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### Quick Hits

Got your game face ready? Yes, this Sunday is the NFL Super Bowl, and we're thinking where to see the game here in town. Take your pick, just about every bar will be open. It's the New York Giants versus the New England Patriots, and the game starts at 6:30 p.m. on the Fox network. As of Thursday, the Patriots were favored by three points. Here at The Review, we think the Giants will pull it off. Anyone want to bet?

### — HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

## The greening of America is in Hamtramck's backyard

**By Charles Sercombe**  
Recycling is coming to Hamtramck in a big way. But not in the way you would think. This isn't about home recycling. It's about a huge plant that will sort out paper, plastics, Styrofoam and other office waste products, as well as light industrial metals, and turn them right around into more of the same. The process produces very little waste product going back into Mother Earth. At least, this is what the people behind Hamtramck Recycling LCC say, and at this point there appears to be no reason to doubt them. The plant is now being built on Denton just west of the Dickerson Wayne County Jail. For those of you who have been here awhile, you might remember that cool looking all-glass factory building you could see while cruising down Ham-



A new state-of-the-art recycling plant is under construction on Denton St., next to the county jail. The facility will recycle office products and light metals. It also means 40 to 50 new jobs will be created.

tramck Dr., which is just south of Denton. Well, that old glass building came down to make room for a new \$7 million facility. The promise of this plant and facility is that it's not only contributing to the greening of America, it's also adding jobs. About 40 to 50, says Jason Friedmann, the city's Director of Community & Economic Development. The jobs don't pay much, but it's a little better than minimum wage, around \$8 to \$14 an hour, Friedmann says. Details about the expected property taxes that the city will collect were not immediately available. But the company is receiving a 50-percent tax abatement on property and personal taxes for the next 12 years. Friedmann said considering the fact that the property previously wasn't bringing in any tax dollars, it's a "100 percent" growth deal for Hamtramck. By about spring or summer, production should begin.

## Firefighters worry Pontiac is their fate

**By Charles Sercombe**  
As Pontiac firefighters marked the last day of the Pontiac Fire Department on Wednesday, Hamtramck firefighters had mixed feelings. Actually, there seems to be confusion among firefighters over who to blame for the department's closing: Pontiac Emergency Financial Manager Lou Schimmel or firefighters with Waterford Township, or Pontiac firefighters themselves?



Lt. William Diamond said firefighters are concerned about what will happen to their department if a state-appointed emergency financial manager takes over Detroit or Highland Park.

## The Clock gets a rewind, this time with soul



Leka Horn has brought soul food to Hamtramck at the venerable Clock Restaurant, a longtime Hamtramck landmark.

"Bless this bread, bless this meat. Bless this belly, 'cause I'm gon' eat!" - The Reverend Williams, from the 1997 film "Soul Food"

**By Alan "Deep South" Madeleine**  
It seems like just a short time ago that we did a piece on the grand reopening of The Clock Restaurant, after a number of fits and starts and false hopes. Now, it's reopened again, in its latest incarnation as a soul food palace. We spoke with Leka Horn, the owner, after the lunch rush had quieted down. There was still plenty of noise in the background, and Horn says that the restaurant is doing "way better than it was before." "We've been reopened for about a month and a half now," Horn said. Asked how she came to acquire the building, she said, "It's legally complicated. Actually, I've owned the building since the 90s."

**Continued on page 2**

Let's back up a bit. A few weeks ago, Pontiac firefighters voted in favor of combining their department with Waterford in order to save their jobs. By all accounts, it was an emotional vote and a decision that wasn't made easy. One firefighter was quoted in the media saying it was like having a gun put to their head: Agree to the deal or risk losing their jobs. Waterford firefighters also said they were told to accept the deal or that they, too,

**Continued on page 2**

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## Firefighters worry Pontiac is their fate

Continued from front page

would be folded in with another city.

On Wednesday, Pontiac's Fire Department was no more. Forty two Pontiac firefighters were hired on by Waterford.

In Hamtramck, the events that happened just 30 miles north did not go unnoticed. The firefighters posted several comments and news links on their FaceBook site.

Some in the department criticized Waterford firefighters for forcing the issue.

Lt. William Diamond, the president of Hamtramck Firefighters' union, Local 750, said it was about "one local (union) taking over another."

"It wasn't a merger," he said. "It was a takeover."

Pontiac EFM Lou Schimmel, who was once Hamtramck's EFM, said he needed to close the department in order to save \$3 million. Pontiac faces a multi-million dollar budget deficit.

Diamond said he fears what's to come if an EFM were to be appointed to Detroit or Highland Park.

"Hamtramck as an entity would be gone," Diamond said. "The state could make Hamtramck a neighborhood of Detroit. It's not a good thing for unions in the state."

Hamtramck firefighters have plenty of reason to be worried.

