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# The Review

Hamtramck

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2013

## Celebrate the Joy of his Resurrection

### Easter: Times change but the spirit remains the same

By Greg Kowalski

There's a different feel to Easter, compared with other Christian holidays.

That may be because there is less commercialism attached to it like there is in the weeks — now months — leading up to Christmas. And Easter is a harbinger of

spring, when we are at last breaking free of the long grip of winter.

Easter is the holiest of all days for Christians around the world, and this has been especially true in Hamtramck.

Hamtramck grew from a small farming village of 3,500 people in

**Continued on page 2**

### From the Publisher...John Ulaj Celebrating the Joy of His Resurrection

Easter will arrive in a few days — earlier than usual this year, in fact — and spring finally seems to be making some inroads. Happy Easter, my friends and fellow Hamtramckans!

As we move farther into the year, we can expect many exciting adventures and journeys ahead for us. Life is truly filled with great and deep meaning, and it is our duty to always

examine ourselves spiritually, in order to find that perfect will of God in our lives.

The History Channel television miniseries The Bible, produced by Roma Downey and Mark Burnett, and concluding right on Easter Sunday, has turned out to be a blockbuster hit. The first episode garnered

**Continued on page 7**

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# Easter: Times change but the spirit remains the same

Continued from front page

1910 to an industrial city of 56,000 by 1930. Almost all of these new residents were Polish immigrants, who came here to work at the Dodge factory and 23 other factories that opened in the city.

And almost all were Catholics, who brought their faith with them from Poland, where Christianity has been the predominant religion for now more than 1,000 years.

The Poles joined a small group of Ukrainians and African-Americans here who also were mainly Christian. For all these groups Easter

was a special time. And it was more than just a day. Holy Week leading up to Easter was — and still is — marked nearly every day with religious observances culminating with Easter Sunday Mass.

In the days when Poles made up more than 80 percent of the city's population, the Easter celebration had an impact on the entire town. In the weeks before Easter, stores promoted flowers and new attire.

In 1945 Edwin Furs at 9243 Jos. Campau pro-

moted a "Great Easter with a fur scarf" (silver fox - \$67). And Easter simply wouldn't be Easter with a ham or kielbasa from Kowalski, or one of the many meat markets in town. This would be combined with bread, butter, and decorated eggs, usually dyed in a pot of boiling onion peels then packed in a basket with assorted other items and toted to church on Saturday afternoon to be blessed.

The tradition — maybe not so much the fur shopping — continues today. But not to the magnitude it did in those years when Hamtramck's population was far larger and less diverse.

Between noon and 3 p.m. on Good Friday, the hours when Jesus suffered on the cross, Hamtramck virtually shut down. Stores closed. The library shut its doors, city operations were suspended and everyone went to church. No one even discussed the concept of the separation of church and state, and no one complained.

The churches were packed with people. In 1956 the City News reported that an estimated one million Catholics across Wayne County were expected to attend Good Friday services.

The City News, incidentally, was a politically alternative newspaper founded to com-

pete with The Citizen newspaper. It devoted the entire front page of its Easter edition to a large Easter drawing.

Inside it carried a full page of Easter ads from such legendary Hamtramckers as Walter Paruk, who later would become municipal court judge; future Mayor William V. Kozerski; businessman Stephen Wrobel and Councilman Henry Kozak. Another full page of the paper was devoted to Easter stories entirely in Polish.

Easter Sunday, of course, was the most important day. Masses were huge. Groups like the Knights of Columbus paraded into the church and Mass was a joyous occasion. That would be followed by a massive Easter dinner later in the day.

Not all of this has changed, of course. The Masses are still held. Families still take baskets to the church on Saturday to be blessed and many people take off from work between noon and 3 p.m. on Good Friday to go to church.

The biggest difference between then and now is scale. In days past, kids from St. Florian, St. Ladislaus and Queen of Apostles schools would pack the churches six days a week. And their parents would join them, along with many more, on Sunday. Today the schools have been closed by the Archdioceses, and replaced with charter schools. Hamtramck is far more diverse, and church attendance is declining in many parts of the world.

It doesn't do any good to lament what we have lost through the years. But it's possible to cherish the past while focusing on the future. After all, Easter is a time of renewal, and it looks like it will be celebrated for many years ahead.

**Greg Kowalski is chairman of the Hamtramck Historical Commission.**

## PLAV POST 10

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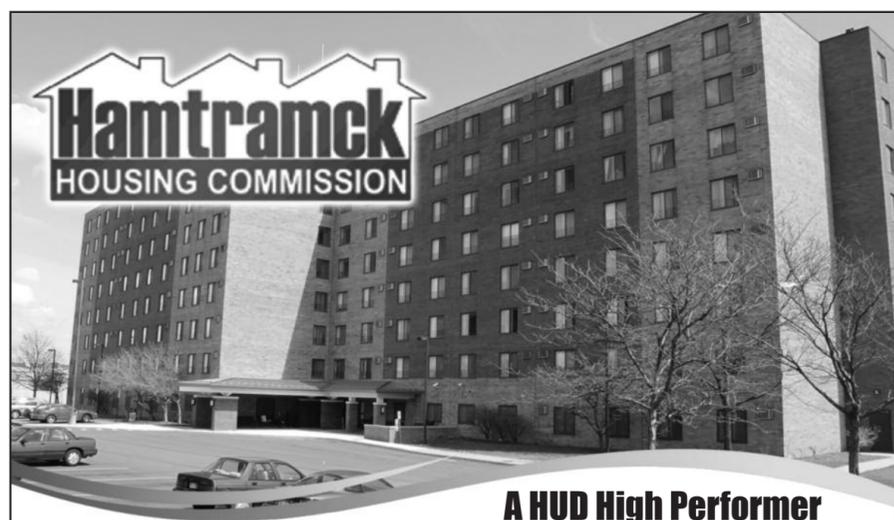
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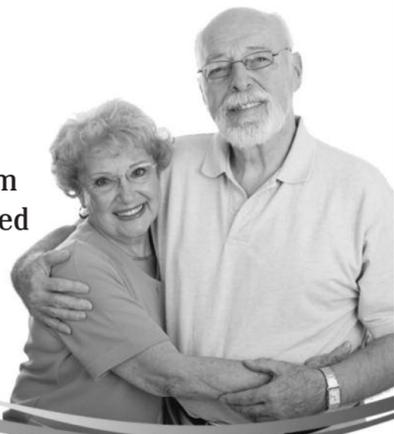


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## This week at the library...

**Toddler Time at the Library** - Monday, April 8 at 11 a.m. Join us for story time, arts & crafts, and games. This week we will observe the Roly-Poly Egg Day. (Children must be accompanied by an adult.)

