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**BREAKING NEWS**

See page 8 for details

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**Quick Hits**

OK, it's still winter, and you know what? We're missing warm weather, not that this winter has been that bad.

And you know what reminds us of summer? Sweet bluegrass music.

What a coincidence! This Saturday (Jan. 21) Skipper's Hamtown Bar (located at 9735 Conant) is hosting the Waynewood Boys, a very talented duo who not only specialize in bluegrass (and we're talking real banjo picking here), but also strum some country and good old roots music.

Also on the bill is Ian Pinchback.

Show starts at 9 p.m.  
See ya' there, pardner.

**— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —**

**Let's take a look ahead at the next 12 months**

**By Charles Sercombe**

We are now three weeks into the New Year, and it's time to polish our crystal ball and take a look into the year ahead.

What do we have to look forward to in 2012? Well, the big story of 2011 was new housing development, and that issue will still dominate the news this coming year.

Honestly, how do you not acknowledge a \$15 million development plan as the lead story of the coming year? We've already discussed details of the plan, but here's a recap:

Dozens of new houses will be built and loaded with energy-efficient furnaces as well as top-of-the-line appliances. The single family houses will also be sold at super low prices, around \$40,000 to \$50,000.

Home buyers will also get fi-

ancial assistance to pick up a house without laying down a huge wad of money.

While all of this is good, there is plenty of troubling financial news ahead.

By March, the city government might find itself without money on hand to meet payroll and bills. It's estimated the city will by then face a \$1.3 million budget deficit.

And by the end of June, that deficit could reach \$3.4 million.

Hamtramck has already cut its budget to the bone. The only thing to do, say some city officials, is to reinvent our police and fire departments.

One scenario goes is to combine both departments into one "Public Safety Department," which means cops would also act as firefighters.

It's a concept other communities have turned to, but it's also one with mixed results.

**Continued on page 2**



**Above: This year we once again get to look forward to the "Hamtramck Blowout" which takes place this March. Below: City officials will have their hands full this year dealing with a \$3.4 million budget deficit.**



**Hamtramck's future tied with HP?**

**By Charles Sercombe**

Hamtramck's financial survival may depend on two key things: Providing police and fire services to Highland Park, and getting retired public employees to agree to a less expensive health insurance and/or kick in co-pays.

Those topics were among several options and issues raised in a budget work session for city council on Tuesday evening.

The meeting was also the first budget session held in several months, and it also served to bring two new councilmembers, Abdul Algazali and Robert Zwolak, up to date on finances.

What's clear from Tuesday's meeting is that city officials have their work cut out for them.

This could be Hamtramck's most challenging time since the closing of the Dodge Main plant in 1980, which at that time was the city's largest employer and taxpayer, and — to stretch back further — the Great Depression of the 1930s.

To put it simply: The city is spending much more than it is taking in from tax collections.

Consider the following statistics:

With the collapse of the housing market, the city has experienced a decrease in property tax collection amounting to \$500,000.

The drop in property values has also resulted in collecting only \$900,000 from the GM Poletown plant instead of an expected \$1.7 million.

The cost of public safety, and that includes retirees, has

**Continued on page 5**

**New coffee house offers a cup of 'courage'**



**Pastor Chilly Chilton knows how to pour a soulful cup of coffee at "Courage Coffee."**

**By Alan R. Madeleine**

Reverend Chilly Chilton and his "Real Church" are probably well-known to you, if you walk the downtown stretch of Caniff Street east of Jos. Campau.

They've been there for over six years, and their boldly lettered sign is a beacon for the many Hamtramck-area teens, and others, who frequent the building. There's often plenty of activity going on, and everyone is plenty friendly without being too proselytizing.

In the interest of full disclosure, we should mention that we have had a relationship with Real Church over the years, running ads for them, having their kids deliver our city directories, and even letting them park their bus in our yard.

That sign out front has just recently changed — from "Real Church" to "Courage Coffee," featuring a lion motif, a la "The Chronicles of Narnia" — but their essential

**Continued on page 6**

**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.

**"It threw us all for a loop."**



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# Let's take a look ahead at the next 12 months

Continued from front page

The other option would be to turn the Fire Department into a volunteer force, where there are 10 or so core full-time firefighters who are aided by dozens of on-call volunteers who get paid something like \$10 or \$15 an hour with no benefits.

Or, the city could simply close down the police and fire departments and contract those services out to Detroit.

In late-breaking news, there is now a possibility of Hamtramck police officers taking over patrol duties for Highland Park.

Whew! Talk about topsyturvy. There's certainly a lot going on with the future of public safety.

The big question is, how fast can the city make any of

this happen, and how much will it cost to make any changes?

