



Okolona News

From the desk of Okolona Metro Councilwoman

Madonna Flood

SPRING 2008



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Louisville Metro
Councilwoman
574-1124

Committee Assignments

- ◆ Public Safety
- ◆ Planning & Zoning

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Digital Television (DTV) is Coming and Soon.

Make sure you will be able to catch your favorite program!

(All information obtained from the National Association of Broadcasting)

You have probably seen the ads on television or heard any number of television programs discussing the changes in the way television stations will broadcast. **On February 17, 2009, all local television stations will begin broadcasting in digital format only.** This date was set by Congress as the official date for transition from analog signal to digital. If you do not subscribe to a cable, satellite or a telephone company service provider your analog TV sets will not be able to pick-up the new signal unless you do one of the following 3 things:

1. Purchase a DTV converter box that plugs into your existing analog television set. A converter box will enable you to receive free television reception. According to the National Association of Broadcasters' the converter boxes are expected to cost between \$40-\$70. These are available now. The Federal government is providing \$40 coupons that you can use toward the purchase of the converter. **These coupons MUST be redeemed within 90 days and there a limit of 2 coupons per household.** To request a coupon call 1(888-DTV-2009) or 1(877)530-2634(TTY). You may also go to www.DTV2009.gov to request a coupon.
2. Purchase a new television set with a built-in digital or Advanced Television Systems Committee (ATSC) tuner. All digital TV's with a digital tuner can receive the digital signal that is broadcast by TV stations and you can continue to receive free programming.
3. If you subscribe to cable, satellite or a telephone company service provider you can continue to use the analog set. If you have these services and have an analog set you still may want to purchase the converter in case you decide to drop the service later.

If you would like more information on the switch to digital television (DTV) you may access the web site dtvanswers.com or contact me at Madonna.flood@louisvilleky.gov or 574-1124 for a pamphlet on the switch. Please check into this to ensure that you will have reception and good quality reception once the transition is complete. Remember that date is February 17, 2009.

Madonna

Report

**Complaints,
problems or just have
a question**

**METRO CALL
Dial 311
(or call 574-5000)**

**Operators are standing
by 24 hours/7 days a
week**

**or email at
metrocall@louisvilleky.gov**

**To report litter or illegal
dumping call Metro Call at
311 or 574-5000.**



Identity Theft

Don't let it happen to you!

Identity Theft is a serious crime. It occurs when your personal information is stolen and used without your knowledge to commit fraud or other crimes. Identity theft can cost you time and money. It can destroy your credit and ruin your good name.

You can deter identity thieves by:

Shredding financial documents and paperwork with personal information before you discard them.

Protecting your Social Security number. Don't carry your card or write this number on your checks. Only give it out if it is absolutely necessary.

Protect personal information. Don't give it out over the phone, through the mail or over the Internet unless you know the recipient.

Do not click on unsolicited emails. Visit OnGuardOnline.gov for more information.

Don't use obvious passwords. Do NOT use your Social Security number. **Keep personal information in a secure place.**

Monday, June 16th, Knight Middle School, 9803 Blue Lick Rd. Mayor's Community Conversations

It's your opportunity to talk directly to Mayor Jerry Abramson. Have a comment, suggestion or concern...the mayor's there to listen to you! Mayor Abramson is joined by his department directors and members of the Metro Council to answer your questions - whether it's a neighborhood problem or communitywide concern or suggestion for making Louisville an even better place to live.

How Community Conversations Work

At 6:30 p.m., Mayor Abramson opens the program, introduces all of the Louisville Metro Department Directors and explains their areas of responsibility. Citizens then can speak directly with the Mayor or department director of their choice. This format allows for one-on-one conversations as opposed to a "town hall" format where everyone in the audience has to listen to the suggestions or concerns of others before they can voice their own. Join us!

Call-A-Lawyer

You can get here on the third Tuesday of each month through the Louisville Bar Association's Call-A-Lawyer public service program.



Just dial 583-1801 between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. and speak anonymously with a volunteer attorney who will answer your question or tell you how to find an attorney who can handle your particular legal need.