**Math Kangaroo Club** - Tuesday, April 2 at 3:30 p.m. Learn math in a fun way, and prepare for the annual international math contest while improving your grades in school.

**Movie Night** - Thursday, April 2 at 4 p.m. All children are invited for movie shown on high definition screen and popcorn. This week's movie is "Thunder Struck."

**Financial Activist Club** - Tuesday, April 2 at 5 p.m. Hamtramck residents of all ages are invited to join our financial workshops, designed to expand your knowledge of budgeting and investing. Registration is required.

**ESL Conversation Class** - Tuesday, April 2 at 4 p.m. Ms. Trisa conducts English Conversation classes each Tuesday night. Free of charge to Hamtramck residents.

**Computer Classes for Beginners** - Wednesday, April 3 at 11 a.m. Learn basic computer skill and how to navigate the Internet or use email. Registration is required and space is limited

**Basic ESL Class** - Thursday, April 4 at 3:30 p.m. The basic ESL class conducted by Ms. Latisha Edge is free to the public (registration required).

**Urban Agriculture Focus Group** - Thursday, April 4 at 6 p.m. Greening of Detroit is developing a new urban agriculture program and is looking forward to community input in creating and sustaining urban gardens.

**ESL Class with Latisha Edge** - Friday, April 5 at 3 p.m. Intermediate ESL class conducted by Latisha Edge, free to the public.

**Free Income Tax Service** - Friday, April 5 at 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency will provide this service free to Hamtramck residents who have

earned less than \$50,000. To make an appointment, call 734-284-6999. Walk-ins will be accepted, but appointments will be served first.

**Art Contest Awards** - Thursday, April 11 at 5 p.m. The contest is open to all children ages 4 to 18, incorporating our theme "Dig Into a Good Book."

**Citizenship and Naturalization Program #1/8** - Thursday, April 11 at 5:30 p.m. This program is conducted by the International Institute and is free of charge to Hamtramck residents. It provides help with preparation of documents and legal assistance, if necessary.

**Meeting of the Library Board** - Thursday, April 11 at 6 p.m. Regular meeting of the Library Board will be held in the auditorium. Open to the public.

**Teen Movie Night** - Tuesday, April 16 at 4 p.m. This week's movie for teenagers is "Hobbit." All are invited for movie and popcorn.

**Floral Arrangements Workshop** - Wednesday, April 17 at 11 a.m. Register for a four-hour workshop and learn all about fresh flower floral arrangements with Marilynne Litvin, instructor from Windy River Educational Services. Registration fee to cover supplies is \$5.

**Make'n Take Crafts** - Tuesday, April 18, at 4 p.m. All children are invited for arts and crafts workshop celebrating National Library Week.

**Friends of the Library Meeting** - Thursday, April 18 at 6 p.m. FHPL President Kathy Kristy and Treasurer George Gorday invite all members and volunteers to participate in the regular monthly meeting.

**Evening with Author** - Thursday, April 25 at 6 p.m. Join us for an evening with Mark Rothman, who was the head writer & producer of TV shows "The Odd Couple," "Happy Days" and "Laverne & Shirley." Book signing and light refreshment will follow.

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

## At this meat market, it's a 100-year-old family business

By Ian Perrotta

Just in time for grilling season – if it ever warms up this year – Hamtramck has a new shop that can "meat" all of your needs.

Berry & Sons Meat Market, located in the shopping strip at the intersection of Caniff and Gallagher, recently joined the ranks of Hamtramck's numerous businesses. If it had a beating heart, chances are you can find a part at Berry & Sons.

The butcher shop is the fourth retail location of Berry & Sons, which was started 36 years ago by Salah Berry and now includes a slaughterhouse in Eastern Market. Continuing a 100-year-old family tradition that stretches back to the family's origins in Syria, the Hamtramck site is owned and operated by Salah's son, Mohamad.

"This is what we've been doing all our lives," says Mohamad Berry. "It's all we know."

For anyone who likes meat, all you'll need to know is how

to get to Berry & Sons at 3218 Caniff. Inside you'll find whatever piece of cow, chicken or lamb you desire –



Berry & Sons Meat Market is a carnivore's paradise. At this butcher shop on Caniff you can get whatever cut of meat you want -- or the whole animal.

just no pork. The business prides itself on being 100 percent Halal.

Another point of pride for

the business is how clean it is. And if cleanliness is next to godliness, then Berry & Sons is basically a holy site.

Because Mohamad Berry is big on preventing cross-contamination, there are different coolers for each meat, as well

as for cooked, uncooked and marinated products.

The numerous coolers are just a small part of an overall larger overhaul done to the retail space. Formerly a T-shirt shop, the building was completely gutted from floor to ceiling and retro-fitted with everything needed to make it a functioning meat market, including floor drains and a 12'x12' walk-in cooler.

In the coming weeks there are plans to build a new register counter, add some neon signs to the windows and start selling bread. And being an avid hunter, Mohamad Berry also has plans to display some of his deer mounts.

"Everybody's really excited to see what's going to come out of this place," says Mohamad Berry. "And I can't wait to find out, either."

**Berry & Sons Meat Market is located at 3218 Caniff and is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There is a parking lot in the rear of the building and a ton of great deals to be had on everything from ground beef or chicken legs to whole goats or lambs and veal shoulders. For more information or pricing call (313)-870-9667.**



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**Sunday School 10 a.m.**  
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**Good Friday, March 29:** 9 a.m. The liturgy of Passion of our Lord. 12-3 p.m. Adoration of the Cross and Scripture Reading at half-hour intervals. 7 p.m. Sorrowful Lamentations - 3 parts.

**Holy Saturday, March 30:** 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.

**Sunday, March 31:** Resurrection of our Lord, 7 a.m. Procession and Holy Mass. Intention: For all Parishioners. 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass, Intention: In memory of Fr. Edward & Frances Sobolewski.

**Monday, April 1:** 10 a.m. Holy Mass. (Polish)

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*Dr. Alenzi received his medical education from Basra Medical College and completed his Family Medicine residency at Ministry of Health/ Baghdad Hospitals and Genesys Regional Medical Center. In addition, he is certified by the American Board of Family Medicine and speaks English and Arabic.*

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### Catholic Churches Celebrate Easter Holy Week

**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 a.m. Easter Monday: Mass in Polish at 10 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, 5 p.m. Holy Saturday: Blessing of Easter baskets every hour: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 p.m.; Confession, 1-7 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.; 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 1 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, 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, 2:30 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, 305-7394

Good Friday: Gorzkie Zale at noon, Stations of the Cross 12:45 p.m.; Liturgy, 1:30 p.m.; Divine Mercy Chaplet, 3 p.m. Holy Saturday: Blessing of the

baskets, 1, 1 :30 and 2 p.m. Easter Sunday: Resurrection Mass in 11 a.m. in Polish

**St. Louis the King**  
18891 St. Louis, 305-7394

Holy Saturday: Blessing of Easter food baskets, every half hour, noon to 2 p.m. Easter Sunday: Polish Mass with Procession, 8 a.m.

