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50¢

The

Review

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Quick Hits

Former CM heading to a new job

By Charles Sercombe

Former City Manager Max Garbarino has put Hamtramck in his rear-view mirror, and is heading north – as in, to Lexington, Michigan.

He was hired last week as Interim City Manager, and, if he does well, gets along with the leadership, etc. – you know the drill – the job is his.

As for his new job, Garbarino said: “I’m excited to start a new journey. I had a duty to do a new job.”

The Village of Lexington is just north of Port Huron; about a one-hour drive from Hamtramck. Its population is about 1,100.

The job pays roughly \$100,000 a year, and it comes with some unique duties, such as managing a city-owned trailer park.

Lexington is also a town where a number of former Hamtramck residents have settled for retirement, and, being nestled right along Lake Huron, is a boating community as well.

Garbarino was fired by the city council for reasons not ever fully explained.

But the firing followed an internal investigation by the Miller Johnson law firm into Garbarino, former Police Chief Jamiel Altaheri and police officer David Adamczyk.

The law firm faulted Garbarino for recommending the police chief hire investigator Adamczyk (which was interpreted as a form of coercion), and for not acting soon enough to take disciplinary action against Chief Altaheri.

The findings of the investigation form a tangled web that first started with Garbarino conducting an internal investigation into Altaheri that was overseen by Adamczyk.

The investigation accused Altaheri of a number of wrongdoings, none of which resulted in criminal charges.

Both Altaheri and Adamczyk left the city, with

Continued on page 4

— HAMTRAMCK’S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Circuit court judge will once again consider election challenge

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck might soon come one step closer to finding out who will serve as its mayor, starting on Jan. 1.

Or maybe not.

City Councilmember Muhith Mahmood, who ran for the job of mayor instead for another term on council, is seeking to have 37 uncounted absentee ballots included in the final vote tally.

The ballots in question were discovered in the city clerk’s office a day or two after the election was over, but the Wayne County Board of Canvasers deadlocked in a 2-2 vote on whether to allow the ballots to be counted.

That tie vote, by law, automatically prevented the ballots from being counted.

That’s where Mahmood took up the matter to include the ballots. And there is a lot at stake: Mahmood lost the election by a mere 11 votes.

If those 37 ballots are allowed to be counted, the final tally could make Mahmood the winner of the mayoral election.

Current mayor-elect Adam Alharbi is arguing not to have the ballots counted because they were left unsecured and could have been tampered with.

Mahmood counter-argues that not counting the ballots disenfranchises those voters.

This issue is what Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Patricia Perez Fresard has to decide on. Last Friday, she agreed to allow the attorneys involved in the case another week to file more legal arguments.

The matter is scheduled to be heard once again today, Friday, Dec. 19, at about 9 a.m. The public can watch the court proceedings via a Zoom meeting.

The link can be found online on the Wayne County Circuit Court’s webpage, under the judge’s name.



City Councilmember Muhith Mahmood is hoping a Wayne County Circuit Court judge will allow 37 uncounted absentee ballots to be included in the final vote tally. He lost his bid to become mayor by 11 votes.

Even if the judge allows the 37 ballots to be counted, at Tuesday’s city council meeting, the council agreed not to accept any election results that include those 37 ballots.

Councilmember Khalil Refai cautioned against that, however, saying “Wayne County is bigger” – meaning, Hamtramck has no authority to disregard the election results handed down by Wayne County.

City Attorney Odey Meroueh also said the city has to accept Wayne County’s election results.

If it turns out that the ballots are counted and Mahmood wins, Alharbi is challenging his eligibility to hold office in Hamtramck.

Alharbi contends that Mahmood is not a resident of the city, but instead lives in Troy with his family.

He’s basing this on a prior internal investigation, conducted by an outside company, which reported that Mahmood is actually a resident of Troy, which also says that Councilmember Abu Musa actually lives in Warren with his family.

