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Pages 8 & 10



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Volume 3 No. 15  
April 22, 2011  
**50¢**

# The Review

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## Quick Hits

**Of course this week's big event is Easter. But did you know that today, Friday (April 22), is also Earth Day?**

There is no shortage of evidence that the poor old earth is taking a mighty beating by humans. How about turning this around and pledging to "go green"? You can do so by taking little steps at first, such as:

- Stop using plastic bags
- Ride a bike or walk instead of driving
- Dial down the thermostat
- Plant a tree or a garden
- Eat more locally-grown food
- Recycle
- Spend less time watching TV or going on the computer
- Stop using bottled water

The list just goes on and on, but you get the drift. Remember, we are the caretakers of the world.

## Quote of the week ...

**Who said this, and what is it about?** You can find the quote and the story it belongs to somewhere in the pages of this issue.

**"I noticed they were going everywhere except for Hamtramck."**

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

# Happy Easter

## For many, Easter tradition still holds strong

**By Greg Kowalski  
Special to The Review**

"Once more the Christian world falls silent - once more humanity pauses in its daily task to stand in mute and reverent contemplation before the profound and earth-shaking mysteries of the Crucifixion and the Resurrection."

For years, those words appeared religiously in a front page story on the Hamtramck Citizen newspaper in the edition on the Friday - Good Friday - just before Easter.

"Three hours of peace and still will descend upon Hamtramck at noon today with the beginning of Tre Ore services simultaneously at St. Florian, St. Ladislaus and Our Lady Queen of Apostles."

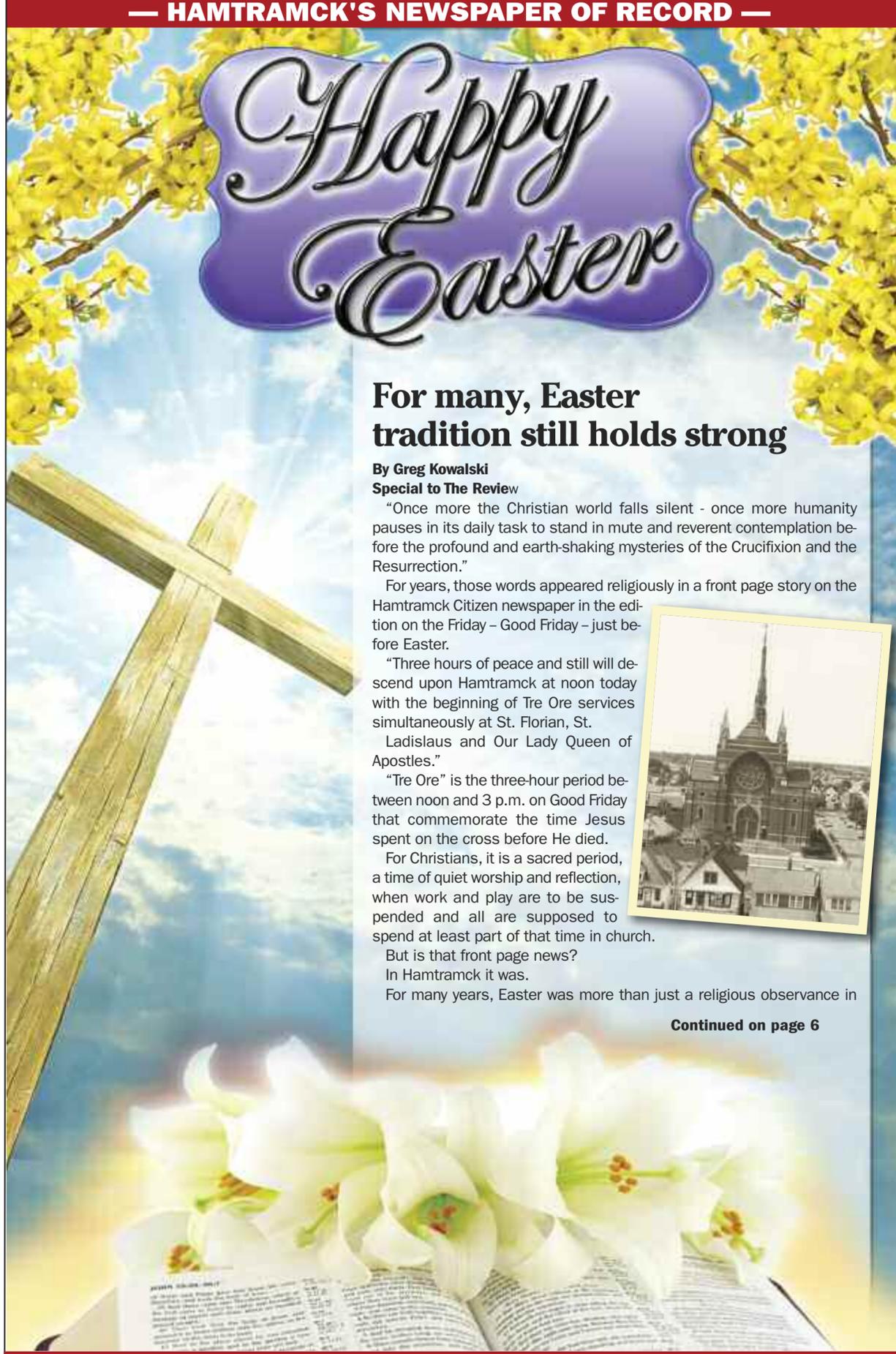
"Tre Ore" is the three-hour period between noon and 3 p.m. on Good Friday that commemorate the time Jesus spent on the cross before He died.

For Christians, it is a sacred period, a time of quiet worship and reflection, when work and play are to be suspended and all are supposed to spend at least part of that time in church.

But is that front page news? In Hamtramck it was.

For many years, Easter was more than just a religious observance in

**Continued on page 6**





## City once again avoids payless payday

**By Charles Sercombe**

Hamtramck officials decided they won't bother waiting for Detroit to write the city a check.

At a special City Council meeting held on Tuesday, the council agreed to dip into an escrow account and withdraw \$500,000 to cover next week's employee payroll and pay some bills.

Fortunately, city officials had earlier set up the escrow account to hold water and sewer fees that were owed to Detroit. Hamtramck and Detroit had been embroiled in a dispute over how much tax money was owed Hamtramck from GM's Pole-town plant.

While that matter was being hashed out, Detroit refused to release past tax money collected from the plant, which led to city officials here to withhold water and sewer payments to Detroit.

Over several months, the

**Continued on page 2**

## City's library is safe from the budget ax

**By Charles Sercombe**

There's one thing Hamtramck residents don't have to worry about.