**Sweetest Heart of Mary**  
4440 Russell, 831-6659

Good Friday: Services, noon-3p.m. Saturday, Blessing of baskets, 1 and 3 p.m. Easter Sunday: Mass at 10:30 a.m.

**Transfiguration Church**  
5830 Simon K

Saturday, Easter Vigil Mass, 4 p.m.; Blessing of food baskets, 11a.m., 11:30 a.m. and noon. Sunday, Mass at 10:30 a.m.

## A Blessed Easter & Happy Holiday from My Family to Yours



Councilwoman Cathie Gordon



Wishing Your Family a Very

# Happy Easter



from Councilman Bob Zwolak



# Happy Easter!



To old friends and new, we're especially happy to be able to offer our warmest wishes for a Happy Easter!

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## Lovely Easter

From Your Friends at the Hamtramck Historical Commission

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



Wishing the residents of Hamtramck and their loved ones a joyous Easter and a happy spring!



From Mayor Karen Majewski



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# Happy Easter

from My Family to Yours



John Ulaj, Publisher



# HE IS RISEN

Easter Celebration | Mar 31 2013

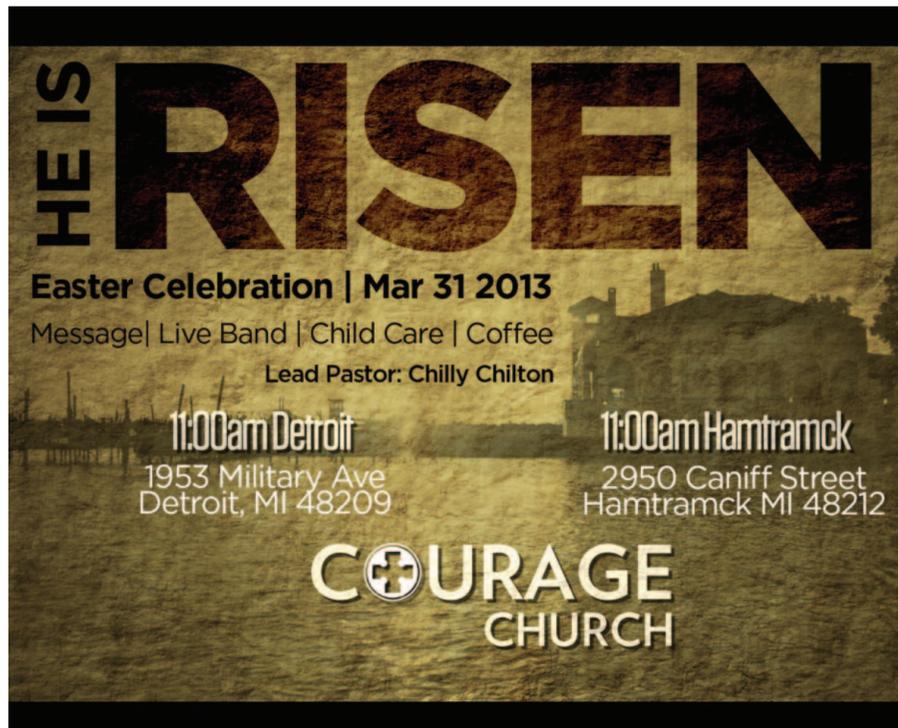
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11:00am Hamtramck  
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**COURAGE CHURCH**



# Firefighters and police are city's top wage earners

By Charles Sercombe

It's nine months into the city's budget year – which started July 1 – and for some firefighters and police officers, it will be a very good year.

Money-wise that is. A review of the city's employee earnings summary for the 2012-2013 budget year reveals that so far some firefighters have earned as much as \$60,000 to a little over \$76,000.

There are still three months to go in the fiscal year.

Several of the firefighters also are doing well on overtime, reaping in \$7,000 to \$8,000.

On top of that, their benefits are also generous. Firefighters get \$1,500 a year for clothing, and thousands for their birthday, holiday pay, unused time off, unused sick days and filling in on ambulance duty.

Police officers were no slouches either in racking up thousands of dollars in overtime and various perks.

One officer earned over \$21,000 in overtime pursuing narcotics investigations. (This overtime is not paid through the city's general fund, but in-

stead from a special Drug Forfeiture Fund.)

The above figures don't include the cost for health insurance or pension contributions that the city is required to pay.

While some overtime costs are offset by special funds, including the volunteer overtime patrol, the addition of overtime pay is included in the yearly salary and later used to calculate how much police officers and firefighters will earn in retirement.

Some 51 police and fire retirees earn at least \$45,000 a year, with one retired fire chief earning over \$112,000 a year.

Those who are much further down on the earnings list are City Hall employees – the clerks and laborers. They earn about \$30,000 a year and take in nominal overtime earnings, if any at all.

That's still better than what the average Hamtramck resident earns. According to the 2010 Census, the average salary is a little over \$24,000 a year.

The cost of supporting city employees has contributed to the city's deficit spending, and in a few weeks could lead to

payless paydays.

City Councilmember Robert Zwolak, who years ago took a nominal buyout from the city after serving as city clerk for a number of years, blamed the city's financial woes on the generous wages and perks past city officials have signed off on.

He also lashed out at department heads for not "monitoring overtime on a daily basis."

He said that since police and fire chiefs work their way up through the ranks, "It's a good old boys' club."

At this point, the city is getting a financial review from state officials. It's expected that the state will appoint an emergency manager to take control of city finances.

It's also expected that the state will disband the Fire Department and have another agency take over that service.

Zwolak has this advice to the younger members of the Fire Department.

"Find a job in the suburbs where you live," he said. "You'll still have an opportunity to maintain a career."

being provided by the Fire Department.

In fact the Fire Department has consistently brought an ALS program to the bargaining table with the city and every time it was rejected by the city. He is right in the fact that yes ALS equipped rigs can provide more advanced procedures in the field than a BLS rig, but that isn't the only thing that matters in EMS.

Currently the system that the Acting City Manager has in place by using a private ambulance company goes like this: They keep a rig stationed in our city and when we get a 911 call for help, they are dispatched, end of story.

