

Milele A. Coggs



City Hall, Room 205 • 200 E. Wells Street • Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 286-2994 • mcoggs@milwaukee.gov • www.milwaukee.gov/district6



Ald. Coggs was honored with the Woman of the Year award at Career Youth Development's 39th Annual Image Awards banquet this fall. Rep. Leon Young, Sup. Elizabeth Coggs, Aneasha and Charles Walton, Ald. Coggs and Sen. Spencer Coggs are pictured above.

6th District Town Hall Meetings

It is critically important for me to stay abreast of your concerns, so please join me at our 6th District Town Hall Meetings. At the meetings, you will have the opportunity to voice your concerns to me and representatives from the Department of Neighborhood Services, the Department of Public Works, the Department of City Development, the Department of Administration and the Milwaukee Police Department.

January 14, 2010 from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Kern Park Pavilion
3614 N. Humboldt Blvd.

April 22, 2010 from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Andrew Douglas Community Academy
3620 N. 18th St.

Committee Assignments

Licenses - *Vice Chair* Finance & Personnel - *Member*

Library Board of Trustees - *Member*

Commission on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault - *Member*

Dear Residents,

This has been such an eventful year for the 6th District and the City of Milwaukee and I am honored to have been a part of so many important changes.

Some of the progress we have made includes keeping opportunities for assistance and prevention of foreclosure available to our residents. New legislation that helps hold banks responsible for their foreclosed properties and new programs in coordination with city entities are among the many proactive steps we are taking to help our residents navigate the current economic situation.

This year we continue to actively promote sustainable living and urban farming with the development of community gardens and other cooperative neighborhood projects and I have continued to offer residents help with entrepreneurship through our series of business seminars hosted in cooperation with the Department of City Development.

The 6th District is also seeing the benefits of federal stimulus dollars through new streetscaping initiatives and the Milwaukee Builds Initiative that will bring 40 new jobs to residents. Work on Keefe Ave., Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr., Holton St. and Townsend St. will be making the stimulus visible in our neighborhood.

In this newsletter, read more about new legislation, our district's youth and their educational goals and city resources available to you. As always, I value the efforts of residents who are organizing block watches, community groups and neighborhood initiatives. Your dedication to our district is what makes it strong!

Peace, Love & Justice,

Milele A. Coggs, J.D.
6th District Alderwoman - City of Milwaukee



DHS Relocation: Hearing Our Voices



Alderwoman Coggs spoke at a news conference on the potential negative impact of moving the Dept. of Health Services facility to MLK Dr. Pictured are Rep. Leon Young, Sup. Coggs, Sup. Toni Clark, Ald. Coggs, Sen. Spencer Coggs and Sup. Peggy West.

C.H. Coakley & Co. has formally withdrawn its bid to relocate the state Department of Health Services center to the Bronzeville area. Ald. Coggs wishes to thank all the neighbors from Halyard, Brewer's Hill, Harambee and the MLK BID as well as representatives at the state and county who played a part in this victory for neighbors and businesses.



Legislative Updates

M.O.R.E. Becomes a Reality

The Common Council approved the M.O.R.E. ordinance this spring. The ordinance, co-sponsored by Ald. Coggs, will help create wage standards for commercial developments that receive at least \$1 million in financial assistance from the City of Milwaukee.

With the M.O.R.E. ordinance in effect, businesses will be compelled to create jobs and apprenticeship opportunities that employ local residents.

One business already meeting the goals of the ordinance is the Rivianna Development Group. Their mixed use building project will bring more than 1,000 jobs to the area.

Childcare Safety Takes Priority

The Milwaukee Common Council voted 14-0 in April to authorize city lobbyists to push for the passage of Wisconsin Senate Bill 141 – legislation requiring that electronic seat check reminders be installed on child care vehicles.

Ald. Milele A. Coggs, who initially sponsored the Council resolution with Ald. Joe Davis, Sr., said she believes strongly that the proposed state law can help reduce or eliminate the tragic deaths of helpless children left in child care vehicles.

“It’s time we do something proactively to save children and to prevent this type of thing from happening again,” she said, noting that the safety alarm could have prevented the death in March of a four-month-old Milwaukee boy

left inside a van in the parking lot of a northwest side child care facility.

Senate Bill 141 requires installation of electronic seat check reminder systems (also known as “child safety alarms”) that sound an alarm and illuminate the interior of the child care vehicle when it is parked unless the vehicle operator disarms the alarm by activating a switch located at the rear of the vehicle’s passenger compartment.