The city's public library won't be on the budget chopping block any time soon. That's because the library is self-sustained through its own special tax millage.

Voters OK'd two types of special taxes, both of which run indefinitely. The library taxes bring in about \$450,000 a year.

For a public library to be so solvent is the exception - not the norm - these days. A number of communities are facing the likelihood of having to close their libraries. Detroit is seriously consider-

**Continued on page 2**

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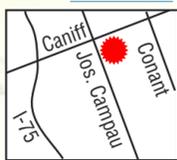
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# City once again avoids payless payday

Continued from front page

city accumulated \$3.2 million – the exact amount Hamtramck claimed Detroit owed the city.

The dispute was settled over a month ago, with Detroit agreeing to cut Hamtramck a check for \$3.2 million and Hamtramck agreeing to release the escrow account to Detroit.

Well guess what? Detroit has been dragging its feet on cutting that check, and in the meantime Hamtramck's coffers dried up. Despite repeated pleas from Hamtramck officials to release the check, Detroit failed to respond.

So ... City Manager Bill Cooper asked Detroit if he could use money from the

escrow account to avoid payless paydays. Detroit agreed, Cooper said.

This is the second time within a month that the city has had to scramble to avoid a payless payday. The city previously raided its road repair fund to the tune of \$600,000.

As for why Detroit has delayed payment to the city, Cooper could only guess.

"They (Detroit officials) keep saying they need to work things out, something with the state," Cooper said.

Cooper also said that state officials have not gotten back to him about the city's request for an emergency state loan worth \$2.5 million. Even with Detroit's

payment and the state loan, city officials say they have a year at best before the city goes broke.

Why is that?

Like many other communities in the state, Hamtramck's state revenue sharing has been slashed while health insurance and pension costs keep going up. The city is facing a \$4 million deficit.

"We need to close the gap," Cooper said, in what might be the understatement of the year.

Just how do you "close" a \$4 million budget hole?

Councilmember Catrina Stackpoole said a large chunk of it will have to come from contract concessions

and benefit cuts from police officers and firefighters.

So far, police and firefighters have resisted significant cuts.

Looming in the background of this financial crisis is the possibility that if the city runs out of money, the governor could appoint an emergency financial manager who could ultimately rip up union contracts and force concessions.

Gov. Snyder is urging communities to merge services, including police and fire.

**The council will next meet in a budget work session on Wednesday (April 27) at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall.**

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**~ Easter Mass Schedule ~**

<b>Wednesday, April 20th</b> 7 p.m. ~ The Way of the Cross	7 p.m. ~ Sorrowful Lamentations – 3 parts
<b>Maundy Thursday, April 21st</b> 6:00 p.m. ~ Private Confession for youth. 6:45 p.m. ~ Adult General Confession 7:00 p.m. ~ Holy Mass and Holy Thursday Liturgy	<b>Holy Saturday, April 23rd</b> 9:30 a.m. ~ Holy Saturday Liturgy Blessing of Food Baskets at 11:00 a.m.; 1 p.m.; 2 p.m.; 3 p.m.
<b>Good Friday, April 22nd</b> 9 a.m. ~ Liturgy of the Passion of our Lord. 12 – 3 p.m. ~ Adoration of the Cross and Scripture Reading at half-hour intervals.	<b>Sunday, April 24th</b> Resurrection of Our Lord 7 a.m. ~ Procession and Holy Mass. Intention: For all Parishioners. 9:30 a.m. ~ Holy Mass. Intention: In Memory of Fr. Edward & Frances Sobolewski.

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## City's library is safe from the budget ax

Continued from front page

ing closing over half of its existing library branches.

Troy narrowly averted closing its almost new, state-of-the-art library on May 1. The Troy City Council just this week announced it would keep funding the library after a huge public outcry in protest of the closing.

However, Troy voters have repeatedly rejected a special

millage for their library.

Hamtramck is not only on solid financial ground, it's hugely popular. Here are some mind-boggling numbers:

Last year, over 91,000 people visited the library, and over 61,000 items were checked out.

Library Director Tamara Sochacka attributes the high use on the economy.

"Libraries are very popular right now because people have less money for books and DVD's," Sochacka said. "The library is their second home."

There are 25 computers

the public can use, and those units were used 40,000 times. Sochacka said from what she can tell, many of the immigrants who live here rely on the computers and the Internet to communicate with relatives back home.

The library has become so popular that last February – for the first time ever – a non-resident fee was imposed. Non-residents must now pay \$3 month or make one yearly payment of \$30.

Besides offering the basics, Sochacka said the library has branched out to team up with local schools

to offer a library orientation program – a program that educates younger people on how to use a library and what the library has in its collection.

There are also a number of after-school programs as well as cultural events that make Hamtramck's library stand out from others in the metro area.

While the library's finances are stable, down the road it will have to absorb the costs of pensions, something in which the city is now covering, said Finance Director Nevrus Nazarko.

## This week at the library...

**ESL Class for Beginners** - Saturday, April 30 at 10:30 a.m. Christine Templin is the instructor for the ESL class for beginners. Everyone is invited. Free to the public.

**Storytime for Children** - Saturday, April 30 at noon. All children are invited to library storytime. It is never too early to start a garden. Join us in making your own (Sombbrero) and listen to a story "Skippyjon Jones" by Judy Schachner.

**Computer Classes for Advanced Users** - Monday, April 25 at 11 a.m. Adults with basic computer skills can enhance their computer literacy each Monday at the library. Number of participants is limited to available computers.

**Model D. Speaker Series** - Tuesday, April 26 at 6:00 p.m. Join us in one of the 313's most diverse and walkable communities for a frank conversation about our strengths and opportunities moderated by Martina Guzman of WDET 101.9 FM. The event is open to the public.

**Computer Classes for Beginners** - Wednesday, April 27 at 11 a.m. Basic instructions on computer use for beginners will be held on Tuesdays. Number of participants is limited to available computers.

**Reading and Conversation for ESL Students** - Tuesday, April 26 at 5:30 p.m. Jide Aje is the instructor for the reading and conversation ESL classes.

**Math Club Meeting** - Tuesday, April 26 at 4 p.m. Mr. Nuo is the instructor for the math club and math tutoring.

**Movie Wednesday** - Wednesday, April 27 at 3:30 p.m. Every Wednesday is movie day at the library. Come and enjoy our feature presentation, which includes free popcorn and snacks.

**Movie Screening "A Letter from Poland"** - Thursday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m. A documentary film by Mariusz Pilis presents the progress of the investigation of the airplane catastrophe in which the Polish president along with 98 members of the Polish government lost their lives on the final approach to the Smolensk airport in Russia.

