AUGUST 2023 ISSUE 18

## **District 2**



# NEWSLETTER

FROM THE OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER ANGELA WHITFIELD CALLOWAY, JD





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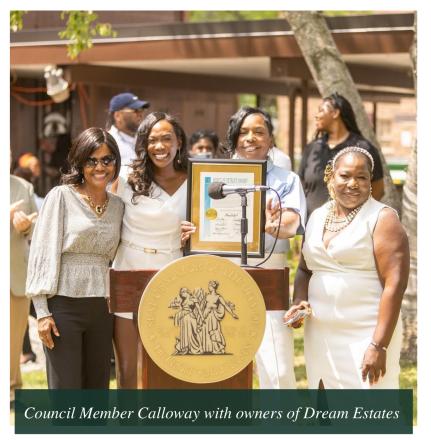
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#### Charles Harvey Recognized by Detroit City Council for Community Contributions

On July 25, 2023, during Formal Session, Charles Harvey was presented with the Spirit of Detroit Award and a Testimonial Resolution by the Detroit City Council. Mr. Harvey has long-standing involvement in the community dating back to his days as Vice President of the MacDowell Community Council, Inc. (MCCI) under Bobbie Parrott's presidency. The organization was initially known as the Meyers, Seven Mile, Wyoming, and St. Martin Community Council (MSWSCC) and was established in 1989 to advocate for neighborhood opportunity fund grants and unite the block clubs. Mr. Harvey took over the organization in 2000 and worked towards obtaining a grant when Mr. Parrott resigned. The group was reorganized and incorporated as a nonprofit in 2009, with Mr. Harvey serving as the elected President. In honor of MacDowell Elementary School's significant contributions to the community, the organization's name was later changed to MacDowell Community Council, Inc. (MCCI). Even at 91 years old, Mr. Harvey remains an active and valuable member of the community. He mentors the current President of MCCI, serves on the MacDowell Community Radio Patrol, and participates in Motor City Makeover yearly to clean up his community. He also initiated a blight report that is presented weekly to the city to combat blight in the neighborhood. Mr. Harvey's dedication to revitalizing his community is commendable and makes him a shining example of community spirit.









# Celebrating Milestones in District 2

In late July, Council Member Calloway, owners Melvie Berkery, Dr. Cynane Robinson, and Monica Wimbush participated in the Dream Estates Assisted Living Facility grand opening ceremony on Pembroke Avenue. This momentous event marked a significant milestone for Motor City Match, as Dream Estates became the 150th brick-and-mortar establishment to open in the city. The owners embarked on this venture driven by their personal experiences and the lack of assisted living facilities in Detroit. Together, these women pooled their resources to elevate the standards of care, providing seniors and disabled residents with a place of dignity and an uncompromised quality of life. Through 22 rounds of funding, Motor City Match has awarded a total of \$12.9 million in grants to support start-ups and new businesses. At Dream Estates, residents experience a unique and person-centered approach to care thanks to the well-trained and genuinely compassionate staff. The facility offers a range of engaging activities and programs, including physical fitness, tailored to meet residents' physical, social, and cognitive needs. With aesthetically pleasing living spaces, Dream Estates fosters a true sense of community and belonging, making residents feel right at home. Welcome to District 2!

#### Amazon Fulfillment Center Opens at Historic State Fair Grounds

Council Member Calloway, Mayor Duggan, Council Member-At-Large Coleman A. Young II, and distinguished guests celebrated the grand opening of Amazon's first robotics fulfillment center (called DET6) in Detroit. The remarkable 823,000-square-foot facility has over 1,200 employees, with a notable 60% being Detroit residents. Jobs range from construction and logistics to project management and customer service. Council Member Calloway's remarks at the grand opening highlighted Amazon's trust in the local workforce and the potential for community growth. She passionately expressed how these jobs will sustain individuals and families, infusing new energy into the local economy. The opening of Amazon's fulfillment center is a significant milestone for Detroit and its residents, promising employment and economic development. With many job opportunities and a commitment to hiring from within the city, this venture signifies hope for Detroit residents looking to build their careers. Council Member Calloway's remarks underscore the importance of Amazon's investment in the community, creating sustainable, long-term opportunities for individuals and families. It showcases the city's resilience and attractiveness to businesses willing to invest in its workforce and economy.