The bill has since passed and will forever be known as the Jalen Knox-Perkins bill in honor of a child that lost his life.

Restricting Liquor Licenses

A 1947 state law prohibits establishments licensed to sell intoxicating liquor to operate within 300 feet of any church, school or hospital, yet, there has been no similar provision related to day care centers. Ald. Coggs and Ald. Joe Davis, Sr. have cosponsored a resolution that supports creating state legislation that similarly prevents the sale of liquor near child care facilities.

“This legislation offers the same protections to children in day care centers that they have when they are in school,” Ald. Coggs said.



Growing Power’s Will Allen harvested vegetables on Market St. outside City Hall. Growing Power also sponsors food basket initiatives around the city, including in the 6th District.

Urban Gardens Take Shape

With the help of Growing Power’s Will Allen and a Common Council resolution, some vacant properties in the 6th District will now be cared for as community gardens. Milwaukee Urban Gardens is a non profit land trust dedicated to acquiring and preserving land and partnering with neighborhood residents to develop and maintain community gardens to enhance the quality of life in our city. To learn more, contact the land trust online at www.milwaukeeurbangardens.org or by phone at (414) 431-1585.



Alderwoman Coggs congratulated Danielle Brooks and Brittany Stark, the winners of this year’s “I AM THE DREAM” scholarship competition, in the Council Chamber.

Eye On Our Youth

Scholarship Opportunities

This spring, Ald. Milele A. Coggs offered college-bound students a chance to help pay for their education as part of the “I AM THE DREAM” scholarship competition. **Brittany Stark**, a senior at Rufus King High School, and **Danielle Brooks**, a senior at Messmer High School, wrote the award winning essays.

Alderwoman Coggs launched the scholarship contest to honor and recognize Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s contributions in strengthening civil rights for all people. Students were asked to submit an essay explaining “How I plan to keep the Dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Alive.”

“Higher education has the promise of transforming lives, and this scholarship is one way for me to contribute to the betterment of the lives of worthy students while encouraging continued thought about the works of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,” Alderwoman Coggs said.

Additional scholarship opportunities are available on Alderwoman Coggs’ webpage at www.milwaukee.gov/district6.

Earn & Learn Internship Program

Lekeisha Reynolds worked in the 6th District office this summer as an Earn & Learn intern. She is a senior at the HOPE School. Earn & Learn is a summer job program for youth age 14-19 and the application process begins in January. Contact my office or go to www.mkedcd.org/syip for more details.



Sign up for E-notify

Want to stay informed about what is going on at City Hall? Go to www.milwaukee.gov/enotify and sign up today.

How to Access Stimulus Information

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – the official name of the stimulus funds program – is in progress in Milwaukee and funds are being distributed to cities across the country. To learn more about how Milwaukee is affected by and using the funds, go to www.city.milwaukee.gov, www.county.milwaukee.gov or www.wisconsin.gov for minutes, notices and plans for the funds.

Home Repair Assistance is Available!

A Brush With Kindness is Habitat for Humanity's companion to its successful building program. The program helps low-income homeowners in designated areas impacted by age, disability and family circumstances, reclaim their homes with pride and dignity. If you would like to learn more, call Habitat for Humanity at (414) 562-6100 or email rcychoz@milwaukeehabitat.org.

The **Neighborhood Improvement Program** (NIP) is a program of the Harambee Ombudsman Project, Inc. NIP provides a broad range of home repair services and employs local young adults.

The Brooks Bronzeville TIN (Targeted Investment Neighborhood) is one example of the city's resources in action. Point your browser to www.milwaukee.gov/bronzeville to learn more.

For more details on any of the aforementioned programs and other resources, please contact **Neighborhood Improvement Program** at 335 W. Wright St. or (414) 264-7822. You can also visit www.milwaukee.gov/NIP for more resources and information.



Want to invite me to a block club meeting? Call (414) 286-2994 or e-mail me at mcoggs@milwaukee.gov.



Support your Local Library!

As you may know, unfortunately libraries are continuously struggling to stay open, but there are some things you can do to support your local library.

- Get a library card
- Return books on time
- Pay fines
- Hold community meetings there
- Patronize
- Participate in programming
- Encourage others to use the library

A Helping Hand For District Seniors

Seniors in the 6th District who need help around the house with lawn care, snow shoveling or minor maintenance are invited to call Interfaith Older Adult Programs at (414) 220-8669. Interfaith can also add some excitement to the lives of our seniors who are looking to keep active with such activities as arts and crafts, board and table games, health workshops and more.

