

Happy Ramadan

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Like Us On: Volume 18 No. 8  
February 20, 2026

# The Review

50¢

*Hamtramck*

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## Quick Hits

### Basketball legend Rudy T. is in town tonight

By Charles Sercombe

Yes, we did post this last week, but we think it's pretty important, and it's worth repeating.

Hamtramck basketball star and pro basketball legend is making a rare visit to his hometown tonight, Friday, Feb. 20, at the Hamtramck High School Community Center (11350 Charest).

And the public is invited to attend.

The basketball court will be named in Tomjanovich's honor, and a dedication ceremony will take place at 6 p.m.

"The special evening will include a commemorative signing and a featured speech given by Rudy Tomjanovich himself, as we recognize his lasting impact on the game of basketball, and celebrate his connection to our community," said the district's Athletic Department.

In a press release, the AD also said:

"Tomjanovich's talent was evident when he ruled the Hamtramck High School basketball court in the 1960s, where he was already a star player. "He was destined to become a pro.

"After high school, Tomjanovich played for the University of Michigan, where he was a three-time All-Big Ten selection and an All-American.

"Tomjanovich was selected in the first round of the 1970 NBA Draft by the San Diego Rockets (later the Houston Rockets). He played his entire 11-year NBA career with the franchise, earning five NBA All-Star selections.

"He was known for his deadly accurate shot.

"After retiring as a player, Tomjanovich transitioned into coaching and front-office roles. As head coach of the Houston Rockets, he led the team to back-to-back NBA Championships in 1994 and 1995. He is widely remembered for his iconic quote during that championship run: 'Don't ever underestimate the heart of a champion.'

"In addition to his NBA success, Tomjanovich

## — HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

### TOAST of the TOWN

### Long live King Paczki

By Charles Sercombe

Toast has experienced all sorts of weather on Paczki Day, from bone-chilling cold to balmy spring-like temperatures. But fog? Fog?!

That's a first, but thankfully it was mild temperature-wise, getting near 50 degrees.

And, of course, that brought out droves of paczki partiers, who were seen walking up and down Jos. Campau, hitting one bar after another, and large groups of people openly carrying drinks.

This is what Toast likes to call the professional drinkers – meaning, day drinkers who stay awake long enough to carry on the party spirit through the day and into the night.

Now that's the Mardi Gras party atmosphere Toast can get behind. If only open-carrying drinks was legal – say, like the open carrying of firearms.

But we digress. As usual, a line of paczki lovers stretched around the block to get their fix of paczki at New Palace Bakery, at Jos. Campau and Yemans. Some waited for over an hour – now, that's dedication.

Nothing new about that. The thing is, why don't people wise up and place their orders over the phone, so they can cut the waiting time way down?

But maybe the wait makes those paczki taste even better.

Missing this year was the giant party tent usually erected behind Whiskey

in the Jar, where all sorts of merriment would take place – for example, frantic dancing to polka bands.

Did the bar's management forget?

We are told the powers-that-be at the bar decided it wasn't worth the hassle.

Hassle? Harrumph.

However, as one proverbial door closes, another opens – and that was at Florian East, the city's only brewery. Inside this beer hall, the Kielbasa Kings held court, and blasted out non-stop polkas that had the crowd on its feet.

The place was packed shoulder-to-shoulder.

Eat your heart out, Whiskey.

The same went for Polka Dot bar, slightly off the beaten path on Brombach and Yemans, where a ragtag group of musicians performed old-timey sounding tunes.

And whatever that bar is called where a red shark head used to be mounted above its door on Campau, north of Caniff, also had paczki revelers hanging around out on the sidewalk, soaking up the warmth and spirits.

(Editor's note: It's called High Dive, and the shark is long-gone.)

One of the yearly "highlights" (we use that word advisedly) of the day is the paczki eating contest, hosted by PLAV Post 10.

**Continued on page 2**



# 2026 Hamtramck Business Directory

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*Coming Soon*

### HPS District forced to seek new state payment

By Charles Sercombe

Financial woes continue to haunt the Hamtramck Public School district.

Two weeks ago, the district applied for an immediate \$15.5 million loan to cover a shortfall of cash on hand.

And now, one week later, the district held a special Board of Education meeting to apply for a \$13 million advance on state payments to pay its bills and payroll.

So what happened to the \$15.5 million loan request?