The third Tuesday of each month 6 p.m.-8 p.m. at 583-1801

Okolona 4th & 5th Graders Visit Locust Grove

This spring, eager and enthusiastic 4th and 5th graders from Okolona's elementary schools piled out of yellow school buses, then tried out the 18th century game of graces, toted water with a wooden yoke, tried carding unspun wool (still a little greasy!), played pick-up sticks -- and otherwise learned about how children spent their days two hundred years ago. At Historic Locust Grove, a farm from the 1790s that was the home of George Rogers Clark, the children participated in the "Work and Play" program that combines a tour of the house and outbuildings with hands-on activities in the auditorium.

Okolona area schools have benefited this year because of Locust Grove's "Bus Fund." Councilwoman Madonna Flood made funds available for all 4th and 5th grade students to have the experience of visiting a place that many never would have visited without this program. Many of the children have never seen a farm, never been inside a building that is over 200 years old, never felt sheep's wool or lye soap, or tossed a balloon made out of (ewww!) a pig's bladder.

Thousands of school children from throughout the region visit Locust Grove each year, and this year is special because, due to the generosity of Metro Council members, more schools than ever have received subsidized visits to the site. Each year Locust Grove's "Bus Fund" program solicits money from donors to pay for field trip buses to bring kids from schools that just can't afford the cost (defined as 50% or more of the student's eligible for free or reduced price lunch). Locust Grove often waives the admission fee as well.

Financial barriers often prevent schools from being able to take advantage of the cultural and historical riches in the Louisville area. With this program, the barrier is removed, and teachers are eager to bring their classes to a site that fits so closely with the curriculum and goals of the grade level, and provides students with experiences that they just won't forget. Learning is easy when it's so much fun!

Teachers have been enthusiastic, and some want to incorporate this trip in their plans every year; and the kids want to come back and bring their families!

With that in mind, anyone who brings this newsletter to Locust Grove will receive a buy one get one free discount. Locust Grove is located at 561 Blankenbaker Lane. The phone number is 897-9845. Check out their website at www.locustgrove.org

"One thing that I learned was back in the old days, life was not easy."

Juan, 4th Grade

"Kids had to do work that was hard."

Jadd, 4th Grade

"I liked the facts about the Clark guy, you know George Rogers Clark?"

Rachel, 4th Grade

Special Offer!

Ways that you can get involved in improving Okolona

- ☺ Would you like to serve on a citywide board or commission?
- ☺ Would you be interested in serving on an Okolona Advisory Committee?
- ☺ Would you like to be on the Okolona News email list?
- ☺ Would you like to start a Block Watch in your subdivision? or street?
- ☺ Would you like to be on our email list?

**Call Madonna
at 574-1124**



Councilwoman Madonna Flood

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Website: www.louisvilleky.gov/MetroCouncil/Members/24/Home.htm

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Join My Clean Team May 17th!

***COUNCILWOMAN MADONNA FLOOD'S
CLEAN TEAM 2008***



MAKING OKOLONA BRIGHTER

Okolona Spring Clean-up

Saturday, May 17, 2008

10 a.m.-noon

Southern High School Parking Lot

Rain date: Sunday, May 18 – 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Join Councilwoman Madonna Flood and your Okolona neighbors in the 2008 Okolona Spring Clean-up. Individuals and organizations are invited to participate in this fun and useful activity! We will be divided into teams and pick-up trash and debris along the Okolona streets and parks.

While making Okolona cleaner, you can also raise funds for your Okolona 501-C3 organization (church, scouts, youth sports) by bringing the most volunteers. This year, along with awarding \$750 for first place, \$500 for second and \$300 for third, any Okolona 501-C3 group that pre-registers with Councilwoman Flood's office and brings 25 volunteers, will be awarded \$200.

All groups wishing to qualify for prizes must pre-register at 574-1124 or be at Southern High School by 9:30 a.m. on May 17th to register. All members of the group must sign-in on clean-up day to be counted toward the total.

At noon, join all the groups and Councilwoman Madonna Flood for a cook-out at Southern High School to celebrate our efforts to make Okolona clean!

Special thanks to Louisville Metro, Brightside, Meijer, Waste Management, MSD, State Highway Department, Okolona Fire Department and the Okolona Business and Professional Association.