Both Mahmood and Musa deny the allegations.

Judge Fresard said she will also hear the matter about Mahmood’s residency status.

A conversation with the host of ‘Made in Banglatown’

By Alan Madlane

There’s a new podcast in town, and it’s picking up steam.

It’s run by a local man named Naji Chowdhury, and it’s called “Made In Banglatown.”

We wanted to find out more, and being the snoops we are, sent some questions his way. He was kind enough to respond quickly and eloquently.

Here is that exchange:

**The Review: Let’s start with a little background, for the uninitiated. How did the “Made in Banglatown” podcast come about? Has it always been your project, and yours alone? What is the specific purpose and motivation behind it? How long has it been up and running?**

Naji Chowdhury: “Made

in Banglatown” started from a simple idea – to give a voice to the people of Hamtramck, and especially the Bangladeshi community that helped



Naji Chowdhury (right) is on the set of his podcast called “Made in Banglatown” that has featured a number of local elected officials, candidates and others.

shape this city. I grew up here, and I’ve always been surrounded by hard-working families, small business owners, and everyday people with powerful stories that rarely get told.

It’s been my passion project from the start, powered by MENACE MEDIA (the media and marketing company I co-founded) – from the name, the setup, to the editing, everything is hands-on by me, with help from my Menace Media team (who all grew up in Hamtramck).

The goal was to create something real and transparent. A platform that bridges culture, community, and civic conversations in a way that feels authentic. I launched it officially about 6 months ago, but the idea has been growing in me for years.

**The Review: Do you reach out to potential guests, or do they come to you, or is it a bit of both?**

Chowdhury: It’s definitely

Continued on page 5

State withdraws funding for new fire truck

By Charles Sercombe

State Republican legislators have a Scrooge-like Christmas message for Hamtramck and other communities.

The Republican-majority members in the state Appropriation Committee discontinued more than \$600 million in various city and county projects throughout the state.

Hamtramck is in that list of communities that will face a huge financial hit.

If the cuts pass, it will mean the city will lose about \$5 million in funding for three projects:

- \$2 million for a new DPW building
- \$2 million for the parking lots/road in Veterans Park for the Historical stadium project
- \$800,000 for a new fire truck

As of now, it appears Hamtramck will be on the hook to pay for the projects that are already underway.

Tom Habitz, the executive director of the Hamtramck Parks Conservancy, said his project, the rebuilding of parking lots and a road that leads into the Hamtramck Stadium, is “mostly finished.”

So what would it mean if the money is withheld?

“It would be a matter of clawing it back,” Habitz said, which at the very least would mean a huge initial financial hit to the city’s budget, since this is technically a city project.

As for the fire truck, Fire Chief Matthew Wyszczelski said the construction of the truck is about halfway done. It takes about two years to build one.

The \$2 million, Wyszczelski said, would then become the city’s responsibility to pay since it was the city that entered into a contract to purchase the truck.

Wyszczelski said he has been in touch with State Sen. Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit), who had helped arrange the state grant to get the truck. The fire chief went to Lansing on Tuesday to urge the State Appropriations Committee to “restore the budget.”

Interim City Manager Alexander Lagrou said the funding is crucial for Hamtramck “because this community relies on this funding to get stuff done.”

In the meantime, Wyszczelski said that, if the cuts remain, “it’s a big Christmas lump of coal for everybody.”

Continued on page 2



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Sunday School 10 a.m.  
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**Sunday December 21, Holy Mass  
9:00 am Fourth Sunday in Advent**

Dec 22 – Feast of Thomas, Apostle  
Holy Mass 9 am

Dec 24 – Vigil of the Nativity of our Lord  
Holy Mass 9 am

Dec 25 – Solemnity of the Nativity of our Lord  
Shepherd's Mass (Pasterka) 12 Midnight  
Holy Mass 9 am

Dec 26 – Feast of St. Stephen Proto-Martyr  
(Msza Św. w j. polskim)  
Holy Mass (in Polish) 7 pm

Dec 27 – Feast of St. John, Apostle & Evangelist –  
Blessing of Wine Holy Mass 10 am

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**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year**

# State withdraws funding for new fire truck

Continued from front page

That's not the way that Matt Hall, Republican Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives, representing the 42nd District (Kalamazoo/Allegan counties), views the cuts.