Interim Superintendent James Larson-Shidler told The Review that state officials rejected the request because the district does not qualify for the loan.

Instead, the district was directed to seek an advance on state payments. Larson-Shidler said the district was first required to "formally pursue and be denied a State Aid Note (SAN) before applying for an advance."

He said the district is seeking a \$13.3 million advance payment.

The district's financial problem stems from it being unable to submit a mandatory financial audit to the state by a Nov. 1 deadline.

The district has now not met that Nov. 1 deadline for the third year in a row. Larson-Shidler was appointed as interim superintendent in May of 2024. He had been, and continues to be, finance director for the district prior to that appointment.

Larson-Shidler revealed two weeks ago that, without the money, the district would not be able to pay its bills, including its payroll.

Larson-Shidler was grilled by Boardmember Linda Wolyniec about the sudden financial crisis.

"We are in a situation that just seems to have popped up from nowhere," Wolyniec said.

She continued: 'I feel like the priorities here, there is something wrong and I'm really struggling with being very angry over this. ... A competent financial officer would have some projection that would tell us, perhaps in December or January, that we are running out of money, and we're to be insolvent. But did we hear that? No. ... I guess it's supposed to be some kind of magic that we're going to know.'

**Continued on page 2**





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**Sunday, February 22,  
Holy Mass 9:00 am  
First Sunday in Lent**

Feb 24 – Feast of  
St. Matthias, Apostle  
Holy Mass 9 am


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Feb 25 – The Stations of the  
Cross 7 pm

---

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## Oakland International Academy

### Legal Notice of Open Enrollment

**Oakland International Academy** is a nonprofit, no-tuition, Michigan public school academy (charter school) offering grades K-12. Please stop by the Academy's middle school location at 8228 Conant St Detroit, MI (<http://oiacademy.net/>) or contact the Academy's office by phone at: (313) 925-1000 if you are interested in seeking enrollment or information about the Academy. Select weekend dates and evenings are available during the open enrollment window.

Re-enrollment for current students and their siblings is from March 2, 2026 through March 13, 2026.

Open enrollment for all new students is from March 16, 2026 through April 10, 2026. Current students and siblings may also apply during open enrollment but will not receive preference based on current enrollment or being a sibling of a current student. If any grade receives applications that exceed class limits, a lottery will be held Thursday, April 16, 2025 at 4:00 pm, at the Academy's Middle school library. The Academy cannot enroll any student who is not a resident of this state, except a foreign student who is not a United States citizen. The Academy is an equal opportunity public educational institution and does not discriminate based on intellect/measures of achievement, race, sex, religion, national origin, and shall comply with all state and federal civil rights laws.

## This week at the Library . . .

February 20, 2026

**Phil Hale Jazz Concert:** This popular jazz group will play a concert at the library on Friday, February 20, 2026. Everyone is invited, free to the Public.

**22nd Amendment:** On February 27, 1950 this amendment to U.S. Constitution was ratified, limiting the president to two terms or a maximym of ten years in office.

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

**Henry Wadsworth Longfellow:** This American poet was born on February 27, 1807 in Portland Maine. Best known for “Paul Revere’s Ride, Song of Hiawatha, and the Wreck of the Hesperus”.

**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. For more information about the program, call Sky Covington (248) 383-3385..

**Medicare:** A team from Priority Health will conduct a meeting answering questions about Medicare options. The next presentation will take place on Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 2:15 pm.

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

**LOTE4Kids:** This collection of over 2000 digital books in 50+ languages can be accessed by you anytime from your computer or other smart devices. All this is free with the use of your library card. They even have stories in ASL. Find a link to this awesome resource for kids on our website [www.hamtramck.lib.mi.us](http://www.hamtramck.lib.mi.us) under the eResources tab.

**OverDrive:** What more can your library card get you? How about OverDrive’s enormous collection of digital materials. Whether searching [overdrive.com](http://overdrive.com) or using their Libby Ap, you will have quite the selection of ebooks, online periodicals and audio books to pick from. Plus, Kanopy, with its smorgasbord of foreign and classic films, documentaries, and educational series, is now under the OverDrive umbrella. Find links to both of these media repositories on our website [www.hamtramck.lib.mi.us](http://www.hamtramck.lib.mi.us).

**NATO:** On February 28, 1994 it conducted its first combat action in its 45 year history as four Bosnian Serb jets were shot down by American Fighters in a no-fly zone.