In the public schools, there is also talk of merging some services with another district, but details of who, where and how are being kept top secret, at least for the moment.

This week there was also talk of Hamtramck taking over Highland Park's school district, which was largely a media invention. Hamtramck Superintendent Tom Niczay said no one from the state or Highland Park approached him about this.

Even if they had, Niczay said he can't possibly handle an additional 1,000 students over here.

But to take over administration of that district? That's something he might consider. However, no one is making that offer.

Hamtramck's school district has plenty on its own plate this year. The district is facing a \$4.9 million budget deficit, and is on the state's "watched" list of troubled districts.

Niczay said more cuts are going to be needed, but just where has not been identified yet.

The good news is that the school district attracted more students this year instead of facing a drop in enrollment, and subsequently received a boost in state financial aid that's attached to each new student.

In other topics, let's take a quick glance:

Hamtramck politics won't be on the radar. There are no local elections this year, so all of you political junkies will have to wait one more year. However, this is a presidential election year, and as you can imagine this election is going to be extremely interesting.

A presidential Primary Election will be held on Feb. 28 for both the Republican and Democratic parties. (Guess who's running for the Democratic nomination?)

There is one sort of local election coming up in August and November, and that's for the State Rep. race.

For the strictly local elections, we have to wait for

2013, which at that time will feature the mayoral election plus three seats on city council.

The question buzzing around is, will Mayor Karen Majewski seek a third term? So far, she's not saying. Without a doubt, there are plenty of other interested parties: Councilmembers Cathie Gordon? Tom Jankowski? Abdul Algazali? Mohhamed Hassan?

Speaking of Hassan, he is also rumored to be interested in the seat of State Rep.

In arts and culture, we still have Planet Ant Theatre alive and kicking. We look forward to attending some of its Monday comedy improv nights, which is perhaps one of the most underrated and cheap date nights around Detroit.

Our live music clubs appear to be holding on, although in this tough economy, it's hand to mouth for some.

Of course the largest eco-

nomie boost our clubs enjoy is the annual "Hamtramck Blowout," which is once again returning this March.

This is a rare chance to see, oh, let's see, a couple hundred bands for dirt cheap. Hamtramck never sounds so sweet. Without this event, a couple of our favorite watering holes wouldn't survive the year - that's how big of a financial boost this festival is.

And, a big thanks goes out to much-missed former resident Eve Doster Knepp who still organizes the festival.

Next drink is on us, Eve. For the foodies out there, we are still drooling over the thought of Ootie's opening up on Jos. Campau. We've been waiting several months now for the opening.

Please ... hurry up. And when will Hamtramck's first exclusively soul food restaurant, Flavor, open? C'mon Titus, get it going.

Continued on page 5

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1992	HONDA	WHITE	4D	1HGC87557NA237513
1992	TOYOTA	SILVER	VN	JT3AC22S2N1011254
1993	DODGE	BURG	VN	2B4GH2531PR236286
1994	PLYMOUTH	BLACK	4D	1P3AP28D9RN185040
1994	PONTIAC	WHITE	2D	1G2NE15M6RM509609
1994	CADILLAC	GREEN	4D	1G6KD52B6RU226254
1994	MERCURY	PURPLE	4D	2MELM75W0RX634350
1994	FORD	WHITE	4D	2FALP74W0RX202468
1995	VW	BLUE	4D	3WVRA81H9SM010417
1995	FORD	SILVER	4D	1FALP53U2SG291525
1996	SATURN	PURPLE	4D	1G8ZK5279T2330500
1996	CHEVY	GREEN	SW	1GNEK13R2TJ340126
1996	NISSAN	GRAY	4D	3N1AB41DXTL009158
1996	FORD	BROWN	TK	1FTCR10A7TUB95335
1997	MERC	RED	4D	1MELM13P0VW64929
1997	CHRYSL	BURG	2D	3C3EL45X8V7513666
1997	FORD	BLUE	2D	1FALP6244VH149439
1997	BMW	BLACK	4D	WBAC09324VE56860
1997	PONTIAC	MARO	4D	1G2WJ52M3VF344130
1997	HONDA	RED	4D	1HGEJ6676VL012607
1997	TOYOTA	GRAY	2D	JT2DB02T7V0070100
1998	CADILLAC	BLACK	2D	1G6ET1293WU615984
1998	FORD	BLUE	4D	1FAPF52U1WG228842
1998	FORD	GREEN	4D	1FAPF13P4WW279825
1998	HYUNDAI	BLACK	2D	KMHJG34F2WU088773
1998	DODGE	WHITE	VN	1P4GP44G7WB596841
1998	TOYOTA	BLUE	4D	2T1BR18E0WC061030
1999	PLYMOUTH	SILVER	4D	1P3EJ46CXN646364
1999	PONTIAC	GRAY	4D	1G2WP52K4XF283788
1999	PONTIAC	BLO	VN	1GMDX03E2XD249869
1999	PONTIAC	SILVER	4D	1G2NE52T8XM935902
1999	FORD	BLACK	2D	3FAKP1138XR215354
1999	FORD	WHITE	4D	1FAPF6630XK166291
1999	CHEVY	GOLD	SW	1GNFK16RXXJ448550
1999	OLDS	WHITE	4D	1G3NL52T4XC341623
1999	CHRYSL	GOLD	4D	2C3HC56G5XH607601
1999	PONTIAC	GOLD	4D	1G2HX52K2XH234876
2000	DODGE	WHITE	VN	2B4GP2532YR658703
2001	SPECT/KIA	GRAY	4D	KNAFB161115036632
2001	DODGE	BLACK	4D	2B3HD46R21H510546
2001	CHEVY	WHITE	4D	1G1ND52J616233871
2004	DODGE	GRAY	TK	1D7GL42K64S619486