This is where the problem lies.

Once the rig is dispatched that ends all contact the city has concerning the run. We have no way of tracking how long it took the rig to respond, what the outcome of the run was and what quality of service was provided. The city isn't even tracking the number of runs or where the ambulances are dispatched to.

These quality assurance things were all provided by your Fire Department to insure the high quality of EMS service that we have provided for the past 30-plus years.

Lastly, with concern to our contract (which is mutually agreed upon by both the city and the Union) and the concessions we have offered to the city. Since the ink was barely

dry on our current contract, the city has been coming to us asking for cost savings measures.

We agreed early in the contract to concessions that amounted to around \$300,000 that could have been renewed after one year, if the city chose to do so (but didn't). Over the last year to 18 months our Union has been in talks back and forth with the city over cost savings measures and concessions with the city.

During this time there have been deals offered by both sides that have fallen apart for whatever reason. The fact that we have had so many different City Managers and Acting City Managers has only hindered any talks due to different priorities and views on which direction we should be heading.

After many meetings with the city, the Acting City Manager was asking us to take approximately 45 percent reduction to our departmental budget and shoulder the majority of the \$2.5 million debt.

The Union put forth a concessions package to the city which we feel was fair and offered a good saving to the city, both short and long term. Among these offered concessions were: A pay decrease, a pension contribution increase, paying for a portion of our health care, creating a second tier of pay and benefits for new hires a reduction in our minimum manning and the shifting of our dispatch over to the Police Department.

These offered concessions amount to a 20-25 percent total reduction in our Departmental budget. The Acting City Manager stated that he would include our offer in the Deficit Elimination plan to the state.

We feel that we acted in good faith in making this offer to take concessions and hopefully our efforts will not go unnoticed.

**Matthew Wyszczelski**  
President, Hamtramck  
Firefighters Association  
Local 750



## City Hall Insider ...

What is our City Council up to these days? We have the highlights of the latest council meeting.

By Charles Sercombe

The council met for over two hours on March 13. Only Councilmember Abdul Algazali was absent.

During public comment, former Councilmember John Justewicz said he is aware the city is in a financial "quandary" but insisted city officials should not end its sanitation contract.

He also said that if the Fire Department is disbanded, "next comes the Police Department."

Susan Dunn said that contracting out ambulance service to DMC is going to cost residents more money for the service. She also said one DMC ambulance had blood on the floor. Dunn said a person could become ill from airborne germs from the blood.

She also said that Councilmember Abdul Algazali should be "sanctioned" for missing several meetings in a row without asking to be formally excused, as required by city charter.

"I want some accountability of the money," Dunn said in regard to the payment Algazali receives for being a councilmember.

In an attempt to address the city's financial crisis, Councilmember Robert Zwolak motioned to authorize payments only to city employees. Councilmember Mohammed Hassan questioned why.

"We're watching our cash flow," Zwolak said.

He added that this would only be for two weeks while city officials deal with the crisis. Councilmember Tom Jankowski said that the city has to pay for supplies, and added that some items are paid through grant monies.

Zwolak countered, saying that the city may have to tap into grants.

Councilmember Cathie Gordon said bills are not being scrutinized carefully. As an example, she questioned a bill for \$124 to supply coffee.

Acting City Manager Kyle Tertzag recommended against withholding payments to contractors. He said it's a bad idea to hire people to perform a service and then not pay them.

As for the coffee, Tertzag said it was for a business seminar the city hosted recently.

In the vote to release payment only to city employees, Councilmembers Hassan and Jankowski voted against it.

In another action, the council agreed to rescind the city's contract with its IT service (ADR). Councilmember Gordon objected, saying the council first needs to review the contract with ADR.

Councilmember Anam Miah said he would support rescinding the contract because he found out that the contract does not include things he was told were in it. He did not elaborate.

In the vote, Councilmember Gordon and Mayor Karen Ma-

jewski objected. Councilmember Jankowski abstained. Three councilmembers voted in favor, which were enough votes to rescind the contract.

In another matter, the council agreed to enter into an agreement with the Public Schools District to have the district cut the grass at Veterans Memorial Park. Only Councilmembers Hassan and Miah voted against it. They did not explain their objection.

Moving along, the council agreed to reduce the city's contribution to retirees' health care from \$2.2 million to \$1.4 million. Only Councilmember Zwolak voted against the proposal.

Acting City Manager Tertzag recommended ending the city's contract with its sanitation service. Tertzag said he asked all city contractors for a reduction in costs to help the city survive its financial crisis. He said all contractors, except the company that picks up household garbage, Rizzo, agreed to a cut in pay.

Councilmember Jankowski advised holding off from breaking the contract until Tertzag looks around to see what other companies would charge. He said once the word gets out that the city is seeking a new contract, there could be a problem finding a less expensive price.

"These guys are dirty," Jankowski said.

## Letters • Letters

### Firefighters' union has been agreeable to cuts in department budget

There have been a lot of things written in the paper lately concerning the Fire Department and some of them have not been entirely accurate.

I would like to take this opportunity to correct some of those facts and to explain what the Fire Fighters have offered to help alleviate the city's financial trouble.

First off the SAFER grant which was awarded to the Fire Department in October is a reimbursement grant as the Acting City Manager stated. It pays for all salary and benefits (excluding overtime) for the employees covered, for two years.

The amount of the award is \$3.1 million for the two-year period. This grant was a collaboration of the Union and Fire Chief working together with the city's approval to help the city by having the cost of 12 firefighters completely paid for by the grant.

So far, we are not feeling the full effects of the grant because the city has not hired to fill the three firefighter positions that have been vacated since the grant was awarded. If all grant money isn't used by the end of the grant period, we may be able to file for an amendment to FEMA to extend the grant period until all of the \$3.1 million is expended.