**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)**

# Long live King Paczki

Continued from front page

This year, there was no shortage of victims – er, we mean contestants – who were given a very generous, maybe overly so, 15 minutes to gobble down as many paczki as their bodies could accept before they go into revolt and upchuck the whole doughy business.

Fortunately, that didn’t happen – this year.

And as to this year's contest, well, it ended up being one for the history books, if there is such a thing anymore. For the first time in over 20 years since this tradition started, a woman was declared the winner.

And that was one Josette Hejka of Detroit, who managed to gag down 9 and ¾ paczki.

Egging her on was a group of friends who

chanted:

“More, more brewski,” and then “Sto Lat” and, mysteriously, “Wake up, wake up.”

As impressive as Hejka’s victory is, it’s a far cry from 10-time champ Matthew Holowicki, who once consumed 23 paczki and lived to tell about it. Not surprisingly, Holowicki is now “retired” from this eating contest.

For one day, Hamtramck seemed to be having fun again.

If only Paczki Day came more than once a year.

When it comes to good food and great times, Hamtramck has plenty to offer. In this column, we'll talk about what's happening at our bars, restaurants and at other events throughout the city.



Above and below: More scenes from Paczki Day.



## HPS District forced to seek new state payment

Cont. from front page

Larson-Shidler said he is working with the state to fine-tune the district's financial audit, and that it will take four to six weeks to complete.

He expects the state to advance payments sometime in April. It was not made clear if all bills and payroll will be able to be paid until then.

Questioned whether there is a chance the state will reject the district's request, Larson-Shidler assured the board that, in order for that to happen, the audit would have to reveal “millions of dollars in misstatements.”

That explanation didn’t sit well with Wolyniec.

“Surprising us with this is very disturbing,” she said.

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## Quick Hits

Cont. from front page

served as head coach of the United States men's national basketball team, leading Team USA to a gold medal at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games. He was inducted into the

Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2020.

“Beyond basketball, Rudy Tomjanovich is respected for his leadership, perseverance, and commitment to giving back. His legacy continues to inspire athletes, students, and fans.”

**The Hamtramck High School Athletic Department is proud to announce a special Hall of Fame celebration honoring basketball legend Rudy Tomjanovich on Friday, February 20th at 6:00 pm at the Hamtramck Community Center (11350 Charest St, Hamtramck, MI 48212).**

HPS Presents:

**THE  
RUDY TOMJANOVICH**



**HALL OF FAME  
FEBRUARY 20  
6:30PM**

**Hamtramck Community Center  
11350 Charest St.**

*This historic evening will celebrate the extraordinary life, career, and legacy of one of Hamtramck's most accomplished athletes. The event will feature a commemorative signing and a special address from Rudy Tomjanovich, as the community comes together to recognize his impact on the game of basketball and his deep roots in Hamtramck.*

**AUCTION**

# SAVE THE DATE

**City of Hamtramck**

**2026 Property Auction Begins On:**

03

10

26

**Auction End Date: 04/01/26**



Full list of available properties, bidding requirements, & application will be posted in late February @ <https://hamtramckcity.gov/community/property-for-sale/>



# Review: Opinion Page

## In Our Opinion

### City Council is eroding public trust

The city council just can't stop it.

By "it," we mean the council's habit of inserting items into their meeting agendas at the last minute, at the beginning of council meetings.

That means the public is not given the courtesy of a heads-up notice for an item being considered.

In the latest action of eroding the public's trust, the council snuck in a resolution to hire a new city manager.

Yes, a city manager – the most important position in the management of the city.

Not only is this an abuse of the purpose of adding on last-minute agenda items, it's also a huge "middle finger" to the public, and shows that this council would rather work in secrecy.

It is not fair to the new city manager to be tainted by association to this underhanded tactic. We wonder if our elected officials have forgotten who they work for, and who they represent.

Instead, they treat the public with contempt by adding on agenda items that are neither urgent nor time-sensitive.

We've said this before, but we know it falls on deaf ears: Stop with the sneaky tactic of adding on extra agenda items, that gives no advance notice for public input, as a way to ramrod through your resolutions.

Is it because our elected officials have nothing but contempt for the public, and feel they can do anything they want? Unfortunately, it's beginning to look that way.

## Hamtramck's new city manager and police chief preview their plans

By Charles Sercombe

Residents were introduced to the city's new city manager and police chief on Sunday evening in a meet-and-greet.