## This week at the library...

- ESL Class with Christine Templing** - Saturday, January 21 at noon. Intermediate ESL class conducted by Christine Templin, free to the public.
- Computer Classes for Beginners** - Tuesday, January 24 at noon and 1 p.m. Basic instructions on computer use for beginners will be held on Thursdays. Number of participants is limited to available computers.
- Computer Classes for Advanced Users** - Tuesday, January 24 at 2 p.m. Adults with basic computer skills can enhance their computer literacy each Tuesday at the library. Number of participants is limited to available computers.
- Math Club Meeting** - Tuesday, January 24 at 3:30 p.m. Mr. Nuo is the instructor for the math club and math tutoring.
- ESL Class with Ms. Templin** - Wednesday, January 25 at noon. Christine Templin is the instructor for the ESL class for beginners. Everyone is invited. Free to the public.
- Movies and Popcorn at the Library** - Thursday, January 26 at 4 p.m. Bring the whole family for a free movie and popcorn.
- Computer Classes for Beginners** - Thursday, January 26 at noon and 1 p.m. Basic instructions on computer use for beginners will be held on Thursdays. Number of participants is limited to available computers.
- Family Game Night** - Thursday, January 26, at 5 p.m. Join your friends and family members in friendly skill and knowledge games. This month the featured game is BINGO.
- ESL News for You** - Friday, January 27 at 3:30 p.m. ESL reading and discussion class with Latisha Edge. Free to the public.
- Financial Activists Club** - Friday, January 27 at 3:30 p.m. If you want to expand your knowledge of budgeting and investing, play financial literacy games and learn how to grow your money, join the club. It is free of charge.
- Story Time for Children** - Saturday, January 21, at noon. Join your friends at the library for reading of stories about the New Year.

For more information about events at the library  
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# Second Front Page

## New police health insurance table on hold for now

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck police officers have been on a wild ride the last two weeks.

And no, we're not talking about chasing bad guys.

Instead, it's all about their new, and controversial, health insurance deal, which is now on hold.

In exchange for a less costly insurance package for officers, the city is sweetening the deal, so to speak. Hamtramck officers will have to agree to take over police work in Highland Park.

On Tuesday, City Attorney Jim Allen threw things for a loop in Wayne County Circuit Court where the two unions representing police officers were trying to win an injunction over a health insurance plan forced on them by a

bare majority of councilmembers last week.

By state law, all cities are now capped at how much they can contribute to the health plans for public employees. City officials here took a particularly hardline with the officers, forcing them to accept a plan that would require officers to contribute \$3,600 for a single person coverage and up to almost \$11,000 for family coverage.

Police officers said there had been a more agreeable plan earlier with the city, but the city abruptly withdrew that plan for no reason.

Officers were then given the new, more costly plan, which they said was tantamount to an Unfair Labor Practice.

And that's exactly what the officers' unions are arguing in court.

But now there is a bit of a reprieve for the two sides to discuss the prospect of patrolling Highland Park and work out a new health insurance plan.

Highland Park currently employs officers at \$15 per hour with no benefits.

The mayor of Highland Park, DeAndre Windom, said he is not interested in having Hamtramck take over police services because of the "social problems." Asked if that meant it's because Hamtramck is largely an all-white force that would be patrolling a city with a majority of African-Americans, Windom said yes.

However, Windom said he's

willing to talk about sharing any type of service with Hamtramck.