**Meeting of the Library Board** - Thursday, May 12 at 6 p.m. Regular meeting of the Library Board will be held in the auditorium. Open to the public.

**Friends of the Library Meeting** - Thursday, May 19 at 6:30 p.m. FHPL President Kathy Kristy and Treasurer George Gorday, invite all members and volunteers to participate in the regular monthly meeting and election meeting of the FHPL.

For more information about events at the library call (313) 365-7050, or visit our website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> where you can also access our online catalog.

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# Second Front Page

## Free law clinic will set up shop in City Hall

By David Piestrzynski  
Special to The Review

The University of Detroit-Mercy's Immigration Law Clinic is coming to Hamtramck, free of charge.

The clinic, run by students and professors from U-D Mercy's Law School, offers legal advice on several immigration topics such as asylum, deportation and citizenship petitions.

The free sessions will be held at City Hall, and will run the last Wednesday of every

month starting April 27 and ending on Nov. 30 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The clinic had been making stops all over metro Detroit, until Hamtramck Police Lt. Max Garbarino, a U-D law student who has participated in the program, asked "Why not Hamtramck?"

"I noticed they were going everywhere except for Hamtramck," Garbarino said.

He helped to open the lines of communication between Hamtramck city offi-

cial and David Koelsch, U-D Mercy law professor and director of the Immigration Law Clinic, about the possibility of the clinic visiting Hamtramck.

With the support of city officials, some space was soon made available on the second floor of the City Council Chambers for the scheduled sessions.

"Anyone willing to provide services to the people in Hamtramck we support 100 percent," said City Manager

Bill Cooper. "It's a great thing."

Also, the clinic could be offering more than legal advice to some people.

Garbarino, who has worked on a handful of the cases, said that while the clinic primarily answers questions and offers advice, they do sometimes take on cases. This service is also free.

## Hamtown's movers and shakers...

By Alan R. Madeleine

**Who he is:** John Rostek, a teacher at Hamtramck High School who is holding a unique fundraiser for the school district. Let's drop in on John and find out what all the fuss is about.

**Hello, John. Give me some particulars first, please, about you as a teacher. You teach at Hamtramck High - what subject(s)? How long have you been there? Had you taught elsewhere before that, either in this city or in another? Where did you get your degrees?**

Rostek: First of all, I am proud to say that I am a product of the Hamtramck Public Schools. After graduating in 1986, I attended Central Michigan University, where I obtained two bachelor's degrees before moving on to my master's degree in Administration. I have been employed with Hamtramck Public Schools since 1995,

and currently teach accounting and vocational business.

**It seems that a certain something has come over you; that being, the urge to climb very high, very cold mountains. On every continent in the world. I've heard of this being done before. Did someone else having done this inspire you to follow in their footsteps, or just how did you get the idea to do this?**

Rostek: I am who I am today because of the influence and inspiration of others. Every individual has a gift to offer. It is up to us to seek it and accept it. My favorite place to be is in the natural world. It started with the National Parks and grew from there. Hamtramck's own Kevin Kondrat, director of the Hamtramck Housing Commission, escalated my adventures by taking me to Isle Royale, and also to Boundary Waters in northern Minnesota. From there, it



just kept elevating!

**I see the picture of you posing at the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro. Was that the first of the seven that you've achieved? On that note, it does indeed look like Kilimanjaro's summit, once notoriously snow-covered, is now bare rock. This swift change is often held up as a poster moment for those subscribing to the theory of global warming. Which is to say, virtually every climate scientist anywhere in the world. Care to comment on this?**

Rostek: Kilimanjaro was the first summit of the seven that I climbed in August of 2010. It is true that the glacier is diminishing, but I believe that is part of the ever-changing natural world. The world has been evolving and changing since the beginning of time. Have humans contributed? That's for the scientists to answer. I'm a business teacher.

Any other interesting tales

**from that adventure? Who did you go up with? I presume you had a least one seasoned guide - if so, were they local? Any near-death experiences? Was this your first time in Africa? If yes, how did you find the country to be, hospitality wise?**

Rostek: It was my first visit to Africa. My experiences were positive. The natives were friendly, and always offered a smile. It was amazing to me that people with very little can find a way to be happy. That's the great part of traveling - you learn valuable life lessons. I learned to appreciate the life I have and the country I live in. I have met some interesting people from all over the world, and continue to communicate with them regularly. In fact, two of the climbers on the upcoming Mt. McKinley climb are from the 2010 Kilimanjaro climb.

**Backing up some, how long have you been mountain climbing? I confess to know-**

Continued on page 4

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# Hamtown's movers and shakers...

Continued from page 3

ing little about it myself, as I have a problem with vertigo at elevations over about 7 feet. Is it really "because it's there"? What is it with you people, anyway - what makes a person leave the perfectly good solid ground to go and do this crazy thing?

Rostek: I'm at the infancy level of mountain climbing. I have a lot to learn yet. I'm just surrounded by skilled climbers who are willing to teach me the ropes. Mountain climbing is symbolic of life. It is a long arduous journey, but when you reach your goal, the summit, it is the greatest feeling. Just like anything in life, you have to work hard to achieve greatness. The eighth summit!

You're planning to tackle Mr. McKinley in Alaska in June of this year. More on that in a moment. Do you

have a set schedule for going after the other remaining ones? I assume there's a necessary period of downtime after something so strenuous? How do you decide which to go after when? I imagine it may have to do with the seasons, and likely weather patterns, and so on?

Rostek: I plan on climbing Mt. Elbrus in 2012. Mt. Elbrus is located in the Caucasus mountain range in Russia. I base my decision to climb on the climbing season. Some mountains can only be climbed during certain parts of the year. For instance, the climb on Mt. Everest begins in March. That would require missing three months of work.

This particular trip in June, to McKinley, you have tied into a fundraising campaign



Hamtramck High School teacher John Rostek poses on top of Mt. Kilimanjaro last year. He's now set his sights on Mt. McKinley, and he's doing it for a good cause.

for money to help support the schools. You set the goal at \$1 per foot, which would be equal to \$20,320 if you make it to the top. How are the pledges coming so far? In a worst-case scenario, what happens if, for whatever reason, you don't make it to the top - do you have a plan for refunding pledges?

Rostek: I am pleased to say that Dickinson East is the first "summit flag" sponsor. I am expecting each school building to be represented on the flag along with the AFSCME, HFT, and HAA unions. I have received commitments from FRD Pharmacy, Maine Street, Royal Kabob and your own newspaper, the Review. I am hoping that other local businesses will join the climb.

