

Milele A. Coggs



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

Dear Neighbor,

I'm eager to inform you about the news happening in the 6th District. We're moving forward with the Bronzeville District and have formed an advisory committee to continue to oversee the project. You'll also see that instrumental legislation has passed regarding gold dealers, illegal dumping and our city's conversation on high-speed rail and the jobs it would bring.

We continue to highlight and support the youth of our district and I encourage you to read about our scholarship winners and their successes. Please also note the important information regarding public works included in this newsletter. There are new garbage pick up regulations and as always, the snow removal policies are before us again as we face another Wisconsin winter.

As we look to 2011, a 6th District leadership conference will be forming, a new scholarship and community service program will be offered and the city continues to offer innovative foreclosure solutions to our community.

Please keep safe and warm this winter season and as always, please contact my office with any needs or concerns.

Peace, Love & Justice,

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



Neighborhood Walk Throughs



Ald. Coggs near 24th St. with a resident and Gracelyn Wilson of Northwest Side Community Development Corporation.

Ald. Coggs speaking with residents on a neighborhood walk through near 8th St. & Burleigh St.



Ald. Coggs with residents and city representatives on a neighborhood walk through near 4th St. and Keefe Ave.

Ald. Coggs and representatives from various city departments on a neighborhood walk through near 11th St. & Atkinson Ave.



To schedule a neighborhood walk through in your area, call (414) 286-2994.

Upcoming 6th District Meetings

Town Hall Meeting

Wednesday, January 26, 2011, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Kern Park Pavilion, 3614 N. Humboldt Blvd.

Next Bronzeville Mixer

Wednesday, February 16, 2011, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee Urban League, 435 W. North Ave.

Committee Assignments

- Licenses - *Vice Chair* Finance & Personnel - *Member*
- Library Board of Trustees - *Member*
- Commission on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault - *Member*

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Tougher Dumping Legislation Takes Effect

Alderwoman Coggs is the lead sponsor of new anti-dumping legislation that helps regulate waste greater than the capacity of a standard 20-gallon container. Violators who dump large amounts of waste without the permission of the property owner will be subject to fines of no less than \$1,500 per offense. This dumping happens on both private and vacant lots.

Property owners are responsible for removing waste dumped on their property and should also become familiar with the ordinance so they may partner with the city in solving these crimes. Watch for a new dumping tip hotline you can use to alert the city to any illegal dumping you may witness. The hotline will offer a \$250 reward for tips leading to a conviction and will be available in early 2011.

Support for Rail from Milwaukee

Alderwoman Coggs was the primary sponsor for persuasive legislation that declares Milwaukee's support for high-speed rail in the area and upgrades and maintenance on the Hiawatha line from Milwaukee to Chicago.

"It's important that we voice our legislative position to the state," Alderwoman Coggs said. "Moving forward with high-speed rail would create thousands of jobs – many of them permanent to the area – and Milwaukee would greatly benefit from the entire process as well as the end product."

Forming a Bronzeville Advisory Committee

Alderwoman Coggs is moving the Bronzeville District forward by creating a seven member Bronzeville Advisory Committee that will make recommendations to the Redevelopment Authority regarding any redevelopment proposals within the Bronzeville Cultural and Entertainment District. The committee will review all plans the Authority puts forward and will consist of members dedicated to preserving the art, culture and history of the area. The group will also help ensure design of the area is consistent with the approved plans and vision for the community.

Buying Gold Legislation

In July, the Common Council passed legislation to put zoning regulations on businesses that buy used jewelry or gold. The new law automatically adds any Milwaukee business that primarily buys used jewelry or gold to the city's zoning code as a "secondhand store" and therefore, store owners must obtain a secondhand jewelry dealer license from the State of Wisconsin.

Milwaukee secondhand businesses must now also photograph the items they buy as well as the people who sell them and post the photographs to a Milwaukee Police Department website. The legislation also lengthens the holding period for certain gold and jewelry items.