Jon Bondra, a union representative for Hamtramck officers, said he first learned of the proposal at court on Tuesday.

"It threw us all for a loop," he said.

As for whether the union is in favor of the concept, Bondra said he'd have to see the "particulars."

But, he seriously questioned how Highland Park can afford to hire Hamtramck "when they can't pay their DTE bills."



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**Feb. 3** Blaise of Sebastea, Bishop, Martyr - Blessing of Throats - 7 p.m. - Mass  
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## School superintendent in talks with another district over services

By Charles Sercombe

A year ago Hamtramck Public School officials were worried about losing students to charter schools.

Now, school officials say they don't have the room to take in Highland Park Public School students.

The Highland Park district is on the verge of financial collapse, and there is serious talk of having a state-appointed emergency financial manager step in and possibly merge the school district with Detroit or Hamtramck.

But Hamtramck Superin-

tendent Tom Niczay said he doesn't have room for all 1,000 Highland Park students, although he said there is some room in the elementary schools.

But that doesn't mean Hamtramck isn't thinking about consolidating services. Niczay said he is in negotiation with another school district to merge services, but he could not go into further details or say which district he's talking to.

"This would be good for Hamtramck Public Schools," is all Niczay would tell The Re-

view.

In other school news, the district has met the state requirements in best practices and consolidation plans to qualify for a partial payback in state financial revenue that was cut last year.

Last year the state cut state aid by \$750,000.

The district is now due a back payment of \$100 per student, or \$298,000.

While that is welcomed news, the district is still struggling financially. It is facing a \$4.9 million budget deficit. The district has a plan to climb out of that financial hole, but Niczay said he still has to find ways to cut the budget and bring in new revenue sources.

"We have a lot of cuts ahead of us," he said.

## Coming events

**JANUARY 25, Wed., noon** – The Daughters of Isabella Mystical Rose Circle 736 will hold a card party, featuring raffles, share the wealth and lunch, at the Queen of Apostles Activity Center, entrance on Harold. Admission is \$7. There is fenced-in parking. Weather permitting.

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## NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2012**

To the Qualified Electors of  
HAMTRAMCK CITY – WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Notice is hereby given that **Monday, January 30, 2012** is the **last day to register** to vote or change your address for the above stated election.

If you are not currently registered to vote or have changed your address in the above stated jurisdiction in which you live you may do so at the following locations and times listed in this notice.

### IN PERSON:

- At your city or township clerk's office or at the office of any county clerk during normal business hours.
- At any of the Secretary of State Branch offices located throughout the state during normal business hours.
- At the specified agency for clients receiving services through the Family Independence Agency, the Department of Community Health, Michigan Jobs Commission and some of the Commission for the Blind.
- At the military recruitment offices for persons enlisting in the armed forces.

### BY MAIL:

- By obtaining and completing a Mail Voter Registration Application and forwarding to the election official as directed on the application by the close of registration deadline. Mail voter registration applications may be obtained by contacting:

**T. EDWIN NORRIS, CITY CLERK**  
1-313-876-7700 – OPTION 3  
3401 EVALINE, HAMTRAMCK, MI 48212

**NOTE:** A person who registers to vote by mail is required to vote in person unless they have previously voted in person in the city/township where they live or are at least 60 years of age.

২৮শে ফেব্রুয়ারী, ২০১২ খ্রীষ্টাব্দ তারিখ, রোজ মঙ্গলবার, অনুষ্ঠিত  
প্রেসিডেন্ট পদে প্রাথমিক নির্বাচনে

HAMTRAMCK CITY – WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
এর যোগ্য ভোটারদের জন্য  
নিবন্ধন বন্ধের বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, উপরে বর্ণিত নির্বাচনের জন্য  
ভোটারদের নিবন্ধন করার বা আপনার ঠিকানা পরিবর্তনের  
শেষ তারিখ ৩০শে জানুয়ারী, ২০১২ খ্রীষ্টাব্দ।

আপনি সম্পূর্ণ ভোটারদের জন্য নিবন্ধিত না হয়ে থাকলে বা  
উপরে বর্ণিত আপনার বসবাসরত নির্বাচনী এলাকার ঠিকানা  
পরিবর্তন করে থাকলে এই বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত স্থান ও  
সময়ে আপনি তা করতে পারেন।

: স্বশরীরে উপস্থিত হয়ে তা করতে পারেন :

- স্বাভাবিক কর্ম দিবসের সময়ে শহর বা নগরের ক্লার্ক অফিসে বা যেকোন কাউন্টি ক্লার্কের অফিসে।
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- সশস্ত্র বাহিনীতে তালিকাভুক্ত ব্যক্তিদের জন্য সেনা নিয়োগদানের অফিসগুলোতে।

: ডাক মারফত তা করতে পারেন :

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লক্ষ্য করুন: ডাক মারফত ভোট দেওয়ার জন্য নিবন্ধিত  
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# Review: Opinion Page

## Like it or not, Hamtramck may have to expand services

Hamtramck and Highland Park.