The Acting City Manager has also stated that the ALS (ambulance) service being provided by a private company is superior to the BLS service that was

## CITY OF HAMTRAMCK, MICHIGAN

### ORDINANCE 2013-15

ADDING SECTIONS 150.080 through 150.095  
(Non-Owner Occupied Residential Property Registration and Inspection)  
TO THE HAMTRAMCK CODE OF ORDINANCES

### ORDINANCE 2013-16

ADDING SECTION 150.010 (Adoption and Incorporation  
of the International Property Maintenance Code)  
TO THE HAMTRAMCK CODE OF ORDINANCES

### ORDINANCE 2013-17

Adding Section 96.999 (PENALTY – Foreclosed, Vacant or Abandoned  
Property Registration)  
TO THE HAMTRAMCK CODE OF ORDINANCES

### ORDINANCE 2013-18

ADDING SECTIONS 96.001 through 96.015 and 96.999  
(Foreclosed, Vacant or Abandoned Property Registration)  
TO THE HAMTRAMCK CODE OF ORDINANCES

### ORDINANCE 2013-19

ADDING SECTION 19.300  
(Permit and Regulate Mobile Food Vehicle Vendors)  
TO THE HAMTRAMCK CODE OF ORDINANCES

### ORDINANCE 2013-20

ADDING SECTION 53.013 (Snow and Ice Removal)  
OF THE HAMTRAMCK CODE OF ORDINANCES

### ORDINANCE 2013-21

AMENDING SECTION 53.999(C) (PENALTY – Snow and Ice Removal)  
OF THE HAMTRAMCK CODE OF ORDINANCES

### ORDINANCE 2013-22

AMENDING SECTION 150.999(C) (PENALTY- International Property Maintenance  
Code)  
OF THE HAMTRAMCK CODE OF ORDINANCES

### ORDINANCE 2013-23

Adding Sections 93.045 through 93.048  
(Civil Infractions for trash/abandoned/junk vehicles, abandoned dwellings  
and storage of building materials)  
TO THE HAMTRAMCK CODE OF ORDINANCES

A complete copy of the ordinances are available in the Hamtramck City Clerk's Office.

Enacted: 03/26/2013  
Published: 03/28/2013

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# Review: Opinion Page

## Hamtramck's generous labor contracts finally catch up

In last week's issue, we published a story about how much some retirees earn each year.

For 51 pensioners, they get at least \$45,000 a year, which is twice as much as what the average working Hamtramckian earns.

We didn't publish this information to badmouth retirees or even suggest that the city find a way to end its pension obligation. We brought this to light to simply show the city cannot afford the \$3.5 million a year it spends to support pensions.

Or as Acting City Manager Kyle Tertzag said: It's unsustainable. In other words, Hamtramck is spending more money than it is taking in.

In fact most of the city's \$18 million budget is spent on supporting employees. How did we get to this?

In the past, city officials agreed to some financially destructive labor contracts,

especially with the police and fire unions.

And once those lucrative terms were agreed on, there was no way to undo them without approval of the unions. Hamtramck's tax dollars go primarily to employees, leaving very little to invest into maintaining roads and sewers and parks.

Let's face it, when the average earnings for a firefighter reach \$80,000 a year, you know something is out of whack.

It's disheartening to think what we could have done with the millions of dollars paid out to employees over the years. Instead of worrying about sewers backing up into basements, we could have had ongoing repairs.

Streets could have been repaved in a timely manner. Heck, the city could have even afforded to replace sidewalks slabs for free.

Or, we could have lowered

our tax rate.

But no, city officials kept awarding bigger and better salaries and benefits over the years.

It doesn't matter now, though. It's a foregone conclusion that the state will send in an emergency manager in the coming weeks, and you can bet there is going to be a major shake-up.

While we certainly don't recommend that firefighters and police officers should be earning poverty wages, there needs to be a re-alignment.

Yes, that might mean our public safety officers will have to live a more modest lifestyle. It may even mean they will have to leave their suburban homes and move into town where their salaries will carry a bigger bang.

Imagine how much stronger that will make this community.

## Other Voices: Guest Editorial

Two indicators of school progress show that Hamtramck High School is showing progress.

Scores of college readiness, for the class of 2013 as released by the Michigan Department of Education, show that Hamtramck High School earned an average ACT, which stands for American College Testing, score higher than a lot of high schools in the metro area.

The score was higher than the average score earned by Oak Park High School, Inkster Schools, Ecorse Schools, Willow Run Community Schools, Waterford's Durant High School, Westland's Cyber High School, River Rouge High, and a lot of other Michigan high schools.

The score shows improved college readiness. This is important because Michigan's Department of Education may measure schools more

harshly than any other state in the whole country. The M.D.E. ignores per-pupil funding and ignores student socioeconomic status, a factor that explains more variation among schools than any other variable.

According to the Michigan Public High School Context and Performance Report Card, as released by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, Hamtramck High School now outperforms more than 460 other schools. This report card is more accurate because it does consider the socioeconomic realities of communities. The "B" grade that Hamtramck High has earned considers at how well the school is doing despite the obstacles faced by students and their families.

Many, many Michigan high schools do not fare as well as our Ham. High School: Ro-

seville, C; Warren Woods, C; Warren Mott, D; Hazel Park, D; East Detroit, D; Det. Academy of Arts & Sci., F; Kettering, F; Osborn, F; Pershing, F.

This Mackinac Center Report, a Results of ACT & Michigan Merit Exams Report, shows that Hamtramck High has outperformed not only city high schools but also suburban high schools—and a lot of public school academies. Now, please realize that this comprehensive report was put together by the largest conservative state-level think tank in the nation.

Reports generated by the right-wing Mackinac Center are thoroughly completed, uniformly tough, and well respected. The grade of B, issued by this Mackinac Center, shows that the 2013 graduates of Hamtramck High will be more college ready than many earlier graduates.

The grade shows that Hamtramck High School has shown a good amount of improvement. (More improvement is necessary, but it's important to recognize that the high school is striving for progress. The high school is showing progress.)

Thanks to the work of Principal Westrate, and the leadership of Superintendent Niczay, Hamtramck High School has received a phenomenal grade for a small city high school, based upon the rigorous but fair set of standards of the prestigious Mackinac Center.

**Brad Neff**  
Media specialist  
Hamtramck Public Schools

## Odds & Ends

**Fundraiser...** We like fundraisers for a good cause, and we like hanging out in bars.

And when you put the two together, count us in! Hamtramck resident Nadine Gizak recently emailed us about an event that does just that.

Here's what she had to say: "Kevin and I are hosting a bar crawl fundraiser for my son's VEX Competitive Robotics team at YouthVille Detroit. YouthVille has seven teams with two youth per team.

"YouthVille swept the State Championships. My son earned the top honor, the Excellence Award, plus the Programming and Driving Skills awards. He was a 2nd place finalist at the National Championships.

"In mid-April, he will compete at the VEX World Tournament. I am so proud of him, and I want to get the word out about YouthVille's amazing program.

"So, we are celebrating with a Saturday afternoon bar crawl during National Robotics Week. No cover, and there will be raffles and games. I hope to see you there. Please contact me for more info. Thanks!"

The fundraiser is April 6 and goes from 2 to 6 p.m. The bars and schedule go like this: 2 p.m. Baker Streetcar Bar, 3 p.m. Suzy's, 4 p.m. Whiskey in the Jar and winds down at 5 p.m. at the Belmont Sports Bar.

