Firemen's March to St. Florian's Church Opinion exchange between Mayor and Mayor-pro-tem 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

CRIME LOG

By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers May 26-June 1.

Tuesday, May 26

• Officers, responding to a call about a disturbance in the 2600 block of Holbrook, arrested a male suspect for being wanted on a felony warrant out of Birmingham.
• At 1 a.m., officers, responding to a call about a domestic disturbance in the 12000 block of Dyar, arrested a male suspect for operating a vehicle while intoxicated.
• At 1:30 a.m., a complaint was made about fireworks in the 2900 block of Dan.
• At about 2 a.m., a person reported being bitten by an animal while in the 2600 block of Carpenter.
• At 3:30 a.m., a male suspect was arrested in the 5200 block of Belmont for home invasion and domestic violence.
• A complaint was made about a juvenile in the 12000 block of Dyar.
• A business in the 12000 block of Conant reported trouble with a customer.
• A child was reported lost in the area of Fleming and Zinow.

Wednesday, May 27

• A reckless driver was reported in the area of Dan and Jos. Campau.
• Complaints about fireworks were made in the area of Holbrook and Brombach; in the area of Pulaski and Mackay; in the area of Jos. Campau and Dan; on Doremus; and in the 5000 block of Evaline.
• A fight was reported in the 3200 block of Yemans.
• An assault was reported in the 3200 block of Yemans.
• A child who was reported missing on Gallagher was located and returned his father.
• A vehicle was reported stolen on Trowbridge.
• A lost child was recovered in the area of Gallagher and Trowbridge.
• A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 3300 block of Doremus.
• A complaint was made about a juvenile in the 9400 block of Mitchell.

Thursday, May 28

• Complaints about fireworks were made in the area of Belmont and Jos. Campau; Norwalk and Conant; Geimer and Lumpkin; Jacob and Gallagher; Burger and Mackay; and in the 2000 block of Belmont.
• A complaint was made about a juvenile in the area of Lumpkin and Andrus.
• A female suspect was arrested in the 3100 block of Caniff for domestic assault.
• A theft was reported in the 12000 block of Selfridge.
• A business in the 9400 block of Conant reported trouble with a customer.
• Illegal dumping was reported in the 3100 block of Caniff.
• A vehicle was reported stolen in the 8800 block of Conant.
• A suspect was arrested

in the 12100 block of Nagel for domestic assault.

Friday, May 29

• Complaints about fireworks were made in the 3200 block of Holbrook and in the 2200 block of Yemans.
• Reckless drivers were reported in the area of Jos. Campau and Holbrook, and in the area of Jos. Campau and Goodson.
• A disturbed person was reported in the 2200 block of Alice.
• A theft was reported in the 9700 block of Conant.
• A complaint was made about an animal in the area of Hamtramck Dr. and Jos. Campau.
• A suspect was arrested in the 12100 block of Charest for home invasion.
• A break-in was reported in the 2400 block of Zinow.

Saturday, May 30

• A juvenile in the 11400 block of McDougall was reported as a runaway.
• A fight was reported in the 9800 block of Conant.
• A complaint was made about disorderly people in the area of Yemans and Gallagher.
• An assault was reported in the 9800 block of Conant.
• A vehicle was reported stolen in the area of Conant and Caniff.
• A fight was reported in the 3800 block of Evaline.
• A vehicle was stolen in the area of Conant and Norwalk.

• Officers arrested a suspect for being disorderly and for obstruction.
• A stolen vehicle was recovered in the area of Conant and Lehman. A suspect was also arrested for possessing a stolen vehicle, and for being intoxicated.
• A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 3200 block of Hanley. A hit-and-run accident was also reported in the area of Jos. Campau and Holbrook.
• A suspect was arrested in the 3500 block of Caniff for assault.

Sunday, May 31

• A vehicle was stolen in the 2900 block of Jacob.
• A theft from an auto was reported in the 3200 block of Holbrook.
• A suspect was arrested in the 11300 block of Jos. Campau for sexual assault.
• A fight was reported in the area of Jacob and Conant.
• A domestic assault was reported in the 2200 block of Danforth.
• An assault was reported in the 3200 block of Roosevelt.

Monday, June 1

• A domestic fight was reported in the 12000 block of Oklahoma.
• An incident of indecent exposure was reported in the area of Miller and Conant.
• A child was reported lost in the area of Holmes and Mackay.
• A complaint was made about fireworks in the area of Poland and Brombach.

Service Directory

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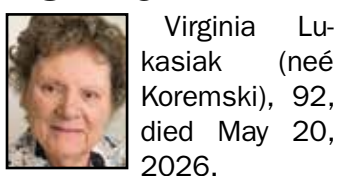
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Obituaries

LUKASIAK



Virginia A. Lukasiak (neé Koremski), 92, died May 20, 2026.

