

Milele A. Coggs



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Dear Neighbor,

Community involvement is key to maintaining healthy, engaged neighborhoods. What facilitates that involvement is being empowered with useful information—the sort of useful information that I have included in this newsletter.

The controversy surrounding the death in police custody of Derek Williams may have reached a temporary conclusion, but a broader investigation into the department is ongoing to determine whether there exists a pattern or practice of discrimination. I have played an active role in demanding greater transparency and institutional change in our police department, and you can too. Additionally, I am pushing back against proposals in state government that could change the way Wisconsin voters vote and do away with the City of Milwaukee's residency requirement for municipal employees, which has been on the books for 75 years.

There are other stories that fill me with hope and enthusiasm. New businesses are opening, neighbors are taking a greater stake in preventing vandalism to vacant buildings and, most importantly, our young people are learning early on to get engaged and make the world a better place.

Also, I am excited to announce that I now chair the City Information Management Committee and sit on the Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation Board, in addition to serving as the vice chair of the Licenses Committee and sitting on the Finance and Personnel Committee, the Library Board of Trustees and the Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions, or to request a neighborhood meeting.

Peace, Love & Justice,

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



Scan this QR Code with your phone and link to more updated info on my website!

Or go to: www.milwaukee.gov/district6

View meetings on the web: www.milwaukee.gov/Channel25

Follow us on Twitter @MKE_CC and @MKE_TV for City of Milwaukee Common Council and City Clerk news, info and updates.

Committee Assignments

- City Information Management - *Chair*
- Licenses - *Vice Chair* Finance & Personnel - *Member*
- Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation - *Member*
- Library Board of Trustees - *Member*
- Commission on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault - *Member*

Same Day Registration Question Will Be Put to Milwaukee Voters



When they go to the polls for the April 2 election, Milwaukee voters will get to weigh in on a controversial issue that's being debated in the state Capitol.

A local referendum on the spring ballot will read, "Should the state of Wisconsin continue to permit citizens to register to vote at the polls on Election Day?" Alderwoman Coggs was the measure's primary sponsor, along with Aldermen Ashanti Hamilton, Robert J. Bauman, Willie C. Wade, Nik Kovac, Willie L. Hines, Jr., José G. Pérez, Tony Zielinski and Joe Davis, Sr.

"I am very pleased that the question of same day registration will go before Milwaukee voters on April 2," Alderwoman Coggs said. "This advisory referendum gives citizens an opportunity for their voices to be heard on this important issue."

Same day registration has been in place in the State of Wisconsin since 1974. There were more than 54,000 same day registrations in the City of Milwaukee for the November 6, 2012 Presidential Election. That represents nearly 20% of all Milwaukee voters.

U.S. Civil Rights Division Accepting Tips From Milwaukee Citizens About MPD

Residents who believe Milwaukee Police officers have violated their rights now have an outlet for their concerns, with the announcement by U.S. Attorney James Santelle that the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice has set up a toll-free tip line and email address. The information gathered through these sources will be used to help determine whether Mr. Santelle and the Civil Rights Division should conduct a formal "pattern and practice" investigation of the Milwaukee Police Department.

Anyone interested in providing information can contact the Department of Justice by calling 1-855-544-5132 or via email at community.milwaukee@usdoj.gov. The recorded phone message is in both English and Spanish.

Please make plans to attend these Upcoming 6th District Meetings:

- Girls Day at City Hall, 200 E. Wells St. Wednesday, March 20 - 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Politics & Poetry, City Hall Rotunda Wednesday, March 27 - 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Office Hours in the District Clinton Rose Senior Center, 3045 N. Dr. MLK Dr. Thursday, March 21 - 11:30 a.m.
- Town Hall Meeting Hillside Family Resource Center, 1452 N. 7th St. Tuesday, April 30 - 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Common Council Approves New Hotline to Report Vandalism to Vacant Buildings



Alderwoman Coggs was a co-sponsor of a recently-approved Common Council resolution establishing a tip hotline for reporting vandalism to vacant buildings.

Alderwoman Coggs said the hotline is needed to address what has become a serious problem in many city neighborhoods. “There is a direct and significant relationship between the vandalizing of vacant buildings and increased calls for police services, higher incidence of fires (both accidental and intentional), and a steady decline and disinvestment in neighborhoods,” Alderwoman Coggs said.

Callers who phone in information to the (WeTIP) hotline number – **1-800-78-CRIME** – may be eligible for cash rewards if the information provided leads to an arrest and conviction.

Residency Must Be Maintained

A new proposed state budget measure that would end the residency requirement for city workers could have a devastating negative impact on the City of Milwaukee, Alderwoman Coggs said.

A City of Milwaukee charter provision requiring city employees to reside in the city as a condition of employment has been in place since 1938. In the 2011-12 state legislative session, a bill was introduced to eliminate residency requirements for police and fire employees. The Mayor and the Common Council were opposed to the bill, and it never passed.

If you agree that maintaining residency requirements for City of Milwaukee employees is important for your neighborhood and property values, Alderwoman Coggs encourages you to call or email your state Assemblyperson and Senator and ask them not to support any effort to eliminate residency requirements for city employees. Please contact the Governor’s office as well at (608) 266-1212.

Derek Williams Press Conference



Alderwoman Coggs joined other members of the Common Council in calling for institutional change in the Milwaukee Police Department and greater transparency in the investigation of Derek Williams’s death, one of several instances that prompted the U.S. Department of Justice to take a closer look at the MPD.

New Ordinance Requires Smoke Detectors with 10-year Batteries

The Common Council has approved an ordinance requiring all battery-powered smoke detectors in residential buildings to be powered by non-removable batteries with lives of 10 years or more.