He defends ending the funding, saying it's about eliminating "Democrat pork, waste, fraud and abuse."

At Tuesday's city council meeting, Mayor Amer Ghalib said that he had talked with Hall, who denied making some of the cuts.

"I'm not sure how accurate some of this information is," Ghalib said.

However, in the audience was former state

Rep. Abraham Aiyash.

Aiyash, a Democrat and former resident of Hamtramck, said he worked with State Rep. Hall, and had harsh words about him.

"If Matt Hall tells you he can bring back that money for Hamtramck, I will tell you he is a liar," Aiyash said.

He continued, saying Hall "is not a person you should trust, or anyone in this city should trust. He's one of the worst people I had the displeasure of serving with."

Here are some of the other programs and projects on the chopping block:

- a cancer treatment

facility

- ladder fire trucks for Livonia, Troy, Scio Township, Northville Township
- police equipment, necessary new firefighter radios, and replacing an aging ambulance for Utica
- a public safety training facility for Eaton County
- storm cleanup recovery for Grand Ledge
- a police command vehicle for Sterling Heights
- A new fire station for Westland and Oshtemo Charter Township


- A new fire station and fire service equipment for Kalamazoo Twp
- many after-school tutoring programs aimed at improving literacy and math outcomes
- a new inpatient wing at Eaton Rapids Medical Center
- a temporary physician and registered nurses at Aspirus Ironwood Hospital in the U.P.
- various road and bridge projects
- a food pantry expansion, and program renovations

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**Pick up a registration form in the lobby and return it to the lobby window.**

**Email your request to: [MDHHS-FH-Wayne@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHS-FH-Wayne@michigan.gov). Include:**

- Include your name
- Phone number
- Preferred appointment time

**Important Information**

- Appointments are limited!
- They are scheduled on a **first-come, first-served** basis.
- You will receive confirmation once your appointment is scheduled.



## This week at the Library . . .

December 12, 2025

**Piano Music at the Library:** On Fridays, during the month of December (Dec.12, and Dec. 19), and on Tuesday, Dec. 23rd, Tina L. aka Sugar Calzone will be playing holiday music as well as standard tunes for the enjoyment of both, children and adults. Children will have a chance to sing along the tunes they know and adults will be able to enjoy musical selection from 4:00 pm till closing time.

**Dewey:** On December 10, 1851, American librarian Melvin Dewey was born in Adams Center, New York. He invented the Dewey decimal book classification system, advocated spelling reform, and urged use of metric system.

**Marconi:** On December 11, 1901 the first transatlantic radio signal was transmitted by Gunlielmo Marconi from Cornwall, England to St. John's Newfoundland.

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

**Gustave Flaubert:** This French author was born on December 12, 1821 in Rouen, France. He was best known for the novel "Madame Bovary", a tale of a woman's revolt against middle class society.

**State of War:** On December 13, 1981 the Communist government installed in Poland by the Soviet Union imposed martial law on the Polish people and took steps to stifle the growing power of the pro-democratic

trade union "Solidarity". This event eventually gave rise to abolition of the Communist government and rise of Free Poland.

**Exercise at the Library:** The RIM Foundation was begun exercise classes again this fall. On Tuesdays, its back to Yoga at 2:30 pm. and on Fridays, it is Tai Chi at 10:00 am. To register for the program, stop by the library circulation desk.