"These actions are steps meant to discourage burglaries and thefts of gold and jewelry, as well as to put an end to blatantly illegal transactions of stolen jewelry and gold through secondhand stores," Alderwoman Coggs said, "and that's why I have also asked the state to pass related legislation."



EYE ON YOUTH



Monica Harris, a senior at St. Joan Antida High School, worked in the 6th District office this summer as part of the Earn & Learn summer intern program. She will be graduating in 2011 and is working to graduate with honors (her current GPA is a 3.7). After high school she plans to attend Marquette University for the nursing program. The idea of nursing is important to Monica because she has always liked to help others.

Monica explained, "By working for Alderwoman Coggs I have a better understanding of city government. I was able to see what an alderwoman does and the things they deal with in the real world."

Freedom Scholarship Winner

The 3rd Annual Freedom Essay Scholarship Contest winner is Ms. Devin Stanford. Stanford is a recent graduate of Milwaukee Lutheran High School and attends the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. In her essay, she said, "To me freedom is working hard to ensure my inalienable rights and not stopping until we are all in fact treated equally."



Alderwoman Coggs said, "The celebration and recognition of the struggle for freedom is one that cannot be forgotten and this young woman was able to convey that fact and had great suggestions on how other young people could contribute to society to help combat and prevent prejudice, discrimination and violence in our world today."

The contest, which has become an annual event, opened early this summer and candidates were solicited from recent high school graduates who are residents of the 6th District. Stanford received a \$500 award for her essay.

"It is my sincere hope that at some point all those who seek higher education and are willing to work hard for the opportunity have it; this scholarship is one small way that I have found to contribute to such opportunities," Alderwoman Coggs said.

Velma & Erma Coggs Scholarship and Community Service Program

Alderwoman Coggs is launching a scholarship named in honor of her mother Velma L. Coggs and grandmother Erma Coggs, perpetual servants to the City of Milwaukee. Six high school students who are either residents of the 6th Aldermanic District or attend high school within the 6th District are eligible. For an application and more details call (414) 286-2994 or visit www.milwaukee.gov/district6.

Bronzeville Development



This city-owned building at 642 W. North Ave. will be remodeled into offices.

The Common Council approved a proposal to provide a \$171,000 city loan for the Bronzeville area for projects spearheaded by an investment group formed by Impact Seven and two local development firms: Vanguard Group LLC and Endeavour Corp.

The related development projects will be the first for the Bronzeville district since it was created in 2005. The investment group, called Inner City Arts LLC, plans to buy a city-owned building, at 642 W. North Ave., for \$10,000, and spend \$501,000 remodeling it into offices. Vanguard and Endeavour plan to occupy the first floor of the 4,800-square foot building. Some of the remaining space would be used as a construction plan review room for contractors.

The city loan would come from a tax incremental financing district. The tax revenue generated by the development will serve to repay the loan.

“This is a truly catalytic and positive development, and it’s only the beginning for Bronzeville,” Alderwoman Coggs said. “I will continue working diligently to make sure all proposed Bronzeville projects are viable and that they will pour value into the district and the neighborhood as a whole.”

Go to www.milwaukee.gov/enotify to sign up for Bronzeville updates.

Public Safety Survey Results

Thank you to everyone who participated in the public safety survey. Results will be posted online at www.milwaukee.gov/district6.

6th District Leadership Conference

The 6th District has more than 40,000 residents and is made up of 29 wards. To ensure that residents are empowered in their neighborhood, we are having this conference to help give them the tools they need. It is an opportunity for residents to become civically aware and involved. It will take place early in 2011. If you are interested in participating, please call (414) 286-2994 or email adantz@milwaukee.gov.

Practice District Safety

Don't be a victim of theft! Follow these tips from Police District 5 and help keep your neighborhood safe.