Alderwoman Coggs, who voted to approve the ordinance, said it is hoped the measure will help save many lives. “Every residence should have working smoke detectors, and your life and the lives of your entire family could very well depend on being alerted by a smoke detector,” she said.

Under the ordinance, compliance must be met when replacing an existing battery-operated unit according to the manufacturers’ recommended replacement date or by October 1, 2017, whichever is sooner. The ordinance goes into effect June 1, 2013.



Growing Power Grand Opening

Deshea Agee of the Dept. of City Development, Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs and Will Allen of Growing Power at a soft opening for Growing Power Cafe & Food Market, a recent addition to the Bronzeville area King Drive Commons at 2737 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Drive.

For more information, visit: www.growingpower.org

Tip Hotline Means \$\$ for Reporting Illegal Dumping

The Common Council has approved a **tip hotline** whereby callers can be eligible to **receive reward money** after **anonymously** providing information on incidents of illegal dumping of debris and/or hazardous materials. Illegal dumping includes dumping of items, brush, and/or materials on streets, sidewalks, parking lots, vacant lots, alleys, or at vacant properties.

If you see or know of illegal dumping, call WeTip at:
1-800-78-CRIME

If the information provided leads to a conviction, you may be eligible for a reward up to \$1,000.

Earn & Learn Internship Applications Due April 5



Online applications are now being accepted for the city's 2013 Earn & Learn Summer Youth Internship Program. Applicants who are selected for the internships will work 20 hours a week for eight weeks (beginning June 17, 2013), and will earn \$7.25 per hour.

To qualify for an internship, applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 19 and live within the Community Development Block Grant area. Individuals who have previously held a city government internship position are not eligible to be hired a second time.

To learn more or apply for an internship, visit www.milwaukee.gov/SYIP and fill out an application by April 5, 2013.

2012 Girls Day at City Hall

Girls Day at City Hall is an event designed to expose young women to potential careers in public service leadership roles by pairing them with local leaders.

This year's event is scheduled for **March 20, 2013**, and will once again focus on bringing young professionals who serve as elected officials or community service leaders together with teens to take part in activities that will empower the students to realize the multiple ways they can impact their community.

For more information or to get involved, contact Alderwoman Coggs at (414) 286-2994 or email mcoggs@milwaukee.gov.



EYE ON YOUTH

Graduating Senior Interns in District 6 Office



Kadijah Anderson came to the Earn & Learn Summer Youth Internship program as a graduating senior from the Milwaukee High School of the Arts. She demonstrated incredible initiative and a strong work ethic. She likes to be a leader and feels that is her strongest quality. She worked diligently to service the needs of residents during her internship.

Freedom Scholarship Essay Winners



In fall 2012, Alderwoman Coggs announced the winners of the 5th Annual Freedom Scholarship Essay Contest.



Alderwoman Coggs said each of the winning entries was exceptionally well-written and struck a chord about the steep price that has been paid for freedom. "These writers each captured the importance of tapping into the spirit of our ancestors and our history, because that

gives us a fresh perspective on the life and death struggles they persevered through so that we could have many of the freedoms we have today," Alderwoman Coggs said.

Mikael L. Luter, in his essay, wrote: "To combat and prevent such negativity and inequality, we must begin to educate each other more, as well as more thoroughly on the lifestyles, cultures and spiritualities of the aforementioned 'seeds' of our roots." He is a 2010 graduate of Dominican High School and now a sophomore at Marquette University.

Imari Conner was also awarded a scholarship for her essay, in which she wrote: "History lessons can be taught, but if no one appreciates or understands the sacrifice ancestors made to make sure there were opportunities for their children, there will be no progress." She is a 2012 high school graduate of Ronald Reagan High School and a freshman attending Fisk University.

The annual contest challenges students to put into words what the concept of "freedom" means to them and how they can combat and prevent prejudice, discrimination, and violence in our world today. Both Luter and Conner have received a \$500 scholarship award.

The 6th Annual Freedom Essay Scholarship application will be available in April at: www.milwaukee.gov/district6



MKE Business Now Entrepreneurship Summit

Back for the second year in a row, the MKE Business Now Entrepreneurship Summit continued in its mission of connecting aspiring entrepreneurs and business owners with the resources they need to be successful.

Sponsored by Alderwoman Coggs, this year's event included an address by Mayor Tom Barrett, a panel discussion with local business leaders, business workshops and representatives from more than 25 organizations that offer assistance and resources to local entrepreneurs.

For more information about future events, call (414) 286-2994.



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Pleasant St. Bridge Continues on Schedule

The rehabilitation of the Pleasant St. lift bridge over the Milwaukee River is continuing on schedule, according to the Department of Public Works.

The contractor, Zenith Tech, has already completed much concrete work and has focused attention on deck reconstruction, structural steel and other components, and sandblasting and refinishing all removed bridge machinery.

The Pleasant St. bridge project is scheduled to be completed by August 2013.

Don't Get Left Out in the Cold

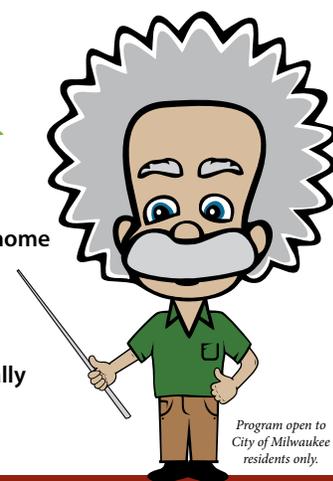
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Program open to City of Milwaukee residents only.

NEW Additional Rebates for Moderate Income Homeowners!

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