City officials are projecting a \$3.4 million budget deficit by next June. The solutions to balance the budget are questionable at best.

But so far, there is talk of proposing to take over police and fire services in Highland Park.

Diamond said his union members are open to that, but it has to be "on our terms."

Is Hamtramck in any position to dictate terms?

Well, two weeks ago we asked Highland Park Mayor DeAndre Windom what he thought of the proposal.

He rejected the idea of Hamtramck's Police Department taking over patrols because it is a mostly white force that would be patrolling

in a mostly African-American city.

However, Windom said he is open to discussing fire protection services.

Diamond has another suggestion.

He wants city officials to ask voters to approve a special tax millage dedicated to supporting police and fire services.

"That's guaranteed money for public safety," he said.

Ah, but that comes at a steep price. Public safety eats up about \$8 million in the city's budget. Each additional mill placed on the property tax would generate \$200,000, said Finance Director Nevrus Nazarko.

At \$8 million, it would require voters to approve an extra forty mills. That increase not something property owners could afford. Instead, it will take a drastic overhaul of union contracts, said Finance Director Nevrus Nazarko.

"You need to change," said Nazarko. "It's not like the 1990s."

## The Clock gets a rewind, this time with soul

Continued from front page

When she couldn't keep someone in there to pay the rent, she decided to take matters into her own hands. This, in spite of already operating one restaurant out on Woodward in Highland Park, called The Classic Café Coni Island. If that name sounds familiar, it might be because that restaurant unfortunately was in the news twice in 2006, due to a couple of unrelated murders that occurred there that year, including a spectacular gangland-style hit involving assault rifles.

One can hope that this location will prove somehow less, well, dramatic.

The other restaurant is where Horn first introduced soul food. At that point, it was a gimmick she tried only during the week, but it ended up doing very well. When she opened up this place, well, she figured it was worth a shot.

"We already had these items on the menu – chicken, pork chops, liver. We just started

cooking them southern style," she laughed. "And I added some side dishes, like yams, (collard) greens, green beans, black-eyed peas."

Customers have really responded to the addition, she claims.

"Just this morning, I had this man give me a big hug. 'Thank you for having soul food,' he said to me," she went on, laughing again.

She works, she says, seven days a week, 16 hours a day on average. As in its other versions, the restaurant is open 24 hours, 'round the, well, clock.

Asked if she could ever remember Hamtramck having a soul food restaurant in the past (something even my crotchety old editor couldn't even spill out of his musty, shriveled and ancient brain), she mentioned a man that she knew who used to do soul food out of the Americana Market. (Editor: You're fired.)

"It was a fish market," she

said.

He was doing well with the idea, until his cook ended up in jail. Why wouldn't he just start it up again with a new employee?, I wondered, and she wondered back as well.

Asked if she was afraid the parking situation might start to deteriorate if the former Shadow/Ice Bar ever follows her lead and reopens, she answered comically one last time.

"We hope we won't have any room in the lot because of our own businesses' success," she said.

In any case, she seems to have her finger on the pulse – or the stomachs – of Hamtramck.

**The Clock Restaurant is located right in the same place it has been for the past 50 or so years, at 11444 Jos. Campau. Their phone number is (313) 366-2244. Again, they are open 24 hours, 'round the clock. So step on in.**



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## This week at the library...

**ESL Class with Christine Templin** - Saturday, February 4 at noon. Intermediate ESL class conducted by Christine Templin, free to the public.

**Story Time for Children** - Saturday, February 4, at noon. Join your friends at the library for a reading of a book "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie" by Laura Numeroff.

**Computer Classes for Beginners** - Tuesday, February 7 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, February 7 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, February 7 at 3:30 p.m. Mr. Nuo is the instructor for the math club, math tutoring and Math Kangaroo competition.

**ESL Conversation Class** - Tuesday, February 7 at 4:30 p.m. Ms. Trisa conducts the English Conversation classes each Tuesday night. Free of charge to Hamtramck residents.

**ESL Class with Ms. Templin** - Wednesday, February 8 at noon. Christine Templin is the instructor for the ESL class for beginners. Everyone is invited. Free to the public.

**Family Game Night** - Thursday, February 16 at 4 p.m. Join your friends and family members in friendly skill and knowledge games. This month the featured game is MANCALA.

**Open Mic Poetry** - Wednesday, February 8 at 3:30 p.m. Bring your poems and share them during the open mic poetry session, "How We Tell Our Story."

**Movies and Popcorn at the Library** - Thursday, February 9 at 4 p.m. Bring the whole to see, "The Pursuit of Happiness" and also enjoy free popcorn.

**Computer Classes for Beginners** - Thursday, February 9 at noon, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Basic instructions on computer use for beginners will be held on Thursdays. Number of participants is limited to available computers.

**ESL News for You** - Friday, February 10 at 3:30 p.m. ESL reading and discussion class with Latisha Edge. Free to the public.