About 60 residents attended the event at the public library, to learn about the goals and vision of the city's top officials, and listen to their strategies going forward.

City Manager Adel Al-Adlani, who started his new job this week, said he will spend the first two weeks "crafting a vision" that includes a "top-down" and "bottom-up" review – with an emphasis on paying closer attention to the "bottom-up" power structure.

His review of the city will include sitting down with city councilmembers, department heads and stakeholders – meaning residents and business owners.

"So that is the vision for the city," said Al-Adlani, who is the city's first Yemeni-American to be appointed to the position.

Acting Police Chief Hussein Farhat, who was introduced by Mayor Adam Alharbi as "Smiley" because, well, you guessed it, he has a perpetual smile on his face, said he wants to educate the public on "how not to be victims."

Other plans call for



Above: Newly-appointed City Manager Adel Al-Adlani introduces himself at a meet-and-greet held Sunday evening at the Hamtramck Public Library. Below: Acting Police Chief Hussain Farhat also met with city officials and the public at Sunday's event.



eventually assigning an officer to the schools – something the department last did when there was federal funding from the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program in the 1990s –and also increasing the number of officers and patrols.

Also on the top of the to-do list for Farhat (who last served as police chief in Dearborn Heights, and is also retired from the Romulus Police Department) is emphasizing more training for officers.

"We're going to invest in our officers, our leadership, our building," he said.

As for those who prey on Hamtramck to commit crimes, Farhat has this warning:

"You come here to do a

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## Odds & Ends

**Homicide ...** Hamtramck detectives are seeking information about a man who was found dead in a Dyar St. alley at the city's Col. Hamtramck housing project.

According to a press release issued by the police department, on Feb. 17, at approximately 5 a.m., officers discovered a black male in his 20s who had been shot multiple times.

As of press time Thursday, the department has not released the name of the victim.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the Hamtramck Police Department at (313) 800-5280. Tips can be provided anonymously.

"Our thoughts are with the victim's family during this difficult time," said the police department in its press release. "The Hamtramck Police Department remains committed to serving and protecting our community."

**New job? ...** For a moment, former Hamtramck police chief Jamiel Altaheri had a new job.

And then, 24 hours later, he didn't.

A few days ago, Altaheri returned to the New York City Police Department, from which he retired a few years ago after 20 years of service. He was hired as an Assistant Chief of the NYC Health and Hospitals.

But then the higher-ups in the NYPD found out about Altaheri's experience as police chief in Hamtramck. And what they found was an internal city hall report that accused Altaheri of misconduct – accusations that Altaheri vehemently denied.

He was never charged with anything criminal, and Altaheri and the city agreed to part ways.

But, his experience here was enough to get the NYPD to reconsider allowing Altaheri to return to the department. Technically, Altaheri resigned from his new position within the first 24 hours of taking his new job.

What's baffling is how the NYPD didn't discover the allegations against Altaheri before they even considered him for a job.

A simple search online would have revealed Altaheri's experience in Hamtramck. Seems simple enough to do: check the internet. But somehow the thought of conducting a routine search online escaped the sharp minds of the NYPD.

**Resigned ...** Former Interim City Manager Alex Lagrou resigned Wednesday. Lagrou was a bit of a lame duck, after being passed over for the permanent job of city manager. He was left without a title or even a purpose to continue working for the city.

Instead of getting the city manager job, Adel Al-Adlani was appointed.

Al-Adlani came from the City of Dearborn, where he worked in the city's economic development department. From what we hear, Al-Adlani has stepped into a hot seat, so to speak, as the city is now facing a number of pressing issues.

There isn't much time for a learning curve here, folks.

**Heat help ...** If you've been struggling to pay for heat this winter, there might be financial assistance available. Be sure to check out what's available through the Michigan Energy Assistance Program.

From what we've read, there are a lot of folks in desperate need of help, especially since energy costs continue to increase.

To find out more about the program, go online to: [michigan.gov/mpsc/consumer/energy-assistance](http://michigan.gov/mpsc/consumer/energy-assistance)

**Michigan, Birthday Boy or Girl? ...** Well, whichever, or neither, but the point is, the state turned 189 last month.

We're a bit late to the party on it, but we'll try to make up for that with a super-quick, super-short history lesson.