In addition, Ald. Coggs wants residents to know that the city has a special needs service to help remove snow from sidewalks for older citizens and disabled persons. They must certify that they and all occupants of a home are physically unable to shovel. The service is provided only when plowing operations are called and only for the public sidewalk, not for driveways or walkways from the sidewalk to a door. For more information call 286-CITY (286-2489).

District Police Contact Information

The 6th Aldermanic District is served by two police districts, District 1 and District 5. This year, Chief Flynn reorganized the districts and their leadership.

District Five is now led by **Captain Edith Hudson**. Community Liaison Officer **Ray Robakowski** (414) 935-7258 can assist you.

District One is now led by **Captain Patrick Mitchell**. Community Liaison Officer **Mark Buetow** (414) 935-7541 can assist you.



Alderman Coggs spoke to local entrepreneurs at the Riverworks and Riverwest Business Resource Seminar this spring.

Business Development Seminars A Success

Alds. Milele A. Coggs and Nik Kovac, along with the DCD Neighborhood and Business Development Team, partnered to sponsor the Riverworks and Riverwest Business Resource Seminar this spring.

Footage of the seminars is available on the web at www.milwaukee.gov/district6.

"The city offers a number of resources to help small business owners and entrepreneurs become a vital part of our neighborhoods. These seminars are designed to begin a dialogue between the city and current or potential business owners to spur necessary growth and development," Ald. Coggs said.

Ald. Coggs and Ald. Ashanti Hamilton, along with DCD, will host an Atkinson, Capitol & Teutonia (ACT) Business Resource Seminar in the near future. Stay in touch with Ald. Coggs' office to learn more about future sessions.



"It is the responsibility of us all to give back to the community that helped to make us who we are." M.A.C.

6th District Alderwoman

Milele A. Coggs



Fall 2009

Help for Homeowners Facing Foreclosure

The City of Milwaukee is committed to helping our neighborhoods remain healthy for generations to come. We are coordinating with various organizations, government agencies and private lenders and reaching out to homeowners facing foreclosure. Visit www.milwaukeehousinghelp.org for access to more resources.

This year, the Common Council funded a new foreclosure mediation program through the Department of City Development. The program offers legal aid to homeowners facing foreclosure and helps them negotiate solutions with their lender.

Also, neighbors should report problems with boarded up houses to the Department of Neighborhood Services at www.milwaukee.gov/dns or call them at (414) 286-2268 with the address of the property in question. One local agency that can help is Select Milwaukee.

Select Milwaukee

Address: 2209 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Dr.
Phone: (414) 562-5070 Fax: (414) 562-5072
www.selectmilwaukee.org • info@selectmilwaukee.org

City Hall, Room 205
200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

PRSRD STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
MILWAUKEE WI
PERMIT NO 4678

Using Technology to Engage the 6th District



Milwaukee residents who subscribe are now able to receive text message information alerts from Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs – the first member of the Milwaukee Common Council offering such notifications.

To subscribe, just go to the left column of www.city.milwaukee.gov where there's a link called "Get Notices by Text Message" – the link is: itmdapps.ci.mil.wi.us/login/login/SMS_main.jsp. If you have already signed up to receive other city text messages, please click on "Manage Your Existing Account" to add the 6th District alerts.

If this will be your first text message category, please click on the "Create New Account Link." After filling out the Required Information section, check the box next to "Alert: Sixth Aldermanic District News" in the text alerts menu. NOTE: Users must enter the confirmation code in order to begin receiving text messages.

The service will provide a text message to a subscriber's phone each time Ald. Coggs posts such notifications. Though there is no fee from the city to enroll in this service, subscribers should check first with their phone provider about incoming text message rates.

You can also find Ald. Coggs on Facebook at www.facebook.com, Twitter at www.twitter.com/alderwomancoggs and residents can go to www.milwaukee.gov/district6 for her online newsletters. Of course, the alderwoman may be employing new technology, but is still available by phone at (414) 286-2994.



Goodwill Industries has moved into the district, and through their Workforce Connection Center located at 3903 N. Richards St. they are ready to assist job seekers with building a resume and finding a job.

Employment Opportunities

The Workforce Connection Center offers computer and internet use, workshops, employer recruitment, typing, fax and printing services and much more! Stop in at 3903 N. Richards St. or call (414) 962-4148. Go to www.goodwillsew.com for more information on the program. Check Ald. Coggs' webpage at www.milwaukee.gov/district6 for news on other job resources in the district and to fill out an employment survey. There are multiple resources in the 6th District to help with employment; call the office or turn to the webpage for more information.