For more information, go to: <https://www.facebook.com/events/260320817438187/>.

**Proud to be Polish ...** If you are Polish and proud, the Piast Institute here in Hamtramck wants to hear from you.

More specifically, Piast wants to hear about your Polish-American experience. Piast has partnered with a national survey.

It takes about 25 to 60 minutes to complete, and to access the survey go online to: [blogs.ubc.ca/piastsurvey](http://blogs.ubc.ca/piastsurvey)

For more information contact the Executive Vice President of the Piast Institute, Virginia Skrzyniarz, [Skrzyniarz@piastinstitute.org](mailto:Skrzyniarz@piastinstitute.org) or (313) 733-4535.

**Hamtramck's finest ...** At Tuesday's city Council meeting, Police Chief Max Garbarino awarded "Reserve Officer of

the Year" to Richard Dobek, who has been with the department for 46 years.

Also honored for "Officer of the Year" was detective Prima Brennan, who has been on the force for 14 years.

Here's what Chief Garbarino had to say about both officers: "Richard Dobek has been with the Reserves for 46 years, and has served while Clinton was here, the Pope, the blackout, all the Labor Days, and Christmas walks, and most every serious incident we



Police Chief Max Garbarino poses with "Reserve Officer of the Year" Richard Dobek at Tuesday's City Council meeting.

owner, Mark. After taking a break for a couple of years to pursue other interests, Mark has decided to take back ownership of the popular sports bar on the northend of Jos. Campau.

Celina's serves up a wide selection of beer and has some of the best mixed drinks in town. And to top it off, you can say things are very, very easy on the eyes at this hotspot... heh-heh, if you know what we mean.

Celina's serves up a wide selection of beer and has some of the best mixed drinks in town. And to top it off, you can say things are very, very easy on the eyes at this hotspot... heh-heh, if you know what we mean.

## Coming events

**Hamtramck Drug Free Community Coalition meets** every second Thursday of the month (next meeting: April 18), 11 a.m. at The Piast Institute, 11633 Jos. Campau.

**SUNDAY, April 14, 1:30-5 p.m.** – Wayne County Health on Wheels Mobile Health Unit program will roll into town at Corinthian Baptist Church, 1725 Caniff, featuring free medical screenings, dental exams, blood pressure and a host of other services.

**SATURDAY, April 27, 9:30 a.m.** – The 4th Annual Hamtramck Health Hike starts at Keyworth Stadium. Participants will receive a free T-shirt, embark on a 5k hike through Hamtramck and return to a free halal meal cooked fresh by community volunteers along with music and health fair exhibitors. Registration is free and required by April 10 to reserve a T-shirt and lunch. Anyone can register at Hamtramck Community Center, Hamtramck Library or People's Community Services.

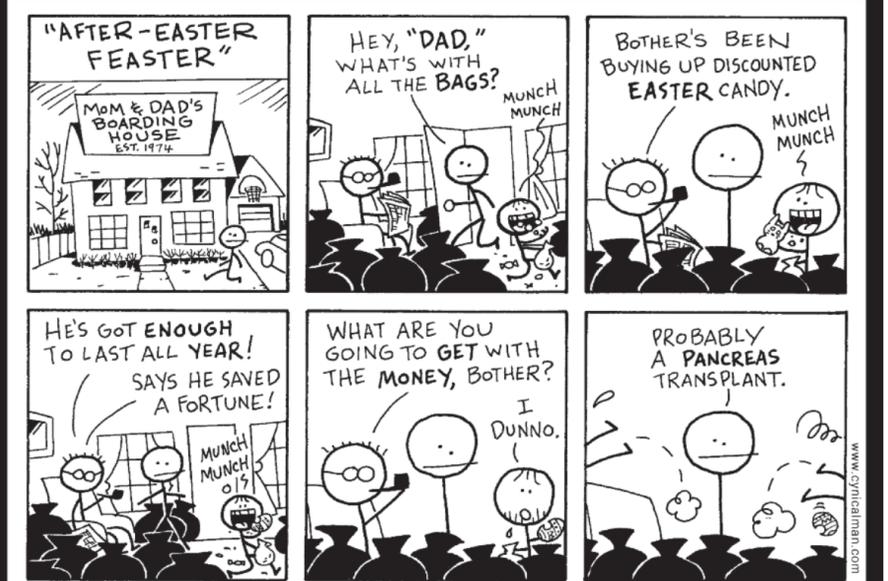
The Hamtramck Review Published every Friday

3020 Caniff, Hamtramck, MI 48212 Phone: 313-874-2100 Fax: 313-874-2101  
[www.hamtramckreview.com](http://www.hamtramckreview.com) • email [news@thehamtramckreview.com](mailto:news@thehamtramckreview.com)

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# Payless paydays loom ahead for city employees

By Charles Sercombe

Attention Hamtramck city employees: Don't make any major purchases for the next few months.

Acting City Manager Kyle Tertzag issued a notice last week to city employees warning them that this week's payroll will likely be met, but it's "highly unlikely" the city will make the April 10 payroll.

Tertzag also sent out a notice to city contractors and vendors saying they will have to wait a little longer to get paid.

Normally, bills are paid within 15 to 30 days, but now Tertzag said contractors will have to wait 30 to 45 days.

The city's cash woes are nothing new. City officials have been scrambling to find ways to avoid a projected \$3.5 million budget deficit by this June. They have asked the state to issue a \$3 million emergency loan, but the state has repeatedly turned them down.

The state wants the city to first get city employee contract concessions, specifically

from the Fire Department.

Tertzag said he could not get deep enough contract concessions from the firefighters' union, and has informed state officials of the impasse.

Tertzag said he expects an emergency manager to be appointed to the city within weeks. If that's the case, there is a good bet that the Fire Department will undergo a drastic change.

Tertzag could not discuss the details of that change.

# HPS students continue to do well in competitions

By Ian Perrotta

This generation of Hamtramck Public Schools students will be the next generation's leaders. Fortunately some already recognize this, and if you ask them they'll tell you why their voices are important.

At least that was what happened last week when Priyanka Laskar, Musammat Begum, Adrian Musiej and Almamoun Mashrah represented Dickinson East Elementary School at the Annual Optimists International-Downtown Chapter Oratorical Competition at the Roberts Riverwalk Hotel.

The students were competing in the oratorical competition under this year's topic of "Why My Voice is Important." Though the competition was tough the students from Hamtramck did remarkably well.

Sixth grader Musammat Begum took first place in the girl's category and was in-

vited to the championship tournament that is held in May. Fifth grader Almamoun Mashrah took second place for the boys, and sixth grader Priyanka Laskar and fifth grader Adrian Musiej each took fourth place.