The main Native American tribes here were the Ojibwa (Chippewa), Ottawa and Potawatomi, as well as pockets of several other tribes with smaller presences.

French explorers and traders first showed up in the area in 1622, built their first settlements in 1668, and, after the French and Indian Wars against Britain in 1754-63, Michigan was, by virtue of the Quebec Act of 1774, actually made a part of the British Province of Quebec.

A couple of years later, by the terms of the American Revolution of 1776, Detroit and, in fact, all of Southeast Michigan was under British control, still as a part of Canada.

Britain withdrew from Detroit in 1794 and, by the 1800s, Michigan was under the banner as a U.S. territory. We bounced back to the Brits after a bad defeat in the War of 1812, but was again in the U.S. fold a year later.

Official statehood arrived on Jan. 26, 1837. With a little luck, we'll be around to celebrate our 200th in 2037.

**'Tis the season, sure as death ...** That would be Tax Season, a boon for some and a curse for others.

The Michigan Department of Treasury issued a press release to let residents know that they are now able to file their taxes for the 2025 earnings year.

As in other recent years, you have the choice of filing online for free on [irs.gov](http://irs.gov), or e-filing using software such as TurboTax, or else going the old standard route of picking up hard copy paper forms at the Hamtramck Post Office or Public Library (call first, to make sure they got the forms in).

The Accounting Aid Society helps low-income persons and seniors do their taxes for free; an appointment can be made to do so at [accountingaidsociety.org](http://accountingaidsociety.org).

For convenience, the state's starting date is set as the same first day that the federal government allows tax returns to start arriving.

**Financial help for moms and babies ...** The state of Michigan is offering a financial program for low-income moms who are pregnant, or who have newborns or infants.

The state will pay you \$1,500 to cover immediate expenses, and \$500 a month for up to either six or 12 months, depending on all sorts of qualifications.

You can apply for the program, known as Rx

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February 20, 2026

## Hamtramck Public TV-19

Broadcasting on Comcast Channel 19 in Hamtramck area and YouTube Live world wide (Hamtramck Library Channel)

What's on this coming week?

Historic Iftar during Ramadan,

Information of the Enterprise Zone info session

Presentations by Piast Institute and Passenger Recovery

Black history month programs,

Greg Kowalski street naming ceremony in Museum,

Street Naming Controversy at Jan. 13 Council Meeting

and more

BECOME A LOCAL REPORTER:

If you know how to take photos or make film clips on your phone, you can download them to Hamtramck TV along with a news story, to be aired the same day. Send in event announcements, comments to city officials, facts you want to share with the community, etc.

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)

CRIME LOG

By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers Feb. 10-16.

**Tuesday, Feb. 10**

- A person on Charest was reported as being possibly missing.
- A suspect was arrested on Moran for being disorderly.
- A sexual assault was reported in the 9300 block of Mitchell.

**Wednesday, Feb. 11**

- A trespassing complaint was made on Holbrook.
- A business on Jos. Campau reported a disorderly customer.
- A license plate was reported stolen on Gallagher.
- An assault happened on Commor.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 11400 block of Conant.

**Thursday, Feb. 12**

- No incident report was available for this date.

**Friday, Feb. 13**

- Officers, responding to a complaint about trespassing in the 2600 block of Holbrook, arrested a suspect.
- An assault was reported in the 12000 block of Dyar.
- Officers, responding to a call about a stolen vehicle in the 2000 block of Caniff, arrested a male suspect for possessing a stolen car.
- Following a traffic

stop, a female suspect was arrested for possessing dangerous drugs and paraphernalia.

**Saturday, Feb. 14**

- A domestic dispute was reported in the 12000 block of Selfridge.
- A vehicle was stolen in the area of Moran and Caniff.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 2600 block of Zinow.
- Officers, responding to a call about a domestic assault in the 11300 block of Klinger, arrested a male suspect.
- A break-in was reported in the 3100 block of Lehman.

**Sunday, Feb. 15**

- A hit-and-run accident was reported at Trowbridge and Conant.
- A suspect was arrested for domestic assault on Moran.
- A person reported being verbally threatened.

**Monday, Feb. 16**

- Officers responded to a call from the 2600 block of Holbrook about an "unknown problem."
- Suspicious incidents were reported on Lumpkin, Jos. Campau, Fleming and Grayling.
- A complaint was made about a juvenile in the 12000 block of Grand Haven.
- A disorderly male was reported in the 11400 block of Jos. Campau.