**Toddler Time at the Library** - Monday February 6 at noon. Join us for the reading of a book by Kevin Hanks, "Birds" and celebrate national Bird Feeding Month. (Children must be accompanied by an adult.)

**Valentine Arts & Crafts** - Tuesday, February 14 at 3:30 p.m. In celebration of Valentine's Day, all children are invited to a special Valentine Day arts and crafts workshop.

**Teen Club Activity** - Monday, February 15 at 3:30 p.m. Teens and tweens are invited to join us in an arts and crafts program. You'll also get to decorate your collage box for all your 2012 treasures.

**Meeting of the Library Board** - Thursday, February 9 at 6 p.m. Regular meeting of the Library Board will be held in the auditorium. Open to the public.

**Celebrate Black History Month** - Thursday, February 16 at 4:30 p.m. In celebration of Black History Month there will be a special showing of a movie "HELP! Everyone is invited.

**Friends of the Library Meeting** - Thursday, February 16 at 6 p.m. FHPL President Kathy Kristy and Treasurer George Gorday invite all members and volunteers to participate in the regular monthly meeting.

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.

# Second Front Page

## Grandstands are one step closer to becoming 'historical'

By Charles Sercombe

It's not quite batter-up time at the grandstands in Veterans Park, but it's inching closer to that moment.

You could say that the local committee to save the grandstands got on first base after state officials with the Historic Preservation Office approved the committee's proposal to apply for National Historic Landmark status.

According to committee member Rebecca Binno Savage, the state's OK pretty much means the grandstands

will receive approval from the National Parks Service.

What's so special about the grandstands?

Well, for years no one really knew until some locals began digging into the matter. And lo and behold, what they found turned out to be a game-changer. Instead of talking about demolishing the dilapidated grandstands, folks are now awed at the possibility of redevelopment.

That's because the grandstands were built for the National Negro League,

specifically a team called the Detroit Stars.

The league's heyday was 1930 through 1937, and during that time 12 future Baseball Hall of Famers played here.

The thinking now is that a renovated park can be used for baseball once again, and it will also attract out of town visitors who are interested in the historical aspect.

The ballpark is one of only five grandstands remaining that served the Negro League. A national historic designa-

tion would also open some checkbooks from various organizations, including Major League Baseball, Savage said.

"What's most key here is for fundraising," she said.

Getting that funding will have to wait until word comes back from the park service, which Savage said could take three to four months.

In the meantime, the committee has created a website about the project, which can be found at [www.hamtramck-stadium.org](http://www.hamtramck-stadium.org).

## Forget the fake car insurance, cops are on to it

By Charles Sercombe

Just because you, or maybe someone you know, has a scanner or knows how to download, doesn't mean you'll fool Hamtramck police officers.

With the return of the daily incident report from the Hamtramck Police Department, one trend that is noticeable has been a string of arrests of people trying to pass off

fraudulent car insurance.

Acting Police Chief Max Garbarino said the easy access to scanners has led to an increase in phony insurance certificates being made.

"It's so easy to do," Garbarino said. "Luckily, we're getting savvier with that."

Trying to pass off a fake insurance certificate comes at a steep price. It's a felony if convicted.



By Alan R. Madeleine

Note that the crime report for Friday, Jan. 20, 2012 was claimed as missing.

From Saturday, Jan. 21, 2012

At 11:18 p.m. the night before, three men were arrested for auto theft at Nagel and Casmere.

At 1:19 p.m., a man was arrested at a home in the 2200 block of Hewitt for domestic assault.

From Sunday, Jan. 22, 2012

At 11:47 p.m. the night before, a woman reported that her 14-year-old child was missing from her residence on Jos. Campau. No other information was noted.

At 12:20 a.m., a man was arrested for obstruction; location was not noted.

At 10:36 a.m., a man reported his 2008 Cadillac Escalade stolen from the area of Jos. Campau and Goodson about 12 hours prior. It was learned that the Detroit Police impounded his vehicle earlier, while it was presumably parked somewhere in Detroit.

A vehicle backing into a parking space at Jos. Campau and Belmont struck a pedestrian who tried to cut behind the vehicle to cross the street. The driver was apparently not charged. The victim was treated by Hamtramck EMS at the scene.

From Monday, Jan. 23, 2012

At 12:30 a.m., a man and a woman were arrested for interfering and assault and battery of an officer after causing a disturbance during a traffic stop at Jos. Campau and Evaline.

Continued on page 8

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**Feb. 18 Polish Dinner & Paczki Sale 4-7 p.m.**  
**Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday Mass 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.**

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## Hamtown's movers and shakers...

By Alan R. Madeleine

Who he is: Dr. Thaddeus "Dr. Ted" Radzilowski is the Co-Founder and President of the Piast Institute here in Hamtramck. His C.V. is long and distinguished. He holds a Doctorate degree in History from the University of Michigan, and his specialization is Poland and other central and eastern European nations, prominently including Russia.