The yearly success rate of summiting Mt. McKinley is 54 percent. The reason why the success rate is such a coin toss is because of the severe weather conditions. The average temperature is -20 degrees and the occasional blizzards may keep you isolated in your tent for days. I don't think the contributions are contingent on whether or not I summit, but on the cause itself. Remember, 100 percent of the donations go back to the kids.

Lastly - you like to say that you believe there are actually "eight" summits - the eighth being that which is in each of us, in your students. Care to expound?

Rostek: The eighth summit is our own personal climb in life. It is the climb "to infinity and beyond." There are no limits to what we can achieve. Personal growth and

achievement should be a continual process in our life, which is why all donations will "help our children reach the summit."

Anything else you'd like to add that I didn't address? And, thanks for your time.

Rostek: Just like mountain climbing, you need a tremendous team of people to reach the summit. I have an awesome group of talented students who are making this happen. They are the reason! I thank Dr. Russ Chavey for inspiring this climb, Lisa Vreede and Cat Ruffner for their guidance, Toni Coral for her partnership, and lastly, Ms. Westrate, Mr. Cartwright, Mr. Niczay and the School Board for their support. JOIN THE CLIMB HAMTRAMCK!

## Street Life



### During spring, Hamtramck jumps into action

By Walter Wasacz

A lot goes on in a typical week in Hamtramck. Expand the range of activity over a month, and the city reaches a point close to bursting at the seams with things happening.

When we started this column it set out to preview and survey the city's cultural life - brought into focus by Hamtramck's greatest asset: human-scale urban life represented by the connectivity of the street - each week. And there was plenty to write about. Now that we do it once each month the possibilities multiply.

It might be just that the beginning of spring brings the city to life a bit more. Warmer days (though there is still an unseasonable chill in the air) brings out walkers and cyclists, the lines grow longer on

terms of seeing bodies in motion on the street, in the months ahead.

But let's first tighten the focus on early April and a massive event that took place



Kristin Beaver

about seven minutes south by southwest of here by car, roughly double that by bicycle. That's in Midtown, where the



the sidewalk outside Polish Village or inside at the three registers at Al-Haramain produce market.

The best is yet to come, in

city's Cultural Center is anchored. The event was called Art X, sponsored by the Kresge Foundation, which has been

Continued on page 6

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**"Town Hall" Community Meeting**

We are having a "Town Hall Meeting" Thursday, April 28, 2011 at 6:00 pm

At Peoples Community Service, Jos Campau and Danforth

Hosted by South End Block Club and Hamtramck Community Initiative (HCI)

To inform our community about:  
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Hamtramck Citizens Patrol

WEED & SEED

HCI

# Review: Opinion Page

## A good way to promote the city and the DDA

There's an idea being considered around town to have the Downtown Development Authority take over the Hamtramck Labor Day Festival.

We're not sure where the proposal is going, but at least on the surface it sounds like a good idea. After all, the DDA district includes all of Jos. Campau, and since the festival occurs on Campau and is the largest city event of the year, it makes sense for the DDA to be in

charge. Having said this, we also appreciate the energy and management of the two volunteers who took over the festival last year. There is no reason the DDA can't employ the services of volunteers.

It helps to have the DDA to get involved because this should clearly be identified as a city-sponsored event. The DDA also needs to promote itself more, and can easily do this by hitching up with

the festival.

More importantly, the city needs to promote the Jos. Campau business district, which has taken a huge hit in this economic slump. It's no secret that Hamtramck's main business district is anemic at best.

We need to attract more businesses here, and what better way to showcase what the city has to offer than through the festival?



## Letter from the Publisher

By John Ulaj

### The World's Hope

Incredible! I recall writing about Easter last year, and yet somehow it seems like just a few weeks ago. I guess, at the age of 38, I have such a voluminous schedule that – in dealing with life's complexities – I sometimes forget to live life, or at least to live it abundantly.

Just recently, I read an article about one of the world's longest-lived people, Walter Breuning, who finally passed away a short time ago – at the astonishing age of 114! One of the journalists had asked him about the key to his longevity, and his response was “to accept death as part of life, and never fear it.”

I must admit, his answer

was captivating. So many of us today fear death, and the uncertainties of life. But in the end, it's all just part of being human.

Easter brings us the promise that death has, in fact, been conquered by the power of God in Christ Jesus. Jesus experienced joy, anxiety, depression, homelessness, and poverty. He became man to show us that we can overcome the difficult challenges that life brings us, if we have faith in God.

This Sunday, as Easter approaches, we are reminded that Jesus was not just a good man who fell victim to evil circumstances. On the contrary, he predicted the manner of his death (and the time and

place), as given by the heavenly Father (Matthew 26:2).

Jesus was not a powerless victim. He embraced death to accomplish our redemption from sin, and he rose from the dead in power and majesty. By his love and compassion, he healed the sick, restored the paralyzed, calmed the sea, fed the multitudes, and raised the dead. And yet, despite all the war, sickness, disease, and uncertainty we experience today, we can still look forward to the time when the King of Peace returns, to restore hope to the world.

Jesus Christ, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, will do just that! I wish you all a wonderful and blessed Easter.

## Odds & Ends

**Do over ...** In last week's story about a health hike held at Hamtramck High School, we forgot to mention that a key organizer of the event was Hamtramck's Drug Free Community Coalition.

We received a phone call and an email to chastise us for this oversight, and we are truly sorry for that.

We should also mention that there were a number of other community sponsors that participated, including: First Michigan Bank, Maine Street Restaurant, Little Caesar's, Maria's Comida, Sterling Services, Sodexo Food Service, The Piast Institute and the Hamtramck Recreation Department.

Funding for the event came from the Michigan Department of Community Health's Generation with Promise and Color Me Health projects.

And while we're setting the

ment, Weed and Seed, Hamtramck Citizen Patrol and the South End Block Club.

Whew! The event will be held at People's Community Services (located at Jos. Campau and Danforth on the city's southend) and starts at 6 p.m. It's open to everyone, and you can learn about the citizen patrol program, block clubs, neighborhood watches, grant opportunities and much more.

And then on Friday (April 29), the Hamtramck NAACP will host a “Teach-In” about immigrant rights and racial profiling.

The meeting will be held at the ICND Auditorium at 12605 McDougall St., located two blocks north of Carpenter in Detroit.

Panelists include Ryan Bates, the Director of AIR, Dawud Walid, Executive Direc-

You have until May 10 to throw your hat in the ring, as they used to say.

**History for sale ...** Anyone remember the Dennis Orłowski murals of Poland's history that were displayed outside at the former Polish American Club on Holbrook? They were initially auctioned off after the building was sold.