1. Lock your doors and windows when you leave the house.
2. If you are leaving town, make sure that your home appears to be occupied.
3. Close your windows or blinds so the contents of your house are not visible.
4. Make sure you do not put your empty boxes from new purchases at the curb with your garbage. Cut them up and recycle them.
5. Secure your snow blowers, lawn mowers and bicycles in your garage with a chain and lock.
6. Never leave your house unlocked when you are shoveling or snow blowing your property.

Contact **Community Liaison Officer Ray Robakowski** at (414) 935-7258 for more crime prevention tips or to have him visit your home and talk about ways to better secure your property.

Supporting Fire Loss Victims

Another Hand Foundation, located in the 6th District, is a non-profit organization which has been established to help families rise from the ashes of a fire loss and start the recovery process. We help by restarting the recovery process by donating furnishings and household goods. We want to help families move forward and start the recovery process as quickly as possible; we are helping families in their times of need.

Another Hand Foundation Inc.
(414) 502-0853 • www.anotherhandfoundation.org
info@anotherhandfoundation.org

EBE Disparity Study

This year, the Emerging Business Enterprise (EBE) program conducted a study of its practice to see if a statistically significant disparity exists between the number of minority-owned and women-owned business enterprises that are ready, willing and able to provide goods and services to the city and the number of those businesses that were actually providing goods and services to the city from 2005-2008.

The study’s final results indicate we are not working hard enough to recognize and employ minority-owned or woman-owned businesses in construction, goods and services and professional services contracts.

Among the suggestions presented include better evaluation and tracking of contracts as well as ensuring that the bidding process is navigable to EBE businesses and that they are aware of bid opportunities. Watch for upcoming legislation addressing these issues.

The study will be posted online soon, but for more information on the city’s EBE program, turn to www.milwaukee.gov/ebe for a full overview of the program.

Support Your Local Library!

In 2010, the Common Council worked hard during budget season to keep all our libraries open, though their hours may have changed. Go to www.mpl.org to check hours for your favorite libraries!

M.L. King Library
310 W. Locust St.

Library Hours:
Monday-Wednesday: 1-8 p.m.
Thursday-Friday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday: Closed





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, Alderwoman 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 (2489)**.

Foreclosure Help for Homeowners

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. For access to more resources, visit www.milwaukeehousinghelp.org.



The Common Council voted to fund a new foreclosure mediation program through the Department of City Development (DCD). 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. Call (414) 286-2268 with the address of the property in question or visit www.milwaukee.gov/dns for more information. DCD also provides programs like the **Buy in Your Neighborhood** program and other stabilization options. Go to www.mkedcd.org for more information. The following organizations also offer foreclosure solutions:

Select Milwaukee

(414) 562-5070 • www.selectmilwaukee.org • info@selectmilwaukee.org

Neighborhood Stabilization Project

nspinfo@milwaukee.gov • www.mkedcd.org/milwaukeestrong/NSP.html

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The Scoop on Snow Removal



When a major storm occurs, it can take from 18 to 24 hours to plow all streets, depending on the severity of the storm. Sometimes plows must make four to six passes down a street to clear it curb to curb. The city tries to do this at one time so residents can shovel out driveways and sidewalks. It is best to wait, if possible, until your street has been plowed before shoveling out your driveway approach. It is also helpful if you pile the snow to the right side of your driveway as you face the street. This will minimize the amount of snow pushed back into the driveway approach by a plow.

Residents have 24 hours after the snow stops falling to clear snow from sidewalks. Violations reported to DPW will be inspected and incur an initial inspection fee of \$25. If the snow is not cleared after 24 hours, the city will clear it and put the costs along with a \$45-\$90 administrative fee on the property tax bill.

New Garbage Pick Up Regulations

City crews now only pick up one cubic yard of extra material placed out on your designated collection day. This is about the size of an easy chair. Also, there is now a fee for extra garbage carts. Households with more than one cart will be charged \$5 quarterly for each additional cart.

For extra carts or to have unneeded carts removed, call **286-CITY (2489)**.