**Preservation of Jazz:** Continuing into the autumn and winter season, the Jazz Masterclass program will take place on Thursday evenings from 5 to 7 pm. Participants will cultivate a deeper understanding of this elegant artform through guided discussions, curated listening experiences, documentary screenings, and more. Heading this class will be Sky Covington, founder of The Preservation of Jazz. The sessions start on October 16th. Class size is limited to 20 individuals. Register on [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) to secure your place. For more information about the program, please call Sky Covington (248) 383-3385..

**Mariner II:** On December 14, 1962 this space probe sent back information from the planet Venus.

**Nostradamus:** This French physician was born on December 14, 1503 in St. Remy, Provence, France as Michel de Nostredame.

**ESL Classes:** These classes are held Monday to Thursday at 9 am and 12 noon. To participate, you must register with the Horizon School.

Library is located at 2360 Caniff Avenue, Phone (313) 733-6822  
Or visit its website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> for on line catalog  
Attachments for printing, faxing or scanning send to [hamtramcklibrary@gmail.com](mailto:hamtramcklibrary@gmail.com)

As the church bells ring proclaiming the birth of Christ we at  
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the coming New Year -  
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**Christmas Season 2025**  
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**Wednesday, December 24 ..... Christmas Eve Vigil**  
Family Mass.....4pm (English)  
Solemn Midnight Mass.....12:00 am  
Celebrated in English and Polish  
Preceded by the singing of Christmas Carols at 11:30 pm

**Thursday, December 25.....Christmas Day**  
Mass in Polish and English..... 9:30am

**Friday, December 26**  
**Poland 2nd Day of Christmas, St. Stephen's Day**  
Mass in English and Polish.....10:00am

**Wednesday, December 31 .....New Year's Eve**  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament ..... 3:30pm  
Holy Mass in English and Polish ..... 4:30pm

**Thursday, January 1 ..... New Year's Day**  
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.....9:30am (English and Polish)



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**Wednesday, Dec. 24th**

**Thursday, Dec. 25th**

**Friday, Dec. 26th**

**Saturday, Dec. 27th**

**Sunday, Dec. 28th**

**Thursday, Jan. 1**

**Christmas Eve – Vigil of the Nativity of Our Lord**  
9:00 am Holy Mass

**Christmas Day - Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord**  
11:45 Group Carol Singing  
12 Midnight Shepherds' Mass (Pasterka)  
9:00 am Holy Mass

**Feast of St. Stephen, Proto-Martyr (Msza Św. w j. polskim)**  
7:00 pm Holy Mass

**Solemnity of Saint John, Apostle & Evangelist**  
10:00 am Holy Mass (Blessing of Wine)

**Solemnity of Humble Shepherds**  
9:00 am Holy Mass

**Solemnity of Circumcision of Our Lord**  
10:00 am Holy Mass



# Review: Opinion Page

## In Our Opinion

### Feds are threatening to withhold food benefits

Here we go again. Those who rely on SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits are facing another threat of having the program end. Why? President Trump's administration is demanding the personal information of those who collect SNAP – especially their immigration and citizenship status. The administration says it is doing this to root out waste and fraud – but it's hard to believe it's not about deporting immigrants. Fortunately, so far, Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer is refusing to hand over personal information to the administration. But it could come at a steep cost: The Trump administration says it will suspend SNAP benefits to those states that refuse his demand for the information. Just a few weeks ago, SNAP beneficiaries were faced with the program ending because of the government shutdown. Fortunately, that was averted. For now, the state says it will continue to fund SNAP, but how long can the state afford to do that? What is infuriating is that this presidential administration has zero concern about playing with the lives of people just to score political points. Hamtramck Mayor Amer Ghalib is a supporter of Trump and, from what he says, he is in line for a job with the administration – apparently as a reward for convincing a number of Muslims and Arabs in the metro area to get on the Trump bandwagon. We urge the mayor to use this connection with the White House to convince Trump to allow Hamtramckans to continue receiving SNAP benefits. In the meantime, there are organizations that have stepped in providing free food to the public, such as Forgotten Harvest, and our very own Detroit Friendship House. This holiday season – the “season of giving” – keep an eye on your neighbors, and, if it seems like they are suffering a food crisis, please donate what you can. Or, at least, contact the proper authorities. As so often seems to be the case, Hamtramck has to rely on Hamtramck to get by.