He has lectured in both Europe and North America, and has published over 100 times, including journal articles, scholarly papers and monographs. He is involved with a number of other organizations, including the University of Michigan (as a Visiting Research Professor) and the Polish National Congress (as the Michigan Director). He is a past president of the Polish American Historical Association, and is on the Editorial Board of the Polish Review.

Radzilowski has served as the acting director of the Immigration Research Center at the



University of Minnesota, and, in 1999, was presented with the Cavaliers Cross of the Polish Order of Merit by then Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski for his "distinguished contributions to the dissemination of Polish culture in the world."

We sent him some questions, and he was kind enough to provide quick and timely responses.

**Give us, please, just the briefest background on the In-**

**stitute, its mission and purpose, and how you, yourself came to be involved with it, for the uninitiated. Is this the only Piast Institute to be found anywhere, or are there others in other cities, states, and/or countries? I see that Piast was the surname of the first Polish dynasty - is there any other significance to the name of the Institute, beyond honoring that heritage?**

Dr. Radzilowski: Yes, this is the only Piast Institute in the U.S. We chose the name Piast because we felt that, if we are to tell the Polish story, we should start at the beginning. Piast is the name of the legendary founder of Poland, who gave his name to the first dynasty (ca. 966 ABE to 1385 ABE).

The Piast Institute is a national research, data analysis and policy institute for Polonia - the Polish Community in the U.S. Its key aim is to provide Polonia organizations and institutions with the tools and information they need to accomplish their goals and missions.

We are not in competition with any other Polish organizations. Our mission is unique. In the process, we seek to propagate the Polish Story in Europe and America. We also address, in a distinct way, the issues of the public perception of Poland and Polonia, and anti-defamation. In 2011, we spent three months in negotiation with Yahoo to eliminate words such as "Polish death camps" and "Polish concentration camps" from its stylebook, and to explain the importance of avoiding those words in their training protocols.

Last fall Yahoo, which reaches 345 million people per month, agreed to those requests. During the controversy of Jan Gross' book "Fear," we developed a highly acclaimed international symposium on the issue (see <http://analysisoffear.com>).

**Does the Institute keep a regular schedule of events? I didn't notice any listed under your Facebook page (and congratulations on keeping up a Facebook page, by the way). Do you get many calls or visitors, and if so, what are they usually inquiring of you? Do you maintain any kind of a library, or records library? Do you sponsor, or co-sponsor, other events outside the Institute proper? If so, what sorts of events are they?**

Dr. Radzilowski: We sponsor occasional lectures, exhibits, symposia and discussion groups. We have co-sponsored events with the Kosciuszko Foundation, The Polish Consulates General in Chicago, New York and Los Angeles; The Taube Foundation, The Ham-

tramck Public Library and Michigan State University.

Many of our events take place in New York, Seattle, Houston, Chicago, San Francisco, and Washington, DC.

We have an excellent research and reference library of several thousand books and files on all sorts of issues on which we are doing, or have done, research (about 20 linear feet worth).

We get questions by phone, letter or email several times a day about data, or historical or current information on Poland and Polish American topics.

**What's new with the Institute these days, or what's being planned, or "in the works," if anything? Your Facebook page, in addition to stating that you're a "research service," also (and primarily) indicates that you are a "market research consultant." What does that normally entail? That is, what "markets" are people having you research for them, if I may, and what are they then doing with the research results after you provide them back to these clients? I assume that you charge for this service, but perhaps I'm mistaken?**

Dr. Radzilowski: In addition to

Continued on page 5

### HAIR REPAIR BARBER SHOP

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Polka Floyd - 1:30-3:30pm  
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**Hamtramck's Official Paczki Eating Contest at noon!**  
Enter & get your name engraved on the cup

Kielbasa Sandwiches • Pierogi • Potato Pancakes • Hamtramck Sliders

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**LENT FISH FRY Starts Ash Wednesday**  
— February 22nd —

---

Karaoke with Chuck 'E' every Fri & Sat Night 9 p.m. til 1:45 a.m.

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## Hamtramck Academy

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313-368-7312 (phone)  
313-368-7376 (fax)

### OPEN ENROLLMENT NOTICE

Open enrollment for the 2012-2013 academic school year ends on Wednesday, 2/29/2012 at 5 p.m. Applications are available for grades K - 8 and can be obtained at the school, at [www.NHASchools.com](http://www.NHASchools.com) or by calling NHA at 866-NHA-ENROLL. Should the number of applications received during open enrollment exceed available seats, a random-selection drawing will be necessary. The drawing, if needed, will be held on Thursday, 3/8/2012 at 3:30 p.m. at the school. Applications received after open enrollment will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis for remaining open seats. Waiting lists will be formed accordingly.

### NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

Hamtramck Academy admits students of any race, color, and nationality or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of intellectual or athletic abilities, measures of achievement or aptitude, disability, status as a handicapped person, homeless status, English proficiency, religion, creed, race, sex, color, or national origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies and athletic or other school-administered programs.

## REAL CHURCH 2012

Lead Pastor:  
**Chilly Chilton**  
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48212

SUNDAY: ENCOURAGE  
3pm: Live Band, Coffee, Child Care, Camp Courage (to Grade 5)

WEDNESDAY: EQUIP  
7:30-8:30pm: Group Bible Study, Nursery and Child Care

FRIDAY: REPO LIVE!  
7-8:30pm: Middle & High school students  
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Now Open! **COURAGE COFFEE** Tue-Fri 8am-5pm  
Sat 10am-6pm

# Review: Opinion Page

## Voters should have a say on a tax for public safety

With all the talk of reinventing our police and fire departments and possibly taking over public safety services in Highland Park, maybe it's time to revisit another option.

A couple of years ago, city officials discussed asking voters to OK a public safety tax. The issue never went anywhere.

But we'd like to bring it back up because the city's budget is heading for a crisis, and the thought of losing our public safety to Detroit or somewhere else is scary to say the least.

If voters were to OK five extra mills on the property taxes, the city would raise about \$1 million. Now, that's not enough to carry the full weight of both departments, but it would go a long way to

ward lightening the load.

We understand these are tough times for many families, and raising taxes now might even end up driving them out of their homes.

But we all have to realize what's at stake. Losing our public safety would mean the end of a safe city – and then we would all lose out.

Raising taxes wouldn't be the only answer, though. Our police and fire unions would also have to agree to overhaul their contracts. The city would need to have a two-tier hiring system, where new hires earn considerably less and receive fewer benefits.

It would also mean the end of a fixed guaranteed pension plan. Ferndale just did this with its Fire Department, so this concept isn't coming out

of left field.

Recently, city councilmembers met in a budget work session to see where Hamtramck is heading. We are looking straight at a \$3.4 million budget deficit by next June.

There were some ideas tossed around, but clearly, time is running out.

And since that meeting, we have heard of little forward movement on some of the proposals made at the meeting.

Now is not the time to sit on our hands and wait. Let's be proactive and, at the very least, allow voters to decide what to do. We could get a millage proposal on the May ballot.

Let our voters have a chance to weigh in on Hamtramck's survival.

## Odds & Ends

**Correction ...** Leave it to me to mix up my pawn-shop-shows-using-pornography-double-entendre-in-their-names names.

As more than one of you so genteely notified us on the website, the accommodating Mr. Rich Pyle's show is Hardcore Pawn (well, at least I got it right at the bottom), NOT Pawn Stars. That would be their COMPETITORS. I'm sure they're all delighted with the miscue.

As such, the question that references his show having two episodes rated second and third most-watched among cable shows was also wrong: While Hardcore Pawn is immensely popular, it was actually the afore-mentioned competitor show that etc.

Perhaps making myself less rushed would be good.

Yeah.

**Alan Madeleine,  
Official Doofus**

**Salute ...** We recently received an e-mail from our local veterans and their special plans for Valentine's Day. Here's what they had to say:

Once again this year's Valentine's Day will be a special day for Hamtramck veterans, and they could use some help from the community as well.

Hamtramck vets will join up with other southeast Michigan veterans in a fundraiser on Saturday, Feb. 11, featuring the Spinners. Proceeds from the benefit will go to helping southeast Michigan hospitalized and homeless veterans.

Hamtramck's AMVETS Post 14, represented by Past Commander and VA hospital volunteer Richard Walczyk, PLAV Post 6, represented by Detroit VA Medical Center Volunteer Service Representative Gerald Murawski, and VFW Post 4162 represented by member Omer Moynes, presented Bill Browning the Chief of Voluntary Services for the Detroit VA Medical Center with 1,000 U.S. Flags,

that will be distributed to the patrons at the "2012 Valentines For Veterans Concert."

The concert is part of the VA's National Salute to Hospitalized and Homeless Veterans, to show appreciation to Veterans and increase community awareness of the needs of VA medical centers and homeless domiciliaries, especially for volunteers.

This is a complementary concert and is open to the public with maximum of four tickets provided to each person. Tickets will be available at the Masonic Temple Box Office beginning January 19. Tickets are required for the Concert.

Special recognition this year will be paid to Homeless veterans in southeast Michigan. A homeless veteran outreach event will be held, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the Cathedral Entrance of the Masonic Temple.

For directions you can visit the website of the Masonic Temple: <http://www.themasonic.com/>

## Hamtown's movers and shakers...

Continued from page 4

our historical research, we are a national Census Information Center. Also, we do research in a variety of other public and non-proprietary databases.