Like it or not, the fate of these two neighboring cities have apparently become intertwined.

At least that's the impression you get from what some folks have been saying. Earlier in the week, there was a proposal floated out there for Hamtramck to absorb Highland Park Public School students because Highland Park's district is about to collapse, financially-speaking.

Then just a day after all that talk, Hamtramck officials floated out their own proposal to provide, at first, police services for Highland Park, and then later, fire service as well.

Why would Hamtramck even contemplate taking over education, police and

fire services?

It's all about remaining an independent city.

Mayor Karen Majewski, who is as close as you can get to the inner workings of what state officials are talking about thanks to her role as president of the Michigan Municipal League, said if Highland Park were to be absorbed into the City of Detroit, Hamtramck would likely be next.

Majewski said one way to prevent that is to become a partner, of sorts, with Highland Park, which would also allow Highland Park to remain an independent city.

These are extremely challenging times for low-income cities like Hamtramck and Highland Park. There aren't many options out there. And there isn't much time to

allow city officials from both cities to dither over these proposals.

What has to be hammered out is whether Hamtramck can actually provide any of these services at a cost that Highland Park can afford, and at a cost that will keep basic services in Hamtramck up to our standards.

A few years ago many here would have said no thanks to hooking up with Highland Park for fear that city would only drag Hamtramck down.

Now, it appears there is little choice.

Consider, too, state officials aren't going to wait around for Hamtramck to figure out how to keep afloat financially. Tough times require tough choices.

## Let's take a look ahead at the next 12 months Cont. from page 2

In the meantime, check out the soul food offerings at the newly revamped Leka's Clock (formerly known as The Clock Restaurant). It's a small selection, but it's a beginning.

We also hear there might be some new developments at Maria's Comida this coming year. The Pronko family has been expanding into the salsa market, and plenty of good things have been happening for them.

We're sending Marie, Al and

Fred good vibes.

And Nick and Mario at Maine Street Restaurant, we love you man. Keep up the good work.

And John, over at Polonia Restaurant, please, please, hold more special events in your upstairs hall. So nice. Up there.

Hamtramck block clubs, keep your fingers crossed. Your host unit, Hamtramck Community Initiative (AKA Weed and Seed), is seeking

another grant to last at least one more year. Our fingers are crossed.

Speed trap lovers, keep your denial. It helps bring in \$600,000 a year. And to Channel 7 Investigator Scott Lewis, thanks for shedding light on what we exposed two years ago.

We're sure there is plenty more to look forward to this year, but that's it for now. And remember Hamtramck, we're rooting for you.

## Odds & Ends

**Honored ...** Dave Olko, a member of the public school district's Recreation Commission, is one proud grandpa. His granddaughter, Jordan Olko, was just accepted into the National Honor Society.

She's in the fourth grade at Hanley Academy where she has been an all "A" student.

**Celebration ...** The Concerned Women of Hamtramck once again hosted a truly moving tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. this past Monday.

One of the awe-inspiring performances was from Dominique Davis, who played

keyboards and sang while Kayla Haskins and Aalyiah Belcher performed an interpretive dance.

Dominique is an amazing

talent and we are not going to be surprised when she makes it big time.

Watch out "American Idol"!



## Hamtramck's future tied with HP?

**Cont. from front page**

gone from \$7.2 million in 2002 to \$11.8 million in 2011.

The state cut \$500,000 from the city's state revenue sharing last year.

The closing of American Axle & Manufacturing a few years ago lead to the loss of \$1.7 million a year in tax collection.

By the end of next June, the city will likely be staring at a \$3.4 million budget deficit with little to no room to find new revenue streams or places to make cuts in the budget.

But before that date arrives, the city is also looking at a cash-flow problem that could hit in March.

In the not too distant future, the city may find there is not enough money to make employee payroll, or cover any number of other expenses.

But there are glimmers of hope. It's just going to take time, however, time is not on

the city's side.

On top of the list of things to do immediately is: Talk with Hamtramck's police and firefighter unions about expanding services into Highland Park. At the same time, the city has to start negotiations with Highland Park officials.

City officials also must sit down with retirees and explain that if health cuts aren't agreed to, the city could very well enter bankruptcy and those pensioners could find themselves without health insurance as well as even a pension.