## Deadline Detroit: ‘This city is such a mess’

**By Charles Sercombe** Hamtramck has once again come to the attention of some veteran Detroit journalists in a recent podcast of “Deadline Detroit.” This time around, the discussion centered on City Clerk Rana Faraj and her lawsuit against the mayor, city council and interim city manager. Faraj was placed on paid suspension after 37 absentee ballots were found in her office, after election day, that were not part of the vote count. In her lawsuit, Faraj charges city officials with putting her on paid suspension in retaliation for the election fraud she uncovered among some elected officials and their supporters. Deadline Detroit co-founder and journalist Allen Lengel didn't hold back on how he views the goings-on of the city. “It's just part of the craziness of Hamtramck,” Lengel said. “They've had previous administrations that have been sort of scandalous, but this administration is just getting so crazy. ... This city is such a mess.” Hmmm ... Does he think the town is a little off? Lengel next segued into Mayor Amer Ghalib's chances of being confirmed by the U.S. Senate as ambassador to Kuwait. “I'll be surprised if he gets the confirmation,” Lengel said. He was basing this on

Continued on page 6

## Odds & Ends

**Missing ...** As many in town have heard by now from the family and friends of Linda Ward, a resident, she has been missing for about a week. A number of media outlets have already reported this, and the Hamtramck Police Department has issued a press release. Ward is described as a white female, age 44, and was last seen at Whiskey in the Jar on Dec. 14. She left there at about 9 p.m. It is believed she was last seen in her white 2019 Ford Escape (with the Michigan license plate: EQG0213), accompanied by her two Husky dogs. Anyone who knows of her whereabouts is asked to call the Hamtramck Police Department at (313) 800-5280, or Detective/Sgt. Gonzales at (313) 800-5272.

**Murder update ...** The two men (Joshua Zuazo and Carlos Hernandez ) convicted of killing longtime Hamtramck jewelry business owner 72-year-old Hussein Murray were each sentenced to life with no chance of parole. The incident happened a year ago. Murray was killed in a botched robbery attempt in his Rochester Hills home. The two men posed as DTE workers, claiming they needed to check for gas leaks. Many in Hamtramck said Murray was known for his “heart of gold,” and he was affectionately known by his nickname, Sam.

**Deport? ...** In reaction to the recent mass shooting at a Hanukkah celebration in Australia last weekend, two Republican Congressmen are calling for the mass deportation of all Muslims – legal and illegal – in this country. Yes, you read that correctly. The two Congressmen are Rep. Randy Fine (R-Florida) and Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-Alabama). On the social media platform X, Tuberville wrote: “Islam is not a religion. It's a cult. Islamists aren't here to assimilate. They're here to conquer... We've got to SEND THEM HOME NOW or we'll become the United Caliphate of America.” We bring this to light because a number of Muslims in Hamtramck jumped onto the Republican bandwagon in 2024, and voted for President Trump. That voting bloc included Hamtramck Mayor Amer Ghalib, who is now expecting to go to work within the Trump administration. Somebody try to square that circle for us. As for Trump, you may remember him implementing a travel ban in 2017 that included Yemen – which is where a number of our Muslim residents are from, including Ghalib. That travel ban has been re-instated, and those from Yemen and other countries may soon have to go through a review of their immigrant status legality. Trump has also recently

ly lashed out at other Muslim immigrants, most recently those from Somalia, whom he called “garbage” people. There is a phrase that's well-known about people who vote against their own best interests, and it goes by the acronym FAFO. We'll let you do a quick internet search on what that means.