The CIC, or Census Information Center, is one of our most important and active departments. Among our capabilities and activities, I believe the CIC affords one of the most salient ways we are valuable to the Polish Community. No one knows Polonia as we do, nor has the tools to analyze it that we can deploy.

In 2005, we organized a demographic research center on the Polish-American population within the Piast Institute. In 2006, the center was named an official Census Information Center by the United States Census Bureau, with a special charge to study the Polish American Population. It is one of the 56 CICs in the country, and rated one of the best and most active in the U.S.

The Piast CIC has done a number of major studies, including a demographic profile of Polish Americans in the U.S., state by state, in 2007, which won recognition as one of the best studies of the year done by a CIC. Among our more recent studies is an analysis of the Polish-American vote in the 2008 presidential election, based on a survey of 900 voters and a study of over 60 precincts in six states. The study was commissioned by the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In a follow up to the election study, we did an opinion survey of 1,400 Polonia leaders and activists in 44 states on civic and community involvement, ethnic values and current public issues. It was published as Polish Americans Today in 2010. It has since gone through three printings. Copies were obtained by the Polish Government and distributed to the Presidential Chancery, the heads of all Ministries and the leadership of the Sejm (Poland's equivalent of our House) and Senate.

The CIC has also done marketing studies for Polish busi-

nesses, and area demographic analysis for Polish-American parishes in Detroit, Cleveland, Akron, and Albany. To support its activities, it has also done studies for outside groups.

These include demographic and cultural analyses of ethnic, racial, and religious groups, alcohol abuse, and culture in several Southeast Michigan Counties for agencies which deal with drug and alcohol prevention, and also a study of the characteristics of young women aged 16-21 in three Detroit zip codes who have not completed high school.

We are currently doing an analysis of variable crime rates for Wayne County. We also do surveys on request at the local, as well as the national, level.

We do not usually charge for casual requests for information that take only a short time to answer. For longer and more complex requests, we do charge hourly for our work, but at rates far below normal for profit groups. And, we give a discount to non-profit organizations.

Since the market research we do is proprietary, we are under obligation not to reveal the specific nature of the surveys or the target groups.

**The world is changing as we speak, and Europe, or the EU - of which Poland has been a member since 2004 - is already having grave financial problems with some of its member states. Does any of this influence any future plans for you, or the Institute, in terms of any direction you may want the Institute to go in the future, or any further services you may want to start offering to your usership moving forward?**

Dr. Radzilowski: Our mission is of serving the Polish-American community. We do not expect, therefore, that the changes in Europe will significantly change what we do. It will mainly require us to keep abreast of the nature and meaning of the changes, so that we can accurately respond

to the questions and concerns of the news media, students, Polish community and others we serve.

**When that plane went down in Russia on April 10, 2010, that was carrying so many members of Poland's government and other dignitaries, it must've been a shock. Did you have any extra duties or provide any out-of-the-ordinary services, related to that terrible incident?**

Dr. Radzilowski: We assumed the task of organizing a memorial for those who had died so tragically. This work was done by Executive Vice President Virginia Skrzyniarz, and Father Bogdan Milosz of Queen of Apostles. Over 300 people attended the memorial service and procession at the City Hall and Father Milosz's Church. We brought a representative of the Polish Consul General from Chicago to speak.

**On a lighter note, do you travel much, to Poland or elsewhere? When was the last time you went to Poland? What in particular do you love about the country itself? What part(s) of the country were your own relatives from? Anywhere in Poland, or elsewhere in the world, that you still hope to get to see?**

Dr. Radzilowski: My paternal relatives came from Raciaz, near Plock in central Poland and Poznan in western Poland. My maternal relatives both came from the Jaslo area in southeastern Poland.

I have visited Poland over 20 times. My favorite place (and my favorite city in the whole world) is Krakow. It is a magic place. I was last in Poland three years ago, to give a paper in Lublin at the annual meeting of the World Society for the Study of Religion and Society.

I would love to re-visit Vietnam, where I served as a soldier. My service was with Vietnamese troops and I still mourn, daily, the fate of a Vietnamese soldier, Vu van Cam,

Continued on page 6



All parties interested in doing business with Hamtramck Housing Commission are advised to register their business as a Section 3 qualified business at [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov):

- Search Section 3 Business Registry
- Select Register a Business
- Complete form and submit
- Print and maintain record of registry

**If you have any questions or concerns you may contact the Hamtramck Housing Commission at 313-868-7445.**

### The Hamtramck Review

Published every Friday

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# Hamtown's movers...

Continued from page 5

who became a dear friend.

**Please take time here to add anything you like that I didn't think to address.**

Dr. Radzilowski: I have not spoken much of the work that we do locally with the Hamtramck community through coalitions, such as the Hamtramck Drug Free Community Coalition and the Hamtramck - Highland Park Lead Abatement Coalition. These coalitions, which we either created and/or led, have contributed immeasurably to the welfare of our community. They are the work of my colleague, Executive Vice President Virginia Skrzyziarz.