"The judges, club mem-

bers, and guests remarked about what a close competition it was and how inspirational all the speeches were," said Rahiel Housey-Johnson, now in her 12th year as Speech Club Coach. "As for me, it restores my hope for the future every year."



Dickinson East Elementary School students Priyanka Laskar, Musammat Begum, Almamoun Mashrah and Adrian Musiej represented Hamtramck at the Annual Optimists International-Downtown Chapter Oratorical Competition.

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# Art grant aims to draw attention to Detroit's strengths

By Ian Perrotta

Do you have a cool artistic idea but no money to fund it? Then the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation has deal for you.

In an attempt to draw the best and most innovative ideas out of local organizations and

individuals seeking to engage and enrich the community through the arts, on Monday (March 25) the non-profit organization launched the first ever Knight Arts Challenge Detroit.

The \$9 million initiative is looking for artwork that can create transformational and sustainable change through artistic excellence and collective cultural experiences. And better yet, the initial application process is about as easy as it can get.

To apply for the matching grant there are just three basic requirements. First, the idea must be about the arts. Second, it must take place in or provide benefit to Detroit. Finally, you must provide matching funding.

During the initial application process, applicants submit an approximately 150-word essay (no longer than a total of 1,050 characters) online, where it is reviewed by a panel of artists who either give it a "thumbs up" or a "thumbs down." The deadline is April 22.

"Our readers are looking for passion, innovation and why

this project is Detroit," says Tatiana Hernandez, Associate/Arts for the Knight Foundation. "Really put your heart in it - we can feel it on the other side."

If the initial application is accepted - about 100 will be - the next step is developing a more detailed plan that includes a budget and other relevant information. Regardless of the project's scope, if it meets all the criteria it can still be funded, as grants can range anywhere from \$10,000 to \$450,000.

Ultimately the winners will be chosen in the fall. In the event a grant is approved, artists will have one year to raise money before they are required to begin work.

"We are looking for the biggest, most beneficial ideas to Detroit," says Hernandez. "The benefit comes from being engaged with the community."

**Need more information? Visit [www.knightarts.org](http://www.knightarts.org) or check out the Town Hall meeting on April 4 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (MOCAD), located at 4454 Woodward Avenue.**

# From the Publisher...John Ulaj Celebrating the Joy of His Resurrection

Continued from front page

over 13.1 million viewers alone; this was the largest viewing audience, to date in 2013, for any cable TV show. I believe this definitely reflects that many people still feel the love God has for all mankind, as chronicled in the Bible from the book of Genesis all the way down through the final book of Revelation.

Perhaps the most important message to be taken from this movie miniseries is that of The Son of God's sacrifice upon the cross to absorb all of mankind's worldly sins, throughout all of time. That whosever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. I want to remind everyone that, whatever struggles you are facing, whatever difficulties life throws at you, God is ever-present with

you, and suffers as you suffer. It will be five years this April 18 that my father went up to be with the Lord. That was one of the most painful years of my life. I'm so fortunate to have my other parent, my sweet and loving mother, still with me, along with other family and friends. For this, I give much humble thanks.

Easter is a time of reflection, a time for remembering the sufferings endured by Christ, but also for remembering God sharing his joy with - and showing His mercy to - the world. I am reminded that, as God the Father raised his Son Jesus up, so shall he raise us all; everyone of us that believes in the only Begotten Son of God.

Happy Easter, and may God bless you all!

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12101 Jos. Campau at 9AM

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## Obituaries

### BORUSHKO

Joan Borushko, 78, died March 27, 2013.

Mrs. Borushko was a member of the Hamtramck School Board for many years.

Mrs. Borushko was predeceased by her beloved husband, John and her dear son, Dennis (Tamara). She is survived by her daughter, Suzanne; son, David (Jody); sister, Rose Barno, grandchildren Jamie (Heather), Bryan (Kim), Jordan, Kaleigh, Rayna; great-grandchild Carli; many nieces and a nephew.

Visitation is Saturday, March 30, 2 - 7 p.m. at Jurkiewicz &

Wilk Funeral Home. Memorial Mass is Monday April 1, 10 a.m., at St. Florian Church.

### SANDERS

Lydia Sanders, 62, died March 22, 2013.

Mrs. Sanders was raised in Hamtramck, attended Hamtramck Beauty School, and graduated from University of Detroit Mercy with a B.S. degree in Nursing.

Mrs. Sanders is survived by her beloved husband of 42 years, Noel Sanders II; three children, Noel III, Terry, and Arthur Sanders; brother, David Zalewski; sister, Mary Hotka;

grandson, Devin Sanders.

Mrs. Sanders is preceded in death by her parents, Marjory and Arthur Zalewski; younger brother, Frank Zalewski.

Mrs. Sanders was laid to rest at Resurrection Cemetery, in Clinton Twp., on March 28. Her funeral was March 26, at Genternerlik Funeral Home in Chesterfield. She will be greatly missed by all.

### STOCK

Camille Stock, 83, died March 27, 2013.

Mrs. Stock was a graduate of St. Francis Nursing School, and a registered nurse for over

50 years.

Mrs. Stock was the beloved wife of Frank Peter, dearest mother of Laetitia (Jonathon) Abramson, Collette and Brandon; loving and adored grandmother of Liza, Julia and Daniel. She was loved by family and friends.

Visitation is Friday, March 29, 5 - 8 p.m. with a Rosary at 6:30 p.m. Funeral service is Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home at 2396 Caniff, Hamtramck. Memorials to the Capuchin Monastery will be appreciated by the family.

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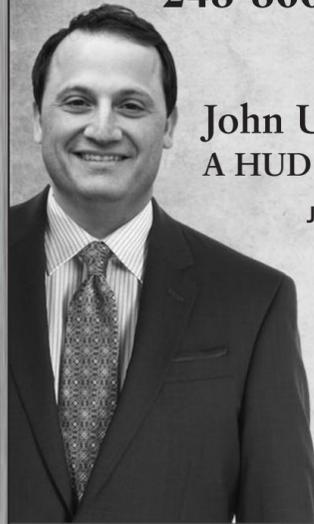
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Hamtramck, 1 br. upper, stove and refrigerator, good neighborhood, very clean, no pets, 313-598-0175. 3/29

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## APARTMENTS & FLATS FOR RENT

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### By Ian Perrotta

This week's Crime Log covers Thursday, March 21 through Wednesday, March 27.

#### Thursday, March 21

A Hamtramck resident reported that someone entered her home in the 3100 block of Goodson between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. and stole \$157 in cash from her bedroom dresser. There was no visible sign of forced entry.