Virginia A. Lukasiak peacefully left this earth on May 20, 2026, to receive her eternal reward.

At 92 years of age, Virginia lived a life rooted in faith, love, kindness, and devotion to others. She will forever be remembered for her beautiful laughter, her unwavering faith in God, and the countless lives she touched throughout her remarkable journey.

During her many years on earth, Virginia dedicated over 20 years of service to People's State Bank in Hamtramck, where she built lasting friendships and became a beloved presence in the community. She leaves behind a legacy of love, compassion, friendship, and strength that will continue to live on through all who knew her.

Virginia was truly a woman of many talents and many roles. From bookkeeper to saleswoman, and later becoming a banker in her middle years, she embraced every chapter of life with determination and grace. She was gifted in so many ways — sin-

ging, cooking, writing, and caring for others came naturally to her. She was an inspiration to everyone fortunate enough to know her. Her faith in the Lord guided her daily life. One of the sayings she lived by was, "Just do your best and let God do the rest." Those words reflected the strength, humility, and faith that defined her character.

Virginia was a devoted member of Transfiguration Church and the Queen of Apostles Seniors community. To those who loved her most, she was truly the one and only Wonder Woman — a title she earned through her resilience, compassion, and endless love for others. She was preceded in death by her beloved parents, Father Anthony Koremski and Mother Anna (Guzek) Koremski; her devoted husband of 64 years, Walter Lukasiak; her cherished and only daughter, Sandra Lukasiak, who passed away at the young age of 26; and her sister, Sophie Murawski.

She leaves behind her loving son-in-law, Dan (Tammy) Pharis (children Benjamin and Rachel), her daughter of the heart, Valentina Nechovski; Mary and Omar Mokrzan "chosen family and honorary grandson"; nephew

Martin Koziel; great niece Sylvia Gleason and great nephew William Gleason along with many extended family members and dear friends whose lives were forever blessed by her love and friendship.

Virginia will be laid to rest at White Chapel Cemetery beside her beloved husband Walter and daughter Sandra. Though she has departed from this earthly life, Virginia's spirit, faith, love, and memory will remain in the hearts of all who knew and loved her forever. For life has changed, not ended. And in lieu of flowers, please give a donation to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. Services were held at Our Lady Queen of Apostles Catholic Church, Hamtramck MI, and interment was at White Chapel Cemetery, Troy MI. Arrangements by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home.

SIMON



Montana Violet Simon, 31, April 24, 1995 - April 24, 2026.

Montana entered the world on April 24, 1995, in Detroit, MI. Her early years consisted of pleated school uniforms and saddle shoes.

Her carefree and adven-

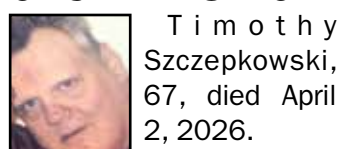
turous ways would lead her out west to Arizona in her mid-teens. It was in Arizona that she would find herself the love of her life when she gave birth to her only child, her son Jude.

From that day forward, they would share her love of travel and her love for nature and animals. Their trips together to see her extended family and friends kept their bond together strong.

Montana would always try to make all of her son's school functions, whether they be athletic or academic. Their mutual love of odd little shops and trips to the mall always added to their adventures.

Montana will be dearly missed by her son Jude. She is survived by her sister Brittany Simon (Kimo); brothers Bobby Simon (Edan) and Drew Allain (Toni); many nieces and nephews; and her cats Nina and Pierre.

SZCZEPKOWSKI



Timothy Szczepkowski, 67, died April 2, 2026.

Timothy Szczepkowski, a man of creativity, tradition, and deep devotion, passed away on April 2, 2026, at the age of 67. Born on Valentine's Day in 1959, Tim was a true son of Detroit, carrying the city's vibrant spirit with him throughout

his life before making his home in Shelby Township.

Tim found joy in the simple, meaningful rhythms of life. He was a master of his crafts, whether he was meticulously sewing or filling his home with the sounds of polka music. He was most at home in the kitchen, where he could cook with the best of them! Tim was known for his love of traditional Polish cuisine, especially his pierogi.

He is now reunited with the love of his life and partner, Shirley Szczepkowski, who preceded him in death in 2024. He was also preceded in death by his parents, Sigmunt and Veronica Szczepkowski, and his brother, David Szczepkowski. Tim's memory will be carried on by his surviving siblings: his brothers, Jim Szczepkowski and Sigmunt Szczepkowski Jr., and his sister, Pamela Szczepkowski. He also leaves behind his faithful dog, Lacey, who was his main source of comfort after losing Aunt Shirley. We know they are now Polka Dancing together again.