Robert Zwolak bought them, and he is now putting them up for sale at Goods and Things resale shop at Jos. Campau and Caniff. The asking price isn't cheap: You'll have to shell out \$2,000 to get it. And that's just for one section.

**Thanks ...** Inside this issue you can read about Hamtramck High School business teacher John Rostek and his plan to raise money for the



record straight, the Hamtramck Drug Free Community Coalition was started by the Piast Institute in 2006, and staff members of the Coalition come from the AmeriCorps Vista program.

Take a bow everyone for a job well done.

In the coming week or so we'll take a closer look at the Coalition and what it's been up to during the past few years.

**Community meetings ...** Next week is turning out to be a busy one. First up is a “Town Hall” meeting on Thursday (April 28) sponsored by the Hamtramck Community Initiative, the Police Depart-

ment of CAIR, Saeed Khan, a professor at Wayne State University, Seema Ahmad of MMDC and the event will be moderated by Bill Meyer of the Hamtramck NAACP.

For more information about this meeting, call (313) 207-3904.

**Reminder ...** Hey folks, the city's election season is officially on, and you still have time to take a petition to run for one of three seats on City Council. You need to get at least 25 signatures from registered voters in Hamtramck, or you can opt to skip the petition thing and just pony up \$100 to get on the August Primary Election ballot.

district by climbing Mt. McKinley this summer.

The Superintendent of the district, Tom Niczay, emailed his thanks to the community for supporting the fundraiser:

“Thanks to the individuals and schools who have contributed to the ‘Climbing For Success’ fundraiser. All monies collected from John Rostek's climb of Mt. McKinley-Denali will be used for student extracurricular activities. Please support this worthwhile effort to raise \$20,320 – \$1 for every foot Mr. Rostek climbs. Here's a link to Mr. Rostek's appearance on channel 4. <http://www.clickondetroit.com/video/27564091/index.html>.”

## Coming Events

**APRIL 27, Wednesday, noon** – Daughters of Isabella Mystical Rose Circle 736 will hold a “Spring Card & Bunco Social”, admission \$7, featuring door and table prizes, raffle, share the wealth and a lunch, at Queen of Apostles' Activity Center, entrance on Harold St., fenced parking.

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Copy Editor: Ian Perrotta

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## The Amazing CYNICALMAN

by Matt Feazell



## Obituaries

### CIESLAK

Jadwiga Cieslak, 87, died April 20, 2011.

Mrs. Cieslak was a Hamtramck resident. She was preceded in death by her husband, Marian.

Mrs. Cieslak is survived by her nieces, Donna Swiderski and family, and Christine Kryszko and family; her friend, Janina Kalarus and family in Poland.

Funeral arrangements were made by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, and funeral services will be held on April 26 at St. Florian Church at 12:30 p.m. She

will lie in state starting at noon. Visitation will be April 25, 3-8 p.m. with a rosary at 5 p.m. Burial will be at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

### PIEGDON



Alfred F. Piegdon, of Burton, age 65, died Sunday, April 17, 2011 at GeneSYS

Hospice Care Center in Goodrich.

Per Alfred's wishes, cremation has taken place and there will be no visitation or services at this

time. Alfred's cremains will be interred at Great Lakes National Cemetery.

Alfred married Claudia Papcun on July 29, 1972 in Detroit. He graduated from St. Joseph High School, Class of 1964 and served in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam Conflict. Alfred retired from General Motors Grand Blanc Plant as a Tool Maker in 2008 after 39 years of service and was a member of UAW Local #1292.

Surviving are his wife, Claudia; children, Lisa (Loren) Morrow, Monique Piegdon, Dawn Piegdon (Leonty Fineran), Scott (Sherrie) Piegdon and Nicholas (Lisa) Piegdon; three grandchildren, Michael Lamer, Madison and Nicholas Piegdon; and sister, Christine Koscielski.

Your condolences may be shared with the family at swartzfuneralhomeinc.com.

## For many, Easter tradition still holds strong

Continued from front page

the city. It was part of the culture. Between noon and 3 p.m. on Good Friday, Hamtramck virtually shut down. All businesses closed. City Hall shut its doors. There was virtually nothing to do except go to church, and people did, by the thousands.

Almost all Hamtramckans were Christians at that time. They were immigrant Poles who came to work at the Dodge Main factory or the 23 other factories that sent smokestacks into the city's sky in the 1920s. They brought a deep connection to the Catholic religion with them from the Old Country, which was overwhelmingly Catholic. It was said in those days no Polish person would build a house unless he could see a church steeple out the window.

They were willing to make great sacrifices for their faith, including tapping into their meager paychecks to pay for magnificent — and expensive — structures like St. Florian.

But they weren't the only Christians. The city's African-American population also was deeply faithful. Corinthian Baptist Church, St. Peter's AME church and several other smaller Baptist churches were an integral part of the makeup of Hamtramck, and remain so to this day.

For all, Good Friday was part of the Easter celebration. Once the stores reopened after 3 p.m., many people headed to the bakeries to buy bread and butter lambs for the Easter meals. This was a busy time for New Palace, Home, Paris and the other bakeries in town.

Kowalski meat markets offered "Kowalski Quality Easter Ham" and "Easter Kielbasa" made "special for the holiday feast."

Then, as now, people colored eggs for Easter, but in the earlier days of the 20th century the eggs usually were dyed a brownish orange in a bath of boiled onion peels or beets.

The meat, butter and eggs, along with salt, would be placed in an Easter basket, which would be taken to church on Holy Saturday for the traditional blessing.

For the ladies, Easter was also a time to look their best. In 1942 Skippy's Beauty Salon offered "New styles for Easter." A regular \$6.50 permanent could be had for \$3.

Just down the street on Jos. Campau, Ringgold's — Hamtramck's Largest Family Shoe Store, advised: "Make it a family affair when you go shoe-buying this Easter. Krohngold's has beautiful new styles for men, women and children."

Men's shoes started at \$2.99 and women's were \$2.49 and up.

Florian Greenhouse, just across the street from St. Florian Church, was bursting with Easter lilies.

"Say Happy Easter with flowers," it advised.

Belmont Sweet Shop offered an array of Easter candy and a chance to win a "New Bright Electric Eyes Bunny," whatever that was.

There were other traditions as well, like the sale of Easter Seals and dressing in the fine clothes and "Easter bonnets" for Sunday Mass.

Mass was the religious centerpiece of the day. Sunday began with 5 a.m. Mass, with others to follow at 10 a.m. and noon. And everyone looked forward to Easter dinner.

