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Spring 2008

Dear Constituents:

I do hope that this spring season finds you well and prosperous, both in health and in wealth. Despite the fact that we all are dealing with high gas prices, rising food costs and facing economic challenges, I believe that we can all do better by working together. The time for looking out for only you and yours has come to an end. Now we need to go back to being good neighbors and faithful friends who support each other through good and bad times.

I am so proud to serve you, the residents of District 6. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at upcoming meetings and events. My staff and I want your continued support to make even more improvements and new opportunities for the people of District 6. Please get involved.

Remember, together is how we will make our communities and each other better and stronger.

I want to commend the people of District 6. Many of you have taken an active role in supporting the community. Recently I worked with the Dexter Elmhurst Community Organization on efforts to keep the Dexter Elmhurst Community Center open. I was so moved by the residents love and caring for each other, particularly the seniors and children who frequent the center that I allocated a \$75,000 operating grant to help the center stay open. It was their persistence and commitment to keeping this place that is such a part of their community open that persuaded me to get involved.

God Bless,

Keith D. Williams

Keith D. Williams
Wayne County Commissioner, District 6

Young Men in Transition Program Underway

The Young Men in Transition Program (YMIT) is a pilot program run at Barbara Jordan Middle School and Noble Middle School. The program

That is what we all need to do. It just takes being open to helping others. We are so focused on ourselves that we forget how rewarding it can be to help others. As we go forward into 2008, I am urging my District 6 residents to get involved.

Throughout this newsletter, you will find stories of people who have made a difference, like District 6 Woman of the Year, Ruth Johnson. You'll also learn about new programs that will help residents with criminal record expungement, health care concerns, and other important issues.



Please stop by to share a concern, ask a question, or just have a cup of coffee and chat.
Coffee Hours are 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. No appointment needed.

- FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH—McDonald's at 9815 Grand River (Livernois & Grand River)
- SECOND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH—McDonald's at 14204 W. 7 Mile (7 Mile & Lodge)
- SECOND FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH—McDonald's at 13676 Grand River (Schaefer & Grand River)
- THIRD FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH—McDonald's at 17121 Livernois (Livernois & McNichols)
- FOURTH FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH—McDonald's at 15321 Wyoming (Fenkel & Wyoming)

Coffee with the Commissioner Coupon

Please present this coupon for your free cup of coffee with Commissioner Keith D. Williams



Satellite Office in the 6th District

Greater Emmanuel Institutional C.O.G.I.C. Administrative Offices, 19161 Schaefer Highway, Suite 105 Detroit, Michigan 48235 • Phone: (313) 862-1695 or 862-1675 • Hours: M-Th call for appointment.

name and concept were developed with the participation of several young men from the school. Its purpose is to provide mentoring for young men transitioning from childhood to young adulthood. It centers on enabling young men to commune with each other and their mentors in a safe and open forum. Through workshops, field trips and open discussions, YMIT participants are encouraged to draw upon their inner strengths and talents to achieve, and eliminate undesirable behavior. The purpose is to tap into the talents that allow children to focus on excellence and their individual desire to excel. Mentors coach and guide the young men through exercises and lessons designed to increase learning ability, and develop traits like character, accountability, positive attitude and more.

I am proud to be a co-founder of the program along with both schools' mentoring coordinator, Sterling Jackson. We are so committed to showing our young African American men that they can achieve by doing positive things, believing in themselves and their goals, and working together to make them happen.

Commissioner Williams honors 2008 Woman of the Year

- Co-development of the 12th Precinct Neighborhood Coalition
- Demolition of several buildings within the boundaries of BCCI



Ruth served with the United States Army for more than 30 years, retiring as a Logistics Management Specialist. Her warmth and friendliness, and her dedication to promoting the best interests of her local community and Wayne County, make her so deserving of the distinction of District 6 Woman of the Year. Congratulations Ruth!

Clear your record to build a better future—Wayne County STEP now available!

Ruth Johnson has been an active, dedicated member of the Bagley Community for several decades. She is currently the vice president of the Bagley Community Council, Inc, and has served as president and secretary. Under her leadership, the organization and neighborhood have made great strides including:

- Continued administration of the city operated Neighborhood Opportunity Fund/ Minor Home Repair Program
- Implementing BCCI's Student Scholarship Awards

Wayne County has implemented the Second Chance Through Expungement Program, or STEP to help people have a better chance at a future after a conviction or incarceration. The program assists residents whose only obstacle to obtaining employment is a non-violent conviction on their record.

Through STEP, residents who have had only one nonviolent conviction, and who have lived a clean life for at least five years would be eligible to set aside that past conviction. Other eligibility requirements must be met, including a 'set-aside' fee. Wayne County STEP provides a number of free services that will help you obtain a set aside. For more information about STEP call (313) 833-4587.

District 6 Upcoming Events

Housing Summit & Neighborhood Tour

Commissioner Williams, along with the University Commons 12th Precinct Neighborhood Coalition, Coalition of Realtors Empowering, Stabilizing and Transforming Communities (C.R.E.S.T), and the City of Detroit Office of Commercial Revitalization (ONCR) will host a housing summit and neighborhood tour.

When: Saturday, June 14, 2008
Noon-6:00 p.m.

Where: U of D Mercy Student Center Building

Realtors, Insurance Agents, Housing Counselors, Housing Inspectors, Property Managers, Mortgage and Credit Counselors, MSHDA representatives and HUD specialists will be on hand to cover such topics as tax credits, property rehabilitation and down payment assistance. Bus tours of Bagley, Detroit Golf Course, Green Acres, Palmer Woods, Sherwood Forest and University District neighborhoods will also be available. For more information, call Ken Scott at 313-819-7065.

Need Help Rebuilding Your Credit?

Come to a **FREE** Credit Wealth Class, June 21, 2008, 11AM to 12:30 PM
Greater Emmanuel C.O.G.I.C, 19161 Schaefer, Detroit, MI 48235
Facilitated by: Tamara Rasheed, Professional Credit Specialist
Refreshments served

2008 Robert Shumake Scholarship Relay

Commissioner Williams served as honorary co-chair for the 2008 Robert Shumake Scholarship Relay. Students from Detroit compete in the relay and earn college scholarships.

Wayne County Track Meet Invitational

Commissioner Williams co-sponsored the Wayne County Track Meet Invitational with CEO Robert Ficano. Teams from through Wayne County competed. The invitational was also in tribute to longtime Mumford High School track coach Robert Lynch.