Memorial Mass will be held Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 10 a.m. at St. Florian Convent Chapel, 2622 Florian, Hamtramck MI 48212. Enter the Chapel from Florian Street. Inurnment will be at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Detroit MI. Arrangements

by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home.

ZABOWSKI



Wojciech Zabowski (age 69), died June 1, 2026.

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Wojciech Zabowski on June 1, 2026, at the age of 69.

Born on May 21, 1957, in Ciechanow, Poland, Wojciech was the son of Marianna and Jan Zabowski.

He is survived by his wife, Alicja; stepdaughter, Kasia; sister, Agnieszka; brother, Marek; and other loved ones. He was preceded in death by his twin brother, Maciej, and his parents.

Wojciech will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew him.

May he rest in peace.

Memorial Mass will be Saturday, June 6, 2026 11 AM. Family will be receiving guests starting at 10:30 AM. St. Florian Catholic Church. 2626 Poland. Hamtramck MI 48212

Funeral arrangements by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home. 2396 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212.

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

5TH ANNUAL HAMTRAMCK STADIUM

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, JUNE 19TH 11AM-4:30PM
VETERANS PARK (3201 DAN ST, HAMTRAMCK)

11AM Keynote Presentation by Dorian Hairston and **Tribute** to Ron "Schoolboy" Teasley

12PM Home Run Derby

1:30PM Award Ceremonies for Turkey Stearnes Foundation Juneteenth Multidisciplinary Art Contest and Home Run Derby scholarship winners

2PM Negro Leagues Prep Star Classic between Team Stearnes and Team Teasley




SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH • 2026

JUNETEENTH

Hamtramck's 4TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION


DYNAMIC SPEAKERS


LIVE MUSIC


DRUMMING


VENDORS


COMMUNITY CONNECTION

10:00 AM

GATHER AT VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK
8648 JOSEPH CAMPAU

CAR CARAVAN & BUS TO SARAH GARRETT PARK

10:45 AM

MARCH BEGINS SARAH GARRETT PARK
11361 DEQUINDRE ST.

MARCH + CAR CARAVAN

11:00 AM

FINISH - ARRIVE AT VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK
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For Monetary Donation, PLEASE go to:
<https://donorbox.org/hamtramck-juneteenth-4-921456>

We Walk. We Celebrate. We Rise.



Notice of Hanley International Academy Board of Directors Budget Hearing and Annual Organization Board Meeting

Hanley International Academy will be holding a public hearing on its 2026-2027 proposed budget directly followed by its Annual Organization Meeting in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. The meeting will be held in person with a virtual option.

Date of Meeting:	June 25, 2026
Place of Meeting:	2400 Denton Street, Hamtramck, MI 48212 Virtual – see information below for access
Hour of Meeting:	7:00 A.M.
Join by Video:	meet.google.com/bqi-sjbn-vpg
Join by Phone:	1-315-801-9472; PIN: 475 313 661#
Telephone Number of Board Offices:	313.875.8888
Board Minutes are Located at:	2400 Denton Street, Hamtramck, MI 48212

A copy of the meeting minutes is available for public inspection at the Academy within 8 business days for proposed minutes and 5 business days for approved. The Academy shall comply with subtitle A of Title II of the American with Disabilities Act of 1990, Public Law 101-336, 42 USC 12101 et seq or any successor law. Should you require specific accommodations please contact Steve Paddock at spaddock@therominegroup.com 5 days prior to the meeting.

If you lost your property to tax foreclosure in 2026:

You may be entitled to claim remaining proceeds from the sale associated with the parcel that exceeds the amount owed for taxes, interest and fees.



DEADLINE TO FILE A CLAIM: JULY 1, 2026

- 1 FILL OUT THE NOTICE OF INTENT FORM WITH THE FOLLOWING INFO: APPLICATION INFORMATION, PROPERTY INFORMATION, AND INTEREST IN PROPERTY (E.G. MORTGAGE AND LIEN HOLDERS).**
- 2 NOTARIZE THE NOTICE OF INTENT FORM**
- 3 SUBMIT THE NOTICE OF INTENT FORM TO THE WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE VIA CERTIFIED MAIL OR IN PERSON: 400 MONROE ST, DETROIT, MI 48226**

You can reach out to the Michigan Legal Services for assistance to file a claim. Call 313-964-4130 or visit milegalservices.org for more information.

Your completed, notarized form must be hand-delivered or sent through certified mail to the Wayne County Treasurer's Office located at 400 Monroe, Detroit MI 48226 on the 5th floor no later than July 1, 2026.