Hamtramck's new city manager and police chief preview their plans

Continued from page 3

crime, we'll find you"

One of the tools used by a growing number of police departments to identify and apprehend suspected criminals is the license plate reading device, FLOCK.

Farhat said he will seek to invest in more of these license plate readers and drones. A number of people across the country are concerned about those surveillance devices, saying that they could endanger privacy rights and civil rights.

When City Manager Al-Adlani was asked about diversifying the city's workforce, he said: "It is diverse right now."

Farhat responded to the same question, saying: "I value diversity... It doesn't matter the color of your skin."

But above all, he said that what he asks new recruits is: "What can you bring to the community?"

As for transparency, which was on the mind of some who attended, Farhat said that everything the department does is documented.

RECYCLE IN HAMTRAMCK

24 Hour Drop off

3900 Christopher St., Hamtramck MI, 48212



The recycling bins are located just before the entrance to Priority Waste. It's bright yellow, you can't miss it.

MATERIALS ACCEPTED

- #1 -#7 rigid Plastic
- Paper
- Cardboard

First: Reduce the amount of plastic, paper, or cardboard you are using/buying.

Next: Reuse the materials you already have, over, and over again.

Finally: Recycle when you cannot use those materials anymore.



# Odds & Ends

Continued from page 3

Kids, by going online to: [rxkids.org](http://rxkids.org).

**Property tax help ...**  
The Wayne County Treasurer’s Office is offering assistance to those trying to juggle their taxes and pay their bills.

Specifically, the county is helping homeowners avoid getting into a financial hole and then becoming unable to keep up-to-date on paying property taxes.

Wayne County Treasurer Eric R. Sabree offers Wayne County property owners numerous online taxpayer assistance tools, intended to help eligible taxpayers address delinquent property taxes and avoid falling further behind.

You can find information, and begin the process for setting up payment plans and related assistance, online through the Treasurer’s Payment Plans page:

<https://www.waynecountymi.gov/Government/Elected-Officials/Treasurer/Payment-Plans>  
“We don’t want anyone to lose their home or property to foreclosure, and we have taxpayer assistance programs that you can access online to help you,” said Sabree in a press release. “The deadline to enroll in these programs is March 31, 2026, so we encourage you to go online or contact us to get started today.”

“It’s also important to remember that, once you enroll in a taxpayer assistance plan, you must continue to make your payments on time,” said Treasurer Sabree.

“Go online or contact us today to get started. We’re here to help.”

There are three online assistance programs available to eligible taxpayers:

**Stipulated Payment Agreement (REGSPA)**

For taxpayers who qualify, REGSPA provides a structured agreement to repay delinquent property taxes over time, helping households move toward compliance through set payment terms.

**Distressed Owner/**

**Occupant (DOOE)**

DOOE is designed for eligible owner-occupants facing hardship who need additional time to resolve delinquent taxes while working to remain in their homes.

**Interest Reduction Stipulated Payment Agreement (IRSPA)**

IRSPA offers eligible taxpayers a stipulated payment agreement that may include reduced interest, easing the overall cost of repayment for those who qualify.

How to get started: The Treasurer’s Office recommends residents begin online by reviewing program details and eligibility requirements as soon as possible, then completing the appropriate application through the Payment Plans page.

Having basic property and tax notice information available can help speed up the process. The deadline to be enrolled in an assistance plan is March 31, so it’s important to start the process as soon as possible.

Need help choosing the right option? Residents with questions about eligibility, required documentation, or the application process can contact the Treasurer’s Office directly:

- Phone: (313) 224-5990
- Email: [taxinfo@waynecountymi.gov](mailto:taxinfo@waynecountymi.gov) or [wctopaymentplans@waynecountymi.gov](mailto:wctopaymentplans@waynecountymi.gov)
- Online: <https://www.waynecountymi.gov/Government/Elected-Officials/Treasurer/Payment-Plans>
- In addition to online assistance programs, the Wayne County Treasurer’s website, [www.waynecountymi.gov/treasurer](http://www.waynecountymi.gov/treasurer), also offers information about:
  - Paying or Checking Taxes Online
  - Making an Appointment
  - Applying for a Hardship Extension
  - Finding Payment Options
  - Auctions & Claims Information
  - Property Tax Info

- Looking up your Property Tax Bill
- Community Partners Assistance
- Frequently Asked Questions
- FOIA Requests (Freedom of Information Act)
- Deed Certification Process

For more assistance, you can call or contact the Wayne County Treasurer’s office at: (313) 224-5990, or email: [taxinfo@waynecountymi.gov](mailto:taxinfo@waynecountymi.gov)

**Black History Month ...**  
Hamtramck’s Public Library (2360 Caniff) has a special set of activities for the rest of this month, revolving around jazz singer Sky Covington, that will culminate with her live performance on the last Thursday of this month.