*(Pensioners will no doubt say their pensions are protected by law.)*

As for Hamtramck stepping in to take over police and fire services in Highland Park, the mayor of Highland Park, DeAndre Windom, said in a telephone interview with The Review that he's open to dis-

cuss fire services but not so much about taking over police services.

"We might be able to talk about shared fire services," Windom said.

He said he has reservations about Hamtramck taking over police patrols because it is largely an all-white force that would be patrolling a majority African-American community.

Hamtramck City Attorney Jim Allen seemed optimistic in getting talks going.

He said that if a plan can be worked out, it could be a model for other communities in the state.

"If it works for us, it'll work for others," he said.

Mayor Karen Majewski said that the Michigan Municipal League, of which she is president, is also willing to help, free of charge, to come up with a plan to provide services to both communities.



**By Alan R. Madeleine**

This week's Hamtramck Crime Log is compiled from police reports from Wednesday, Jan. 4 through Sunday, Jan. 8.

**From Wednesday Jan. 4:**

- During the day shift, a man was arrested in the 3200 block of Trowbridge on a domestic violence charge after he allegedly assaulted his girlfriend over something to do with cigarettes.

- A person who works at Kowalski Sausage at 2270 Holbrook reported the theft of a factory-installed navigation system from his 2009 Jeep.

- A resident of an upper flat on the 3800 block of Doremus St. said that a resident of the lower flat had brandished a handgun during a dispute over shared property. Officers spoke to the resident in the lower flat, who stated that he did not have any firearm, and who then made a cross-complaint of harassment.

**From Thursday Jan. 5:**

- Officers responded to a fire in the 2300 block of Yemans at 1:35 a.m.

- A woman reported her vehicle stolen from the 2600 block of Evaline at 7 a.m.

- Several Detroit residents were arrested after a foot chase when they were seen attempting to steal a

vehicle at Holbrook and Gallagher at 10:25 a.m.

- A man reported being robbed at knifepoint while in the area of Moran and Carpenter by two black males, the first about 5'7" and wearing a checkered winter hat, the second about 5'9", with an afro and wearing a gray coat.

**From Friday Jan. 6:**

- A juvenile was arrested in connection with an armed robbery that had occurred earlier in the day at Walter's Party Store, 12197 Conant at Carpenter. Two other juveniles were taken into custody for curfew violation.

- An employee of Kim's Style at 9721 Jos. Campau reported that he was robbed the previous day.

- A person reported the theft of a 1999 red Dodge Caravan at 12:28 p.m.

- A man reported being robbed at knife point of a backpack containing a Playstation 3 and a basketball videogame for the unit, by two black males in front of the New Dodge Lounge around midnight. The first suspect was about 5'8", wore a black vest and brandished the knife; the other suspect was about 6'0" and wore a brown hoodie.

- A man reported being assaulted in front of Game Stop on Norwalk by two black males at about 9:43 p.m., the first about 5'8"

and wearing a dark blue shirt, the other about 5'10" and wearing a white shirt.

**From Saturday Jan. 7:**

- Officers responded to an audible alarm in the 12000 block of Nagel, and found a door open. Building keyholder was contacted and the residence was then secured.

- DPW Director Steve Shaya reported the theft of seven sewer grates from the area of Neibel and Fleming streets.

- At about 6:22 p.m., a shih tzu mix dog was struck by a vehicle. The dog had a collar on, but no ID tag to identify an owner. Due to the severity of its injuries, officers had to euthanize the animal.

**From Sunday Jan. 8:**

- Officers took a report of the break-in of a garage in the 11000 block of Fleming. Several Craftsman yard tools were reported missing.

- A man reported that someone broke out the passenger window of his 1999 Nissan while it was parked in the CVS parking lot at 9300 Jos. Campau sometime overnight. Nothing appeared to be missing.

- A man was committed when he began making statements while inside the CVS store on Jos. Campau about "seeing the devil" and "everyone being a robot that was trying to beat him up."

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## New coffee house offers a cup of 'courage'

Cont. from front page

mission has not, which we verified when we conversed, by "e-pistle," if you will, with their head dude, the Reverend "Chilly" Chilton.

**So, Reverend – tell us first, if you would, about the changes to this building, both inside and out. I was, of course, in there recently, and it looks like you guys have done a really nice job of turning the place into a legitimate coffee house.**

**You kind of always had that thing going on, more or less from the beginning, didn't you? What made you decide to go sort of "whole hog" with the coffee house concept?**

Chilton: Real Church opened its doors to Hamtramck on Oct. 10, 2004. And, when we first opened, we designed a coffee café which we simply referred to as Real Cup. It has always been our desire to have a café that was opened to the community on a more regular basis. At the beginning, we knew the timing was not right to open every day, so we just ran the coffee shop before and after our services.