# **Uniting Against Human** and Sex Trafficking

The crisis of human and sex trafficking in Detroit demands urgent attention and a unified effort. The city's law enforcement agencies and advocacy groups have been relentless in their pursuit to combat this issue. Notably, Council Member Calloway's Human and Sex Trafficking Task Force collaborated with prominent organizations like Alternatives for Girls, Detroit Police Department, Crime Stoppers of Michigan, Covenant House, and Neighborhood Legal Services to organize a powerful rally on World Day Against Trafficking in Persons. The impactful rally commenced with a resolute march down Michigan Avenue, symbolizing the collective determination to #EndHumanTrafficking. Following the march, a thought-provoking educational panel for young people took place. Esteemed speakers emphasized the critical need to address the root causes of vulnerability that expose individuals to trafficking. Factors like poverty, lack of education, gender inequality, and displacement increase susceptibility to exploitation, necessitating our attention to resolve these underlying issues. By tackling these root causes head-on, we can effectively eliminate human trafficking in our communities. We must acknowledge and confront the systemic issues contributing to this crisis. In doing so, we safeguard potential victims and foster a safer and more equitable society for all. A huge thank you to the dedicated law enforcement agencies, anti-trafficking organizations, health organizations, and volunteer groups tirelessly championing this cause. Their unwavering efforts shed light on the issue and offer hope to survivors and their loved ones.



Monday, September 18, 2023, 5:30-6:30 PM Click the link below to register: https://bit.ly/sept-d2-virtualmeeting

> Webinar ID: 838 8771 9918 Passcode: 605413

#### Coffee & Conversation Returns Next Month

Join Council Member Calloway and her team at the Atmosphere of Praise Community Center at **8615 Puritan Avenue** for a casual and friendly Coffee & Conversation on **Monday, September 11, 2023**, at 8 AM. The main objective of this event is to provide residents of District 2 with a comfortable setting to interact with the Council Member and her team. Moreover, attendees can meet other members of the community who share similar interests and concerns and collectively brainstorm sustainable solutions. We encourage residents to attend to stay informed about the latest initiatives and programs designed to enhance their quality of life in District 2 and the city of Detroit overall.

# District 2 Virtual Community Webinar

Take advantage of the upcoming District 2 virtual community webinar. The webinar will have an educational presentation from the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation about tax incentives and how they work in the city of Detroit. Here are the meeting details:

- Monday, September 18, 2023, at 5:30 PM
- Detroit Economic Growth Corporation discusses Tax Incentives
- The meeting has been converted to a webinar. **Registration is required** to participate.
- Visit https://bit.ly/sept-d2-virtualmeeting to register.





#### Celebrating 102 Years of Love and Laughter: Honoring Ms. Hendricks

On July 28th, #TeamCalloway pleasantly surprised Ms. Hendricks with a heartfelt Award of Recognition, commemorating her remarkable 102nd birthday. A lifelong Detroiter, her radiant spirit has touched countless lives with love and laughter, making her a true beacon of light. Ms. Hendricks' infectious positivity brightens the lives of all those fortunate enough to cross her path. May God continue to bless her abundantly.

#### Enhancing Safety and Accessibility Through Traffic Calming

In collaboration with the Department of Public Works, Council Member Calloway held a meeting with City of Detroit traffic engineers to discuss traffic calming in Sherwood Forest. Temporary traffic calming islands were evaluated, with concerns expressed about their size, sidewalks, and wrong-way drivers. Additional signage was suggested as a solution. The intersection of St. Martin and Warrington was also discussed, with possible solutions including closing St. Martin at Livernois or making it a one-way street. The City of Detroit's timeline for the traffic calming islands is from 2023 to 2024. The Sherwood Forest Association has agreed to contribute to the cost of upkeep. Overall, the meeting was productive in addressing poor driving habits and parking challenges.





# Join Council Member Calloway for a Fun-filled Picnic in the Park

Are you looking for a delightful and

rejuvenating day outdoors? Join Council

Member Calloway and her team for a picnic in

Palmer Park on Saturday, September 16th!
Gather your family and friends to relish a day filled with outdoor activities and relaxation.
We'll take care of the food and beverages, so you can focus on making unforgettable memories. Don't forget your lawn chair. To RSVP, email us at CouncilMemberCalloway@detroitmi.gov or call us at (313) 224-4535.

#### Invite Council Member Calloway's Office to Your Community Meeting

Do you have a community meeting coming up? If so, the Office of Council Member Calloway would like to provide updates. To invite us to your next event, don't hesitate to contact our office at (313) 224-4535 or email CouncilMemberCalloway@detroitmi.gov with the details.