For that Feb. 26 date, billed as “Sky Covington in Concert: Honoring Billie Holiday,” and featuring her three-piece backing band, she will perform and entertain from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the library, 2360 Caniff.

There will be free pizza, and this is an all-ages program, so bring the young ‘uns.

That’s not all Ms. Covington has had planned for lucky denizens: Thursdays all-month long have featured her “Jazz Master Classes,” which have found her screening older films with core jazz themes, and discussions afterward.

These films begin at 5 p.m. at the library, again with free pizza as part of the deal.

Great programs! Check ‘em out!


## Place an Ad in The Review Today

### Call (313) 874-2100

### New Dawn Academy of Warren

**Legal Notice of Open Enrollment**

**New Dawn Academy of Warren** is a nonprofit, no-tuition, Michigan public school academy (charter school). Please stop by the Academy at 8200 Irving Street, Sterling Heights, MI 48312 (<https://newdawnacademy.net/>) or contact the Academy's office by phone at: (855) 800-STEM if you are interested in seeking enrollment or information about the Academy. Select weekend dates and evenings are available during the open enrollment window. Enrollment for current students and siblings will be taken beginning March 2, 2026 and ending March 13, 2026. Open enrollment begins March 16, 2026 – April 10, 2026 for all new students. Should any grade receive applications that exceed class limits a lottery will be held Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 4:00 pm, at the Academy. The Academy cannot enroll any student who is not a resident of this state, except a foreign student who is not a United States citizen. The Academy is an equal opportunity public educational institution and does not discriminate based on intellect/measures of achievement, race, sex, religion, national origin, and shall comply with all state and federal civil rights laws.



### Caniff Liberty Academy

**Legal Notice of Open Enrollment**

**Caniff Liberty Academy** is a nonprofit, no-tuition, Michigan public school academy (charter school). Please stop by the Academy at 2650 Caniff Street, Hamtramck, MI (<http://www.canifflibertyacademy.com>) or contact the Academy's office by phone at: (313) 872-2000 if you are interested in seeking enrollment or information about the Academy. Select weekend dates and evenings are available during the open enrollment window. Open enrollment begins March 2, 2026, for current students and their siblings and March 16 – April 10, 2026 for all new students. Current students and siblings may also apply during this window but will not receive preference based on current enrollment or being a sibling of a current student. Should any grade receive applications that exceed class limits a lottery will be held Thursday, April 16, 2025 at 4:00 pm, at the Academy’s school library. The Academy cannot enroll any student who is not a resident of this state, except a foreign student who is not a United States citizen. The Academy is an equal opportunity public educational institution and does not discriminate based on intellect/measures of achievement, race, sex, religion, national origin, and shall comply with all state and federal civil rights laws.

# NOTICE

## CITY OF HAMTRAMCK BOARD OF REVIEW

**The City of Hamtramck Board of Review will meet in the Hamtramck City Hall located at 3401 Evaline, Hamtramck, Michigan 48212.**

**Meetings by appointment only on the following days:**

**Tuesday March 3, 2026, at 1:00 pm for the organizational meeting (no appeals will be heard).**

**By appointment to hear appeals,**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>March 9, 2026</b>	<b>12:00pm to 7:30pm</b>
	<b><u>Location:</u> 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Council Chambers</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>March 11, 2026</b>	<b>12:00pm to 7:30pm</b>
	<b><u>Location:</u> 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Council Chambers</b>	

**The purpose is to review the assessment rolls of Hamtramck. Matters pertaining to the assessment of property may be brought before the Board of Review. Appointments will be taken until 4:00 pm on Wednesday, March 11, 2026. Appeals will also be accepted by letter.**

**\*\*All letter appeals must be received by 4:00pm on Wednesday, March 11, 2026.**

**\*\***

	<b><u>TENTATIVE RATIO</u></b>	<b><u>TENTATIVE FACTOR</u></b>
<b>201 – COMMERCIAL</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>1.00</b>
<b>301 – INDUSTRIAL</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>1.00</b>
<b>401 – RESIDENTIAL</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>1.00</b>
<b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>1.00</b>

**KONRAD MAZIARZ  
ASSESSOR,  
CITY OF HAMTRAMCK**

## FREE PUBLIC TOUR

### OF THE HAMTRAMCK HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The Hamtramck Historical Museum is now offering free public tours of the museum the last Saturday of EVERY month. No need to preregister.