In addition to managing the Institute and organizing its activities, she also acts as a con-

sultant on both capacity building and management skills development to Polonia groups, and other local organizations and other ethnic groups. She has worked with groups in three states. Her experience includes prior service as the executive director of two major non-profit groups in the Detroit area - one of which she founded.

**Thanks so much for your time, Dr. Radzilowski.**

**The Piast Institute is located at 11633 Jos. Campau at Casmere. Their phone number is (313) 733-4535, and they can be emailed at info@piastinstitute.org. They are also to be found on Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and YouTube.**

## Coming events

**WEDNESDAY, Feb. 8m 11 a.m.** - The Daughters of Isabella Mystical Rose Circle 736 will meet at Our Lady Queen of Apostles' Activity Center, entrance on Harold, fenced-in parking.

**Hamtramck Drug Free Community Coalition** meets every second Thursday of the month (next: Feb. 9), 11 a.m. at The Piast Institute, 11633 Jos. Campau.

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**By Charles Sercombe**

Real Esteals is a new column that highlights some of Hamtramck's best properties on the market, and most likely ones that you can purchase for a steal. Get them while you can folks because eventually, the real estate market will come back.

In this inaugural launch of Real Esteals we were thinking we needed a yang to our yin column (Hall of Shame) on blight in the city. That's not to say we are abandoning our look at blight problems the city faces.

It's just that there needs to be a balance between the good and the bad. And for this we thank Community & Economic Development Director Jason Friedmann for suggesting a column on bargain basement real estate deals instead of that "sh\*tty column."

Heh, those are his words, not ours.

So, here's this week's hot deal on local real estate.

It's with a lot of mixed emotion that I selected this week's

pick: The former Citizen newspaper building at 11901 Jos. Campau - at the corner of Zinow.

I worked in that building for about 20 years with a variety of characters who came and went. Oh, the stories I could tell. But that's not what this column is about.



Instead, it's all about the building. And it's a fine one. I think the paper moved into it sometime in the 1950s or 1960s. (Greg Kowalski, set me straight on this - Editor.)

It's a huge building with upstairs apartments. All-in-all, it's 5,500 square feet, up and down.

Couple problems though. There is no friggin' insulation

in this monster building. It's brick and then it's you. Nothing in between. In the winter, I wore gloves with the finger tips cut off when I was pecking away at the keyboard.

Also, the upstairs apartments are long, long gone. The space upstairs was a wreck when I was there. Since the building has stood empty, one investor and then another came in.

Somewhere along the line one of the owners gutted the upstairs, leaving it ready for development.

At the time the Kargol family still owned the building, specifically Karen Spang (the daughter of Joe Kargol), a study was commissioned to find out what could be done with the upstairs. Those plans were dreamy. The architecture company came up with a plan to turn the upstairs into either a two or three (I can't remember) loft development.

The plans would also require coming up with code-approved stairs to get up there. Believe it or not, there was a door leading to the upstairs just right of the existing front door.

However, it was a steep shot upstairs which would not pass code these days.

All in all, the estimated cost to do this makeover was in the \$300,000 neighborhood. That was the deal back in the 1990s. Needless to say, it never happened.

But, it sure was nice to think about.

One thing you no longer have to worry about is whether the front portion of the building - the façade - is about to fall down. The brick had been buckling for several years, to the point where the city put yellow tape out front to keep pedestrians away from walking in front of it.

One of the last owners received a state grant to restore the façade and make it structurally sound.

In all, \$25,000 was spent on making sure the building didn't cave forward.

Have we talked money? It's yours for \$79,500.

A little while ago, Friedmann said, it was \$20,000 more.

There's probably some wiggle room in the current selling price, but that's just me talking.

**The real estate company Thomas Duke is representing the building. Interested? Give the good folks at Thomas Duke a call at (248) 476-3700.**

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Sundays, Open House, 1-3 p.m. Monday-Saturday, by appt., 2 Br. Upper, 3226 Evaline, no more than two people, no pets, 586-264-0493. 2/10

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## Help Wanted — Manager —

The Polish National Alliance Council 122 Banquet Facility is looking for a manager to oversee the day-to-day operations of its facilities in Hamtramck. Duties include, but are not limited to, completing hall rental contracts, maintaining rental calendar, scheduling staff for club & banquet rooms, maintaining financial accounts for club & banquet facility, maintaining all inventory, supplies & equipment, planning & implementing special events for the club. Polish language ability a plus. Submit cover letter and resume to: PNA Council 122 Manager Position, C/O 59009 Schoenherr, Washington, MI 48094-2444. We will call you to set up an appointment for a meeting. No phone calls please.