The Board of Police Commissioners voted to recommend an investment of \$5 million to purchase License Plate Readers (LPRs). I voted against the purchase for data privacy concerns, concerns which I am trying to address in the LPR policy. When LPRs snap a photo of your car, it logs your license plate number and the time, date, and GPS location of the vehicle sighting. Currently, 55 are mounted in scout cars, and 45 are stationary in undisclosed locations. I'm acutely aware of the need for LPRs to be used in AMBER ALERT situations, stolen car recoveries, and apprehending persons in the commission of a crime or attempting to avoid arrest. However, as your elected commissioner, and the only lawyer on the Commission, I and several others requested a presentation on the "civil liberties ramifications of this technology." ACLU Michigan representatives presented and stated: "DPD's proposal treats ALL Detroiters as potential suspects and tracks their real-time whereabouts without having committed any crime. Their primary concerns are accuracy and effectiveness, privacy and data retention, and data sharing. Like all technology, LPR results can be flawed. Every "hit" generated from the "Hot Sheet" of stolen vehicles or vehicles driven by wanted persons is not always accurate. They can result in "unwarranted police confrontations," – which can result in serious situations and civil unrest. Also, some data indicates that the benefit of the \$5M investment relates mostly to registration issues. For every 1 million plates read, only about 2,000 (or 0.2%) are hits! Nonetheless, LPRs are considered a valuable tool by DPD in addressing increases in car thefts and in solving crime.

The central issue is what police departments do with all that data? Massachusetts went to court and forced the police department to delete the unused data every 48 hours and limit sharing that data to federal, state, and local police. The BOPC is negotiating a policy with DPD to delete all unused data every 30 days and limit data sharing to federal, state, and local police after prior notice to the Commission.

## A Message From Your Police Commissioner



On another note, HEH, DPD! THE PUNKS GOT PUNKED by a DPD officer who had been on the job less than 30 days! The attempted taking of an officer's gun was met with a fierce struggle, causing the punks to flee the scene! Although the officer would have been justified to shoot and ask questions later, I'm glad there was no loss of life on either side. Please let Me and Councilwoman Calloway know what you think! Stay SAFE and COOL! Attorney Linda D. Bernard J.D., LL.M.

Morney Emda D. Bernard J.D., EE.M



#### Mark Your Calendars for the Annual Jazz on the Ave Celebration!

Join us on Saturday, August 5, 2023, on Detroit's Historic Avenue of Fashion for a legendary celebration of Jazz on the Ave. This annual event features Charles and Gwen Scales, Lord Yancyy, Deblon, Swygert's Jazz Set, and many talented musicians. Jazz on the Ave is a Customer Appreciation Day where 100 businesses come together to offer food, fashion, art, music, and family fun. Come and be part of the excitement on The Avenue of Fashion!

#### Organizing a Block Club to Empower Your Community

A block club is a group of individuals living in the same street or neighborhood with a shared interest in enhancing their community. By working together, they can effectively advocate for their area and maximize the city resources available. The group's purpose often involves addressing the community's problems and fulfilling residents' needs. To establish a block club, recruiting a core group of members who can collaboratively develop and execute the group's objectives is crucial. This requires teamwork and empowerment to ensure every member is engaged and contributes to the community's growth. To find out how to start a block club, visit

detroitmi.gov/departments/departmentneighborhoods/block-club-program or call our office at (313) 224-4535.





#### **Marygrove Block Party**

Join Council Member Calloway and her team at the Marygrove Conservancy Block Party on Saturday, August 12, 2023 from 12 PM until 4 PM. The block party is a fantastic opportunity to connect with your community and access valuable resources. Stop by the Council Member's informational table for vital information regarding tree removal, block club starter kits, blight remediation, and other essentials for Detroit residents.

In addition to the informational table, there will be plenty of exciting activities to enjoy. From free food and giveaways to live entertainment and campus tours, there is something for everyone! This is the perfect chance to explore the beautiful Marygrove campus and engage with your neighbors.

#### Mint Guild End of Summer Celebration

Stop by Palmer Park on August 16 at 6:30 PM for the Mint Artists Guild's exciting End of Summer Celebration and Art Show. Be amazed by the incredible artwork crafted by talented Detroit youth artists who have been working with Mint in partnership with Grow Detroit's Young Talent. The event will occur outside the Palmer Park Community House, close to the Mint Studios. To add to the enjoyment, Mint will offer free face painting for the first seven guests and various engaging activities such as coloring pages and games. For more details about this fantastic event, visit mintartistsguild.org/events/mint-end-of-summer-celebration/



### **District 2**

# NEWSLETTER



Join us for a birthday party honoring

### COUNCIL MEMBER ANGELA WHITFIELD CALLOWAY

**AUGUST** 

THURSDAY

03

AT 6 PM

Good Times on the Ave, 19416 Livernois Ave, Detroit, MI 48221







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