**Next Tour: 02| 28| 2026**

**1:00pm to 2:00 p.m.**



9525 Jos Campau  
[hamtramckhistory.com](http://hamtramckhistory.com)

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Obituaries

CZARNECKI



Matthew Czarnecki, 57, died February 17, 2026.

Matthew was born on September 11, 1968, in Hamtramck, MI to Dennis and Barbara (Suchocki) Czarnecki. He married Denise (Chinn) Czarnecki on April 17, 1999; together they shared 26 years of marriage and memories. Together Matthew and Denise had 3 children: Lucas, Nathan, and Sarah Czarnecki.

Matthew was a beloved husband, father, brother, son, friend, coach and devout Catholic. He was the hardest working man but always put family first. He always said work is important, but being present at games or cheer events is more important. He always put everyone before himself and loved nothing more than his family. Matthew was an avid sports fan and an athlete. Most knew him as the funniest guy in the room, as he was always quick with his jokes. If anyone ever had a question or problem you could always rely on Matt, as he is literally the smartest guy on Earth and great with advice. Matthew was always the life of the party and never failed to make any situation into a good time. Matthew will always

be remembered for his loving, welcoming, and caring personality. And he will be loved and dearly missed by his friends and family.

Matthew was also preceded in death by his mother Barbara (Suchocki) Czarnecki, his grandparents John and Bernice Czarnecki, Edmund and Marianne Suchocki, and Leonard Zukowski.

Matthew is survived by his dear wife Denise (Chinn) Czarnecki, and loving children Lucas, Nathan and Sarah Czarnecki. Also survived by his father Dennis Czarnecki, his siblings Paula (Richard) Mamrick, Donna (Michael) O'Reilly, and Lynda (Jason) Kuechle, Tammy (Chinn) Hayden, his aunts and uncles John (Shirley) Czarnecki and Camille (George) Pavlak, and his nieces and nephews: Chad (Penelope) Hayden, Carly Chinn, Katelyn Mamrick, Amanda Mamrick, Spencer Mamrick, Samantha Mamrick, Emerson O'Reilly, Laura Kuechle, Clare O'Reilly, and Andrew Kuechle.

In lieu of flowers please make donations in Matthew's name to Melanoma Research or a charity or your choice.

Visitation is Sunday February 22, 2026, from 3 - 8 p.m., Scripture Service is at 7 p.m., at Wasik Funeral Home, 49150 Schoenherr Road, Shelby Township MI 48315. Funeral service is Monday, February 23, 2026. Lying in state at 9:30 a.m. until the time of the funeral Mass at 10 a.m. at St. Isidore Catholic Church, 18201 23 Mile Road, Macomb MI 48042. Interment at Mount Olivet Cemetery, 17100 Van Dyke, Detroit MI 48234.

Arrangements by Jurkiewicz & Wilk Funeral Home, Hamtramck, MI.

ASK THE MESSENGERS

TV Show

THIS SUNDAY'S FEATURED EPISODE

Legacy Service & Community Impact

RODNEY HOWELL

HAIRSHON SALON

ALSO IN THIS EPISODE

Recovery Stories

Moment In Black History

Remembering the late Dr. Calvin Trent

SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 22, 2026 | 8AM

98.8 WJLB

23

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askthemessengers.org

From the Office of Wayne County Treasurer

Eric R. Sabree



PROBATE ASSISTANCE

If you are facing foreclosure and need assistance in starting a Wayne County Probate Court Case because a property is in the name of a deceased family member, please contact one of the following community partners for assistance:

Michigan Legal Services: 313-774-1527 | 313-725-4890

United Community Housing Coalition: 313-405-7726

Legal Aid & Defender: 313-967-5800

Contact the Wayne County Probate Court by calling:

313-224-5706

We are here to help!

www.Treasurer.WayneCounty.com

313-224-5990



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