Then, as we approached 2012, we sensed the time was right to really do something bigger and better. So, we took the step of faith and rebranded Real Cup to Courage Coffee. In taking this

step, we determined to try to offer the freshest and most unique coffee in the greater Detroit area. We changed our sign out front from Real Church to Courage Coffee, repainted the entire interior of our building, added new floor paint and epoxy, and purchased unique coffee brewing equipment.

We have heard nothing but great comments about our coffee, café area and customer service. We are designed to offer coffee that is freshly roasted, and from three to four regions of the world. Currently, we have coffee from Rwanda, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Ethiopia, Peru and Costa Rica. Our primary brewing method is the V60 Pourover method – which gives the customer a clean, vibrant and tasteful mug of super-fresh coffee. You can also purchase regularly brewed coffee and French-pressed coffee.

We also provide free wifi service, and lots of electric outlets for computers. And our larger space, the Courage Center, is not only the meeting place for Real Church but can also provide space for concerts, large group meetings and other unique gatherings.

**You have another location as well for Real Church, do you not? Where is that, and**

**what is the difference now between what goes on at the two buildings? Is Courage Coffee now more of a youth hangout, while the other is more of a standard church-type set up, or else how are the two buildings seen as different in their purposes?**

Chilton: Yes, Real Church in One church with Two campuses. Our Detroit campus meets in the Magic Stick (adults) and Garden Bowl (kids) in the Majestic Theater complex right on Woodward Avenue. Our services there are every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Then, we meet in Ham-

tramck in what we're now calling the Courage Center (Real Church) on Sundays at 3 p.m. and Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. – kids' programs and nursery care are provided free at each of these gatherings. Our youth ministry, REPO, has 80+ teens that meet each Friday night in the Courage Center at 7 p.m.

Let me say clearly that yes, we are a church that has many young adults attending, but our focus at both campuses is for people of all ages, and we have ministries geared to every stage of life. The desire is for Courage

Coffee to serve the best coffee, and put courage into every person who walks through our door! We would love to become a unique attraction and coffee experience for metro Detroit. Our style, approach and menu are distinctive – our coffees are amazing – and we believe that we could become a catalyst for bringing more people to Hamtown!

**What, if any, sorts of events do you have planned for Courage Coffee, either regularly scheduled ones or special one-off type things? Do**

**you have a person who actively tries to court people to come in and do their things, whatever those may be?**

**Do you have any restrictions with respect to noise concerns, or can you, for example, book some hard rock act that's loud? Do these performances always have to talk about religion, or incorporate some of that into their bit?**

Chilton: Our initial plans are to simply grow our current customer base during our scheduled hours: Tues-Fri, 8-5; Sat. 10-6. But, our longer

Continued on page 8

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9512 Charest, 2br. lower, living room, kitchen, bathroom, 313-712-8347. 1/27

2 br. upper, \$430/mo., 2 br. lower, \$450/mo., 9398 Mitchell, behind CVS. 313-516-1053. 1/27

Upper 2br. on Norwalk between Conant & Gallagher, close to Dickinson East, 313-972-5395. 1/20

Hamtramck upper, 1 br., with living + dining rm., kitchen, new windows, carpet, utilities included, no pets. 734-771-2028. 2/3

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## APARTMENTS & FLATS FOR RENT

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Hamtramck 2 br., upper, 11366 Gallagher, carpeted, very clean, appliances + full basement, washer/dryer, new furnace, \$480/mo., \$480 dep., no pets. 586-604-0029. 1/27

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## APARTMENTS & FLATS FOR RENT

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# Classifieds

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# Obituaries

## CYLWIK

Raymond Cylwik, 89, died on December 17, 2011.

Mr. Cylwik was born in Wilkes-Barre, PA, on March 5, 1922 to the late Charles Silvik and Jane Pugh Silvik.

Raymond was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving in World War II as a sergeant. He was the recipient of two Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart for his service. He moved to Hamtramck shortly after the war.

He is survived by his sister Adelyn Price of Richmond, VA, and Lee Jane Walsh of Little Falls, NJ. He was predeceased by his brothers Robert, William and Charles; sisters Joan and Alice.

In the last year of his life he was cared for by a dear family friend, Ms. Margaret Wisniewski of Hamtramck, MI.

Burial was at Fort Custer National Cemetery in Au-

gusta, MI, with arrangements handled by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home.

## ZULKA

Herbert C. Zulka, 79, died on January 10, 2012.

Mr. Zulka served in the military during the Korean Conflict and was retired from Champion Spark Plug.