Visit WayneCountyMI.gov/Treasurer and click on "Claims & Auctions" to download the form.

You can also contact the Wayne County Treasurer's Office by calling 313-224-5990 or by emailing TaxInfo@WayneCountyMI.gov

CLAIMS FORM



City Hall Insider ...

Continued from page 3

lost in the mayoral election, Councilmember Choudhury credited Bill Meyer for showing that the Hamtramck Muslim community "love each other. We are in this together."

"I know you're his friend," Alharbi said to Councilmember Hassan. "You don't care about the city."

At one point, Hassan said the word "stupid," although it was unclear whether he was saying that to or about the mayor, or not.

However, Councilmember Saed took it to mean that Hassan was calling the mayor stupid, which led to Saed scolding Hassan, saying:

"He's the mayor, man. Come on. He's the mayor."

Hassan later said that he was not calling the mayor stupid, and apologized for the confusion.

Councilmember Choudhury jumped into the discussion, admonishing the two, saying:

"We're not in high school. This is ridiculous. People already talking about the City of Hamtramck all over the United States just because our trouble, and that speak way we speak. Be gentle. We are the first majority Muslim that elected in the city of Hamtramck. As elected official in the entire country and this is how we do this?"

The resolution failed.

In his report, Mayor Alharbi said that he understands people are upset about the cost of their water bills.

"That's something I'm looking into," he said. "I'm here for you."

Councilmember Choudhury credited Bill Meyer for showing that the Hamtramck Muslim community "love each other. We are in this together."

Choudhury said he mentions this because "everyone's always blaming Muslims for this, Muslim doing that – Islamophobia, all that. But we got to show we are better than that. That's how we can get our potentiality, our future desire. I'm here for you all the time – no matter."

During public comment, Bill Meyer said that tonight's meeting, which had a number of interruptions and outbursts, was "totally out of control. We must learn Robert's Rules (of Order). That keeps us all calm and safe and can work with each other."

Meyer also said that when people address the council, they must "speak in one common language, which you all know is English usually. That's respectful to everyone, be fair to everyone."

(A number of people who comment during public discussion speak in Arabic.)

Ahmed Sharafuddin, of the YUC News Channel Network, defended addressing the council in Arabic, saying, "That's my right."

He also said he is "raising a formal complaint against Bill Meyer for misbehavior."

He did not specify the objectionable aspects of that behavior.

Coming Events

SATURDAY, June 13, 2-4p.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.)

THURSDAY, June 25, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. – A health fair is being held by the Muslim Family Services, located at 12500 Mitchell just outside of Hamtramck. It will feature screenings for cholesterol and kidneys, blood pressure, dental screenings and more.

CLAIMS PROCESS - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the 2026 Auction Proceeds Claims Process?

If your property was foreclosed in March 2026, you may be owed money from the auction sale. This is called remaining proceeds—the extra money left after your taxes and fees were paid. Under Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) 211.78t, this money is not sent automatically—you have to apply to get it.

Who is eligible to file a claim for remaining proceeds?

You may be entitled to any remaining proceeds from a foreclosure sale if you owned or had an ownership interest in a property in Wayne County, Michigan, that was foreclosed in 2026 and may be sold at auction. "Remaining proceeds" are proceeds from the auction sale left over, if any, after the total amount due to the foreclosing governmental unit (including all costs and expenses incurred in connection with the sale) is paid.

How do I Participate?

To be eligible to receive any remaining sale proceeds, you must submit a Notice of Intent to Claim Interest in Foreclosure Sales Proceeds (Form 5743) no later than July 1, 2026. Scan the QR code to access the form.



How do I Submit the Notice of Intent form?

The Completed and NOTARIZED forms must be sent by certified United States Postal Service mail, return receipt requested or hand delivered no later than July 1, 2026 to: Wayne County Treasurer: 400 Monroe, 5th Floor, Detroit, MI 48226

Where Can I Learn More About the Process?

To learn more about the claims process, please visit the Wayne County Treasurer's Office website and click on the "Claims & Auction page". The full claims process is also outlined in Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) 211.78t. Scan to view the law:



What are next steps after filing the Notice of the Intent form?

You will receive a Notice to Claimant to File Motion by January 30, 2027. This notice will include:

- Whether there are funds available (remaining proceeds)
- Whether other parties have filed claims
- Instructions to file a motion with the Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court
- Your case number, assigned judge, and court contact information

You will then need to file a motion with the court to complete your claim. Motion form: <https://shorturl.at/99N4z> or scan the qr code:



Questions? Visit WayneCountyMI.gov/Treasurer or email: taxinfo@waynecountymi.gov