**History feast ...** The Hamtramck Historical Museum will be hosting their next Hungry for History program on Thursday, Jan. 8, beginning at 6 p.m. The “Hungry” part will be satisfied by way of a Polish meal, which will kick things off at 6 p.m. The “History” talk will follow at 7 p.m., and has the not-short title “Love, Romance, Status, and Domestic Power: Polish Women – the Countryside to the City.” It will be given by Wayne State University Professor Emeritus John Bukowczyk. You can see, hear and, well, eat it all for the low-low price of a mere \$25, or you can choose to simply attend the talk portion (without the meal) for \$5. As with all the other “Hungry for History” events, this one will be held right at the museum, 9525 Jos. Campau at Norwalk. For tickets, go to facebook.com/hamtramckhistoricalcommission. You can also check out their website, Hamtramckhistory.com.

Notice of Public Hearing

City of Hamtramck – City Council

The City of Hamtramck City Council will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 7:00pm. The meeting will be held at Hamtramck City Hall, 3401 Evaline St, Hamtramck, Michigan 48212. The public is invited to attend and comment at the public hearing or to make written comments before the date of the hearing. Written comments should be made to the attention of Omar Thabet at [othabet@hamtramckcity.gov](mailto:othabet@hamtramckcity.gov) before 12:00 p.m. on January 27, 2025.

The subject of the public hearing is: New additions to the Accessory Buildings ordinances. The proposed ordinance changes would allow for shipping containers on Multi-Use and Industrial District parcels and large sheds (exceeding 80 square feet) on Residential, Multi-Use, and Central Business District parcels (subject to accessory building ordinance § 155.111), with the purpose of the added accessory buildings being used for pure, dry storage, free of any active commercial use, power, plumbing, heat, and cooling.

This second reading and public hearing is contingent upon City' Council's approval of the 1st reading on January 13, 2026.

Please note: This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.71 a (2) (3) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The City of Hamtramck will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the Meeting to Individuals with disabilities at the Meeting or Public Hearing upon 10 day notice to the City Clerk's Office. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Hamtramck City Clerk by writing or calling the Clerk's Office at 313-800-5233 x 821.

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What’s on this coming week?

Final City Council meeting of the year 2025, Holiday music on Fridays in December at the library Interview with Mayor about past 4 years and the future Detroit Hamtramck Coalition Press Conference Veteran’s Day Ceremonies at Hamtramck VFW Post 6 Congressman Thanedar addresses City Council and more

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Hamtramck Public TV is broadcasting from Hamtramck Public Library On Comcast Channel 19 and streaming on YouTube Live (24/7) Google “Hamtramck Public TV”, and click on link “Hamtramck Public TV” Or go to YouTube; Hamtramck Public TV; Hamtramck Public Library; Videos, or Live


To place community announcement call the Library at 313-733-6822 Or email: HamtramckTV@gmail.com Announcements submitted by 10 am Will go on air the same day (evening) To upload video files go to (bit.ly/hamtramcktv)

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CRIME LOG

By Charles Sercombe

This week’s Crime Log covers Dec. 9-15.

Tuesday, Dec. 9

- At 3:30 a.m., a complaint was made about noise in the 9300 block of Mitchell.
- Family trouble was reported on Conant.
- A business on Caniff reported trouble with a customer.
- A dog was reported running loose on Charest.
- An assault was reported in the 9500 block of McDougall.
- A disturbance was reported in the 2900 block of Berres.
- A package was reported stolen from a porch in the 2600 block of Zinow.

Wednesday, Dec. 10

- A complaint was made about a juvenile on McDougall.
- A sexual assault was reported on Belmont.
- A stolen vehicle was recovered in the area of Caniff and Conant.
- A theft was reported in the 12000 block of Dequindre.
- A domestic dispute was reported in the 2200 block of Wyandotte.