Herbert is survived by his wife Mary Jane, whom he married on June 23, 1956. He is also survived by his son Kevin; sister, Mary Susalla; special brother-in-law, Pete; several other brother and sister-in-laws; several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his brother Steven.

Cremation will take place at Meadowcrest Cemetery with a memorial to be held at a later date. Arrangements were handled by Jurkiewicz and Wilk Funeral Home.

## In Memoriam

## MARK LISAK

July 16, 1963 - January 24, 2011

Missed dearly by wife, Krystyna; children, Angela and Christopher; step-son, Greg.

You'll always be in our hearts.



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# New coffee house offers a cup of 'courage'

Continued from page 6

range plans are to expand into evening hours, and also do unique concerts and events on Saturday and Sunday nights. The Courage Center (adjacent to Courage Coffee) has a state-of-the-art sound system, video projectors, a full stage and seating for 150-200.

We're not just another nightclub or bar – and with that said, we're not just looking to host any band or event. We will purposely look to those (acts) with positive messages, while also aligning with the heart and mission of Real Church and Courage Coffee.

**What do you hope to do gain from the venture? Do you anticipate opening anything else in the near future, either here or in a different city? If so, what might that be?**

Chilton: Three things come to mind: (1) We want you to enjoy one of the freshest, most delicious cups of coffee every time you come to Courage Coffee; (2) We want you to feel encouraged by our staff and atmosphere, with each visit. "To encourage" is to "put courage into" – that's our goal! That you leave feeling appreciated and valued! (3) We want to honor God. Christ gave His very best so that we could experience life. We live by the motto: Excellence honors God and reflects His purpose.

Regarding your question about future endeavors. ... Well, we definitely sense a call to encourage, and bring hope, to greater Detroit. We could see Courage Coffee expanding to various locations at some point, as our church also grows its influence. Simply, we want to know God, and make Him known to others.

**Tell us a little about yourself, and your association, and involvement, with Real**

**Church. Did you found it, or help found it? How long have you been a part of things here? What things do you directly run from week-to-week here at Courage Coffee and Real Church?**

Chilton: Yes, I am the founder and lead pastor of Real Church (both here in Hamtramck, as well as in Detroit). My family and I moved to this area in June of 2004 with eight young adults assisting us. By October of that year, we had opened Real Church in Hamtramck. We then expanded our church to two campuses, by opening our Detroit campus in January 2010.

A hallmark of our church is that we are more REAL outside the church walls than we are on the inside. So, we are very involved in EVERY event we can find in our community. We've been allies to the parks programs, housing projects, and needs brought to our attention through our mayor, police or fellow citizens.

My personal involvement each week is: (1) To be lead pastor at both campuses. I speak on Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon. The message is also podcasted via iTunes, and downloaded by 500+ people each weekend; (2) I am manager of Courage Coffee, and oversee all aspects of its operations. I work the counter 20+ hours each week; (3) I am youth pastor for REPO (the student outreach in Hamtramck) on Friday nights. I oversee this ministry and speak most weeks; (4) I run a post-high school internship program for students interested in ministry. We currently have 14 students from five different states.

Note: I could not do any of these things without the amazing volunteers that serve our church and community. I do not have any paid staff or assistance. We

are a missions-supported, non-profit, outreach to metro Detroit. We have people who have specifically moved to Detroit, Hamtramck and other communities and then found employment, all so that they can be involved in our outreach ministries. How cool is that?

**Lastly, would you say this (the coffee house) has helped attract more young people to your church? Guessing that the answer will be yes, what sorts of activities do they get involved in?**

Chilton: I think what makes us so appealing to youth and young adults is that we value them, and give them areas to lead and serve. We revel in the laughter of children, and see beyond rough exteriors to the amazing hearts of teens. And, our church in many areas is led by young adults. We respect them, and give them an environment to grow socially, spiritually and mentally.

Yes, we have a lot of young people, but we also have a lot of "young-at-heart" people. Listen, if you have a pulse, then you have a purpose. We want to help you discover what that is, and watch you experience the joy of serving others and experiencing God.

**Feel free to talk about anything else briefly that I didn't cover.**

Chilton: God's love can be experienced in all kinds of forms: outreaches, church services, community clean-up projects, ministering to the homeless, mentoring kids, concerts and, yes, even in a cup of coffee!

The Bible says, "Be strong & courageous" – we're doing this in church, community and coffee.

**Courage Coffee is located at 2950 Caniff, on the south side of the street, more or**

**less across from the Hamtramck Post Office. Their phone number is (313) 875-7325. Visit their website: http://CourageCoffee.com, and follow them on twitter: @CourageBrewBar.**

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