At 1:44 a.m. officers attempted to locate a Hamtramck resident who was knocking on the back door of a house in the 11600 block of Lumpkin. The suspect was gone on arrival. The suspect has a yet-to-be-served Personal Protection Order.

At 9:47 a.m. an agent of a business in the 8500 block of Jos. Campau reported that someone cut the cord on a digital security camera and attempted to take a customer's vehicle between 8:30 p.m. on 3/20 and 9 a.m. on 3/21.

A female was arrested for disorderly conduct in the 12100 block of Jos. Campau at 2:11 p.m.

The driver of a gold Ford Taurus fled a traffic stop at Holbrook and Conant to the area of Strong and Girardin, where he drove recklessly through overgrown fields impassable by scout cars. The driver then fled on foot, and the vehicle was impounded at 3 p.m.

An agent of a business in the 3000 block of Holbrook reported that a 20-year-old black male, 5'9" with a medium build and wearing a black hoodie, forced his way behind the counter and stole approximately \$250 and miscellaneous lottery tickets at 3:30 p.m.

A resident of the 2600 block of Commor reported receiving harassing phone calls and texts.

A juvenile was arrested for obstructing police officers at Jos. Campau and Roosevelt at

3:53 p.m. A search revealed suspected prescription narcotics.

Officers found an open door in the 12100 block of Klinger. The residence was cleared and secured and there were no signs of forced entry.

A man was arrested for urinating in public at Jos. Campau and Yemans at 5:55 p.m.

Two juveniles were arrested after they attempted to steal a Chrysler Town & Country from a house in the 12000 block of Sobieski at 8:54 p.m.

At 11:51 p.m. an Oliver street resident reported being assaulted and robbed of twenty dollars while walking northbound on Conant at the viaduct.

#### Friday, March 22

At 8:23 a.m. officers responded to a school in the 2300 block of Burger for a possible case of child abuse. Child Protective Services was also notified.

At 11 a.m. a woman reported that her roommate assaulted her in the 3900 block of Doremus after she got locked out. The landlord stated no assault took place.

At 5:54 p.m. a person was arrested for driving with a suspended license after a traffic stop.

#### Saturday, March 23

At 1:26 a.m. a person was arrested for operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, following a traffic accident.

At 2:12 a.m. three people were arrested for disorderly conduct.

At 3:17 a.m. officers took a report of an assault in the 12000 block of Dequindre.

At 4:47 a.m. a person was arrested for domestic violence.

At 9:24 a.m. officers located a 2013 Chrysler Town & Country with damage to the ignition. The vehicle was run through the LEIN system and came back as not stolen. B&T towed the vehicle for safekeeping.

At 3 p.m. an Edwin resident reported her catalytic converter had been stolen from her vehicle.

At 6 p.m. an Oklahoma resident called and stated she was assaulted by an unknown female.

At 9 p.m. Michigan State Police dropped off a subject who was placed under arrest for a Hamtramck warrant.

#### Sunday, March 24

At 12:42 a.m. a resident of the 9400 block of Gallagher reported receiving threatening correspondence left on her porch by an unknown person.

At 3:15 a.m. officers issued an MLCC violation to an establishment in the 9000 block of Conant.

At 9:28 a.m. a Hamtramck resident was arrested at Gallagher and Evaline for felony assault after he was involved in a road rage incident.

At 1:32 p.m. officers recovered a stolen cell phone, with the help of the owner, in the 10000 block of Conant.

A resident of the 12000 block of Lumpkin turned over a red bicycle someone dumped in her backyard.

At 10:29 p.m. a man from the 2700 block of Norwalk reported that he was receiving harassing telephone calls.

#### Monday, March 25

At 7:35 a.m. a crash occurred at Casmere and Mitchell.

At 9:51 a.m. a Hamtramck resident reported the theft of

her credit card from her wallet.

At 4 p.m. a Royal Oak resident reported the rear window of his PT Cruiser was broken at Mackay and Holmes.

A resident of the 3100 block of Hanley reported his back door was kicked open between 3/20 and 5:30 p.m. on today's date. Copper plumbing was stolen from the basement.

#### Tuesday, March 26

At 9:13 a.m. a man passed fraudulent insurance to the City Attorney.

At 11:06 a.m. a man reported his wife was missing.

At 12:38 p.m. a woman reported that an unknown person(s) used her daughter's identity to open an account.

Officers transported a brown and white American Staffordshire Terrier to the Humane Society after the dog was barricading a resident inside her house on Yemans at 2:35 p.m.

A crash occurred at Caniff and Ellery at 3 p.m.

A resident of the 11600 block of St. Aubin reported that unknown suspect(s) broke a mirror off of his Oldsmobile at 3:44 p.m.

A male reported he was assaulted by four black men while walking in the 12000 block of St. Aubin at 6:55 p.m.

#### Wednesday, March 27

At 4:56 a.m. a man reported that an unknown person(s) damaged his 1996 Chevy Caprice while it was parked in the 2600 block of Edwin.

At 5 a.m. a man reported that an unknown person(s) broke into his 2002 Mercedes Benz while it was parked in the 2600 block of Yemans and took his wallet. A male was arrested a half-hour later in the 2000 block of Evaline after being seen looking in a vehicle in the 2000 block of Edwin. The initial victim's wallet was located on the thief, along with several more items from other vehicles.

At 5:52 a.m. a man reported that an unknown person(s) broke into his 1997 Jeep. The vehicle's doors were unlocked. The radio had been pulled partially out and the vehicle had been ransacked.

At 7:37 a.m. a male was arrested for a Hamtramck warrant and driving with a suspended license after a traffic stop at Commor and St. Aubin.

At 3:36 p.m. a victim reported a domestic assault between him and his son in the 2700 block of Evaline. The son fled the scene before officers arrived.

At 3:43 p.m. an officer recovered property found by a Hamtramck resident at Jos. Campau and Grayling.

At 4 p.m. a man was arrested for domestic violence, violating a PPO (twice), obstructing police, breaking-and-entering, and receiving stolen property in the 11600 block of Lumpkin.

At 4 p.m. a victim reported that someone broke into his vehicle and stole numerous items. No damage was observed on the vehicle.

At 4:50 p.m. a victim came into the station and reported being harassed by a suspect who is known to him.

At 6:39 p.m. a male juvenile who was present with a parent was assaulted by another juvenile male at Andrus and Jos. Campau. The suspect fled the scene before officers arrived.

At 7:49 p.m. a victim reported a break-in to his residence in the 2200 block of Hewitt.

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