Thursday, Dec. 11

- A complaint was made about an animal in the 2000 block of Caniff.
- A theft was reported on Dequindre.
- A trespassing complaint was made on Conant.
- A vehicle was stolen on Belmont.
- A suspicious person was reported in the 2000 block of Yemans.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 3900 block of Caniff.
- A theft was reported in the 3200 block of Lehman.
- Family trouble was reported in the 2300 block of Danforth.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 11300 block of Conant.

Friday, Dec. 12

- A business in the 9100 block of Jos. Campau reported trouble with a customer.
- A hit-and-run accident

was reported in the 9200 block of Conant.

- Property was reported damaged from an accident in the 2600 block of Caniff.

Saturday, Dec. 13

- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 9800 block of Conant.
- Property damage caused by an accident was reported the 9100 block of Jos. Campau.
- A suspect was arrested in the 9200 block of Jos. Campau for assault.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 2400 block of Danforth.
- A person in the 5000 block of Trowbridge reported being harassed.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 3100 block of Holbrook.

Sunday, Dec. 14

- A burglary was reported in the 12000 block of Charest.
- Family trouble was reported in the 2300 block of Hewitt. Family trouble was also reported in the 11400 block of Dequindre.
- A vehicle was stolen in the 3300 block of Norwalk.
- A theft was reported in the 2000 block of Edwin.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported on Holmes.
- A person was reported missing in the 11600 block of Gallagher.
- A business in the 9600 block of Jos. Campau reported an incident of fraud.

Monday, Dec. 15

- Family trouble was reported at Lumpkin and Trowbridge.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 2600 block of Holmes.
- A break-in was reported on Selfridge.
- A theft was reported in the 12000 block of Dequindre.
- Family trouble was reported in the 2400 block of Pulaski.
- A theft was reported in the 9300 block of Jos. Campau.
- A sexual assault was reported in the 2400 block of Danforth.

Quick Hits

Cont. from front page

Altaheri allowed to resign, and Adamczyk fired. Even before his firing, and while he was on paid suspension, Garbarino filed a lawsuit against the city, accusing the city council of violating the Michigan Whistleblower’s Act. His lawsuit also alleges that:

- Councilmember Hassan “stormed” into Garbarino’s office and demanded he fire City Clerk Rana Faraj, after she reported that a surveillance camera at city hall captured him dropping off a bundle of absentee ballots.

The mayor and city council held a closed meeting (in violation of the state’s Open Meetings Act) to discuss suspending Garbarino.

- Garbarino, who is white and non-Muslim, “raised concerns” that the mayor and council were acting with an ethnic bias to suspend him. The mayor and council are all Muslim.

The lawsuit is ongoing. In the meantime, the city has appointed Alex Lagrou as interim city manager.

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

# A conversation with the host of ‘Made in Banglatown’

Continued from front page

a bit of both.

In the beginning, I reached out to people – business owners, creatives, and community leaders – who I felt the city should hear from. But now, it’s growing to the point where (potential) guests reach out to me. People see that the conversations are authentic, and that Made in Banglatown gives them a chance to tell their story the right way.

**The Review: Give us some examples of who you’ve had on so far? Has there been anything revealed on any of your shows that might qualify as “breaking news” or “re-**

**velatory,” and if so, what? Or, if not anything that earth-shattering, anything that stands out as particularly interesting to you?**

Chowdhury: I’ve had local entrepreneurs, artists, and recently, Hamtramck’s mayoral candidates. Those interviews definitely stirred up community conversation – people appreciated that I asked real questions about transparency, leadership, and accountability.

It might not be “breaking news,” but what stood out to me was how open people became when they realized I wasn’t trying to attack them. I just wan-

ted honest answers – and that’s when you really start getting stories that matter.

Check out my social media for viral clips!

**The Review: Have you had any guests on your show that proved “challenging” for any reason? If yes, how did you handle the situation(s)?**

Chowdhury: No, not a single guest has been challenging for me. I genuinely enjoy having organic conversations, and I’m always curious to learn about people. That energy makes it easy to connect.

The only real difficulty I’ve faced has been scheduling the interviews.