Lent was over, the fasting was done and it was time for feasting on ham, kielbasa, boiled eggs, sauerkraut, fresh bread, beet soup and much more.

It was a time for the family to gather, sharing food and time together.

And that, like the underlying spirit of Easter, hasn't changed a bit.

(Greg Kowalski is chairman of the Hamtramck Historical Commission.)

## Street Life

Continued from page 4



Sandra Kramer

ergy.

One of the fellows is Hamtramck-based painter Kristin Beaver, who created a life-sized homage to Sandra Kramer and her late husband Jim Shaw, who died in December after a two-year battle with cancer.

helping push an arts and culture agenda by awarding fellowships valued at \$25,000 to 18 artists each year. There is also a \$50,000 eminent artist award given out annually. That's good money well spent to fund work that has numerous positive ripple effects — for catalyzing neighborhood and community life — for years to come.

An extraordinary piece of Hamtramck life was the centerpiece of this extraordinary week of art and human en-

shows Kramer atop her motorcycle and Shaw, dressed in a white suit before her, barefoot and beatific, to her left. The couple is holding hands. The background is their Hamtramck house. It is a lovely image that touches all who knew Shaw, an important figure in Detroit's music scene since the late 1970s, and Kramer, who owns the Hamtramck hair salon Barberella. It is a beautiful picture, regardless of whether you knew the

couple or the circumstances, making it even stronger as a work of art.

There is also another portrait of Kramer wearing sunglasses, standing with hands on hips, a glass door behind her, looking directly back at you. She's a rockin' Hamtramck gal. And it shows in Beaver's painting.

The paintings hang in a special gallery created for Art X by the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (MOCAD). If you have not seen the works, it is highly recommended that you do. They remain up until this Sunday, April 25. MOCAD is at 4454 Woodward at Garfield St.

Also as part of Art X, Kresge fellow Steve Hughes read selections from a book of collected works from Stupor, a zine he started in New Orleans before moving to Hamtramck in the mid-1990s. A standing room only crowd attended the reading at Leopold's, an independent book store in the Park Shelton

Continued on page 7

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# With Paczki Day over, local bakeries get ready for Easter

By David Piestrzynski  
 Special to The Review

The mad rush of Paczki Day is not something bakeries in Hamtramck can easily duplicate.

Sandy Bakic, of New Martha Washington Bakery, describes it as a "phenomenon."

"It's special," she said. "People from all over want to experience it."

And they do come from all over the world.

Vicky Ognanovich, of New Palace Bakery, said she had customers from as far as New Zealand, Hawaii and Guam this year. Many of these customers, she said, come every year.

"Last year we had people sign a guestbook," Ognanovich said, "and this year we noticed we had a lot of the same people coming from all over the place."

And while the annual Fat Tuesday sales boom is typically followed by a drop-off when people give up their favorite desserts for Lent, many bakers agree this year is different.

"It's a bit slower than usual," Ognanovich said. "But that's probably because the economy is off right now."

She said that while things typically slow down after Paczki Day, sales are usually still somewhat consistent.

"A lot of times people might

give up brownies (for Lent)," she said, "but they'll usually still come in and go with something else."

Bakic agrees that the economy has become more of an obstacle for local bakeries.

"Nobody's business is the way it used to be right now," she said.

But the sluggish economy hasn't slowed these bakers' optimism for the next holiday rush.

Local bakeries are preparing for Easter, with the traditional items offered for the holiday every year.

These specialty items, such as egg bread, kolachki, babka and several others, are expected to be the usual hot sellers for Easter.

"Easter is a very colorful, festive holiday," said Bakic. "It's always been warmly remembered."

Among the additional specialty items her bakery offers to help celebrate the holiday is a traditional Easter Bread Centerpiece.

Hamtramck's other bakers also offer several other items for the holiday, such as various Easter cakes and dessert baskets.

But while Easter is typically a special, and lucrative, holiday for local bakeries, Bakic said it still can't compare with Fat Tuesday in Hamtramck.

"No other holiday beats Paczki Day," she said.



Hamtramck's bakeries have been busy during the Lenten season, especially this week as area Catholics prepare for Easter.



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**Where?**  
 Hamtramck City Hall, 3401 Evaline, Hamtramck, MI, 48212  
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## Street Life Continued from page 6

apartment building near the Detroit Institute of Arts. The book is available there for \$14.95 and at Public Pool, the Hamtramck art space that Hughes helped co-found.

Next week, more neighborhood and community buzz

man, Global Detroit; Maria Elena Rodriguez, Entrepreneur and Community Activist in Southwest Detroit; Dawud Walid, Council on American-Islamic Relations; Hayg Oshagan, Director of New Michigan Media, Wayne State Univer-

sity; Nadia Tonova, National Network for Arab American Communities; Seydi Sarr, Artistic Director, Rowe Niodior African Dance Company; Ryan Bates, Alliance for Immigrants Rights and Reform; and Kazi Miah, Hamtramck City Council.

I will also be a part of the program, summarizing the topics to be discussed in what

should be a breezy five minute introduction. Let's all hope it's breezy. There will also be a Q&A session at the end.

I hope to see you there. It should be an excellent program.

**(Hamtramck Review columnist Walter Wasacz is managing editor of Model D.)**



Steve Hughes

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comes to the city thanks to Model D, which brings its popular speaker series to town at the Hamtramck Public Library.

The speaker series has featured guests from outside and inside the region, talking about ways to jumpstart the economy, address social and cultural issues, or just talk about the meteoric rise of the Detroit food scene — the topic of last month's packed event at Cliff Bell's downtown.

The program this month is called Rolling Out the Welcome Mat: Detroit as a Global City and it takes place Tuesday, April 26 at the Hamtramck Public Library, 2360 Caniff. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; panel discussion begins at 6 p.m. It's free and open to the public but you need to register by going here: <http://www.modeldmedia.com/features/speakerseries41.1.aspx>

Guests include Steve Toboc-

**Celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ**

**Have a Wonderful Easter From My Family to Yours**

**John Ulej, Publisher**

# Easter service guide for Holy week ...

**Church of Transfiguration**  
**5838 Simon K, 892-1310**  
 Holy Saturday: Blessing of Easter baskets: 11, 11:30 a.m., noon; Easter Vigil and Mass, 6 p.m.  
 Easter Sunday: Resurrection Mass (in Polish), 8: a.m., Mass in English, 10:30 a.m.

**Holy Cross Polish National Catholic**  
**2311 Pulaski, 365-5191**  
 Good Friday: Liturgy of Passion, 9 a.m.; Adoration of the cross, noon-3 p.m.; Lamentations, 7 p.m.  
 Holy Saturday: Holy Liturgy, 9:30 a.m.; Blessing of Easter food baskets: 11 a.m., 1, 2 and 3 p.m.  
 Easter Sunday: Resurrection

Mass, 7 a.m.; Mass, 9:30 a.m.

**Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic**  
**3150 Commor, 893-1710**  
 Good Friday: Burial services and Procession with Holy Shroud, 1 p.m. Matins of Jerusalem, 6:30 p.m.  
 Holy Saturday: Blessing of Easter baskets every hour: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, 8p.m.; Confession, 2-7 p.m.  
 Easter Sunday: Divine Liturgy, 6 a.m.; Liturgies, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

**Our Lady Queen of Apostles Conant and Prescott,**  
**891-1520**  
 Good Friday: Gorzkie Zale, noon; Stations of the Cross in Polish, 12:45 p.m.; Chaplete of the Divine Mercy, 1 p.m.;

Choir tribute, 1:15 p.m.; Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, 2 p.m.  
 Holy Saturday: Blessing of Easter baskets in the church, every hour starting at noon, 1, and 2 p.m.;  
 Easter Vigil Service Mass, 7 p.m.  
 Easter Sunday: Resurrection Mass with Procession, 7 a.m.; Polish Mass, 10 a.m.; English Mass, noon.

**St. Florian**  
**2626 Florian**  
**871-2778**  
 Good Friday: Station of the Cross, in English at 12:45 p.m. and in Polish at 3 p.m.; Good Friday Liturgy in English at 1:30 p.m. and in Polish at 7 p.m.; Adoration until 11 p.m.

Holy Saturday: Adoration, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Blessing of Easter baskets starts at noon every hour to 4 p.m. Easter Vigil in Polish and English at 8 p.m.  
 Easter Sunday: Resurrection Mass in Polish and English, 8 a.m.; Mass in English, noon.

**St. Hyacinth**  
**3152 Farnsworth at McDougall**  
**922-1507**  
 Good Friday: Three-hour service, noon-3 p.m.; Gorzkie Zale in Polish, noon; Stations of the Cross in English, 1 p.m.; Divine Liturgy, 2 p.m.; Distribution of Holy Communion, 2:45 p.m.  
 Holy Saturday: Blessing of Easter baskets: noon, 1, 2 and 2:30 p.m.;

Vigil Service, 3 p.m.; Mass, 4 p.m.  
 Easter Sunday: Easter Vigil and Procession (in English and Polish), 9 a.m. , Easter Mass, 11 a.m.

**St. Ladislaus**  
**2730 Caniff, 872-0709**  
 Good Friday: Stations of the Cross in Polish at noon. In English at 12:45 p.m.; Liturgy, 1:30 p.m.  
 Holy Saturday: Blessing of the baskets, 1, 1:30 and 2 p.m.  
 Easter Sunday: Resurrection Mass in Polish, 11 a.m.

**St. Louis the King**  
**18891 St. Louis, 891-1766**  
 Good Friday: Gorzkie Zale, noon; Stations of the Cross in English, 1 p.m.; Good Friday

service, 1:45 p.m. Adoration until 4 p.m.  
 Holy Saturday: Blessing of Easter food baskets, every half hour, noon to 2 p.m.; Easter Vigil Mass, 4 p.m.  
 Easter Sunday: Polish Mass with Procession, 8 a.m.; Mass in English, 10:30 a.m.

**Sweetest Heart of Mary**  
**4440 Russell, 831-6659**  
 Good Friday: Stations of the Cross, noon- 3p.m.; Private Adoration, 3-6 p.m.; Tenebrae Service, 6 p.m.  
 Holy Saturday: Mass, blessing of food, 2 p.m.  
 Easter Sunday: Mass with Procession, 8:30 a.m.; Mass, 10:30 a.m.

**Happy Easter!**  
**Sav-Mor FRD Pharmacy**  
 9811 Conant at Evaline  
 Just north of Holbrook  
**871-1115**

**A Blessed Easter & Happy Holiday from My Family to Yours**  
 Councilwoman Cathie Gordon



**New Palace Bakery**  
 9833 Jos. Campau • Hamtramck

- Angel Wings
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- Chalkas
- Easter Paskas
- Assorted Coffee Cakes
- Assorted Babkas
- Old Fashion Mazurka Cakes
- Jajecznicza
- Lamb Cakes
- Chickens
- Bunnies
- Eggs
- Poppy Seed Almond & Walnut Rolls

**Happy Easter to All!**  
**313-875-1334** Phone Orders Welcome!

**Happy Easter**  
 from Your Friends at  
**Main Street RESTAURANT**

**Have a Badass Easter Enjoy Your Holiday!**  
 From Your Friend Danny D!  
[www.DannyDLive.com](http://www.DannyDLive.com)

**Wishing the Residents of Hamtramck Every Blessing & Happiness this Holiday Season!**  
 From Mayor **Karen Majewski**  
 Paid for by the Friends of Karen Majewski

# Rental Properties and Real Estate

## APARTMENTS & FLATS FOR RENT

9721 Dequindre, 1 Br. upper, living room, kitchen, bathroom, separate entrance, utilities separate, immediate occupancy, 313-729-7760. 4/29

Clean, move-in ready, upper flat, water + heat included, \$550/month + \$550 security deposit, 313-682-2928. 5/13

Hamtramck, upper 3 Br. flat, \$575/month plus security deposit, references required, 313-801-4001. 4/29

Warren, Hamtramck + Detroit, 2 & 3 Br., central air, washer-dryer, dishwasher, excellent condition, Section 8 more than welcome, call Mario 313-420-7451. 4/29

Hamtramck, Conant-Yemans area, 2 Br. upper, living room, dining room, \$400/month + security, must have good credit, no pets, 586-945-0317. 5/13

2305 Poland, lower, 9512 Charest, lower + upper, 313-712-8347. 5/6

Hamtramck, 2137 Trowbridge, 3 Br. upper, \$500/month + \$500 deposit, 313-875-2459, 248-854-0091. 4/22

## APARTMENTS & FLATS FOR RENT

Lower, 2 Br., large backyard, safe neighborhood, appliances, AC unit + water included, \$550/month + security, 313-301-0594. 5/6

Hamtramck studio apartments, good location, immediate occupancy, 248-229-4295, 248-229-4297. 4/29

Hamtramck, 3101 Jacob, 2 Br. lower, large kitchen and dining room, excellent condition, newly painted, laundry facility included, 586-497-8810. 4/22

Studio, no pets, Hamtramck, 313-632-5566. 5/27

Hamtramck-Detroit, 4 Br., living, dining room, appliances, basement, fenced yard, Section 8 OK, \$600/month, 248-894-0131. 4/22