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## Obituaries

### DUVALL

Renee Lynn Duvall, 37, died January 28, 2012.

Mrs. Duvall is survived by her husband, Johnathan; daughter, Gabrielle; sons, Jacob and Cody; step-children, Brandon Duvall and Nathaniel Duvall; parents, Thomas Tabroski and Karen (Gregory) Stout (nee Zak); sisters, Tracy Tabroski, Jennifer Tabroski, Kelly Jacobs and Savannah Stout; brother,

Thomas Tabroski; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral arrangements were made by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, and funeral services are being held on February 3 at the funeral home, 1-9 p.m. Cremation will be at Meadowcrest Cemetery.

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**Continued from page 3**

At 12:31 a.m., a woman in the 12000 block of Oklahoma reported that an unknown person or persons threw a brick through her front window and tried to set her vehicle on fire. Hamtramck Fire Dept. responded. Vehicle had to be towed away.

A 1998 Buick Park Avenue previously reported stolen was recovered by police at Moran and Carpenter.

**From Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2012**

At 1:31 a.m., 1998 Dodge Stratus reported stolen from Wayne State University area was recovered on the 11400 block of McDougall.

A man on the 3800 block of Dorothy reported that his federal tax refund check had been stolen. The IRS reported it had been cashed somewhere in California.

At 1:11 p.m., a man was arrested at the Secretary of State office on Jos. Campau after he threw a computer to the floor

and displayed aggressive behavior. It was unclear from the report whether the computer was one belonging to the Secretary of State or was his own.

At 3:50 p.m., a man was arrested for retail fraud at the Sunoco station at 9500 Conant. The man also had a Hamtramck warrant out for his arrest from a prior matter.

At 4:10 p.m., a man walked into the station to file a complaint that another person he had contracted to do some insured repairs at a home in the 2400 block of Hewitt had forged both his, and his father's, names onto an insurance check in order to cash it, then additionally failed to complete the job.

At 9:32 p.m., a man walked into the station, accompanied by his brother, to report that an unknown party had damaged the brother's 2009 Chevrolet Van while it had been parked in the lot at Mackay and Holmes.

**From Wednesday, Jan. 25:**

At 12:24 a.m., a man was

arrested for possession of drugs with intent to deliver at Carpenter and Fleming.

At 8:56 a.m., a man called from the Islamic Center at 11345 Jos. Campau to report that, at precisely 3:02 a.m. (presumably according to timed video surveillance), a white male approximately 30 years of age made entry into the building through the roof, and stole \$3 and a Sony camera. He was wearing a thin, dark jacket over an army sweatshirt.

At 12:16 p.m., a man was engaged by police for being visibly under the influence of drugs at Gallagher and Caniff.

At 12:52 p.m., a person working for a realtor called to report the theft of gas lines from the basement of a house on the 2600 block of Pulaski.

At 5:09 p.m., a woman was arrested at 9023 Jos. Campau for shoplifting. There was also a warrant out for her arrest with the city from a prior matter.

**Cosmos suffer from a series of close games**

By David Piestrzynski

Following an 0-5 start, the Hamtramck Boys Varsity Basketball Team is beginning to turn things around.

The 2012 portion of the Cosmos schedule has brought a couple of marks in the win column, along with some consistently competitive basketball.

Last week, Hamtramck slammed Dearborn Riverside Academy 68-19 for its second win of the season.

Despite their 2-11 record, the Cosmos have made vast improvements as a team since getting off to such a slow start. On Tuesday night, Hamtramck

lost to Harper Woods in overtime by a score of 61-57.

This was just one of several close losses for the Cosmos so far this season.

Overall, the team has lost four games by just eight total points.

This includes a 40-38 loss to Hazel Park earlier in the season, which the Cosmos lost on a half-court buzzer beater.

Bill Gergosian, Hamtramck's head basketball coach, said he attributes the improvements to the work put in by the team.

"I think they're starting to realize how much work it takes to be a varsity basketball player on and off the court," he said.

The Cosmos coaching staff — Gergosian, along with his assistant coaches Danny Hurley and Serif Kurtovic — has stressed the importance of basketball and schoolwork to the team.

Gergosian said his assistant coaches deserve a lot of the credit for the time they have put in outside of basketball, helping the players with their studies.

But overall, he said the team still has several improvements they can make toward becoming a better basketball team.

"We have started to turn a corner," he said. "But this is still a very young team in terms of basketball experience."

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Saturday, Feb. 18	Hamtramck Library	10 am - 12 noon
*Wednesday, Feb. 22	Maine Street Restaurant	8 am - 9 pm
Saturday, Feb. 25	Hamtramck Library	10 am - 12 noon

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Thin Crust	\$9.00	\$11.00	\$13.00
Square Deep Dish	\$9.00	\$11.00	\$13.00
<b>NAGA PIZZA:</b>			
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