Everyone’s busy, including me, so getting all the logistics right can sometimes be the toughest part.

**The Review: Are you hoping to attract any advertisers, or will you avoid having advertising to try to keep up a perception of non-bias or influence?**

Chowdhury: Right now, I’m focused on building credibility over monetization. The trust of the community means more than any sponsorship. I’d rather grow slower and stay authentic than rush and lose people’s faith.

That said, I’d be open to partnering with local businesses or organizations that truly serve the community. If it aligns with the mission of Made in Banglatown – empowering people and promoting local growth – then I’m all for it.

We’ve already earned the trust of the community – now it’s about turning that into opportunity. I want Hamtramck to have its own voice in the media landscape, and I think Made in Banglatown can help make that happen.

I’d love to turn “Made In Banglatown” into a non-profit! Whoever can help me with that, please reach out to me!

**The Review: Are there any guests you are hoping to get on in the near future? Who, and why?**

Chowdhury: There are a few people I really want to sit down with. One is Karen Majewski, the former mayor of Hamtramck. She has a deep understanding of the city’s history and culture, and I’d love to learn from her perspective about how Hamtramck has evolved.

Another is Amer Ghalib, the current mayor, who made history as the city’s first Arab American mayor. His story represents a major moment in Hamtramck’s journey, and I think that conversation would mean a lot for the community. Both of them represent different eras and energies of the city, and I’d love to bring that together on the platform.

I’d love to have more state and regional leaders on – people who can explain how decisions made outsi-

de of Hamtramck affect us locally. I’m also planning to highlight more community members who are doing meaningful work behind the scenes – the ones who don’t always get recognition.

I think those conversations build connection, and show what’s really possible when people come together with purpose.



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She was driving a silver Ford Escape Michigan license plate EQG 0213

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10:00 a.m., Monday, December 15, 2025 – Meet at the Conant Building, 9300 Conant, Hamtramck, MI. Meet at the back parking lot entrance.

Bid Due Date:

2:00 p.m., Monday, December 22, 2025  
Bids will only be accepted on forms provided. Proposal forms must be in a sealed envelope, mailed or delivered in person prior by 2:00 p.m. EST on the due date to:  

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From the Office of Wayne County Treasurer

Eric R. Sabree



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Deadline Detroit: ‘This city is such a mess’

Continued from page 3

the critical blowback Ghalib faced from both Democrats and Republicans during his confirmation hearing.

Nancy Derringer, also a veteran journalist, agreed, saying: “He’s (Ghalib) going down.”

Lengel even thinks Trump gave up on Ghalib, and imagined what Trump is thinking.

“Trump hasn’t said a word, which to me says: ‘All right I did my thing, you’re gone.’”

(Not quite Deadline Detroit. Mayor Ghalib said he went to Washington D.C. on Wednesday to finalize details of his job with the administration.)

Ghalib came to the attention of Trump after the mayor endorsed Trump for president in the 2024 election. Ghalib says he was formerly a Democrat.

Circling back to the 37 uncounted absentee ballots, Derringer sided with the argument that they should be counted – something that mayoral hopeful Muhith Mahmood, who lost the mayoral election by 11 votes, is seeking to have done through a lawsuit

he filed in Wayne County Circuit Court.

“They (the ballots) could have been really, really important, considering the small margin (of victory),”she said.

“It just goes to show that all those little nitpicky rules need to be followed,” Derringer said.

And when it comes to signatures on ballots that seem “a little weird,” she says, “go ahead and approve it. This is important stuff.”

Faraj has previously said that she suspected election fraud on number of ballots because the handwriting on various signatures was all the same – which, to her, indicated that someone was illegally filling out voters’ ballots.

Those ballots were counted, but Faraj did alert the state Attorney General’s Office about the matter.

So far, Councilmember Mohammed Hassan is facing felony election fraud charges.

Other suspects could also face election-related charges.



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