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The Honorable William J.P. Banks
Alderman and Ward Committeeman, 36th Ward
6839 West Belmont Avenue
Chicago, IL 60634

August 25, 2006

Dear Alderman Banks:

There isn't a thank you big enough for us to give you. Your local sponsorship, again, this year, of the Chicago Public Library's Summer Reading Program at the Galewood-Mont Clare Branch made all the difference to the children in our community. Your dynamic personal presence at the "Wrapped Up in Reading" Grand Finale Raffle and the dazzling prizes you provided from the 36th Ward Democratic Organization Youth Foundation, gave our kids the "wow!" that was so thrilling to see. Do you remember that B-I-I-G reaction when we opened the second "pyramid" in mid-ceremony? I'm so glad you were here to see that!!! With ninety-five people in attendance, this program created the biggest stir at our library this year. Your generous donation also made possible a program called "Once Upon A Mummy," allowed us to distribute a steady stream of "little treasures" throughout the entire eight weeks of the program and kept the kids wide-eyed and reading all summer long.

My colleagues at the other two libraries in your ward keep telling me how excited they were to be able to enhance their Summer Reading Programs as well, thanks to your equally generous donations to their branches. Together, our three branches – Galewood-Mont Clare, West Addison and West Belmont - claim a total of 1,190 program participants who read – or listened to - a total of 34,443 books. With your longtime support of our Summer Reading Program efforts, you were and are our "Leader of Readers." Please accept our profound gratitude.

Sincerely,

Maria Hayley
Branch Manager
Chicago Public Library
Galewood – Mont Clare Branch
6969 West Grand Avenue
Chicago, IL 60707
(312) 746-5032

Chicago Public Library: READ, LEARN, DISCOVER!