## HOUSE/APARTMENT FOR RENT

3901 Caniff, 4 Br., 2 bathrooms, single - family dwelling, includes new gas stove + oven, microwave, dishwasher, garbage disposal, fridge, washer-dryer, large fenced yard, 2-1/2 car garage with electronic opener, all for only \$700/month, renters insurance required, call Len at 248-421-4332 for additional info. 5/4

## HOUSE FOR RENT

9441 Charest, in heart of Hamtramck, 4 Br., remodeled bathroom, large formal dining room, kitchen, employed preferred, proof of income, \$500/month + security deposit. 586-806-4888, 586-354-8673. 4/15

Hamtramck, 2 Br., appliances, clean, senior citizen or couple preferred, 313-580-3771 or 313-871-0189. 4/29

Clean, move-in ready, upper flat, water + heat included, \$550/month + \$550 security deposit, 313-682-2928. 5/13

Hamtramck, upper 3 Br. flat, \$575/month plus security deposit, references required, 313-801-4001. 4/29

Warren, Hamtramck + Detroit, 2 & 3 Br., central air, washer-dryer, dishwasher, excellent condition, Section 8 more than welcome, call Mario 313-420-7451. 4/29

3 + 5 single family house with option to buy, no pets, 313-369-1654. 4/22

**HamtramckRentals.com**  
Oak floors in 22x12 great room, 2 Br. lower, clean, sharp, \$550/month.  
Call Julie  
**313-570-4242**

## HOUSE FOR RENT

Hamtramck, Conant-Yemans area, 2 Br. upper, living room, dining room, \$400/month + security, must have good credit, no pets, 586-945-0317. 5/13

## HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER

12089 Mitchell St., Hamtramck, 4 Br., 2 baths, full basement, 2-car garage, short walk from high school and kindergarten, selling as-is with furniture and appliances, 1382 Sq. feet, 313-368-1098. 4/22

## LOT FOR SALE

Lot with garage, Burger St., east of Fleming St., across from Kosciuzko Middle School, \$3,800, 734-671-2902. 4/22

## GARAGE FOR RENT

Hamtramck, 2-car, \$45/month, call before 8 p.m., 734-654-8681. 4/29

# Classifieds

## HELP WANTED

Truck driver-owner operator wanted, great pay, for local and regional delivery, home every weekend, 586-556-5618. 6/17

Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. The newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad, for a typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day's insertion. Adjustments for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. We reserve the right to classify, revise or reject any classified advertisement.

## Deadline for classifieds for next week is Thursday at Noon

**\$15 for one week**  
**\$25 for two weeks**  
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**Call (313) 874-2100 to place your ad**

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# service directory

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Labor on Any Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning or Sewer Cleaning Job Installation or Repair  
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## Metro news ...

It's said that whatever happens to Detroit, so goes Hamtramck. If you were to rely solely on the local mainstream media, you'd think Detroit is no more than a crime-infested wasteland. Well, we're here to say that isn't so. Our friends over at modelmedia.com and metro-mode.com have been reporting on fascinating development projects for the past few years.

With their permission, here is a round-up of their reports from the past week:

From the boiler rooms to labs to the front doors, Denby High School on the city's northeast side is getting a much-needed face-lift.

The Kraemer Design Group reports construction on Denby

High, which began earlier this year, will be completed in time for the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year. The school, named for Secretary of the Navy Edwin C. Denby, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It's quite a school, designed with a nautical theme throughout, decorated with interior wall murals and exterior terra cotta and limestone bas relief structures.

"I don't think anything major has been done to this school in a long time," says Kraemer Design Group's Bill Smith, who is managing the project. "It was really kind of worn out when we started working on it."

The \$16 million renovation includes brand-new mechanical and electrical systems, plus all the labs, classrooms and public areas will receive upgrades. The design team is also

restoring what it calls the "historic heart of the school," Denby's 2,000-seat Art Deco auditorium. Its gold leaf decoration around the curtains, maple wood chairs, and wall paneling are all being restored to its previous splendor. A new sound system is also going in.

"The auditorium they have there is beautiful," Smith says. "It was really rundown. I don't think they've even used the balcony in years, it just had ta-

bles and chairs stacked up in there.

A modernized front entrance will better handle security issues and the morning traffic flow, while students will eat in the brand-new cafeteria. The project is financed by the Proposal S bond issue, which authorized \$500 million to renovate 10 Detroit Public Schools and build eight new centers of learning.

**Writer: Ashley C. Woods**

*Jurkiewicz & Wilk  
Funeral Home*



**Happy Easter**

2396 Caniff at Brombach  
~ Hamtramck ~  
313-365-9600

Michael A. Wilk, Director and  
Robert A. Wilk, Director

**Lovely Easter**

From Your Friends at  
the  
Hamtramck  
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Society



313-893-5027  
gkowski@ameritech.net  
www.hamtramckhistory.org



**Happy Easter**  
from  
Mike Kapusniak  
from the  
Goods & Things  
Resale Shop




City Manager  
Bill Cooper  
Wishes  
Everyone A  
**Happy  
Easter**



**Happy  
Easter!**



To old friends  
and new, we're especially  
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Easter!

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**Happy Easter and  
God Bless You**




from Councilman  
Tom Jankowski

**ASE  
CERTIFIED** **The Mechanic Shop**

May You  
Have a  
Wonderful  
Easter  
Holiday



2929 Carpenter • Hamtramck  
(Just east of Jos. Campau) **313-892-1200**

Wishing You  
and Your Family  
a Wonderful  
Holiday



**Happy Easter From All of Us at  
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Assorted Babkas: Raisin, Plain, Cheese, Poppy, Almond, Fruit, Rum, Honey  
~ Special Polish and Ukrainian Easter Babkas ~ Blessing Bread  
~ Decorated Easter Cakes: Lambs, Bunnies ~ Halka / Paska ~ Chrucziki  
~ Assorted European Tortes ~ Traditional Mazurka ~ Almond, Poppy & Nut  
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Advance  
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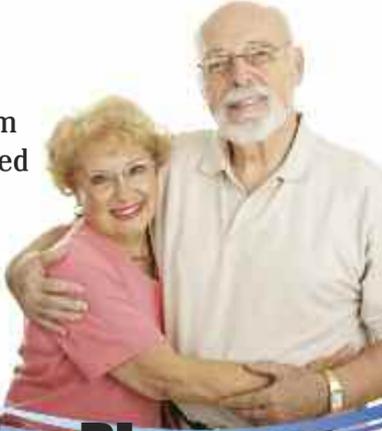
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